

# CHURCH of the RESURRECTION NEWS

Nr. 18 (3388) May 2nd, 2021

5th EASTER SUNDAY - B



In today's Gospel, the Last Supper begins with Jesus washing his disciples' feet. Jesus then provides them with a series of instructions. We call this section the Last Supper discourse or Jesus' farewell discourse. In these chapters of John's Gospel, Jesus instructs his disciples about the importance of following his example of love and service, about the gift they will receive when Jesus sends them the Holy Spirit, and about their relationship with Jesus and with the world. The Last Supper discourse concludes with Jesus' prayer for his disciples.

Today's Gospel reading is taken from middle of the Last Supper discourse. Jesus speaks about his relationship to his disciples. In his metaphor of the vine and the branches, Jesus is referencing the Hebrew Scriptures. In the Hebrew Scriptures, Israel is the vineyard, and Yahweh himself tends the vineyard. One of the primary themes of John's Gospel is to show Jesus to be the fulfillment of God's promises to Israel.

In this passage, Jesus teaches his disciples that his relationship with them will not end after his death; he will remain with them always. This unity between Jesus and his disciples is the basis for their ability to continue to do the work that he began. Similarly, Jesus' presence with us through the Gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to continue the work of love and reconciliation that he began.

Jesus also teaches his disciples about the importance of the words he has taught to them. Just as Jesus will remain in the disciples, so too will his words. We come to know Jesus through the Scriptures, the living Word of God. Our commitment to be Christ's disciples is sustained through God's Word. This commitment is also strengthened by our life of prayer and nourished by the Eucharist. Through the Eucharist, Jesus dwells in us, remains with us, and transforms us so that we might bear fruit in his name.

We observe many people who act in ways that show their commitment to serve their neighbour. Christians and non-Christians feed the hungry, care for the sick, shelter the homeless, and give alms to the poor. These actions become acts of Christian discipleship when they are motivated by our relationship with Jesus. Whatever the immediate results, Jesus promises us that these actions will bear fruit when we undertake them in his name.

([loyolapress.com](http://loyolapress.com))

†R.R.

*Lord, you are the song of my praise, my praise in the great assembly.*

## SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS ARE FOR :

9 a.m.	†Michael Brough (7th anniv.)	(S.Brough)
11 a.m.	for living and deceased parishioners	
	†Jurgis Simaitis	(Stanevicius family)
	†Ona and Stasys Dackus	(granddaughter)
	special intention	(NN)
	†Regina Antanaitis (daughter)	
	†Vladas Melnykas (10th anniv.)	(family)
	for Cuplinskas' Matulionis' & Stonkus' living & deceased family members	(family)
	†Marija and Marijonas Petrikas	(A.Jurcevicius)
	requesting grace of health for parents and auntie Dalia	(Irma)
	†Zivile Stankaitis-Vidmantas (3rd anniv.)	(family)
	†Eugenijus Siciunas	(wife)
	in thanksgiving - celebrating Mecys and Stase Businkas' 75th wedding anniversary	(children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren)

The church is open for private prayer on weekdays (Monday-Friday) from 5:30 pm to 7 pm

Sunday Masses online -

[https://](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC63RnbJxiayoKXdUfnA_c-g/)

[www.youtube.com/channel/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC63RnbJxiayoKXdUfnA_c-g/)

[UC63RnbJxiayoKXd](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC63RnbJxiayoKXdUfnA_c-g/)

[UfnA\\_c-g/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC63RnbJxiayoKXdUfnA_c-g/) .

We also remind you about other possibilities of virtual communication -

Website:

[www.prisikelimas.ca](http://www.prisikelimas.ca)

Facebook Group:

[https://](https://www.facebook.com/groups/prisikelimo.parapija)

[www.facebook.com/groups/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/prisikelimo.parapija)

[prisikelimo.parapija](https://www.facebook.com/groups/prisikelimo.parapija)

Mass recordings, broadcasts

[https://](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC63RnbJxiayoKXdUfnA_c-g?)

[www.youtube.com/channel/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC63RnbJxiayoKXdUfnA_c-g?)

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Prisikelimo Parapija, Tevai Pranciskonai

## THIS WEEK'S HOLY MASSES

**MONDAY** (May 3): 7 p.m. Novena; for Murauskas' and Smigelskis' deceased family members (R.Bell);

**TUESDAY** (May 4): 7 p.m. living and deceased benefactors; Novena;

**WEDNESDAY** (May 5): 7 p.m. Novena; †Anele Caplikas (V.Zaleckaite)

**THURSDAY** (May 6): 7 p.m. Novena; †Donatas Vaiciekauskas (wife); †Gediminas Sulcas (V.Zaleckaite);

**FRIDAY** (May 7): 7 p.m. Novena; †Nijole, Algirdas and Algimantas Banelis, †Ragna and Vasaris Bersenas (Cuplinskas family);

**SATURDAY** (May 8): 9 a.m. Novena; 5 p.m. "Vilnius Manor" †Elena and Albinas Bockus (A.Vaskevicius);

**SUNDAY** (May 9): 9 a.m. †Jennie Vingelis (granddaughters Adele and Simone); 11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners; Novena - for living and deceased Mothers; †Mother Ona and Grandmothers (Gitana); †Leokadija Nevulis and Alina Groen in't Woud (family); †Agota Klimas and Liuda Daunys (JMC); †Ona and Zigmas Girdauskas (family); †Gediminas Skukauskas (V.Skukauskas); †Juozas, Vidas and Gene (1st anniv.) Jasionis (M.Grambas); †Brone Greiciunas (family); †Eugenijus Siciunas (wife); †Antanina Rudminas (1month) (R.D.Rudminas); †Genovaitė Budreckas (daughter Virginija and family); †Irena Smolskis, Joana Smolskis, †Elena Karsky and request grace of health for Vace Uspalis (R.R.Smolskias); in thanksgiving - celebrating Mecys and Stase Businkas' 75th wedding anniversary (D.Pranaitis and S.Brough).

Capital Fund - \$ 317,944

**THANK YOU...**

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

### Collections of April 25th

9 envelopes - \$ 610

Direct deposit - \$ 1,445

eTransit - \$ 300

**THANK you for your generosity**

## Dear parishioners,

*In an effort to control rising numbers of COVID 19 cases, the provincial government added stricter measures to the current "stay at home" order, which is in force until May 20. In keeping with these new restrictions, Cardinal Thomas Collins declared that public Masses will again be suspended. During this period, the Franciscan Fathers will continue to celebrate Masses privately for the intentions of parishioners. Our church will be open for private prayer on weekdays from 5:30 PM till 7:30PM. It will be open on Sundays from 1 PM till 3 PM. Those who wish, may receive Communion at that time, however the number of people in the church at any given time cannot exceed 10.*

*Sincere THANKS to the Canadian Lithuanian Foundation for \$ 4,000 donation to purchase new filming equipment to make livestreams of Sunday Masses available to parishioners through the parish's YouTube channel. Thanks to their generosity, we will continue to livestream both Masses every Sunday at 9 AM and 11 AM.*

***Until we can safely meet to worship together,  
let's remain united in prayer.***

**On May 9th, Lithuanian food will be available for take-out.** Pre-ordering is mandatory by email to Grazina Valintiene [grazinav2@hotmail.com](mailto:grazinav2@hotmail.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. Prices: 1 cabbage roll - \$5; 1 potato dumpling (cepelinas) - \$5; 1 portion potato casserole (kugelis) - \$12

**Pick-up will be outside the kitchen door** in the corner of the back parking lot between 10AM and 1PM.

PRE-ORDERS ONLY.

**The CONSULAR MISSION in TORONTO** was due to take place on May 14-15 is **CANCELLED** within the limits set by the Province of Ontario.

We'll let you know when we know the updated date.

Let's stay safe and healthy...

Our parish CONTINUES and INVITES ALL to join a FOOD DRIVE in aid of the needy in Toronto. 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 at Audience: Meditating is a way of encountering Jesus

Continuing his catechesis on Christian prayer during the weekly General Audience, Pope Francis explains the importance of meditation, highlighting that it is a means of prayer that helps us encounter Jesus and find ourselves.



For a Christian, Pope Francis said at the General Audience, "to 'meditate' is to seek meaning: it implies placing oneself before the great page of Revelation in order to try to make it our own, taking it in completely." Therefore, having welcomed the Word of God, a Christian does not keep it closed up inside, because that Word must meet with "another book," which the Catechism calls "the book of life." This, the Pope affirmed, "is what we attempt to do every time we meditate on the Word."

The Holy Father dedicated his catechesis on Wednesday to meditation as a form of prayer.

### Meditation is a need for everyone

The Pope highlighted that the practice of meditation has received great attention in recent times by almost all the religions of the world, including Christianity, and is even widespread among people who do not have a religious vision of life. "We all need to meditate, to reflect, to find ourselves," he said. "Especially in the voracious Western world, people seek meditation because it represents a high barrier against the daily stress and emptiness that is everywhere." He further added that it is a phenomenon to be welcomed, because we possess an interior life that cannot always be neglected.

### Prayer is an encounter

The Word, "once accepted in a Christian context, takes on a specificity that must not be erased," the Pope explained. Here, Jesus Christ is "the great door through which the prayer of a baptized person passes" and the practice of meditation also follows this path.

When a Christian prays, Pope Francis explained, they do not aspire to full self-transparency nor seek the deepest core of their ego. Rather, the prayer of a Christian is, first of all, an encounter with the 'Other.' Therefore, "if an experience of prayer gives us inner peace, or self-mastery, or clarity about the path to take, these results are, one might say, side effects of the grace of Christian prayer which is the encounter with Jesus," he said.

### Methods of Christian meditation

Pope Francis went on to note that the term "meditation" has had different meanings throughout history, including within Christianity where it refers to different spiritual experiences. However, the Catechism of the Catholic Church helps to trace some common lines by highlighting that "there are as many and varied methods of meditation as there are spiritual masters... But a method is only a guide; the important thing is to advance, with the Holy Spirit, along the one way of prayer: Christ Jesus."

In this regard, he highlighted the many methods of Christian meditation: "some are very sober, others more articulate; some accentuate the intellectual dimension of the person, others rather the affective and emotional," he pointed out. However, "all of them important and worthy of practice, inasmuch as they can help the experience of faith to become a total act of the person" because people do not only pray with their minds or their feelings.

### The method is a road, not a goal

Further illustrating his message, Pope Francis recalled that the ancients used to say that "the organ of prayer is the heart" to explain that it is the whole person, starting from his or her center – not only some of their faculties - who enters into a relationship with God.

At the same time, "we must always remember that the method is a road, not a goal," he stressed. "Any method of prayer, if it is to be Christian, is part of that *sequela Christi* [following Christ] which is the essence of our faith." Citing the Catechism of the Church, Pope Francis noted that "meditation engages thought, imagination, emotion, and desire. This mobilization of faculties is necessary in order to deepen our convictions of faith, prompt the conversion of our heart, and strengthen our will to follow Christ. Christian prayer tries above all to meditate on the mysteries of Christ."

### Christ is not far away

The grace of Christian prayer is that "Christ is not far away but is always in relationship with us," Pope Francis affirmed. This is because "there is no aspect of the divine-human person that cannot become for us, a place of salvation and happiness," he said. Thus, "every moment of Jesus' earthly life, through the grace of prayer, can become contemporary with us" and there is no page in the Gospels in which there is no place for us.

In this manner, thanks to the Holy Spirit, we too are present at the river Jordan when Jesus is baptized, we are diners at the wedding feast of Cana when Jesus gives the best wine for the happiness of the couple, we too witness in amazement the thousands of healings performed by Our Lord. At the same time, "we are the cleansed leper, the blind Bartimaeus who regains his sight and Lazarus who comes out of the tomb."

For us Christians, the Pope concluded, "meditating is a way of encountering Jesus. And in this way, only in this way, can we find ourselves."

THE PARISH IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE  
CONTENT OF THE ADS

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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:  
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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).

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**Associate Pastors: Fr. Aurelijus Kazimieras Kasparavicius, OFM**

**Parish economist: Fr. Raimundas Bukauskas, OFM**

**Serving Priests: Fr. Augustinas Simanavicius, OFM**

*Mmgr. Edmundas Putrimas*

*Emeritus Rev. Kazimieras Kaknevičius*

**Deacon: Dr. Kazimieras Ambrozaitis**

**Parish office administrator: Gitana Judvytyte**

**Office hours:**

**M - F 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Phone.: (416) 533 0621**

**Fax.: (416) 533 7247**

**Web: [www.prisikelimas.ca](http://www.prisikelimas.ca)**

**Email: [resparish@prisikelimas.ca](mailto:resparish@prisikelimas.ca)**

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