

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

April 14, 2019

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR

Amenia	Mon.	April 15	8:00 am	Martha Flanigan	
“		Tues.	April 16	8:00 am	Jean Claude Fontaine
“	Wed.	April 17	8:00 am	Sally Quinn	
“	Thurs.	April 18	8:00 am	NO MASS	
“	“	“	7:30 pm	Special Intention	(Holy Thursday)
“	Fri.	April 19	8:00 am	NO MASS	
Pine Plains	“	“	12 noon	NO MASS	
“	“	“	3:00 pm	Liturgy of the Passion	(Good Friday)
Amenia	Sat.	April 20	8:00 am	NO MASS	
“	“	“	4:30 pm	NO MASS	
Amenia	Sat.	April 20	8:00 pm	Special Intention	(Easter Vigil)
Pine Plains	Sun	April 21	8:00 am	People of the Parish	
Amenia	“	“	10:45 am	Special Intention	

“FAILURE”

Dear Friends:

Last week, I spoke about “defeat” and mentioned how the crucifixion seemed like a defeat. But then we realized that this defeat was in fact a victory, indeed a victory for the whole world.

At the Sunday homily, I spoke about how we can learn from our sins. That is one way to overcome our sinfulness: to take that sin, learn from it, and learn about ourselves, and then take a confident step into the future of victory over sin.

I would like to speak now about “failure.” Of course, in our success-oriented world, we see failure as incredibly negative. It reminds me of the world of sports, a world which I very much enjoy. But the world of sports has little patience with the prospect of failure. The idea is, after all, to win.

But even the world of sports understands the value of failure. I recall many instances where a team experienced a terrible defeat, then later went on to experience victory. My favorite team, the Denver Broncos, had a terrible defeat in the first game of the playoffs in 1996. It was a shocking upset to the expansion Jacksonville Jaguars. The next year, they learned from their mistakes and won the Super Bowl for the first time ever.

In an article entitled “What Failure Can Teach Us,” Rev. Ronald Rolheiger tells us that the Church can learn more about its relationship with God in periods of failure (such as the clergy abuse crisis) than in periods of great growth and strong Church authority. The Church can learn, in failure, to never be blind to faults, that all members need personal conversion.

What is true for the Church is true for us individually. It is normal to feel sad about our moral failures; but it can be said that these moral failures can make us look deeply into our own souls and find a new way to grow and deepen our faith..

Fr. Wilson

STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN AMENIA - Fr. Wilson will be conducting the Stations of the Cross on Friday, April 12, 2019 at 7:30 pm at Immaculate Conception Church.

RECONCILIATION MONDAY & TUESDAY - In preparation for Easter, Reconciliation will be offered on Monday, April 15th, from 5 pm to 8 pm at Immaculate Conception Church and on Tuesday, April 16th, from 6 pm to 8 pm at St. Anthony’s Church.

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH : Gerhard Herron, Margaret Wilcox, Evan Ciovacco, Lydia Casey, 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, 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 Niranjani, Ralph Locantore, Fred Arni, Brandon Rojas, Leah Rost, Susan Consentino, Pat Boice, Arietta Carroll, Flo Vinchiarello, Cecilia Cummings, Mary Wilkinson, Evelyn Tompkins, Mary Simmons, Marlena Mittell, Marjorie Arni, John Haggerty, Teal Burns, Jane Bly and Robert Bartolomeo.

PALM SUNDAY - Palm Sunday is the final Sunday of Lent, The beginning of Holy Week commemorates the triumphant arrival of Christ in Jerusalem, days before He was crucified. In the Gospels, Jesus entered Jerusalem riding a young donkey, and to the lavish praise of the townspeople who threw palms or small branches, in front of him as a sign of homage. This was the customary practice for people of great respect. Palm branches are a widely recognized symbol of peace and victory, hence their preferred use on Palm Sunday. The use of a donkey instead of a horse is highly symbolic, it represents the humble arrival of someone in peace, as opposed to arriving on a steed in war. A week later, Christ would rise from the dead on the first Easter.

EXPERIENCE HOLY WEEK - This week we have the great privilege of standing with Jesus as He undergoes His passion. On Holy Thursday, we join Jesus at table and as He washes His apostles' feet, institutes the priesthood, and offers the First Eucharist. On Good Friday, we can accompany Him along the way of the cross and stand by Him on Calvary. At the Easter Vigil, we can celebrate His victory over death as we light a new fire. Come join us this Holy Week as we celebrate each liturgy with love and gratitude.

"Jesus, thank you for enduring so much just to win our salvation. Help me to stand with you all week long."

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

<u>Reconciliation Monday</u>	April 15	Confessions from 5 pm to 8 pm	Amenia
<u>Reconciliation Tuesday</u>	April 16	Confession from 6 pm to 8 pm	Pine Plains
<u>Holy Thursday</u>	April 18	7:30 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper Adoration for one hour afterwards	Amenia
<u>Good Friday</u>	April 19	3:00 pm Liturgy of the Passion 7:30 pm Stations of the Cross	Pine Plains Amenia
<u>Holy Saturday</u>	April 20	8:00 pm Easter Vigil This Mass is approx. 1-1/2 hrs.	Amenia
<u>Easter Sunday</u>	April 21	8:00 am Mass 10:45 am Mass	Pine Plains Amenia

Finally, I must again ask for your continued generosity in your Easter donation. Like most parishes, we depend on this collection to help with our budget. I

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION - The Pine Plains Council of Churches annually offers a scholarship to a graduating Stissing Mt. High School senior who is actively affiliated with a Christian Church, or to any graduating senior who is actively affiliated with a PPCC member church. Applications are available from Fr. Wilson and must be returned no later than May 20, 2019.

2019 CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL - As of April 5, 2019, we have received **\$21,005.** in pledges from **70** 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.

SUNDAY COLLECTION - Last weekend, April 6-7, 2019, we collected \$4,397.00 in our Regular Sunday. 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.

† Sanctuary Light †
*The Sanctuary Light which will burn this week
 at Immaculate Conception Church
 was donated by Tracy Schreiber
 In Memory of Peter Paul Duke*