

CHURCH of the RESURRECTION NEWS

Nr. 14 (3647) April 5th, 2026

EASTER - A



We hear in our First Reading for this celebration a review of the life, death and rising of the Christ. Peter describes from where Jesus came, what He had been doing with His life, how “they” put Him to death, and how God raised Him. Peter ends by reminding his listeners that these are facts and that he, Peter, and others, saw Jesus and are commissioned to speak of all that they have witnessed.

During the Sundays of this past Lent there has been much seeing. The woman whom Jesus met at the well was invited to see herself in a new light. The man who was born blind received the light of faith and Lazarus was brought out of darkness and into the light which is life.

Today’s Gospel’s scene opens in the dark as Mary Magdalene moves toward the tomb. It is empty and Mary is left in the dark about where He has been taken. At this point, Mary does not know and so she does the natural thing, she makes up a reasonable story which makes it somehow understandable.

Peter and John listen to Mary’s story, but run to see for themselves. Peter went in first and saw the burial wrappings arranged. John entered, saw and believed. They did not yet understand, but believed.

It is said easily that the sun rises each morning, but we now know that the earth rotates in such a patterned way that it only appears that the sun peeks over the eastern horizon each morning. That sun gives warmth and life to the surface of the earth, but we don’t know exactly how it all works. We do see the results. We see the sun and can see other things by the sun’s light. We are not so comfortable in the dark and even less when we do not understand. The life, death and resurrection of Jesus is all an invitation to enter the emptiness of the tomb. We tend to believe when we are visibly impressed. We so fear being fooled, tricked or deceived. The tomb was empty while the sun was rising that first Easter day. We so would want our minds and our heads filled with understandings which would make it all easier to grasp. We are believers who are waiting for the light of the Son to comfort our souls as we live toward our rising from our own tombs of darkness. The Resurrection of Jesus is the continuation of God’s original statement, “Let there be light!”

(<http://onlineministries.creighton.edu>)

**This is the day the Lord has made:
let us rejoice and be glad.**

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS ARE FOR:

- 9 a.m. †Algirdas Smolskis (2nd anniv.) (L.S.Hillgrove)
- 11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners
- for peace in the world
- †Eugenijus Siciunas (5th anniv.) (wife)
- †Kestutis Sukys (R.J.Kuliesius)
- †Stasys Prakapas (family)
- †Maria Oliveira (family)
- †Jennie Vingelis (8th anniv.) (daughter)
- †Danute and Antanas (25th anniv.) Damasius (daughter)
- †Brone Dambrauskas and Ona Juodikis (J.G.Neimanas)
- thanksgiving - for living and deceased family members and friends (GJ)
- request grace of health for Joanna (VDG)
- request grace of health for Almute Martuseviciene (daughter)

2026

April 17-18

Spring Rummage Sale

April 26

First Communion

May 31

Confirmation

June 6

Run for Hope

June 14

We welcome summer

Camp Kretinga

July 5-18 (EN.)

July 19 - August 1 (LT.)

October 23-24

Fall Rummage Sale

November 7

Annual Dinner

December (date

TBD)

Advent Retreat

December 13

Christmas Music Evening

December 25

Christmas



Cantors of the Masses:
9 AM - Gintas Pabedinskas
11 AM - children
Aleksa, Lina, Lile Vadauskas
organist - Ilona Beres

The week's Holy Mass

MONDAY (April 6): 7 p.m. †Monsignor Edmundas Putrimas (Groen in't Woud family); †Ale Pivoriene (daughter Inga);
TUESDAY (April 7): 7 p.m. for living and deceased benefactors;
WEDNESDAY (April 8): 10 a.m. "Labdara" †Albina, Jonas and Dr.Sigitas Kazlauskas (V.Baliunas); 7 p.m.;
THURSDAY (April 9): 7 p.m.;
FRIDAY (April 10): 7 p.m. †Vitas Levisauskas (L.Underys);
SATURDAY (April 11): 9 a.m.; 5 p.m. "Vilnius Manor";
SUNDAY (April 12): 9 a.m. †Ruta (2nd anniv.) and Stasys (43th anniv.) Bekeris (family)); 11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners; †Ona Balsys (I.Balsys); †Tyrune Siciunas (1st anniv.) (sister-in-law); †Kazimiera and Ceslovas Rimkevicius (RU); †sister Mary Louis Brook (37th anniv.) (I.Matus); †Juozas Degutis (B.B.Degutis); †Elena and Viktoras Dailyde (V.A.Dailyde); †Nina Valavicius (A.G.Valavicius); request grace of health for Lina (R.R.Syvokas).

For it is in giving that we receive
Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Sunday (03.29) & "Vilnius Manor" Collections

67 envelopes - \$ 2,510
No envelopes - \$ 105
Direct deposit - \$ 1,140

In memory of †Dr.Birute Jonys, during the funeral, \$ 3,120 was donated to "St. Francis Cancer Support Centre in Klaipeda"

In memory of Vitas Levisauskas, during the funeral, \$ 395 was donated to camp "Kretinga"

THANK you for your generosity...

TWO REASONS TO CELEBRATE ON APRIL 19TH - PLEASE COME TO 11 AM MASS TO GIVE THANKS ON THE OCCASION OF THE 20TH ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY OF FR.JONAS AND FR.AUGUSTINE'S BIRTHDAY.
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED AFTER MASS.
ON SUNDAY, APRIL 12TH, AFTER 9AM & 11 AM MASSES YOU ARE INVITED TO SIGN OUR GREETING CARDS FOR OUR PASTORS.



2026 CAMP "KRETINGA"

July 5th - 18th **English camp**

July 19th - August 1st **Lithuanian camp**

Registration link https://form.jotform.com/camp_kretinga/2026-camp-kretinga-registration

We can't wait to see YOU ALL!

***We sincerely ask for your help.** Every donation, no matter how big or small, is extremely important and will contribute to the renovation of these buildings and the safety of the children.

We thank you in advance for your kindness, support, and generosity.

Donations will be collected on Sundays after the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Masses in the church vestibule, or you may leave them at the office.

Please make your cheque payable to the Franciscan Fathers;

Memo: Camp "Kretinga."

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE APRIL 17-18

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

Men, women, teens, welcome!

We kindly ask you to come on **Monday, April 13th at 10AM** to set up the tables,

and on **Tuesday, April 14th 10AM** 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 14th at 10AM!

Some items that DO NOT sell are:

- old radios, computers, encyclopedias,

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.

Our parish "Labdara" committee **CONTINUES The FOOD DRIVE** in aid of the needy in Toronto and **INVITES, till April 12th, ALL to participate. We will continue to collect food in the fall. NON-PERISHABLE** Food may be brought and left in the box provided, at the parish door.

Thank you in advance for your kind donations.

“The Resurrection of Jesus is not an event of the distant past, settled into tradition like many other episodes in human history,” said the Pope. “Each year at Easter and every day through the celebration of the Eucharist, the Church invites us to commemorate the Resurrection, through which the Lord’s promise is fulfilled: ‘Behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age’ (Mt 28:20).



The mystery of Easter is the foundation of a Christian’s life, around which all other events revolve. According to the Pope, without any sentimentality we can affirm that every day is Easter. Every day we experience many different things: pain, suffering, sorrow intertwined with joy, wonder, and peace. Yet in every situation, the human heart longs for fullness and deep happiness. The message of Easter is the most beautiful, joyful, and astonishing message ever proclaimed in history. It bears witness to the victory of love over sin and of life over death; therefore, it is the only message capable of satisfying the search of our minds and the desires of our restless hearts. A person is always led by an inner longing. Nothing transient can satisfy it. We seek infinity and eternity. This stands in contrast to the experience of death, suffering, loss, and failure that accompany human life. “Everything changed that morning when the women who came to anoint the body of the buried Lord found the tomb empty. From that morning until now, every day, Jesus has had and will have this title — the Living One,” said the Pope. <... > By meditating on the mystery of the Resurrection, we find answers to the questions that trouble us about the meaning of life. The message of Easter strengthens and heals our fragile humanity, sustaining hope when we face the frightening challenges of personal life and of the whole world. The Cross was overcome in a wondrous struggle that transformed the history of humanity. Likewise, our times, marked by many crosses, cry out for the dawn of Easter hope. 2025

“I came that they may have life and have it abundantly” (Jn 10:10).

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



On Easter morning, the message that the Church has tirelessly repeated throughout the ages resounds once more: **Christ is risen!** This means that life is stronger than death, light stronger than darkness, and love stronger than evil. God has conquered the dominion of death and evil, not by force, but by giving Himself.

The Gospels do not shy away from depicting the apostles’ confusion and fear even on Easter Day, when, gripped by fear, they hid behind locked doors. Christ, coming to them, does not reproach or accuse them, but says, “Peace be with you,” and shows them his hands pierced by nails. God desires not only to forgive, but also to grant the fullness of life, as the evangelist John mentions. True, the fullness of life given by God does not protect us from hardship and pain. Even after the Resurrection, Christ’s body still bears the wounds, yet they bear witness to God’s love and to the fact that the Lord helps us overcome all difficulties. Saint Paul reminds us that our life is already hidden in Christ, united with Him (cf. Col 3:3). When we forgive those who have hurt us, when we overcome selfishness and reach out to those who are suffering, when we resist the “culture of death,” we bear witness that the Risen One is alive within us.

The hope of Easter cannot remain an abstract idea—it must be embodied in our lives. Today, Lithuania and the Western world are experiencing a “demographic winter,” which is why it is so important to foster a positive attitude in society—among all of us—that children are not an obstacle to their parents’ success, but a gift that helps their happiness grow. Every family that courageously welcomes new life bears witness to its faith and hope. Such families deserve not only kind words, but also real support. We must also turn our attention to older people, who often feel lonely—they need our attention and help, especially when their loved ones are far away.

Our concern for life calls us to remember all those who are suffering. When we look at the map of the world—Ukraine, the Middle East—we see harrowing human tragedies and the terrible consequences of war. May the feast of Easter, which proclaims the victory of life, always inspire us to help those who suffer and to pray ceaselessly to God for peace and tranquility.

Jesus did not leave his disciples alone, but gathered them into a spiritual family—the Church. Life is most beautiful when we share it. I pray that Lithuanian parishes and communities around the world may be places where everyone can feel accepted, heard, and loved.

Wishing you all a joyful and hopeful Holy Easter!

Archbishop Lionginas Virbalas, SJ; Delegate of the Lithuanian Bishops' Conference for the Pastoral Care of Lithuanians Abroad



Dear Parishioners,

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to each of you on the celebration of Holy Easter—the feast of Christ's Resurrection.

This is the pinnacle of our Christian faith, celebrating the undeniable triumph of life over death, light over darkness, and hope over despair.

In the Holy Scriptures, the Lord assures us: “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, even though he dies, will live” (John 11:25). These words remind us that we are never alone when we are with Christ. May the Risen Jesus visit each of your homes, touch your hearts, and fill them with peace, faith, and love. Let this joyous feast strengthen the bonds within our parish community and inspire us, as brothers and sisters, to turn to God and one another more often, sharing kindness, mercy, and forgiveness.

I hope the joy of Easter morning remains with you throughout the year, and that the light of the Resurrection serves as a guiding star for your families in all their daily endeavours and challenges. **Alleluia!**

With prayers, brotherly love, and blessings, Your Pastor, Fr.Raimundas Bukauskas, OFM

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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Associate Pastor/Parish economist:

Fr. Jonas Sileika, OFM

Serving Priest: Fr. Augustinas Simanavicius, OFM

Deacon: Dr. Kazimieras Ambrozaitis

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