

## EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### March 3, 2019

**PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR**

<b>Amenia</b>	Mon.	March 4	8:00 am	William Morrison
"	Tues.	March 5	8:00 am	Shawn Falk
"	Wed.	March 6	8:00 am	Barbara P. & Ray McEnroe
<b>Pine Plains</b>	"	"	12 noon	Katherine Blinn
<b>Amenia</b>	"	"	7:00 pm	Ketchum, Marano, Eckardt & Conway Families
"	Thurs.	March 7	8:00 am	NO MASS
"	Fri.	March 8	8:00 am	William Morrison
<b>Pine Plains</b>	"	"	12 noon	Margaret Sicord
<b>Amenia</b>	Sat.	March 9	8:00 am	Shawn Falk
"	"	"	4:30 pm	Annie Lee Clark
-----				
<b>Pine Plains</b>	Sun	March 10	8:00 am	People of the Parish
<b>Amenia</b>	"	"	10:45 am	Norman & Doris Seemann

### "MIRACLES"

Dear Friends:

*I recently read a very good article by the scholar Luke Timothy Johnson on miracles. Johnson states clearly that miracles happen and that they are important today more than ever in Christianity.*

*He defines miracles as God's presence and power within creation and the capacity of humans to experience that presence and power.*

*There is no doubt that in our modern world there is a great deal of skepticism in regards to miracles. The era of the "Enlightenment" brought in a philosophy that questioned the existence of miracles. Then, in the modern world, science became so important that many lost interest in any kind of supernatural things.*

*People have become so skeptical toward miracles that even some seminary and religion professors in Christianity are somewhat unsure of how to even teach about miracles. Johnson points out that, in his criticism of these reluctant teachers, for anyone to question miracles would have to also question the incarnation, the resurrection and the nature of the sacraments. Johnson rightly points out that not only should we believe in miracles, we need to believe in miracles if we are to evangelize our faith.*

*Johnson brings us a way to understand miracles in the modern world and in the world of our faith. He tells us we need to value more the religious experiences of individuals. When we read the lives of the saints, we are reading often about a personal religious experience, often involving miracles. These individual experiences are often rejected because it happened to only one person. But why should we reject it for that reason? If a miraculous experience of an individual is edifying and in harmony with the church, why should we reject it?*

*For me, one response has been in my mind for many years: If anyone says they don't believe in miracles, I simply say to them: "Hey, life, itself is a miracle!"*

*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.

**ASH WEDNESDAY** - The Mass schedule for Ash Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, is as follows:

**8:00 am in Amenia** - **12 noon in Pine Plains** - **7:00 pm in Amenia**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH :** Gerhard Herron, Margaret Wilcox, Evan Ciovacco, Lydia Casey, Evelyn Bouffard, Mark Hamm, Grover Williams, Stephanie Merenda, Carol Wilson, Dawn Hazel Burrows, Jordana Bell, Lori DeLucca, Amanda Carneski, Linda Sartori, Mary Murphy Adamitis, Winifred Capowski, Arthur Nadeau, Jeff Moissonnier, LuAnn Ballantine, Frank D'Agostino, Danny Hagerty, Sonja Kelly, Mike Butts, Erin D'Elia, Richard Piccoli, Dominic Nannetti, Santino Delfino, Averie Burke, Ricky McGhee, John Daubman, Joseph Licurse, Renee Cobuzzi, Joanne Balek, Michael Engel, Theresa Thompson, Linda Mary Dick, Leela Niranjana, Ralph Locantore, Fred Arni, Brandon Rojas, Leah Rost, Susan Consentino, Pat Boice, Arietta Carroll, Flo Vinchiarello, Cecilia Cummings, William Edwards, Mary Wilkinson, Evelyn Tompkins, Mary Simmons, Marlina Mittell, Marjorie Arni, John Haggerty and Teal Burns.

**MEN'S GROUP** - The Men's Group will meet on Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, at 6:45 pm in the Chapel of Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia. New members are welcome.

---

**† LENTEN REGULATIONS †**

**Weekdays of Lent** - There is no obligation to fast. However, voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended.

**Ash Wednesday and Good Friday** - These are days of Fast and Abstinence from meat. There is a limit of one full meal on these days for all between the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive.

**Days of Abstinence** - All Fridays in Lent. All who have reached their 14<sup>th</sup> year are bound to abstain totally from meat. Meat is considered to be the flesh and organs of mammals and fowl. You also cannot eat soups and gravies made from them. You can eat fish.

**Easter Duty Obligations** – After they have received their First Holy Communion, Catholics are bound by the obligation of receiving Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept should be fulfilled during the Easter Season. Catholics are also bound to confess serious (mortal) sins at least once a year, but this is not limited to the Lenten/Easter Season.

---

**DAILY MEDITATIONS FOR LENT** - In the back of the Church I have placed booklets (With Grace and Gladness) which contain stories and reflections for each day of lent, which I pray will enhance your lenten journey.

**LENTEN MORNINGS OF REFLECTION** – The Sisters of Charity will be offering Lenten Mornings of Reflection entitled "Journey to Easter" on Thursdays, March 7, 14 and 21 at 10 to 11:30 am at their Convent located at 135 Sisters Hill Road, Stanfordville, NY. They will be engaging Sacred Scripture, music and poetry in their sessions. Please call Sr. Margaret Ellen Burke, SC, the Presenter, at (845) 800-1902 if you are planning to attend.

**ROSE THRIFT SHIOP** - The Rose Thrift Shop, located in the basement of Immaculate Conception Church, will open for the season on Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. The Shop will be open every Wednesday and Saturday thereafter from 10 am to 2 pm. All donations are gratefully accepted.

**SAVE THE DATE** - The Spirit of Service Awards Dinner will be held on Tuesday, June 4, 2019. This year the honorees will be Mary L. Marshall, Sr. Anne Daniel Young, Fred Apers and Paggi Engineering. More details will follow.

**ST. PATRICK'S POT LUCK** - Our traditional St. Patrick's "pot luck" and "bake sale" will be held on Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, from 12 noon to 2:00 pm in the gym. There are sign-up sheets in the back of Church for the "Pot Luck" as well as for those willing to bake for our "Bake Sale". Please call the office if you can lend a hand with the bake sale, decorating, set-up or clean-up.

**2019 CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL** - As of February 22, 2019, we have received **\$8,060.00** in pledges from **25** families. We need the support of all of our families in order to make our goal of \$39,500.00. I ask those of you who have not yet responded to prayerfully consider making a pledge or one time donation in an amount you can afford. No amount is too small.

**SUNDAY COLLECTION** - Last weekend, February 23-24, 2019, we collected \$4,229.59 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.