CHURCH of the RESURRECTION NEWS Nr.15 (3437) April 10th, 2022

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION - C

At the Liturgy of the Word on this Sunday, the events of Jesus' passion are proclaimed in their entirety. Throughout Luke's Gospel we see that Jesus' words and actions proclaim the Kingdom of God. This motif continues throughout Luke's

passion narrative. Jesus appears to be in total command of events at the Passover meal as he hands over the kingdom to

his disciples. He welcomes them to the Passover meal announcing that this will be his last until the Kingdom of God





is fulfilled.

Jesus initiates a conversation with Simon and predicts his denial. Jesus then instructs his disciples to prepare themselves for the events that will follow. His words reveal an awareness of the challenges that all of them will face in the days ahead. As the disciples and Jesus enter the Mount of Olives, Jesus indicates the importance of the disciples' time in prayer, telling them that through prayer they will be able to face the challenges ahead.

As he prays, Jesus is tested. In the garden, an angel is sent to strengthen him and to prepare him for the events ahead. After this moment, Jesus is again in charge of the events and circumstances.

In Luke's Gospel, Jesus is portrayed as active and vocal throughout his passion. When one of the disciples strikes the high priest's servant, Jesus heals the man, an event reported only in the Gospel of Luke. Jesus stops the disciples' protest against his arrest by noting that this is the "time for the power of darkness." Jesus engages and responds when brought before the Sanhedrin; his words speak about the "power of God" that will bring about the reign of the Son of Man. When questioned by Pilate, Jesus responds with just one phrase; yet before Herod, Jesus refuses to speak.

Throughout his Gospel, Luke has paid heed to the women who accompanied Jesus. Now, on the road to Calvary, Jesus speaks to the women who walk with him. Only Luke reports Jesus' words of forgiveness spoken from the cross. And only Luke reports the dialogue between Jesus and the good thief. Luke reports no words of abandonment spoken by Jesus on the cross. Instead, Jesus, in full command until his death, commends his spirit to his Father and takes his final breath.

Throughout Holy Week, we will continue to reflect on the events of Jesus' passion and death. As we meditate on the cross, we ask again and anew what it means to make the statement of faith that Jesus, in his obedient suffering and dying, revealed himself to us as God's Son and brought to fulfillment the Kingdom of God. (loyolapress.com) †R.R.

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

(CBW p.63)

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS ARE FOR :

9 a.m. †Simonas Ramanauskas

11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners for peace in Ukraine and the world **†**Teofile Kobelskis (children) *†*Kostas and Eugenija Gaputis (D.Gaputis) in thanksgiving (Ruta G.) *†*Izabele Matusevicius (55th anniv.) (relatives) *†*Regina Stabas (1st anniv.) (daughter Violeta) [†]Vytautas Strimaitis (2nd anniv.) ((Margarita & Vytautas family) [†]Liutauras Cingys and living and deceased family members (mother) [†]Angele Bungardas and Algis Grajauskas (A.Pleinys)

Sunday Masses online https:// www.youtube.com/ channel/ UC63RnbJxiayoKXdUf $nA_c-g/$. Website: www.prisikelimas.ca Facebook Group: https:// www.facebook.com/ groups/ <u>prisikelimo.parapija</u> Mass recordings, broadcasts https:// www.youtube.com/ channel/ UC63RnbJxiayoKXdUf nA_c-g? Search: Prisikelimo Parapija, Tevai Pranciskonai



(O.Stoncius)

Cantors of the Masses:

9 AM - Youth **11 AM -** "Volunge" Women's ensemble **organist** - Ilona Beres

THIS WEEK'S HOLY MASSES

MONDAY (April 11): 7 p.m. †Jonas and Regina Ziuraitis (A.Ulba);

TUESDAY (April 12): 7 p.m. living and deceased benefactors; †Ada Lemezys (I.Kavanagh);

WEDNESDAY (April 13): 7 p.m. †Jonas Zaleckas (V.Zaleckaite);

HOLY THURSDAY (April 14): 7 p.m. Commemoration of the Lord's Last Supper;

GOOD FRIDAY (April 15): 2:45 p.m. musical reflections; 3 p.m. Celebration of the Passion of our Lord; Solemn Vigil at the Lord's Tomb;

HOLY SATURDAY (April 16): Solemn Vigil at the Lord's Tomb; 8:00 p.m. EASTER VIGIL LITURGY OF THE WORD AND HOLY MASS;

SUNDAY - EASTER (April 17): 9 a.m. †Irena Petraitis (family); 11 a.m. living and deceased parishioners; blessings of the Lord for family and friends (GJ); †Stasys Bekeris (V.Puzeris); †Marija and Bronius Matusevicius (family); †Algimantas Syvokas (1st anniv.) (R.R.Syvokas); †Regina Antanaitis (Daiva and family).

Capital Fund - 327,929

THANK YOU...

"For it is in giving that we receive". Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi Collections of April 3rd

> 35 envelopes - \$ 1,455 No envelopes - \$ 45 Direct deposit - \$ 2,100

THANK you for your generosity

Office hours during the Holy Week

April 15th and April 18th - CLOSED

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

April 14th

HOLY THURSDAY

7 p.m. Holy Mass

(Commemoration of the Lord's Last Supper: the institution of the Holy Eucharist and Holy Orders)

April 15th

GOOD FRIDAY

2:45 p.m. Musical reflections

3 p.m. Celebration of the Passion of our Lord

(This is a liturgy of Word and Service. We gather to reflect on the Passion and our salvation.)

Solemn vigil at Jesus' tomb

April 16th

HOLY SATURDAY

Solemn vigil at Jesus' tomb

8:00 p.m. Blessing of the fire and preparation of the Easter Candle Vigil Liturgy of the Word and Holy Mass of the Resurrection

(In this evening's liturgy, we welcome Christ as our Light, reflect on our salvation history, renew our Baptismal vows, and celebrate Christ's glorious Resurrection.)

April 17th

EASTER SUNDAY

9 a.m. Easter Sunday Holy Mass (English) 11 a.m. Easter Sunday Holy Mass (Lithuanian)

Help Wanted: The parish is seeking a worker to perform custodial duties and hall set-up for events. Mostly weekend work, however must also be available on call to support occasional weekday events such as funeral luncheons. Please call the parish office - 416-533-0621.

Our parish CONTINUES our FOOD DRIVE in aid of the needy in Toronto and INVITES ALL to participate.

NON-PERISHABLE Food may be brought and left in the box provided, at the parish door.

NON-PERISHABLE Food WILL be collected until MAY 1st. Later in the fall will be continued the collection.

Thank you in advance for your kind donations.

PEACE for UKRAINE!

Donations to provide urgent aid to our Ukrainian brothers and sisters suffering as a result of the war may be made: 1) via the Franciscan Fathers by cheques: Franciscan Fathers, Memo: Ukraine;

2) be made Online through the Archdiocese of Toronto website: www.archtoronto.org or by cheques: Resurrection Parish – Ukraine.

We invite you to help our brothers and sisters of Ukraine.

Pope recites special prayer for end to war in Ukraine - Forgive us for war, O Lord. Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us sinners! Lord Jesus, born in the shadows of bombs falling on Kyiv, have mercy on us! Lord Jesus, who died in a mother's arms in a bunker in Kharkiv, have mercy on us! Lord Jesus, a 20-year-old sent to the frontlines, have mercy on us! Lord Jesus, who still behold armed hands in the shadow of your Cross, have mercy on us! Forgive us, O Lord. Forgive us, if we are not satisfied with the nails with which we crucified Your hands, as we continue to slate our thirst with the blood of those mauled by weapons. Forgive us, if these hands which You created to tend have been transformed into instruments of death. Forgive us, O Lord, if we continue to kill our brother; Forgive us, if we continue like Cain to pick up the stones of our fields to kill Abel. Forgive us, if we continue to justify our cruelty with our labors, if we legitimize the brutality of our actions with our pain. Forgive us for war, O Lord. Forgive us for war, O Lord. Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, we implore You! Hold fast the hand of Cain! Illumine our consciences; May our will not be done; Abandon us not to our own actions! Stop us, O Lord, stop us! And when you have held back the hand of Cain, care also for him. He is our brother. O Lord, put a halt to the violence! Stop us, O Lord! Amen.

Pope Palm Sunday Homily (2016)

Jesus "emptied himself, taking the form of a servant" (Phil 2:7). Let us allow these words of the Apostle Paul to lead us into these holy days, when the word of God, like a refrain, presents Jesus as servant: on Holy Thursday, he is



portrayed as the servant who washes the feet of his disciples; on Good Friday, he is presented as the suffering and victorious servant (cf. Is 52:13); and tomorrow we will hear the prophecy of Isaiah about him: "Behold my servant, whom I uphold" (Is 42:1). God saved us by serving us. We often think we are the ones who serve God. No, he is the one who freely chose to serve us, for he loved us first. It is difficult to love and not be loved in return. And it is even more difficult to serve if we do not let ourselves be served by God.

But how did the Lord serve us? By giving his life for us. We are dear to him; we cost him dearly. Saint Angela of Foligno said she once heard Jesus say: "My love for you is no joke". His love for us led him to sacrifice himself and to take upon himself our sins. This astonishes us: God saved us by taking upon himself all the punishment of our sins. Without complaining, but with the humility, patience and obedience of a servant, and purely out of love. And the Father *upheld* Jesus in his service. He did not take away the evil that crushed him, but rather strengthened him in his suffering so that our evil could be overcome by good, by a love that loves to the very end. The Lord served us to the point of experiencing the most painful situations of those who love: betraval and abandonment.

Betrayal. Jesus suffered betrayal by the disciple who sold him and by the disciple who denied him. He was betrayed by the people who sang hosanna to him and then shouted: "Crucify him!" (Mt 27:22). He was betrayed by the religious institution that unjustly condemned him and by the political institution that washed its hands of him. <...> We cannot even imagine how painful it was for God who is love. Let us look within. If we are honest with ourselves, we will see our infidelities. How many good intentions betrayed! How many broken promises! How many resolutions left unfulfilled! The Lord knows our hearts better than we do. He knows how weak and irresolute we are, how many times we fall, how hard it is for us to get up and how difficult it is to heal certain wounds. <...> He told us through the Prophet: "I will heal their faithlessness; I will love them deeply" (Hos 14:5). He healed us by taking upon himself our infidelity and by taking from us our betrayals. Instead of being discouraged by the fear of failing, we can now look upon the crucifix, feel his embrace, and say: "Behold, there is my infidelity, you took it, Jesus, upon yourself. You open your arms to me, you serve me with your love, you continue to support me... And so I will keep pressing on". *Abandonment*. In today's Gospel, Jesus says one thing from the Cross, one

thing alone: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Mt 27:46). These are powerful words. Jesus had suffered the abandonment of his own, who had fled. But the Father remained for him. <...> Why did all this take place? Once again, it was done for our sake, to serve us. So that when we have our back to the wall, when we find ourselves at a dead end, with no light and no way of escape, when it seems that God himself is not responding, we should remember that we are not alone. Jesus experienced total abandonment in a situation he had never before experienced in order to be one with us in everything. He did it for me, for you, to say to us: "Do not be afraid, you are not alone. I experienced all your desolation in order to be ever close to you". That is the extent to which Jesus served us: he descended into the abyss of our most bitter sufferings, culminating in betrayal and abandonment. Jesus says: "Courage, open your heart to my love. You will feel the consolation of God who sustains you".

Dear brothers and sisters, what can we do in comparison with God, who served us even to the point of being betrayed and abandoned? We can refuse to betray him for whom we were created, and not abandon what really We were put in this world to love him and our matters in our lives. Everything else passes away, only this remains. For life is neighbours. measured by love. So, in these holy days, in our homes, let us stand before the Crucified One, the fullest measure of God's love for us, and before the God who serves us to the point of giving his life, and let us ask for the grace to live in order to serve. May we reach out to those who are suffering and those most in need.

<...> Feel called yourselves to put your lives on the line. Do not be afraid to devote your life to God and to others; it pays! For life is a gift we receive only when we give ourselves away, and our deepest joy comes from saying yes to love, without ifs and buts. As Jesus did for us.

THE PARISH IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTENT OF THE ADS

PLEASE NOTE:

Writing Cheques payable to **Resurrection Parish** in the **MEMO** write the charitable purpose: **Donation to Parish or Mass.**

Writing Cheques payable to Franciscan Fathers in the MEMO write the charitable purpose: Capital Fund, Renovation fund, Monastery, Sielovada, Soup kitchen, Camp "Kretinga", Oncology centre Klaipeda, Franciscan Fathers projects in Lithuania.

> THANK YOU for donations. You can donate to the parish and for parish causes through: envelopes

eTransfers (email: <u>resparish@prisikelimas.ca</u>;

Q: What is the name of the parish? A: Resurrection; (indicating to whom the donation is addressed) or on the **parish site**

> www.prisikelimas.ca/give. Also, you can donate through banks -RCU and Parama by direct deposit.



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