

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME August 25, 2019

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:

Amenia	Mon.	Aug. 26	8:00 am	Margaret Wilcox
"	Tues.	Aug. 27	8:00 am	Robert Sherwood
"	Wed.	Aug. 28	8:00 am	Laurier Fontaine
"	Thurs.	Aug. 29	8:00 am	NO MASS
"	Fri.	Aug. 30	8:00 am	Miriam A. Grimm
Pine Plains	"	"	12 noon	Charles Kurtz, Jr.
Amenia	Sat.	Aug. 31	8:00 am	Margaret Wilcox
"	"	"	4:30 pm	Lawrence C. Hardisty, Jr.

Pine Plains	Sun.	Sept. 1	8:00 am	Albert Nolletti
Amenia	"	"	10:45 am	People of the Parish

"CURIOSITY"

Dear Friends,

I was reading the gospels and discovered where Jesus wanted us to be "childlike." It got me to thinking. What does it mean to be childlike? He certainly isn't asking us to be "childish." When I think of "childish" I think of self-centered, demanding, moody and all the things that children sometimes are prone to.

But it is different with "childlike." With "childlike" I think of the positive aspects of children (and there are many). Aspects like how trusting children are, or how much they love to be playful, or even how much they love to be around other people.

One marvelous quality that children have is that they are curious. Many of us have experienced children when they ask questions over and over again. Anyone who has taught children can see how eager they are to learn about new things.

It has been said "curiosity killed the cat." But, in my opinion, that really refers to the problem of being "nosy." Sometimes people are too interested in other peoples business, or just in salacious gossip.

But good curiosity is a wonderful thing. It is a great way to live. To be curious is to be fascinated by the world. To be curious is to be very interested in other people's lives (in a good way). To be curious is to desire to learn as much as one can every day, because each day offers a treasure of opportunities.

But a good believer in Christ is also curious. He or she wants to learn as much as possible about the faith. A curious Christian wants to learn about the Bible, the Church and spiritual life.

Being curious is a childlike quality – but it is also a virtue in the adult life. There is so much to learn. It may be true that we are curious about what we love. If we love our faith, we should be intensely curious about it.

Fr. Wilson

ONE MINUTE MEDITATION - Remember....Jesus gave us a great gift when He created the Sacrament of Confession (*John 20:23*). He knew we would want to hear the words of absolution to know He forgives us. Remember that no matter what happens, you are just one Confession away from coming home.

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH : Gerhard Herron, Evan Ciovacco, Lydia Casey, Mark Hamm, Grover Williams, Stephanie Merenda, Carol Wilson, Dawn Hazel Burrows, Jordana Bell, Lori DeLuca, 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, 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, Mary Wilkinson, Evelyn Tompkins, Mary Simmons, Marlena Mittell, Marjorie Arni, John Haggerty, Teal Burns, Jane Bly, Robert Bartolomeo, Jennifer Boice, Nora Miller, Allen McPeck, Diana LaCurto, Genevieve Minischetti, Jeanne Allyn, Anita Nichols, and Kathleen McGuire.

PINE PLAINS VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - A successful Vacation Bible School, with participation by all four local Christian Churches, including St. Anthony's, was held at the Presbyterian Church in Pine Plains. The students learned about God through studying the Acts of the Apostles, building crafts, singing songs, playing games, etc. A collection was taken up at the Vacation Bible School which enabled the students to purchase chicks, ducks, or goslings to enable poor families to receive daily protein from eggs, provide income from the sale of eggs, and fertilize the land to increase farm production. A big thank you to all the people whose hard work made this program possible.

VINE AND BRANCHES - Last weekend we provided food for approximately 31 people. Sincere thanks to all of you who donate food, purchase 50/50 tickets and volunteer at the food closet each month. We could not do it without your support. Feeding the Hungry is a Corporal Work of Mercy. The works of mercy are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbor in his spiritual and bodily necessities.

ROSE THRIFT SHOP - The Rose Thrift Shop, located in the basement of the Immaculate Conception Church, will have their "**BAG SALE**" from 10 am to 2 pm on Wednesday, August 28th and Saturday, August 31st. Please stop by and bring a friend. The Thrift Shop will be closed on Wednesday, September 4th, to re-stock and will re-open for business on Saturday, September 7th.

WANTED: BRIDGE BUILDERS - In Jesus' day, the accustomed action for people who didn't conform to usual standards of behavior was to turn them into outcasts. Jesus showed us another way. He didn't expel sinners but forgave them. In fact, many of His healings helped restore people to their communities. By commanding us to love our enemies, Jesus demanded that we become bridge builders and refuse to recognize anyone as an enemy. As His followers, He wants us to build bridges, not walls.



Listen without talking - Building bridges requires understanding others' needs. Listening well is key but can be hard to do. Try starting a conversation and practice just listening. Maintain eye contact and don't plan your response until the other person has finished speaking.

Empathize - Empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of another. It means setting aside your own personal agenda so you can fully understand the other person's needs.

Be an instrument of peace - A disagreement doesn't have to become a conflict. We gain nothing by raising our voices or being unreasonable. Instead, stick to the facts and be firm but friendly.

Avoid gossip and gossips - This is the most obvious tip but talking about others behind their backs leads to trouble for others and for you. If you are asked about someone else, always find something positive to say.

SUNDAY COLLECTION - Last weekend, August 17-18, 2019, we collected \$3,519.00 in our Regular Sunday Collection, \$945.01 for Utility & Energy and \$1,255.27 for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. 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.

*The Sanctuary Light which will burn this week
at Immaculate Conception Church
was donated by Denise & Bob Conway
In Memory of Alice Runge*