

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
July 9, 2017

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:

Amenia	Mon.	July 10	8:00 am	Edmond.John Quinn, Jr.
	Tues.	July 11	8:00 am	William Kain
“	Wed.	July 12	8:00 am	Jean Marie & Howard Cayea
“	Thurs.	July 13	8:00 am	NO MASS
“	Fri.	July 14	8:00 am	Sr. Teresita Fay
Pine Plains	“	“	12 noon	James & Elizabeth Moriarty
Amenia	Sat.	July 15	8:00 am	Earl Proper
“	“	“	4:30 pm	Lawrence C. Hardisty, Jr.
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Pine Plains	Sun	July 16	8:00 am	People of the Parish
Amenia	“	“	10:45 am	Sally Quinn

“FREEDOM”

Dear Friends:

I am sitting here reflecting on July 4th, the birthday of our country. The date prompts one to think about what is most important in the survival and flourishing of our country. I always seem to think about the importance of freedom.

Understanding freedom is critical in understanding America. Of course, it is not freedom of the sort where one does whatever one wants to do. That is not freedom but chaos. Freedom is being free to do what any right-thinking, mature, empathetic human being wants to do. And the freedom to be left alone to live a happy productive life. And this freedom is bestowed on every human being, no matter his or her ethnic, religious, racial or gender background.

Absolutely critical among our freedoms, is religious freedom. Franklin Delano Roosevelt articulated for us, shortly after Pearl Harbor, the four basic freedoms. The four freedoms are freedom of speech, freedom from want, freedom from fear, and most importantly for me, freedom of worship.

As a Church person, dedicated to serving the Catholic Church with all my heart, I am continuously concerned with the freedom of the Church. Some may think that this is “automatic” in America. It is not. Throughout American History, the Catholic Church has been persecuted, limited, harassed and ignored in our country. It is a constant fight. For me, one critical way to evaluate a potential politician is his or her views on religious freedom.

But this religious freedom, we must remember, is for all religions. As Catholics, we must always look out for our Church. But we must also make sure that other religions are free to operate in our country. If we have learned anything in the last 241 years, we have learned that freedom is for everyone.

Fr. Wilson

CONFESSION - Confession is available every Saturday afternoon from 3:45 pm to 4:15 pm at Immaculate Conception in Amenia. Reconciliation is a sacrament of healing by which we receive God’s merciful forgiveness for our personal sins and experience the powerful love of God.

2017 CARDINAL’S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL IS WINDING DOWN - My sincere thanks to the **103** families who have pledged or made a donation to the Cardinal’s Appeal. To date, we have received **\$37,479.00.** and are only **\$4,021** short of our goal of **\$41,500.** To those of our parishioners who have not yet contributed, I ask that you consider supporting this Appeal. It’s not necessarily the large donations that enable us to reach our goal. Perhaps the true measure of success is when all our families are able to make a contribution to the Cardinal’s Appeal regardless of the amount.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH : Ralph Cummings, Ann Bida, Gerhard Herron, Margaret Wilcox, Janet Stiles, Evan Ciovacco, Lydia Casey, Evelyn Bouffard, Mark Hamm, Grover Williams, Stephanie Merenda, Carol Wilson, Dawn Hazel Burrows, Rudy Eschbach, Jordana Bell, Lori DeLucca, Amanda Carneski, Baby James Ryan Farrell, Linda Sartori, Helen McGhee, Richard & Mary Ann Valinsk, Mary Murphy Adamitis, Winifred Capowski, Arthur Nadeau, Barbara Moissonnier, Nina Williams, LuAnn Ballantine, Frank D'Agostino, Michael Kain, Shirley Remsburger, Teresa Schell, Susan Moody, Danny Hagerty, Sonja Kelly, Jack Silvernale, Mike Butts and Mary Ann Mullen, Alan Carroll, Erin D'Elia, Linda Staab, Father John Durkin, Daisy Abruzzo, Richard Piccoli, Laura Galdiero, Bernard Heaney, Joseph Scutieri, Eileen Murphy Ehlers, Ann Marie Russolillo, Dominic Nannetti, Ray Proper, Sr., Santino Delfino, Hilda Delgado, Luz Pelkey, Diana McPadden, Averie Burke and Ricky McGhee.

ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY - The Altar Rosary Society will meet on Monday, July 10th at 7 pm in the Chapel of Immaculate Conception Church. New Members are welcome.

SINCERE THANKS - We wish to extend our sincere thanks to the Altar Rosary Society for providing the new sign at Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Amenia. Many thanks Ladies for a job well done. Please stop by and take a look.

NEWLY BAPTIZED - Annalise Rose Casazza, daughter of Edward Casazza III and Tiffany Broliar was baptized on June 30th at St. Anthony's Church in Pine Plains. Williams Ramirez-Nufio, son of William Ramirez and Norma Nufio and Katherine Ramirez-Molina, daughter of Neptali Ramirez and Mirian Molina were baptized on July 1st at Immaculate Conception Church. We pray that Our Lord, Jesus Christ, will look lovingly on these children; watch over them and fill them with peace and joy.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOURTH APPARITION OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA - We are pleased to announce that the Pilgrim Statue of Fatima will be visiting St. Teresa's – the Motherhouse of The Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm on Sunday, August 13th. The day will begin at 10:30 am with a Fatima video, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available. 12 noon will be Lunch (bring your own) and tables and chairs will be provided as well as a beautiful view of the Hudson River. 1:30 pm will be the Statue Procession with Rosary on their picturesque grounds. At 2:15 pm Americo Lopez-Ortiz will speak, and the day concludes with a 3 pm Mass in their Chapel. St. Teresa's Motherhouse is located in Germantown, NY, just north of Clermont State Park, at 600 Woods Road in Columbia County. Any questions, please call Sister Francis Patrick Casey at 518-537-5000 or email srfcasey@stmhcs.org. Pope Francis has granted a plenary indulgence opportunity for the 100th Anniversary of the Fatima Apparitions throughout the Centennial Year.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - This summer St. Anthony's Church will be hosting Vacation Bible School for the children in Pine Plains. The dates are August 14 to 18 from 9 am to noon. As the host Church, we need several helpers for Vacation Bible School. There is a meeting on Monday, July 10th at 7:00 pm for all volunteers. Since many of the long time Vacation Bible School volunteers from the Pine Plains community are not available this summer, we need about 5 more helpers to step forward. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity. The meeting to be a volunteer is Monday, July 10th, at 7:00 pm at St. Anthony's. If you want to volunteer, you must go to the meeting on July 10th. Please see Jackie Reynolds or Christine Henderson.

REQUIRED ANNOUNCEMENT OF CHILD PROTECTION - Anyone who needs to report an alleged incident of sexual abuse of a minor by a priest, deacon, religious or lay person serving in the Archdiocese of New York is asked to contact Sr. Eileen Clifford, O.P., at 212-371-1000 x 2949 or Deacon George J. Coppola at 917-861-1762. Both may also be reached via e-mail at victimassistance@archny.org. Information can also be found on the Archdiocesan website, www.archny.org. In keeping with the Archdiocesan policy regarding sexual abuse of minors, this information is provided to ensure that our children remain safe and secure.

SUNDAY COLLECTION - Last weekend, July 1-2, 2017, we collected \$4,414 in our Regular Sunday Collection and 1,020.61 for the Church in Africa. Not all offerings are equal, but all sacrifices are. I thank each and every one of you for your generosity and steadfast commitment.

