

# CHURCH of the RESURRECTION NEWS

Nr. 9 (3483) February 26th, 2023

## 1st SUNDAY OF LENT - A



In each of the three Synoptic Gospels (Mark, Matthew, and Luke), after Jesus' baptism by John, Jesus is reported to have gone to the desert to fast and pray for 40 days. In each case, while in the desert, Jesus is tempted by the devil.

Matthew and Luke give more detail than Mark does, but each one tells how the devil tempts Jesus in the desert. In Matthew, as in Luke, the devil presents three temptations to Jesus. The devil tempts Jesus to use his power to appease his hunger; he tempts Jesus to put God's promise

of protection to the test; and he offers Jesus all of the kingdoms of the world if Jesus will worship the devil. In each case, Jesus resists the temptation, rebuking the devil with words from Scripture.

The account of Jesus' temptation in the desert is filled with allusions and parallels to the Old Testament, including the story of the people of Israel. The Israelites spent 40 years wandering in the desert in Exodus, for example, and Jesus spends 40 days in the desert. As the Israelites were tempted during the Exodus, so too is Jesus tempted.

Each temptation offers insight into both God and the human condition. Jesus' rejection of the temptations shows that he will not put God to the test. Grounding himself on the word and authority of Scripture, Jesus rebukes the devil, confident in God's protection and faithfulness.

As we start our journey through Lent, our Sunday readings call us to adopt the same confidence that Jesus had in the face of temptation: God's word alone will suffice; God's promise of protection can be trusted; God alone is God. ([loyolapress.com](http://loyolapress.com))

"Lord Jesus, your word is life and joy for me. Fill me with your Holy Spirit that I may have the strength and courage to embrace your will in all things and to renounce whatever is contrary to it." ([dailyscripture.net](http://dailyscripture.net)) †R.R.

### Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

#### SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS ARE FOR:

9 a.m. for sports club "Ausra" living and deceased members

11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners

for peace in Ukraine and the world

†Monsignor Edmundas Putrimas

†Kristina Simkus-Sukauskas

for Cuplinskas', Stonkus' and Matulionis'

living and deceased family members

†Ipolitas Stanevicius

†Vytautas and Albina Buragas

†Motiejus (50th anniv.) Burauskas;

Burauskas' & Samulevicius' deceased members

†Laimute Gudinskas

†Liudas Matukas

†Tadas Klupsas

†Algimantas Syvokas

†Mantas Stankevicius (1st anniv.)

("Kretinga")

(GJ)

(family)

(Stanevicius family)

(D.Berius)

(Samonis)

(R.R.Syvokas)

(family)

(Matukas family)

(R.R.Syvokas)

(brother and family)



2023

**February 26**

*Sports club "AUSRA"*

*Mass*

**March 5**

*St. Casimir Fair*

**March 18-19**

*Lenten Retreat*

**April 2-8**

*Holy week*

**April 9**

*Easter*

**April 21-22**

*Spring Rummage Sale*

**April 30**

*Parish 70th*

*anniversary lunch*

**May 7**

*First Communion*

**June 3**

*Run for Hope*

**June 4**

*Confirmation*

**June 25**

*St. Johns' day*

**Camp Kretinga**

*July 2-15 (En.)*

*July 16 - 29 (Lith.)*

**October 20-21**

*Fall Rummage Sale*

**October 14**

*MOZAIKA*

*A Silent Art Auction*

**November 18**

*70th Anniversary*

*Parish Dinner*

**December (date TBD)**

*Advent Retreat*

**December 10**

*Christmas Concert*

**December 25**

*Christmas*

**Cantors of the Masses:**

**9 AM** - Ruta Cerniauskas,  
Aleksia, Lina and Lile Vadauskas

**11 AM** - Laima Underys  
**organist** - Ilona Beres

**The week's Holy Masses**

**February 27 - March 5**

**MONDAY** (February 27): 7 p.m.;

**TUESDAY** (February 28): 7 p.m. for living and deceased parishioners;

**WEDNESDAY** (March 1): 7 p.m.;

**THURSDAY** (March 2): 7 p.m. †Alida Groen in't Woud (30th anniv.) (family);

**FRIDAY** (March 3): 7 p.m. request grace of the health for Valentina (friend);

**SATURDAY** (March 4): 9 a.m. for living and deceased Casimir's (GJ); 5 p.m. "Vilnius Manor";

**SUNDAY** (March 5): 9 a.m. †Edie Houle ("Kretinga"); 11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners; †Ona and Stasys Dackus (granddaughter); †Stasys Prakapas (family); †Irena and Henrikas Matusaitis (R.J.Balaisis); †Monsignor Edmundas Putrimas (Urnieszus family); †Vytautas Miniota (A.Vaskevicius); †Algimantas Martusevicius (daughter).

**Capital Fund - \$ 337,290**

**THANK YOU...**

**"For it is in giving that we receive".**

*Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi*

**Collections in "Vilnius Manor "**

**and February 19th**

40 envelopes - \$ 1,065

No envelopes - \$ 91.00

Direct deposit - \$ 1,105

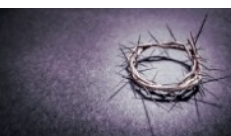
**THANK you for your generosity**



**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.

**Our Parish Lenten Retreat,  
on March 18 - 19,  
will be conducted by the Provincial  
General of the Order of St Francis  
Little Brothers of Lithuania,  
St Casimir Province,  
Br.Fr. Evaldas Darulis, OFM**



**What is Lent? What to do during Lent?**

**Lent** is the six week period leading up to Easter. It's one of the most important times of year for many Christians around the world, particularly those within the Anglican, Catholic and Orthodox traditions, held at a similar level of importance to Advent – the build up to Christmas.

While Advent is a celebration and a time of great anticipation, Lent is more frequently seen as a time of solemn observance and preparation for the celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus at Easter. From its start on Ash Wednesday until its conclusion on Easter Sunday, Lent has been a traditional time for fasting or giving something up or abstinence. Just as we carefully prepare for events in our personal lives, as a wedding, or birthday; a commencement Lent invites us to make our minds and hearts ready for remembering Jesus' life, death and body resurrection.

**What do Christians do during Lent?**

These days, Christians around the world observe Lent in many ways. Many from more orthodox and traditional denominations will still observe the fast strictly, beginning with the wearing of ashes on Ash Wednesday and abstinence of meat, fish, eggs and fats until Easter Sunday.

Others will choose to give up just one item for Lent, more commonly a 'luxury' such as chocolate, meat or alcohol. It is also becoming increasingly common for people to give up other things in order to refocus their faith during this time; such as watching TV, going to the gym, even social media.

Many Christians also use Lent to study their Bibles and pray more intensively, making use of the many devotional books and courses now available to. And, of course, more and more Christians are turning to the 40acts challenge as a way of doing Lent differently; using simple daily reflections and acts of generosity as a way of putting others first during preparations for Easter.

Sundays during Lent are very important to Christians around the world. Where the Monday to Saturday of each of the six weeks are concerned with fasting and abstinence, the Sunday is a celebration symbolic of Christ's resurrection. Instead of fasting, Christians hold feasts in remembrance of Christ's sacrifice. The fourth and sixth Sundays are particularly important in the UK – the fourth because it is Mothering Sunday (Mother's Day) and the sixth because it's Palm Sunday.



On **March 5th**, all are invited to come and visit **St. Casimir's Fair**, organized by Lithuanian Scouts. Savour the treats, admire the handiwork, play the lottery. Have a good time and support our scouts!



**2023 CAMP "KRETINGA"**  
**English camp July 2nd - 15th**  
**Lithuanian camp July 16th - 29th**  
**Campers registrations:**

[campkretinga.squarespace.com](http://campkretinga.squarespace.com)

**Counsellors (born 2006 or earlier) registrations:**

[campkretinga.squarespace.com](http://campkretinga.squarespace.com)

Counsellors need to apply by March 1st.

**We can't wait to see YOU ALL!**

**Donations** for victims of the **Hurricane, Earthquake** may be made

Online through the Archdiocese of Toronto website – <https://www.archtoronto.org/en/contact-us/donations/donate-pages/donate-to-turkiye-and-syria-relief>

or through the parish, making cheques payable to: **Name of Parish – Turkey and Syria Earthquake – Humanitarian Relief.**

*Envelopes you will find in the church vestibule.*



Save the date: Friday, April 7th for a Lenten youth retreat at the Church of the Resurrection from 3-9 pm.

Simple home-cooked vegetarian meal; vigil by the tomb of Jesus; Stations of the Cross; discussions; art; prayer; Church yard spring clean; and more. 15\$ per person.

Please register with an email to [ateitininkai.virtualus@gmail.com](mailto:ateitininkai.virtualus@gmail.com).

Six hours of community service granted by an OCT.

Adults interested in volunteering are asked to email using the same email.

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.

## Pope Francis:



### Ashes remind us of the truth about ourselves

Pope Francis reflects on the meaning of receiving ashes on our foreheads at the beginning of Lent, and during the Ash Wednesday Mass, invites us to "set out on the path of charity, prayer, and fasting."

The rite of the imposition of ashes on the foreheads of the faithful – which takes place during the liturgy at the beginning of Lent – marks the beginning of our "return journey" to God, Pope Francis said during his homily for the Mass of Ash Wednesday.

The Holy Father explained that the imposition of ashes is an exhortation both to return to the truth about ourselves, and to return to God and to our brothers and sisters.

The Lord is God, we are the work of His hands

The ashes, he said, remind us of who we are, recalling the "essential truth of our lives: that the Lord alone is God and we are the work of His hands." Lent, then, becomes a time to remember that we rely on God, and at the same time "to drop the pretense of being self-sufficient."

Rebuilding relationships with God and others

The Pope then turned to a second step in the journey back to God: returning to God and to our brothers and sisters. By dropping every presumption of self-sufficiency, and all forms of idolatry of self, we can begin to learn that "life is a relationship we receive from God and our parents," and that we can always revive and renew our relationships "thanks to the Lord and those he puts at our side."

*"Lent, then, is a season of grace when we can rebuild our relationship with God and with others, opening our hearts in the silence of prayer and emerging from the fortress of our self-sufficiency."*

The paths of charity, prayer, and fasting

Finally, in order to make this journey, Pope Francis reminds the faithful of the three great paths of almsgiving, prayer, and fasting, that are traditionally encouraged during Lent.

"Yet as we heard in the Gospel," the Pope noted, "Jesus warns us that rather than mere external rites, these must be actions expressing the renewal of our hearts."

All too often, he warned, "our gestures and rites have no impact on our lives, but remain superficial." But he said, if we remain humbly in the sight of God, our "almsgiving, prayer, and fasting will not simply remain outward displays, but will express what we truly are: children of God, and brothers and sisters to one another."

Fixing our gaze on the Cross

Pope Francis concluded his homily with the exhortation to "bow our heads, receive the ashes, and lighten our hearts," to set forth on the paths of charity, prayer, and fasting.

"Let us not neglect the grace of this holy season," he said, "But fix our gaze on the Cross and set out, responding generously to the powerful promptings of Lent."

*"At the end of the journey, we will encounter with greater joy the Lord of life, who alone can raise us up from our ashes."*



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](mailto: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](http://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

Parama's Annual General Meeting

March 7, 2023

Lithuanian House: 1573 Bloor St. W

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