

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

August 6, 2017

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:

Amenia	Mon.	Aug. 7	8:00 am	William McEnroe
	Tues.	Aug. 8	8:00 am	Benjamin Dagostine
“	Wed.	Aug. 9	8:00 am	Philomena Ketchum
“	Thurs.	Aug. 10	8:00 am	NO MASS
“	Fri.	Aug. 11	8:00 am	Mary Glynn
Pine Plains	“	“	12 noon	Irma Maschi
Amenia	Sat.	Aug. 12	8:00 am	Thomas Miller
“	“	“	4:30 pm	Jerry Henry

Pine Plains	Sun	Aug. 13	8:00 am	People of the Parish
Amenia	“	“	10:45 am	Richard A. Belliveau

“THE WORLD IS A BALL”

Dear Friends:

I recently read an article by Steve Rushin in Sports Illustrated called “A Whole New Ball Game.” The article is a meditation on the meaning of ball shaped items in the life of human beings.

Some of his perceptions are priceless. He says “If a dog is man’s best friend, a tennis ball is dog’s best friend, the three creations forming a holy trinity of play.” If you can remember, the first toy you had was probably a ball of some sort, and maybe your favorite toy.

A ball is a party (think of Cinderella at the ball) and a time of happiness (“I had a ball!”).

I don’t know which is my favorite ball. Is it a brand new “Titleist” in my golf bag, or that perfectly shaped nerf football (one that just begs to be thrown in a perfect spiral)?

The author Rushin talks about a baseball autographed by N.Y. Giants stars in 1926. One unknown rookie who signed the ball was Jimmie Boyle, who would become Author Rushin’s maternal grandfather. Just a few weeks ago, the ball was delivered, after 92 years, to Mr. Rushin. Imagine the memories contained in that single ball.

Come to think of it, God at this moment is directing our spherical (ball-shaped) planet, one of untold billions in the universe, “a great celestial ball pit”. Rushin tells us that gives credence to G.K. Chesterton’s famous assertion: “Heaven is a playground.”

That struck me as somehow profound. The playground, where we are free to choose whatever apparatus we want, from the swings, to the slide, and just enjoy them. No deadlines, no pressure, no stress. Just play. There is something beautiful about that. Like heaven.

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.

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 and Michael Pomeisl. Please keep our servicemen and their families in your prayers.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH : Ralph Cummings, Ann Bida, 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, Baby James Ryan Farrell, Linda Sartori, Helen McGhee, Richard & Mary Ann Valinsk, Mary Murphy Adamitis, Winifred Capowski, Arthur Nadeau, Barbara Moissonnier, Nina Williams, LuAnn Ballantine, Frank D'Agostino, Michael Kain, Shirley Remsburger, Teresa Schell, Susan Moody, Danny Hagerty, Sonja Kelly, Jack Silvernale, Mike Butts and Mary Ann Mullen, Alan Carroll, Erin D'Elia, Linda Staab, Father John Durkin, Daisy Abruzzo, Richard Piccoli, Laura Galdiero, Joseph Scutieri, Eileen Murphy Ehlers, Ann Marie Russolillo, Dominic Nannetti, Ray Proper, Sr., Santino Delfino, Hilda Delgado, Luz Pelkey, Diana McPadden, Averie Burke, Ricky McGhee, John Daubman, Mary Fitzgerald Roth and Kathryn Garzetta

SAIL AWAY WITH PETER AND JESUS ! - Come join us for Morning Prayer and Guided Meditation at 10 am at St. Anthony's in Pine Plains on Saturday, August 12th. We'll enjoy coffee and pastries, experience each other's company, explore the Sunday readings and encounter Jesus on the stormy sea.

PRAY OF ST. JOHN VIANNEY - Feast: August 4th. Patron Saint of Parish Priests.

*I love You, O my God,
and my only desire is to love You
until the last breath of my life.
I love You, O my infinitely lovable God,
and I would rather die loving You,
than live without loving You.
I love You, Lord and the only grace I ask
is to love You eternally...
My God, if my tongue cannot say
in every moment that I love You,
I want my heart to repeat it to You
as often as I draw breath.*

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION - The Pine Plains Community Vacation Bible School will be held on from Monday, August 14 through Friday, August 18th at St. Anthony's Church from 9 am through noon. While you can fill out the registration form on the first day your child attends the VBS, bringing a completed form with you will make the registration process more efficient. The Registration form is on the table in the entrance way. Please call 845-373-8193 to obtain additional information.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO MONTREAL & QUEBEC - A Parish Pilgrimage to Montreal & Quebec from November 5th – November 9th, 2017 is being hosted by Church of St. Christopher & St. Sylvia. Travel by bus. Updated passport required. For info and to register go to <https://goo.gl/BWYF98>. Temporary access code: PM_7014. Temporary password: 7014!. Registration is due by September 9th. St. Christopher's telephone number is (845) 758-3732.

HOW "POOR" IS YOUR SPIRIT? To be "poor in spirit" conjures up images of people who are depressed or down-hearted with little or no spiritual life. In fact, people who live this beatitude are spiritual giants fully aware of their absolute need for God and live with complete dependence upon him. In that way, they grow stronger through their trials and personal crosses. When we live this beatitude we are most likely living the other seven, too.

Happy to live in union with God. Poor in spirit means that we depend upon God for all our needs and we are happy to live our lives joined to Him. Someone who lives in union with God knows that there is nothing the world has to offer that can compare.

Happy to be secure with God. Poor economy, bad health, loneliness, insecurity in an imperfect world can rob us of safety and happiness in the world. Yet, when we rely on God for what we need, nothing can steal the joy or happiness that he provides. Nothing.

SUNDAY COLLECTION - Last weekend, July 29-30, 2017, we collected \$3,766 in our Regular Sunday Collection. I thank you for your generosity and steadfast commitment to our Church and pray that God will continue to bless you and your families.