

CHURCH of the RESURRECTION NEWS



Nr. 16 (3596) April 20th, 2025

EASTER SUNDAY - C



The Feast of Easter, the Feast of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, is the central Feast of the Church. It is God's definitive answer to death. Nothing is stronger nor more powerful than He. Through the Resurrection, God has conquered both sin and death.

Yet, at times, there seems no lack of despair or of hopelessness. Looking about, we cannot deny what we see: moral weakness, physical illness, natural disasters, conflict, hatred, paradox, contradiction, and war. It

seems that there is no end to this catalogue of vexing problems which seem to defy solutions.

We know, too, from the Gospel texts that following the Passion and death of Jesus Christ, the Apostles themselves went into hiding because they were anxious and afraid.

In our time, in response to all these difficulties, many people have turned in toward themselves; they have "withdrawn from daily life," so to say. Others pretend that all is well and continue to maintain a selfish and narcissistic way of life. Still, others have become angry, bitter, and cynical, assuming a cold indifference toward everyone and everything, caring only for themselves. Sadly, among many young people, there has been a choice to participate in artificial and selfish behaviours, believing that this would relieve their anxiety and that they would find true happiness. However, the contrary is true. Young people who live this way discover only hopelessness and despair.

On the Feast of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, I ask all of you to believe and to understand that the only true and authentic answer to the most profound and difficult questions of life must always begin with the Risen Jesus Christ.

It is the Risen Jesus Christ and only He who makes us holy and wise. It is the Risen Jesus Christ who grants us peace. It is He who gives Himself to us in the Eucharist. He forgives us our sins in the Sacrament of Confession and speaks to us through the Sacred Scriptures and through His Church. It is He, The Risen Jesus Christ, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life and He says to us what He said to the Apostles on the First Easter:

Peace be to you. It is I. Do not be afraid! (John 20: 19-31) Amen.

ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

OR

THIS IS THE DAY THAT THE LORD HAS MADE. LET US REJOICE AND BE GLAD.

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS ARE FOR:

- 9 a.m. †Michael Brough (11th anniv.) (S.Brough)
11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners
for peace in the world
†Monignor Edmundas Putrimas; and request the grace of health for parish priests (GJ)
†Eugenijus Cuplinskas (family)
†Benigna Ragauskienė (11th anniv.) (Liliana and Lina)
†Regina Antanaitis (daughter)
†Liudas Racickas (family)
for living and deceased friends (B.Kazlauskas)
for Planciunas', Urbonavicius', Levinskas' living & deceased family members (family)
in thanksgiving - for living and deceased friends and family members (GJ)

2025

April 20

Easter

April 26

*"Volunges sparnais..."
concert*

April 27

Parish Annual Meeting

May 2-3

Spring Rummage Sale

May 4

First Communion

June 7

Run for Hope

June 8

Confirmation

June 7-9

Camp "Kretinga" -

Work Weekend

June 22

St. John's day

Camp Kretinga

July 6-19 (En.)

July 20 - August 2 (Lith.)

October 24-25

Fall Rummage Sale

November 8

Annual Dinner

December (date TBD)

Advent Retreat

December 14

Christmas Concert

December 25

Christmas



Cantors of the Masses:

9 AM - Gintas Pabedinskas, Spencer Gallop

11 AM - children

organist - Ilona Beres

The week's Holy Masses

MONDAY (April 21): 7 p.m. † Monsignor Edmundas Putrimas (Groen in't Woud family); † Albinas and Ursule Kartavicius (Buoze family);

TUESDAY (April 22): for living and deceased benefactors;

WEDNESDAY (April 23): 10 a.m. "Labdara" † Petras Kondrotas (N.Slivinskas); 7 p.m. † Jane Mickus (Prakapas family);

THURSDAY (April 24): 7 p.m. † Juozas Kalinauskas (O.Azubalis);

FRIDAY (April 25): 7 p.m. † Juozas Morkunas (A.Morkunas);

SATURDAY (April 26): 9 a.m. † Irena and Henrikas Matusaitis (R.J.Balaisis); 5 p.m. "Vilnius Manor";

SUNDAY (April 27): 9 a.m. † Ona Svarinskas (A.Ciaucionas); 11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners; asking for the Lord's blessing and giving thanks to the Parish Council, parish Finance and "Capital Fund" committee; † Antanas Stanevicius (Stanevicius family); † Birute and Jonas Danaitis (family); † Adele, Juozas and Edis Austras (I.Zemaitis); † Vincas Baliunas (A.R.Karka); † Liudas Matukas (family); † Jonas Morkunas (Stravinskas family); † Salomeja Oleka (R.Oleka); † Vladas Melnykas (family); † Simonas Ramanauskas (grandmother); † Vytas Radzius (family).

"Capital Fund" - \$ 534,598

R.J.Birgiolas, B.Pichler,

A.R.Sileika - \$200

THANK YOU...

"For it is in giving that we receive".

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Sunday (04.13) & "Vilnius Manor"

Collections

58 envelopes - \$ 2,370

No envelopes - \$ 262.05

Direct deposit - \$ 990

THANK you for your generosity...

April 27th - Three reasons to cheer!

*After 11AM Mass there will be a birthday celebration for Fr. Augustine;

*We will process to the edge of the parking lot for the blessing of newly planted trees and a commemoration of the successful completion of the Capital Fund Campaign;

*A group photo of all participants will be captured in the hall with the Capital Fund Campaign artwork;

*Following a brief annual meeting, a delicious family style lunch and refreshing beverages will be served (Free donation), and live Lithuanian music will be performed by the Kapela.

We look forward to seeing everyone!

Resurrection parish council -

If you are interested in joining the parish council to help organize parish activities, please contact a member of this year's recruitment committee - Grazina Laurinaitis - 416-222-4693, Jurgis Kuliesius - kuleza@sympatico.ca. We are especially looking forward to hearing from youth (18-35) and young families, in the hopes of revitalizing activities for these groups.



Archdiocese
of Toronto

We would like to draw your attention to a letter sent by Cardinal Francis Leo to Canada's Minister of Finance, Dominic Leblanc. <https://www.archtoronto.org/siteassets/media/archdiocese-of-toronto-main-site/files/archbishop-leo/hon.-dominic-leblanc---february-21-2025.pdf> In his letter, Cardinal Leo urges Minister Leblanc to reject Recommendation 429 and 430, which seek to amend the Income Tax Act to provide a definition of a charity which would remove the privileged status of 'advancement of religion' as a charitable purpose. Please consider contacting your local Member of Parliament to express your concern with these recommendations.

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE **May 2nd - 3rd**

Our **Labdara Committee** cannot invite everyone individually but **needs everyone** to assist in making this event a success!

Men, women, teens, welcome!

On April 28th, the hall is occupied for the election.

We kindly ask you to come on Tuesday, April 29th

at 9 AM to set up the tables,

10 AM to gather for the distribution of items.

ATTENTION:

we will NOT be having a 'CAFE' and will NOT be selling baked goods BUT will gladly accept cakes/cookies for our volunteers.

We also ask that you do not bring any USED cosmetics.

We ask you to bring your donations NO EARLIER than Tuesday, APRIL 29th at 12NOON!

Some items that DO NOT sell are:

- old radios, computers, encyclopedias,
- old TVs (LED are ok)

We ask that you discard these items elsewhere.

We will no longer accept large furniture, nor will we pick-up or deliver any items.

Teens who volunteer will receive "Community Service" credit.

We ask for your cooperation and THANK YOU in advance!

*For other info please contact: Raminta Nakrosius 416-669-0271; Dalia Rocca 905-820-3088; Ramune Stravinskas 416-523-1095.



Pope's Easter Message: Peace to our Days!

Dear brothers and sisters, Happy Easter! Today, throughout the world, the Church renews the joyful proclamation first made by the apostles: "Jesus is risen!" – "He is truly risen, just as He said!"

The Lord is alive and wants to be sought among the living. After encountering Him, each of us is called to proclaim the Easter message, to awaken and revive hope in hearts weighed down by sorrow, in those who struggle to find the light of life. This is something we greatly need today. We are called to forget ourselves and, as joyful servants of hope, proclaim the Risen One through our lives and love; otherwise, we risk becoming merely an international organization with many supporters and good rules, but incapable of offering the hope the world so deeply longs for.

How can we strengthen our hope? The liturgy of this night offers us good advice. It teaches us to remember the works of God. The readings tell of His faithfulness and love for us. The living Word of God draws us into this story of love, sustaining our hope and reviving our joy. Today's Gospel reminds us of this too: to inspire hope, the angels say to the women, "Remember what He [Jesus] told you" (Luke 24:6). Remember Jesus' words, remember all He has done in our lives. Let us not forget His words and deeds; otherwise, we will lose hope and become Christians without hope. Let us remember the Lord, His goodness, and the life-giving words that touched us. Let us carry them within us so that we may be like watchmen of the dawn, able to help others see the signs of the Risen One.

Dear brothers and sisters, Christ is risen! And we now have the opportunity to open our hearts and receive His gift of hope. Let us open ourselves to hope and set out on the path. May the memory of His deeds and words be a shining light that guides our steps with confidence toward Easter without end.

Let us return home with these words in our hearts: "Christ is risen!"



Lord Jesus, having suffered three days in the depths of the earth, in its core, in its darkness, not only did You ascend to the Light with the Father and the Holy Spirit, but also in Your mercy drew from the abyss those condemned for all time. Do not abandon us, who believe in You - leave us at least the Shroud, and the joy filled cry: Christ is risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

Sincere Easter greetings on the day of Resurrection and on the name's day of our Parish - wishing you blessings of the Lord: the Provincial General of the Order of St Francis Little Brothers of Lithuania, St Casimir Province Fr. Evaldas Darulis, OFM, and the priests serving in the parish, Pastor Fr. Jonas Sileika, OFM, Fr. Augustine Simanavicius, OFM, Fr. Raimundas Bukauskas, OFM and deacon Dr. Kazimieras Ambrozaitis and family.

Sincere thanks for all the donations to the parish and monastery; for enriching our liturgy to Music Director D.Viskontas, organist I.Beres, Children's Choir director D.Babeckas, and to the parish choirs - "SVAJA", "VOLUNGE", "VOLUNGE" Women's ensemble and the Children's Choir; Mass singers; A.Puodziunas, R.Melkis; R.Stravinskas, A.Nakrosius and the lectors, the Holy Mass broadcasters Arunas Pabedinskas and Kazimieras Pabedinskas; and everyone assisting with enriching Holy Week and Easter liturgies.

HAPPY EASTER...



Dear brothers and sisters,
the joy of Easter reaches us in every place, in every country, in every situation. I greet you with the Resurrection of Christ, which never ceases to surprise and, at the same time, to encourage and strengthen us.

The Jubilee of 2025 has reminded us that we are in great need of hope. Every family, every nation, the whole world needs hope. It is also needed by Lithuanian communities throughout the diaspora, especially those whose numbers are dwindling, whose younger generation does not always retain their mother tongue or are distancing themselves away from a Lithuanian parish or community. However, let us be aware of the good examples where even the descendants of emigrants who do not speak Lithuanian become active members of the community, where priests of other nationalities who once lived in Lithuania willingly serve Lithuanians abroad, where active lay people proclaim the Word of God in Lithuanian, and where traditional hymns are heard where Lithuanian priests are not available.

These are reflections of hope, yet they are surpassed by the resurrection of Christ. This is the foundation of our hope, not only in times of success or ordinary difficulties, but also in facing the greatest challenges, when we find no solutions, no way out. Christ gives us hope even when things seem hopeless (cf. Rom 4:18).

Christ's resurrection reveals that what we see with the eyes of the body is not the ultimate reality. God has designed far more than we can imagine. The Gospel tells us that the disciple whom Jesus loved "saw and believed" when he entered Christ's tomb (John 20:8). He saw the empty tomb and the dropped linen cloths, but faith led to an encounter with the risen Master. Faith helped him to see beyond human possibilities and perspectives and opened the way of hope. We need the same kind of vision. It is said that as long as life continues, there is hope. Pope Francis added: "We could say it another way: as long as there is hope, there is life." Even though we do not yet see the final victory of the Risen One, we maintain our hope by looking to Jesus, who showed a love that is stronger than hatred and conquered death. To live with courage in the face of all dangers and to keep hope alive, we need the "Easter eyes", which is what Bishop Klaus Hammerle, who lived in Germany in the last century, wishes us:

"I wish us an Easter eyes, that see life in death, forgiveness in guilt, unity in division, healing in wounds. I wish us an Easter eyes that see God in man, man in God, the other in oneself. And also, I wish us all Easter strength and peace, light, hope and faith that life is stronger than death." As I greet you sincerely on the feast of the Resurrection of Christ, I pray that we too may have and share this Easter hope and faith.

Yours in Christ, Archbishop Lioginas Virbalas, SJ;

Delegate of the Lithuanian Bishops' Conference for the Pastoral Ministry of Lithuanians Abroad

The Parish is not responsible for the content of the ads

THANK YOU for donations.

You can donate to the parish and for parish causes through: envelopes; eTransfers (email: resparish@prisikelimas.ca ;

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.

Through banks - RCU and Parama by direct deposit.

PLEASE NOTE: Writing Cheques payable to **Resurrection Parish** in the **MEMO:** Donation to Parish or Mass.

Writing Cheques payable to **Franciscan Fathers** in the **MEMO:** Capital Fund, Renovation fund, by bequest, Monastery, Soup kitchen, Camp "Kretinga", Oncology centre Klaipeda, Franciscan Fathers projects in Lithuania.



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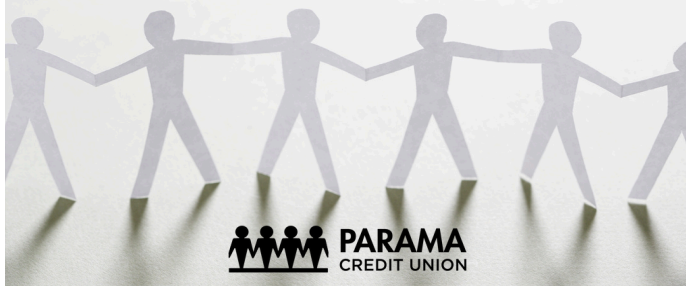
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SHRED DAY



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AVAILABLE**

RCU staff will also be on hand to answer questions about preventing fraud and identity theft

Office hours:

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Phone.: (416) 533 0621

Web: www.prisikelimas.ca

Email: resparish@prisikelimas.ca

Church of the Resurrection

1 Resurrection Rd., Toronto, ON. M9A5G1

Pastor: Fr. Jonas Sileika, OFM

Associate Pastor/Parish economist:

Fr. Raimundas Bukauskas, OFM

Serving Priest: Fr. Augustinas Simanavicius, OFM

Deacon: Dr. Kazimieras Ambrozaitis

Parish office administrator: Gitana Judvytyte