

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
July 1, 2018

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:

Amenia	Mon.	July 2	8:00 am	Msgr. Thomas Gilleece
"	Tues.	July 3	8:00 am	William & Micha Carroll
"	Wed.	July 4	8:00 am	Janet & Mara Mahar
"	Thurs.	July 5	8:00 am	NO MASS
"	Fri.	July 6	8:00 am	Mae Kain
Pine Plains	"	"	12 noon	Helen McGhee
Amenia	Sat.	July 7	8:00 am	Mary Lyman
"	"	"	4:30 pm	Antonia & John Sferratore and Mary, Sam and Marjorie Crodelle
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Pine Plains	Sun	July 8	8:00 am	Elizabeth Herron
Amenia	"	"	10:45 am	Susan Rynkar

"TRAGEDY"

Dear Friends:

When I write these letters to you, I try to make them positive and "upbeat." But occasionally there are subjects that are very important and need to be discussed, even if they are very difficult.

The subject here is suicide. It is a growing problem here in the United States. There is a 28% increase in the suicide rate from 1999 to 2016. 44,965 suicides by Americans occurred in 2016. The suicide rate among girls ages 10 to 19 rose by 70% from 2010 to 2016.

The recent deaths of famous celebrity chef Anthony Bourdain and designer Kate Spade brought this subject to the forefront. They were two people who seemed to have it all – success and financial security. And yet something very dark and very sad had taken over their lives.

It is a distressing and difficult problem. There are so many reasons for suicide and it still seems such a mystery. Depression, financial insecurity, anxiety and loneliness are often cited as the causes of suicide. It appears that the increased breakdown of families and social connections have increased the difficulties of facing modern life.

I did come upon some interesting news from the "Catholic New York" in an article by Claudia McDonnell. She shared with us that religious faith is associated with a lower risk of suicide. A study found that women who attended religious services once a week were five times less likely to commit suicide in the period of 1996 to 2010. The study showed that among the 6,999 Catholic women in the study who said they attended Mass more than once a week: not one committed suicide. I have always believed that faith can be a great help in every area of life. It appears it can be a great help in dealing with this difficult and tragic problem.

For us Catholics, prayer is obviously a very important part of our response. We pray for those who are troubled by very serious problems in their lives. And we pray for the repose of souls who have taken their own lives. May God give us all the strength we need in this world today.

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.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED - The office will be closed on Wednesday, July 4th, in observance of Independence Day.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH : 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, Linda Sartori, Mary Murphy Adamitis, Winifred Capowski, Arthur Nadeau, Jeff Moissonnier, LuAnn Ballantine, Frank D'Agostino, Michael Kain, Susan Moody, Danny Hagerty, Sonja Kelly, Jack Silvernale, Mike Butts and Mary Ann Mullen, Alan Carroll, Erin D'Elia, Richard Piccoli, Eileen Murphy Ehlers, Dominic Nannetti, Santino Delfino, Luz Pelkey, Averie Burke, Ricky McGhee, John Daubman, Kathryn Garzetta, Joseph Licurse, Delora Brooks, June Heckelman, Teresa Pelkey, Renee & Al Cobuzzi, Joanne Balek, Frances Anello, Michael Engel, Theresa Thompson, Helen Murphy Riley, Linda Mary Dick, Leela Niranjan, Lisa Missailidis, Lori Downing, Anthony Mottola, Ann Liberatore, Ralph Locantore. Frank Foley and Fred Arni.

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MEN'S CLUB - The next Men's Club meeting will be held on Monday, July 2nd, at 6:45 pm in the Chapel of Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia.

VINE & BRANCHES - The drawing for the 50/50 will be held on Thursday, July 5, 2018.

FIRST FRIDAY - We will have Rosary, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction on Friday, July 6th, 2018, at 7:30 pm in Amenia, Please consider spending a half hour with our Lord.

DO SOMETHING GOOD FOR YOURSELF THIS SUMMER - Spend some time in prayer and fellowship! Please join us for Morning Prayer and Guided Meditation (and coffee and snacks!) at St. Anthony's in Pine Plains on Saturday, July 7th, at 10:00 am.

MANY THANKS - The flower gardens around our Churches look beautiful. Our parish is blessed to have Kathleen Metz who takes care of the flowers at Immaculate Conception Church and Joy Lynch, Jill Atherton and Ellen Petersen who tend to the flowers at St. Anthony's. I also want to thank Miriam Devine and Barbara McEnroe who put flowers by the Blessed Mother each week in Amenia. With thanks and gratitude ~ Fr. Wilson

POSITIONS AVAILABLE - Positions available at St. Christopher-St. Sylvia, Red Hook are as follows:
Children's Choir Director – 9:00 am Family Mass (September through June) and special Masses for Holy Days. Weekly practice (Wednesdays 6:00 – 7:00 pm)

Adult Choir Director – 10:30 am Sunday Mass (September through June) & special Masses for Holy Days, First Communion & Confirmation. Weekly practice (Thursday evenings)

For additional information contact Fr. Patrick F. Buckley, Pastor (845) 758-3732 or rectory @ stchrisredhook.org.

MARIAPOLIS 2018 - Every summer, the Focolare Movement in Hyde Park, NY hosts its annual summer gathering known as Mariapolis. It is an opportunity for people of all ages and backgrounds to spend a few days together, putting into practice universal values of dialogue and solidarity based on the Gospel. This year's theme, "A door that leads to God," invites participants to discover Mary, the Mother of God, as a model for Christians today, from her Yes to God's plan to the Magnificat that contains the way to address the many challenges in our society. **Mariapolis 2018 will be held from July 13-15.** There will be presentations on the Focolare spirituality, Mass, life experiences, workshops and outdoor activities. Children and teenagers follow partial parallel supervised activities and a Nursery is available for children ages 4 and under. For more information, please call (845) 229-0230, extension 127 or go to <https://sites.google.com/view/2018luminosamariapolis/home>.

SUNDAY COLLECTION - Last weekend, June 23-24, 2018, we collected \$4,897.00 in our Regular Sunday Collection. I thank you for your presence, your generosity and steadfast commitment to our Church. I pray that God will continue to bless you and your families.

ONE MINUTE MEDITATION - Blessed are the peacemakers. The world sure could use more peacemakers. The key to becoming one is to practice forgiveness and offer peace. That way everyone around us will feel the love of Christ.

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.

