

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
AUGUST 17, 2014**

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR

Mon	August 18	8:00 am	Gladys Morris
Tue	August 19	8:00 am	Don Foley
Wed	August 20	8:00 am	John J. Carroll
Thu	August 21	8:00 am	NO MASS
Fri	August 22	8:00 am	Leo McEnroe
		12 noon	Elizabeth Brizzie
Sat	August 23	8:00 am	Jane Wells
		4:30 pm	Bertha, Frances & Sr. Helen Proper

Sun.	August 24	8:00 am	Sophie Yakubowski
		10:15 am	People of the Parish

“ASH WEDNESDAY”

Dear Friends:

In my journey in the priesthood, a very momentous day in my year is Ash Wednesday. It is the beginning of Lent, a day of fasting and sacrifice, a day where we try to get our life back on track. We think of our sins and try to see how we can repent, or turn away from the life that is not in harmony with God’s Will for us.

It is often a very busy day with schedules and commitments that can be overwhelming. I remember in my first parish being afraid of walking across the parking lot for fear that someone might jump out at me and ask me for the ashes. The ashes are very, very popular.

I have told you about the time when I was giving out Communion at an Ash Wednesday Mass, and a person came up to Communion. As is usual, I offered the host and said the “Body of Christ.” The person then says “I don’t want that I want the ashes.” I found it shocking, but sort of expected. Thus you see, the “power “ of the ashes.

I had another experience which I will never forget, it was in Staten Island. A funeral director called on Ash Wednesday. He said that a young man had died, a father of young children, and the family had a strange request. He asked if I would give the ashes to the deceased man at the funeral home during the wake. I was unsure what to do. I thought about it for a while, then I agreed to give the ashes to the deceased man. Although it was a very unusual situation, I just felt it might make things a little easier for the family.

Yes, it is the “power” of the ashes. But the ashes are a sign of faith; as a priest I hope that somehow the ashes will make a difference. I pray that they will.

Fr. Wilson

ST. PATRICK’S 150TH ANNIVERSARY - Please plan on celebrating with us the “150th Anniversary” of St. Patrick’s Church in Millerton on Sunday, September 14th, at 2:00 pm. There will be a special Mass followed by refreshments outside. Please save the date, as we hope you can join us for this momentous celebration

MEN’S CLUB CHANGE IN SCHEDULE - The next Men’s Club meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 2nd, at 6:45 pm in Immaculate Conception Church. New members are most welcome.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH : Ralph Cummings, Drew Airy, Anna McBride, Ann Bida, Ursula Robertson, Mariley Najdek, Maureen & Thomas Santacroce, Gerhard Herron, Gene Turner, Pat Allen, Kyleigh Cummings, Dorothy Lee Walsh, Brian Darnell, Katie Matman, Jack Boice, Margaret Wilcox, Micha Carroll, Jenifer Dean, Janet Stiles, Thomas LaGrutta, Evan Ciovacco, Uncle Mike, Lydia Casey, Domenic Mottola, Baby Gunner Lynch, Theresa Murtagh, Evelyn Bouffard, Mark Hamm, Richard Belliveau, Grover Williams, Erik Platania, Lisa Tittone, Anthony Mottola, Domenic Mottola, Shirley Cardinal, Stephanie Merenda, Philomena Ketchum, Mary Monette and Karin Mena.

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VINE AND BRANCHES - The winner of the 50/50 was Barbara and Joe McEnroe. The split was \$177.50. It is through your food donations and monetary contributions that enable us to help families during these difficult economic times. The next food distribution will be on Saturday, Aug. 16th at 10 am in our gym.

MT. ALVERNIA RETREAT CENTER - Mt. Alvernia Retreat Center (158 DeLavernge Ave., Wappingers Falls, NY) presents Franciscan Study Day on the writings of St. Francis on Saturday, September 6, 2014 from 11 am to 1:45 pm. Preregistration is required by August 23rd. Fee is \$25.00 and includes lunch. For more information or to register go to www.mtalvernia.org and click on Franciscan Study Days or contact Janice Daley at (845) 849-2943 or at craft72066@aol.com.

40 DAYS OF LIFE CAMPAIGN - The 40 Days for Life Campaign ...a movement of prayer and fasting, peaceful vigil, and community outreach, that is uniting Christians to save lives from abortion, to save women from regret, to help workers leave the abortion industry and to end abortion is coming to Poughkeepsie this fall – beginning on Sept. 24th. Will you join us? Visit <http://vimeo.com/75359760> to watch an inspiring video (just 7 min.) that will explain why you should. For more info, contact Maureen at 845-853-6529.

DO YOU LOVE GOD OR FEAR GOD MORE? - Is your relationship with God dominated by guilt and fear, or by love? Do you worry how he thinks of you and dread praying to him? Yet Jesus taught us to always meet God joyfully in prayer and worship and to be confident of his love.

Don't fear God in the wrong way. It is healthy to be in awe of God as our creator and creator of the universe. But we should never be afraid of God becoming angry every time we make a mistake or punishing us every time we fail. *"But you, our God, are good and true, slow to anger, and governing all with mercy"* (Wisdom 15:1). God appreciates honest effort.

Let God help you change. Most of us have areas in our lives that need improvement. Ask God for help. Change is possible when we allow God to work in our lives.

Don't carry guilt. The problem with guilt is that it can keep us from God. Instead, use it to take responsibility for sins, make amends, and start fresh – then let the guilt go. Catholics are blessed to have access to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Use it often so you can meet God joyfully in love and peace which is what he prefers.

ONE MINUTE MEDITATION - Every moment of our lives are lived in God's presence whether we are aware of Him or not. Take advantage of it and be alone with him as often as possible. Soon you will be able to see him everywhere you are.

SUNDAY COLLECTION - Last Sunday we collected \$2198. in our Regular Sunday Collection and \$/663. for Utility and Energy The sacrificial offering you provide to our Parish is your expression of loyalty, love and support. Thank you for your generosity.

† Sanctuary Light †
*The Sanctuary Light which will burn this week
at Immaculate Conception Church
was donated by Patty Barron
In Memory of Leo McEnroe*

