

CHURCH of the RESURRECTION NEWS

Nr. 49 (3576) December 8th, 2024
2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT - C



This week and next, our Gospel readings invite us to consider John the Baptist and his relationship to Jesus. John the Baptist appears in the tradition of the great prophets, preaching repentance and reform to the people of Israel. To affirm this, Luke quotes at length from the prophet Isaiah. John baptizes for repentance and for forgiveness of sins, preparing the way for God's salvation.

The three Synoptic Gospels—Mark, Matthew, and Luke—attest to the importance of the baptism of John in preparing for Jesus. Only the Gospel of Luke, however, extends the connection between these two men to their birth. The first two chapters of Luke's Gospel contain the Infancy Narrative, which tells about the births of John the Baptist and Jesus.

The evangelist Luke is the author of the Gospel that bears his name, and he also wrote the Acts of the Apostles as a continuation of the story of Jesus and the Church. In these two works, Luke's sense of time and history emerges. He identifies three epochs of salvation history: the time before Christ, the time of Christ, and the time of the Church and the Holy Spirit. In today's Gospel reading, as elsewhere, John the Baptist is presented as the figure who bridges the time before Christ and prepares the way for Christ's own ministry.

In today's Gospel we also note Luke's attention to political and historical detail. Luke shows that salvation is for all people and situated in world events. Therefore, Luke lists the political and religious leaders at the time of John's appearance in the desert. Salvation is understood as God's breaking into this political and social history.

John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus, we too are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives the coming of the Lord, as John did. (loyolapress.com)

"Lord Jesus, you are the Word of God and the Savior of the world. Help me to receive your Word with expectant faith, and to live it with confident hope, and to proclaim it joyfully with love and boldness to all I meet." (dailyscripture.net) †R.R.

The Lord has done great things for us, we are filled with joy.

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS ARE FOR:

9 a.m. for Cernauskas', Levisauskas' and Rimkevicius' deceased family members (family)

11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners

for peace in the world

†Leokadija and Julius Nevulis

(Vida D-G)

†Mindaugas Gabrys

(family)

†Sofija and Juozas Olekas

(O.Olekas)

†Kristina Pylypiv

(V.White)

†Elena Bersenas' and Morkunas' deceased family members (Zita and Sigita)

†Irena Labanauskas (1st anniv.)

(family)

†Jadvyga Barkauskas

(L.Jurenas)

request grace of health for Genute Zukauskiene

(Stanevicius family)

request grace of health for Eligijus Suziedelis

(D.A.Suziedelis)

2024

December 24

9:45 p.m. -

Christmas music

10 p.m. -

Christmas Eve Mass

December 25

Christmas Day

9 a.m. Mass (in EN)

11 a.m. Mass (in LT)

2025 January 1st

NEW YEAR

9 a.m. Mass (in EN)

11 a.m. Mass (in LT)

**Office hours during
the Holidays**

December 24

OPEN

9 a.m. - 12 noon

December 25-26

CLOSED

December 31

OPEN

9 a.m. - 12 noon

January 1, 2025

CLOSED

Cantors of the Masses:

9 AM - Zita Nausedas, Monika Satkauskas,
Rasa Siauciunas

11 AM - Lile, Lina and Aleksia Vadauskas
organist - Ilona Beres

The week's Holy Masses

MONDAY (December 9): 7 p.m. †Birute Stanulis ("Kretinga"); †Saulius Macijauskas (J.J.Macijauskas);

TUESDAY (December 10): 7 p.m. for living and deceased parishioners; †Helen Uogintas (D.A.Nausedas);

WEDNESDAY (December 11): 7 p.m. †Jonas and Irena Genutis (Prakapas family);

THURSDAY (December 12): 7 p.m. †Kristina Pylypiv ("Kretinga"); †Rasa Pajaujis (J.Macijauskas); †Marija and Vytautas Tamulaitis (V.A.Dailyde);

FRIDAY (December 13): 7 p.m. †Genute Zabieliauskas (Prakapas family);

SATURDAY (December 14): 9 a.m. special intention (NN); †Elena Firavicius (daughter); 5 p.m. "Vilnius Manor" †Irena Jurkus, Vincas Beresnevičius and Dana Beresnevičius (B.Tamosiunas);

SUNDAY (December 15): 9 a.m. †Bronius, sr. and Bronius, jr. Stoncius (O.Stoncius); 11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners; †Vaclovas Anskis (Stanevicius family); †Leopoldas and Ramute Gumuliauskas (daughter); †Albina and Antanas Laurinaitis (daughter); †Ksaveras and Agota Ratavicius (family); †Dr.Elvyra Katelis (R.A.Nakrosius); †Valentina Kuliesius (R.J.Kuliesius); †Janina Prakapavicius and Aldona Zimonaitis (family); for Vaikutis' and Antanaitis' deceased family members (Daiva); for Krasauskas' and Tamkevicius' deceased family members (O.Krasauskas); in thanksgiving - in celebration of J.G. Neimana's 50 years of married life(J.G.Neimanas); request grace of health for Garsva family (D.A.Garsva).

"Capital Fund" - \$ 495,428

The profit from the Parish Dinner Lottery - \$2,200
Profit from †Grażina Balsys's ceramic works - \$1,570

THANK YOU...

"For it is in giving that we receive".

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Sunday (12.01) & "Vilnius Manor" Collections -

59 envelopes - \$ 3,227

No envelopes - \$ 135.75

Direct deposit - \$ 2,465

Renovation fund -

NN \$2,000 and G.A.Valavicius \$ 3,000

THANK you for your generosity...



The "Capital Fund" Campaign Committee announced a new project in spring 2024/25 for planting "Memorial Trees" in the parish yard.

With GREAT JOY, we want to announce that the last 8th tree has been purchased: R.A.Sileika on behalf of the Sileika family.

THANK YOU...

With the spirit of the **Christmas season** upon us, let us look into our hearts with kindness and gratitude and help our friends living at "Labdara" nursing home feel the virtues of Advent.

We invite all parishioners to make one or more heartfelt Christmas greeting cards. Your cards will bring them hope, love, joy and a sense of peace and closeness.

We welcome everyone to the parish cafeteria TODAY and December 15th. After 9 am & 11 am Mass, you will have an opportunity to make a few greeting cards. All materials will be provided.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Vida- vidag@primus.ca

We thank you for your continued support and outstanding generosity.



As we prepare for the upcoming Christmas season, let us remember our brothers and sisters in need in Lithuania.

On Advent Sundays, donations are being collected to support soup kitchens for the hungry in Lithuania.

A wonderful idea is to contribute to this cause alongside giving Christmas gifts to your loved ones.

Part of this year's collection will go towards the preparation of a dinner for the "Out of the Cold" program at All Saints Kingsway church – consider donating new gloves or new socks.

Donations and gifts will be accepted in the church vestibule on Advent Sundays: December 1, 8, 15, and 22.

THANK YOU for your kindness and generosity!



Plotkeles/Kaledaiciai will be available in the Parish Office, Monday-Friday, from 9 am till 4 pm., also on Sundays after Mass.

It is a Lithuanian tradition that when we are seated at the Kucios table, we share this symbol of the living bread – Jesus Christ as He comes into the world.

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.

Parish Children's Joyful Sunday

Kids (and kids at heart) – **please join** in preparing for the **11AM Mass on the 3rd Sunday of Advent, December 15th** by



creating a paper angel decoration for the Christmas tree.

On this Sunday we will express the joy of anticipation at the approach of the Christmas celebration. Make your paper angel at home, write your name on it, as well as a Christmas wish for your loved ones and the world.

Bring your angel to Mass on December 15th, so that you may hang it on the tree during the offertory.

Follow these links for some examples of paper angel crafts:

<https://youtu.be/f2aeuBMmr2I?si=yq6LVjYIn5ON7SO0>

<https://youtube.com/shorts/t6YcSFW9TM8?si=wWOrMBqjDFfIOuiQ>

<https://youtube.com/shorts/GPHw7eNv668?si=pqmafWFHY1cu8tyr>

News for the Little Ones

To keep things fun and engaging, we invite our youngest parishioners, the children, to enjoy some art activities during Holy Mass. Parents, you will find colouring materials prepared in the church vestibule.

Feel free to use them!

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR DONATIONS.
EVERY DONATION HELPS WITH MAINTENANCE OF THE
CHURCH AND THE PARISH...**

Information for donating envelopes -

please ensure that **all** the **information** requested on the donor's envelope is **completed**: your first and last name and full current address.

The envelopes for 2025 are prepared and available for pickup in the church vestibule. Thank you.

We also urge parishioners to promptly **notify** the church office of a **change of address** in order to ensure the timely delivery of tax receipts at year-end.

PLEASE DON'T wait until the last week of December to transfer, bring or send donations to the Parish.

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

Also, you can donate through **banks** -

RCU and Parama by direct deposit.

PLEASE NOTE: When writing cheques payable to **Resurrection Parish**, in the **MEMO** write the charitable purpose: Donation to Parish or Mass.

When writing Cheques payable to **Franciscan Fathers**, in the **MEMO** write the charitable purpose: Capital Fund, Renovation fund, Monastery, Soup kitchen, Camp "Kretinga", Oncology centre Klaipeda. You may also donate by bequest.

Pope: Embody Christ's love through devotion and charity



Pope Francis urges participants at the Brotherhoods and Popular Piety Congress in Seville, Spain, to embody Christ's love through devotion, unity, and acts of charity.

Pope Francis on Wednesday sent a message to participants of the Second International Congress of Brotherhoods and Popular Piety, held in Seville on Wednesday December 4th. He opened his message by recognising the unique devotion of the people of Seville, who "live with fervour the expressions of their faith until they become integral to their social fabric." This vibrant faith, the Pope noted, is not only a personal journey but a communal one that shapes the life of the Church.

A journey at the heart of the mission

Pope Francis went on to emphasise that the true effectiveness of popular piety lies in its power to bring Christ into the world. He quoted Saint Manuel González, who described the Christian life as "a round-trip journey, which begins, the outward journey, in Christ and ends in the people, and begins in the people, the return journey, and ends in Christ." This journey, he explained, represents the heart of the Church's mission to bring people closer to God.

The Pope also emphasised the unity found in the diversity of these devotions. He described how "many peculiarities, ministries, and tasks, with perseverance and patience, harmonise." Whether carrying a cross or simply accompanying in prayer, the Pope noted, "it is the same fervour, the same love," creating a collective harmony that reveals the "beauty of Christ." He then called on the faithful to continue taking Christ into the streets, so that all may "behold His beauty."

Crazy with love for God

Speaking then of the "tears shed" during moments of devotion, the Pope called these acts of sorrow and love "crazy with love for God," which may seem incomprehensible to some but are a powerful witness of faith. He quoted Saint Manuel once more, when he said, "the people [...] have hunger for truth, affection, well-being, justice, heaven, and perhaps, without realising it, for God." The Pope urged the faithful to respond to this hunger through acts of charity, bringing God's tenderness to those who suffer in body and soul.

Bringing his message to a close, Pope Francis encouraged the participants in the Congress to continue their pilgrimage, following the example of the Good Shepherd. "Whether carrying the cross or under the mantle of His blessed Mother," he said, "we feel that we are the field of God, the seed of the kingdom", adding that these devotions are not just rituals but ways to bring Christ's love into the world.

The Parish is not responsible for the content of the ads

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*Wishing you a
Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year*



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We wish you a very
Happy Holiday
season and a
peaceful New Year!

Best wishes from your friends
at RCU Credit Union!

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Office hours:

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

Phone.: (416) 533 0621

Web: www.prisikelimas.ca

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Church of the Resurrection

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Associate Pastor/Parish economist:

Fr. Raimundas Bukauskas, OFM

Serving Priest: Fr. Augustinas Simanavicius, OFM

Deacon: Dr. Kazimieras Ambrozaitis

Parish office administrator: Gitana Judvytyte