

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
September 17, 2017

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:

Amenia	Mon.	Sept. 18	8:00 am	Marco Sartori
	Tues.	Sept. 19	8:00 am	Dennis Mitchell
“	Wed.	Sept. 20	8:00 am	Joe Duffy
“	Thurs.	Sept. 21	8:00 am	NO MASS
“	Fri.	Sept. 22	8:00 am	Msgr. John Ahern
Pine Plains	“	“	12 noon	Irma Maschi

Amenia	Sat.	Sept. 23	8:00 am	Lucia Iandolo
“	“	“	4:30 pm	Donald Jones

Pine Plains	Sun	Sept. 24	8:00 am	People of the Parish
Amenia	“	“	10:45 am	Manny Alvarez

“CRISIS & CONTROVERSY”

Dear Friends:

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has been visiting Columbia in South America. A newspaper article noted that the Pope “demanded” that Priests and Columbians look beyond “rigid Church doctrine” to care for sinners and to welcome them.

The article quoted the Pope as saying that he wants the doors of the Church to be open. The article continued to point out the conflict between Francis and the “conservatives”. It stated that the Pope has criticized the “rigid interpretation of Church norms”.

The first thing we all need to remember is that the media has three things they focus on intensively: Crisis, Conflict and Controversy. One can easily see these three things in this article. Why does the media focus on these three things? I assume because it sells papers and boosts ratings.

But for believers and the faithful, this approach is not helpful. It even can be seen as destructive of the faith in some ways.

That is why we must view all media and their coverage of the Church with a critical eye. It is also helpful if we can find other information sources that give us a more balanced view.

The article does portray a challenge to our Church. We must be welcoming to all peoples. We are called, all of us, to “save souls”. We are called to bring as many people as we can into God’s Kingdom.

But that also doesn’t mean that we abandon the commandments and structure of the Church. We need to welcome all to our faith, but we need to challenge them too.

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.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - All Eucharistic Ministers are encouraged to attend a workshop on Saturday, September 30th, at 1:00 pm. Please clear your calendars for that day. Further details to follow.

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, LuAnn Ballantine, Frank D'Agostino, Michael Kain, Shirley Remsburger, 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, Joseph Scutieri, Eileen Murphy Ehlers, Dominic Nannetti, Ray Proper, Sr., Santino Delfino, Luz Pelkey, Diana McPadden, Averie Burke, Ricky McGhee, John Daubman, Mary Fitzgerald Roth, Kathryn Garzetta, Joseph Licurse, Barb King, Delora Brooks, June Heckelman, Lisa Coon Pedersen, Hans Pedersen and Teresa Pelkey.

MORNING PRAYER AND GUIDED MEDITATION - The next Morning Prayer & Guided Meditation will be held on Saturday, October 14th, at 10 am at St. Anthony's Church.

PINE PLAINS COUNCIL OF CHURCHES – 2017 CROP WALK The 2017 Crop Walk to raise funds to combat hunger in this community and globally will take place on Sunday, October 8th starting at 1:30 pm at the Lion's Club in Pine Plains. Please save the date.

WHY IS THE OUR FATHER CALLED, "THE PERFECT PRAYER?" One reason we call the Our Father, "The Perfect Prayer," is because Jesus taught us to pray it (*Luke 11:1-13*). It is actually four prayers in one.

First, it is a prayer of praise and gives God the glory that he is due.

Second, it is a prayer of petition in which we ask God to provide what we need.

Third, it is a prayer asking for forgiveness and the strength to be forgiving.

And last, it is a prayer of acknowledgment. It leads us to admit that God knows what is best for us and reminds us to submit to His will rather than our own. That's what makes it the perfect prayer and the perfect prayer model.

The Our Father is a good beginning to heartfelt prayer. Jesus encourages us to ask for God's help, seek God's will, and open the door to God's grace in our lives.

CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE TO GREECE 'WAY OF ST. PAUL' SUMMER OF 2018 - Join Father Michael McLoughlin, Pastor of St. Columba, Hopewell Junction and Peter's Way Tours on a wonderful Pilgrimage to Greece "In the Footsteps of St. Paul" on July 29 – August 7, 2017. It will make the Letters of St. Paul come alive! Stops include Thessaloniki, Philippi, Veria, Meteora, Athens (including the Parthenon) and Corinth. A three day cruise is included! Stops include Mykonos, Ephesus (Mass at the House of the Virgin Mary), Patmos, Heraklion (Crete) and Santorini. Please call Fr. Michael at St. Columba 845-227-8380 or [email rectory@stcolumbaonline.org](mailto:rectory@stcolumbaonline.org) for a pilgrimage Brochure. Spaces are limited so do not delay.

SUNDAY COLLECTION - Last weekend, September 9-10, 2017, approximately 342 people attended Mass and we collected \$4,915.00 in our Regular Sunday Collection and \$1,037.00 for Latin America and Home Missions. I thank you for your presence, generosity and steadfast commitment to our Church and I pray that God will continue to bless you and your families.

PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES: . Timothy Walsh, Joshua O'Hara, Connor Washburn, Sam Kent, Jordan Paraszti, Gavin Carroll, Richard C. Belliveau, Jimmy Darnell, Mike Mazza, Nathan Tong, Mark Hall, Michael Pomeisl and Tyler Jasmin. Please keep our servicemen and their families in your prayers.

† Pine Plains Altar Candle †
*The Altar Candle which will burn at St. Anthony's Church
was donated by the Heaney Family
In Loving Memory of the Bonfiglio & Adelina Mazzocchi*