

CHURCH of the RESURRECTION NEWS

Nr. 10 (3537) March 10th, 2024

4th SUNDAY IN LENT - B



The fourth Sunday of Lent is sometimes called *Laetare* Sunday. *Laetare* is a Latin word that means “rejoice.” Traditionally, Sundays are named after the first word of the liturgy’s opening antiphon. Even as we observe our Lenten sacrifices, we rejoice in anticipation of the joy that will be ours at Easter.

Today’s Gospel reading is taken from John’s Gospel. It consists of two parts. The first part is the final sentence of Jesus’ reply to Nicodemus, the Pharisee who approached Jesus at night. Nicodemus acknowledged Jesus as someone who had come from God and seemed to want to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus greeted Nicodemus with the observation that one must be born from above to see the Kingdom of God. The dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus that followed was about the meaning of this phrase. Nicodemus misunderstood Jesus at every point, but there was no animosity in the questions he posed to Jesus.

In the part of the conversation with Nicodemus in today’s Gospel, Jesus referred to an incident reported in the Old Testament. When the Israelites grumbled against the Lord during their sojourn in the desert, God sent venomous serpents to punish them for their complaints. The Israelites repented and asked Moses to pray for them. The Lord heard Moses’ prayer and instructed him to make a bronze serpent and mount it on a pole. All who had been bitten by a serpent and then looked upon the bronze serpent were cured. By recalling this story, Jesus alludes to the salvation that would be accomplished through his death and Resurrection.

The second part of today’s Gospel is a theological reflection on Jesus’ words to Nicodemus. The Gospel of John is known for this kind of reflection offered within the narrative. In these reflections, John elaborates on a number of themes that are found in his Gospel: light and darkness, belief and unbelief, good and evil, salvation and condemnation.

In John’s reflection, we find an observation about human sinfulness. Jesus is the light that has come into the world, but people preferred the darkness. We wish to keep our sins hidden, even from God. Jesus has come into the world to reveal our sins so that they may be forgiven. This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives. (loyolapress.com) †R.R.

Let my tongue be silenced if ever I forget you.

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS ARE FOR:

- | | | |
|---------|--|---------------------|
| 9 a.m. | †Alida Groen in’t Woud | (family) |
| 11 a.m. | for living and deceased parishioners
for peace in the world | |
| | †Ona and Juozapas Vydmantas | (granddaughter) |
| | †Bronius Matusevicius (38th anniv.) | (family) |
| | for Gindrienis’ and Laurinavicius’ deceased family members (L.D.Laurinavicius) | |
| | †Balbina and Juozas Tamulaitis | (D.Nausedas) |
| | †Monsignor Jonas Staskevicius | (Cuplinskas family) |
| | †Antanas Bumbulis | (family) |
| | †Regina Piecaitis (4th anniv.) and Julius Jankauskas | (V.V.Baliunas) |
| | †Jadvyga Cibulskiene (4 weeks) | (family) |
| | †Stanislava Zubrickas | (E.Loureiro) |
| | in thanksgiving | (R.J.Kuliesius) |
| | requesting grace of health for Irena | (GJ) |

2024

March 28-31

Holy week

March 31

Easter

April 7, 2pm

*Choirs “Balsas” and
“Volunge” concert*

April 21

Annual Parish Meeting

April 26-27

Spring Rummage Sale

May 5

First Communion

May 26

Confirmation

June (date TBD)

Run for Hope

June 7-9

Camp “Kretinga” -

Work Weekend

Camp Kretinga

July 7-20 (En.)

July 21 - August 3 (Lith.)

Family Camp

August 17 - 24

October 18-19

Fall Rummage Sale

November 9

Annual Dinner

December (date TBD)

Advent Retreat

December 1

Christmas Concert

December 25

Christmas

Cantors of the Masses:

9 AM - Aleksia Vadauskas

11 AM - Laima Underys

organist - Ilona Beres

The week's Holy Masses

MONDAY (March 11): 7 p.m. for Lithuanian Independence;

TUESDAY (March 12): 7 p.m. for living and deceased parishioners; †Kazys Gaputis (V.Gaputis);

WEDNESDAY (March 13): 10 am "Labdara" †Petras Kondrotas (N.Slivinskas); 7 p.m.;

THURSDAY (March 14): 7 p.m. †Dana Puzeris (Liacas family); †Tomas and Stasys Prakapas (RU);

FRIDAY (March 15): 7 p.m. special intention (NN);

SATURDAY (March 16): 9 a.m. requesting grace of health for Elena, Terese and Valentina (friend); 5 p.m. "Vilnius Manor" †Dana Puzeris (I.Konciute);

SUNDAY (March 17): 9 a.m. †Felicija Gudinskas (S.Brough); 11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners; †Rimantas Anskis (Stanevicius family); †Marija Gudelis (1st anniv.) (family); †Silvija Freimanas (V.Puzeris); †Petras Murauskas (R.Bell); †Monsignor Jonas Staskevicius (Prakapas family); †Genovaitė Simkus (GJ); †Kastytis Dailyde (V.A.Dailyde); †Antanas, Kęstutis, Ona Stankus and Konstancija and Stasys Juknevičius (R.Slapsys); in thanksgiving - blessings of the Lord for Violeta Poskus and her family (I.Matus).

Capital Fund - 371,345

THANK YOU...

"For it is in giving that we receive".

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Sunday (03.03) & "Vilnius Manor" Collections -

47 envelopes - \$ 1,580

No envelopes - \$ 111.25

Direct deposit - \$ 2,295

Scouts donated \$ 300

The Parish Committee for Charitable Causes
donated \$ 10,000

THANK you for your generosity...



Every Thursday during Lent, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 5:30 p.m. will take place before the evening Holy Mass.

Please come and spend an hour with the Lord.

Reflections on the Stations of the Cross Fridays during Lent at 6:15 p.m. before the evening Holy Mass. Let us in prayer accompany Jesus on his sorrowful journey.



Spring is a time of rebirth and a beautiful opportunity to continue with the Lenten spirit of giving; doing good deeds for others. We invite everyone to write heartfelt Easter greeting cards for the seniors living at "Labdara" nursing home. Your greetings will bring them hope, love, happiness, and a feeling of close connection to our community.

We welcome everyone to the parish cafe March 17th, and 24th. After each Mass, you will have an opportunity to make some greeting cards. All materials will be provided.

For further questions, please contact Vida Dirmantaite-Groen in 't Woud vidag@primus.ca

We thank you for your continued generosity.

Stonehewer Books invites you to the launch of a new book by **Antanas Šileika "The Death of Tony"** - a memoir about belonging in two worlds.

In conversation with author Joe Kertes.

Wednesday, March 27 at 7 PM, Society Clubhouse (967 College Street). Antanas's new book is about balancing the Canadian and Lithuanian parts of his life, themes that will be familiar to many of the children of the postwar DP generation. Snacks and cash bar. *We are waiting for you...*

SHARE LIFE Campaign on March 17th. Envelopes you will find in the church vestibule.

Please consider supporting the Archdiocesan charities by using the envelopes or by going to the internet www.archtoronto.org and using the **DONATE NOW**.

Each year, thousands of people turn to a *ShareLife* agency for help. Our agencies provide service in an environment that is infused with Catholic values, bringing the Gospel message to the marginalized.

When we support *ShareLife*, we are making more than a financial contribution – we are demonstrating that the Catholic community is actively making a difference in the social service network in our archdiocese! *Thank you...*

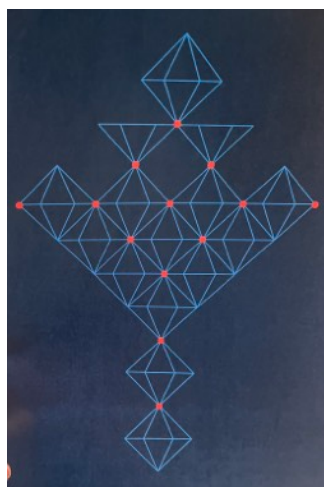
Our parish "Labdara" committee **CONTINUES The FOOD DRIVE** in aid of the needy in Toronto and **INVITES ALL to participate**. **NON-PERISHABLE** Food may be brought and left in the box provided, at the parish door.

Thank you in advance for your kind donations.



**HAPPY
MARCH 11th -
INDEPENDENCE
RESTORATION
DAY!**

100 VOICES for 100 YEARS



Voices of the Joint Montreal and Toronto Lithuanian Song Festival choir will soar performing songs from the repertoire of the upcoming song festival in Vilnius, Lithuania. „May the Green Forest Grow“ celebrates the 100 years since the song festival seed was planted

in Kaunas, in 1924.

Join us at the Church of the Resurrection Parish Hall, Toronto, on Sunday, April 7th, at 2 pm to hear pieces by contemporary composers as well as arranged Lithuanian folk songs.

Tickets may be purchased on the day of the concert or at Resurrection Parish Sundays from 9:30 am – 1 pm. Price: \$20

VILNIUS MANOR APARTMENTS AVAILABLE LOCATED AT 1700 BLOOR ST WEST, TORONTO

“Vilnius Manor” is an apartment building for Canadian Lithuanians who are age 55+.

Tenants enjoy city living & convenient TTC access. Our location offers close proximity to High Park, Bloor West Village and the Junction neighbourhoods. All apartments are set at an affordable market rate.

Lithuanian culture and celebrations are embraced through support and connection with the Toronto Lithuanian Senior Citizens Club.

For more information contact info@vilniusmanor.ca

Pope at Audience: Combat pride with humility



During his Wednesday General Audience, Pope Francis continues his catechetical series on virtues and vices, focusing on the sin of pride and stressing the need to combat it with the 'remedy' of humility.

"Let us take advantage of this Lent to fight against our pride," Pope Francis urged during his weekly General Audience on Wednesday morning in the Vatican. The Holy Father asked a collaborator, Father Pierluigi Giroli from the Vatican Secretariat of State, to read for him, since he still has "a bit of a cold."

As spring approaches in Rome, the Audience debuted again in St. Peter's Square, after the chilling winter mornings had moved it, as they do every year, into the Vatican's Paul VI Hall. The Holy Father circled among the enthusiastic crowds before the audience began.

The vice of pride - This week, the Pope continued his catechetical series on vices and virtues, examining the vice of pride.

This vice, which has been translated roughly as “excessive splendor,” and is visible through "self-exaltation, conceit, and vanity," the Pope recalled, is among the vices that Jesus warned about "in the heart of man." The vice of pride, he noted, is very close to that of vainglory, which was examined at last week's Audience. "However, if vainglory is a disease of the human self," the Pope said, "it is still a childish disease, when compared to the havoc that pride is capable of."

Distances from God - "Of all vices," Pope Francis said, "pride is the 'great queen.'" He said "it is no accident" that, in the Divine Comedy, Dante places it in the very first level of purgatory. "Those who give in to this vice are far from God," the Pope observed, "and the correction of this evil, requires time and effort, more than any other battle to which the Christian is called."

"Within this evil," he explained, "lies the radical sin, the absurd claim to be like God." The sin of Adam and Eve, recounted in the book of Genesis, "is for all intents and purposes," the Pope said, a sin of pride, for the tempter tells them, “When you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God” (Gen. 3:5). Writers on spirituality, he added, are especially attentive in describing the consequences of pride in everyday life, frequently illustrating how it ruins human relationships.

Impossible to correct - The Pope observed that proud people are easy to recognize. "You realize that you are dealing with a proud person," Pope Francis said, "when, on offering him a little constructive criticism, or making a completely harmless remark, he reacts in an exaggerated manner, as if someone had offended 'his majesty.'"

There is little one can do with a person suffering from pride, he suggested. "It is impossible to talk to them, much less correct them," he explained, "because ultimately they are no longer present to themselves."

"One just has to be patient with them," he said, "because one day their edifice will collapse." In the Gospels, the Holy Father recalled, Jesus deals with a lot of proud people, as he remembered how the Lord often exposed this vice "even in people who hid it very well."

Remedy for pride - "Salvation," the Pope said, "comes through humility," calling it "the true remedy for every act of pride."

In this context, the Holy Father reminded the faithful that God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

Pope Francis concluded by calling on all Christians to fight against their pride this Lenten season.

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, Monastery, Soup kitchen, Camp "Kretinga", Oncology centre Klaipeda, Franciscan Fathers projects in Lithuania.



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SAVE THE DATE

March 4, 2024
1573 Bloor Street West
Parama's Annual General Meeting

RCU Board of Directors Candidate Nominations

2024 elections
NOMINATION PERIOD:
Opens: February 1, 2024
Closes: March 15, 2024 at 12:00 noon

SAVE THE DATE
Annual General Meeting
Tuesday, April 9, 2024

Learn more at:
rpcul.com

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

Office hours:

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Phone.: (416) 533 0621

Web: www.prisikelimas.ca

Email: resparish@prisikelimas.ca

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