CHURCH of the RESURRECTION NEWS

Nr. 1 (3423) January 2nd, 2022 THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - C



The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . ." The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a savior. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana. (loyolapress.com)

"Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for bringing salvation to all the nations. May the gospel of salvation be proclaimed to every nation today and to every person on the face of the earth. Help me to be a good witness of the joy of the gospel to all I meet." (dailyscripture.net)

†R.R.

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS ARE FOR:

9 a.m. †Rimas Strimaitis (family)

11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners

†Eugenijus Siciunas (wife)

†Inocentas Jurcevicius (A.Jurcevicius)

for Beresnevicius' and Jurkus'

living and deceased family members (B.Tamosiunas)

†Jonas Baltakys - celebrating 100th birthday (family) †Ilona Smalenskas (V.Puzeris) †Ona (8th anniv.) and Zigmas (11th anniv.) Girdauskas (family)



Sunday Masses online -

https://

www.youtube.com/

<u>channel/</u>

UC63RnbJxiayoKXdUf

 $nA_c-g/$.

Website:

www.prisikelimas.ca

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Mass recordings,

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Search:

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Cantors of the Masses:

9 AM - Gintas Pabedinskas and Aleksa Vadauskas **11 AM -** parish singers

THIS WEEK'S HOLY MASSES

MONDAY (January 3): 7 p.m. †Ona Budreikis (V.M.Neverauskas);

TUESDAY (January 4): 7 p.m. living and deceased benefactors:

WEDNESDAY (January 5): 10 a.m. "Labdara" for Tamkevicius' and Krasauskas' deceased family members (O.Krasauskas); 7 p.m. †Stasys Prakapas (family);

THURSDAY (January 6): 7 p.m. †Gintaras Prismantas (V.Puzeris); special intention (mother);

FRIDAY: (January 7): 7 p.m. †Pranas, Ksaveras and Antanas Jurgilas (T.Bartkuviene);

SATURDAY (January 8): †Noel Dixon (D.Danaitis); 5 p.m. "Vilnius Manor" †Albina Simukenas (1 m) (J.Stasiulevicius and I.F.Zilinskas);

SUNDAY (January 9): 9 a.m.; 11 a.m. living and deceased parishioners; †Eugenijus Siciunas (wife); †Juozas Zemaitis (G.Kobelskis); †Birute Alksnis (I.Poskus); †Algirdas Underys (L.Underys); †Nijole Mazukaitiene (1 m) (daughter); blessings of the Lord and request grace of health for Stella Gruchalla (sisters), blessings of the Lord and request grace of health for Pabedinskas family (grateful parishioners).

Capital Fund - \$ 326,079

THANK YOU...

"For it is in giving that we receive".

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Collections of December 24th-26th

67 envelopes - \$ 9,145 No envelopes - \$ 275 Direct deposit - \$ 1,390

THANK you for your generosity

This is the parish home for all of us – so welcome home!

Dear Parishioners, contrary to our greatest hopes, COVID 19 remains part of our reality. We are glad to see increasing attendance at Sunday Masses, and we would like to thank you in advance for your continued patience and perseverance in maintaining the health and safety protocols that remain in place. Please: *wear a mask (covering mouth and nose) while you are in the church building; *sanitize your hands upon entering; *register with the volunteers so that in the unfortunate event of a COVID case we will be able to contact you promptly; *practice physical distancing while waiting to register, taking seats, and in line for communion; *follow guidance from the ushers for seating; sit only in marked seats; *stay at home if you are experiencing cold symptoms.

As difficult as it may be to resist, we also ask that you not congregate in the narthex after Mass. It's wonderful that we can worship as a community, and we hope that soon we will be able to meet for fellowship and coffee in the hall. To ensure that happens as soon as possible, let's say our hellos outdoors for the time being.

Live streaming of Mass from our parish is continuing Sundays in English at 9 AM and in Lithuanian at 11 AM, as well the Mass from St. Michael's Cathedral is streamed.

Blessings and let's unite in prayer wherever we are.



Wishing you health, wealth, and happiness in the New Year ahead and the blessings of God. Happy New Year 2022!

"A good person's heart is God's sanctuary on Earth".

/ Mad.Neckar/

We wholeheartedly appreciate your generous gifts, donations and prayers during the difficult past 2021 year and especially on Christmas ...

A BIG THANK YOU to all singers, musicians, leaders, Mass broadcasters, readers and all the helpers who contribute to all the worries of the parish.

A beautiful, peaceful year filled with health and grace of the Lord for 2022!

Fr. Jonas Šileika, OFM, Pastor and the Franciscan Fathers

Lithuanian food for take out - on January 8th

Pre-ordering is mandatory by email to Grazina Valintiene **grazinavalintiene@gmail.com**. If you do not receive confirmation by email, please call 647-869-6164. In your email, please specify the items and quantities you wish to order, as well as the time you will be picking up your order.

PLEASE pick-up your orders outside the kitchen door in the corner of the back parking lot between 10AM and 1PM.

PRE-ORDERS ONLY.



Pope's Letter to Married Couples: the magisterium of a loving father

Amoris Laetitia Francis' "Letter to Married Couples", the Undersecretary of the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life reviews the "Amoris Laetitia Family Year" in preparation for the 2022



World Meeting of Families in Rome. "A Christmas gift to you, newly married couples, an encouragement, a sign of nearness and an occasion for meditation." This is how Pope Francis yesterday, on the feast day of the

Holy Family of Nazareth, presented his *Letter to Married Couples*, a text that comes exactly one year after he announced the the "Amoris Laetitia Family Year" on December 27, 2020. In the Letter that he sent to newlyweds as a gift, Pope Francis goes through aspects and stages of family life, without forgetting young couples preparing for marriage, with the tone of a father. What strikes you about this message?

I am struck by the tenderness of the tone, the affection he expresses for families in such a complex time, that is still dominated by the pandemic. Today there are so many families experiencing crises and difficulties of all kinds, to whom the Pope turns his fatherly gaze. But I am particularly struck by the attention he pays to the Sacrament of Marriage. The beauty of this gift, so difficult for young people to understand today, lies in the presence of Christ, who dwells in families, in the midst of our daily lives. And with extraordinary delicacy, the Pope enters into our daily lives, into family dynamics, almost taking us by the hand to encourage us and make us not feel alone in this journey. And he exhorts young people to marry, to trust in the grace that invests spouses, a grace that sustains them throughout their lives in the adventure of marriage, even in the midst of storms. After all, the Pope reminds us that "in no way must the Church desist from proposing the full ideal of marriage, God's plan in all its grandeur. Not to do so would be a lack of love on the part of the Church for young people. Understanding exceptional situations must never imply hiding the light of the fullest ideal, nor proposing less than what Jesus offers to human beings." The Holy Father reminds us of this in Amoris Laetitia." (AL 307)

The Letter to Married Couples comes exactly one year after the Pope announced the Amoris Laetitia Family Year on 27 December 2020 during the Angelus, five years from the publication of the Apostolic Exhortation. What do you think was set in motion by that announcement?

The pastoral care of families all over the world has been set in motion! In 5 years of reflections and doctrinal comparisons, we have taken action and our Dicastery, exhorted by the Holy Father, has been able to develop many pastoral tools to help dioceses and bishops' conferences transform the Exhortation into action and pastoral creativity. Also in view of the World Meeting, which will take place in 6 months, this Letter of the Pope to married couples is a very important text of magisterium on the family, which parishes and dioceses will be able to use to prepare families for the Meeting, to reflect with families on what the family is and on how today, in the midst of so many difficulties. Therefore, I truly invite communities and parishes to read it and meditate on it in their homes, proposing it and distributing it to married couples all over the world.

In your opinion, what have been the most beautiful fruits of this year? Without doubt, in general, I would say the many initiatives that the world is making known to our Dicastery, as well as all those that do not make it here, from the moment the Pope gave life to this impulse. So many parishes, dioceses, episcopal conferences, even schools and universities write to us to tell us what they are doing to respond to the Holy Father's call: to accompany families, married couples, the most fragile situations, new unions, in which people are seeking the Lord. A process of pastoral creativity has been set in motion that is also leading to greater communion, in many contexts, between pastors and families, in order to learn to listen to each other and to give more value to the role of families and couples in the Church. It's not easy, but everywhere you can perceive the desire to succeed, to try to understand how to walk together and also accompany the most difficult situations, those that were previously left a bit aside. Families are truly an asset for the Church, but in many contexts, we still need to understand how to put this statement into practice.

The Year dedicated to the family will end next June, with the celebration of the World Meeting of Families in Rome. Yesterday the Pope invited everyone to prepare well in order to live it well. How do preparations for this event, and the meeting itself, intertwine with the synodal path inaugurated by Pope Francis in the Church?

Amoris Laetitia, the scarlet thread that is leading us to the World Meeting, is asking us to be discerning in regards the style and the manner in which we carry out our pastoral service. A service the Holy Father is asking us to frame within the Church's synodal journey through communion, participation and the mission of every single component of the People of God, including families. Pastors and families together, under the guidance of the Spirit. How to do it? It would be interesting, for example, during this synodal journey that is also a time of preparation for the World Meeting, to try to combine the process of ecclesial discernment starting also from the relationship between Church and family, asking ourselves questions that are a bit different from those we are used to. For example, 'how can the family help the Church to be more synodal?' 'What can the Church learn from the family way of discerning, listening and welcoming?' 'What can the Church learn from the way parents, children, and siblings try to love each other with their frailties, vulnerabilities, conflicts, and different points of view?' These, and other questions, could open up a new way of thinking about pastoral care, a different style, a more concrete communion between families and the Church. Not only that, but they would initiate a new process of discernment that, beyond the conclusion of the Family Year with the World Meeting, could continue at least until the Synod, continuing to stimulate family ministry throughout the world.

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**

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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.



Wishing you a Mevry Christmas and a Happy New Year

JURGIS KULIEŠIUS

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Associate Pastors: Fr. Aurelijus Kazimieras Kasparavicius, OFM **Parish economist:** Fr. Raimundas Bukauskas, OFM

Serving Priests: Fr. Augustinas Simanavicius, OFM

Msgr. Edmundas Putrimas
Deacon: Dr. Kazimieras Ambrozaitis
Parish office administrator: Gitana Judvytyte

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