

CHURCH of the RESURRECTION NEWS

Nr. 12 (3592) March 23rd, 2025

3rd SUNDAY OF LENT - C



Now into the third week of the Season of Lent, our Sunday Gospel prepares us to hear Lent's call to conversion and repentance. During this journey, Jesus teaches and heals. He must also respond to those who question and challenge his authority and actions. There is no parallel in Mark's or Matthew's Gospels for today's reading from Luke. While Mark and Matthew describe an incident in which Jesus curses the fig tree, today's reading makes the barren fig tree the subject of a parable.

Luke tells us that some among the crowds report to Jesus a massacre of Galileans by Pilate. The intention of the crowd seems to be to ask Jesus to explain why these people suffered. It was commonplace to render people's suffering as evidence of their sinfulness. Jesus challenges this interpretation. Those who were massacred were no more or less sinful than the ones who report the situation to Jesus. Jesus replies that even a fatal accident, a natural disaster, ought not to be interpreted as punishment for sin.

Jesus' words at first appear to have a fire-and-brimstone quality. Jesus says in essence, "Repent or perish as these people did; all are sinful before God and deserving of God's punishment." The tone changes, however, in the parable that follows. The parable of the barren fig tree contrasts the patience and hopefulness of the gardener with the practicality of the property owner. When told to cut down the fig tree because it is not producing fruit, the gardener counsels patience. If properly tended, the barren fig tree may yet bear fruit.

Throughout his journey to Jerusalem, Jesus has been teaching about the Kingdom of God. In this parable, we find an image of God's patience and hopefulness as he prepares his Kingdom. God calls us to repent, and it is within his power to punish us for our failure to turn from our sinfulness. And yet God is merciful. He delays punishment and tends to us so that we may yet bear the fruit he desires from us.

This, then, is our reason for hope: Not only does God refuse to abandon us, he chooses to attend to us even when we show no evidence of his efforts. Next week's Gospel will give an even clearer picture of the kind of mercy that God shows to us. (loyolapress.com) †R.R.

The Lord is kind and merciful.

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS ARE FOR:

9 a.m.	†Kristina Pylypiv	(S.Brough)
11 a.m.	for living and deceased parishioners for peace in the world	
	†Genute and Romas Simkus	(GJ)
	†Marija Gudelis and Sakevicius' deceased family members (D.Gudelis)	
	†Tomas Prakapas	(family)
	†Monika Bumbulis (100 years of birth)	(family)
	†Ona and Juozas Baliunas	(V.Baliunas)
	†Marius Rusinas	(family)
	†Algimantas Syvokas	(R.R.Syvokas)
	†Danguole Baziliauskas	(family)
	for living and deceased friends	(JMC)

2025

April 4 - 6

Lenten Retreat

April 13

Lithuanian food day

April 17-20

Holy week

April 20

Easter

April 26

"Volunges sparnais..."

concert

April 27

Parish Annual Meeting

May 2-3

Spring Rummage Sale

May 4

First Communion

June 7

Run for Hope

June (date TBD)

Confirmation

June 22

St. John's day

Camp Kretinga

July 6-19 (En.)

July 20 - August 2 (Lith.)

October 24-25

Fall Rummage Sale

November 8

Annual Dinner

December (date TBD)

Advent Retreat

December 14

Christmas Concert

December 25

Christmas

Cantors of the Masses:
9 AM - Spencer Gallop
11 AM - Women's ensemble
organist - Ilona Beres

The week's Holy Masses

MONDAY (March 24): 7 p.m. †Sigute Stuopis (D.J.Didzbalis);

TUESDAY (March 25): for living and deceased benefactors; †Liudas Matukas (family);

WEDNESDAY (March 26): 7 p.m. †Marius Rusinas (D.A.Nausedas));

THURSDAY (March 27): 7 p.m. request grace of health for Alina Salna Dravinskas and for †Petras Salna, †Louise Bedard and Gustav Rodke (D.V.Skukauskas);

FRIDAY (March 28): 7 p.m. †Valentina and Marija Indris (R.Indris);

SATURDAY (March 29): 9 a.m. †Eugenija and Juozas Staskevicius (VBaliunas); 5 p.m. "Vilnius Manor" †Vytautas Stasiulevicius (J.Stasiuleviciene);

SUNDAY (March 30): 9 a.m. †Filix Manapul, jr. (E.Manapul); 11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners; †Teodoras Stanulis (family); †Karolina Kubilius (Prakapas family); †Antanas Laurinaitis (2nd anniv.) (daughter); †Marija Karasiejus (G.Gaizutis); †Jenny Vingelis (daughters); †Jurgis Kiskunas (R.R.Syvokas); for living and deceased friends (GJ); for the forgotten souls (GJ).

"Capital Fund" - \$ 519,248

A.Morkunas - \$ 50

In memory of Sigute Stuopis,
G.Ignaitis donated \$ 500

THANK YOU...

"For it is in giving that we receive".

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Sunday (03.16) & "Vilnius Manor"

Collections

36 envelopes - \$ 870

No envelopes - \$ 135.65

Direct deposit - \$ 1,105

B.Prakapas donated to the parish - \$ 500

THANK you for your generosity...

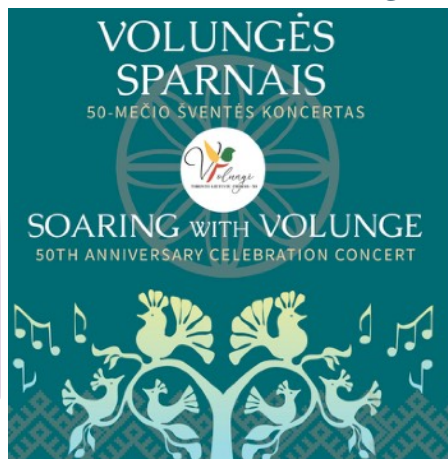


Every Thursday during Lent, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 5:30 p.m. will take place before the evening Holy Mass.

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.

Let's Soar with Volungė – a 50th Anniversary Celebration



April 26 at Resurrection Parish Hall.

5:00PM - (cash bar/snacks)

6:00 PM - Concert and Dinner

We celebrate 50 years of tradition and song with Toronto's Lithuanian choir Volungė and the Volungė Song Festival 2025 Choir.

**** SOLD OUT ****

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone for the extraordinary support!

We are pleased to announce that the tickets for our "With the Wings of Volungė" 50th anniversary concert have been sold out.

**We will remember this special anniversary with great warmth
THANKS TO YOU.**

Let's soar together with Volungė!



The XI North American Lithuanian Song Festival "One Family - One Nation",

will take place in Cleveland from June 27-29 of this year.

The festival organizers and the Lithuanian community of Cleveland are excited to welcome up to 65 choirs from the USA, Canada, and Europe, along with 1,400 singers and over 100 dancers and theatre artists. This will be a historic event! For more information and to purchase tickets, visit the official Song Festival website: dainusvente2025.com

SHARE LIFE Campaign on March 30th. Envelopes can be found attached to the bulletin and in the church vestibule.

Please consider supporting the Archdiocesan charities by using the envelopes or by going to the internet www.archtoronto.org and using the **DONATE NOW**.

Each year, thousands of people turn to a **ShareLife** agency for help. Our agencies provide service in an environment that is infused with Catholic values, bringing the Gospel message to the marginalized.

When we support **ShareLife**, we are making more than a financial contribution – we are demonstrating that the Catholic community is actively making a difference in the social service network in our archdiocese! Thank you...

To the concerned parishioners: The new pastor of the Resurrection Parish, Fr. Raimundas Bukauskas, OFM, will assume his duties in June.

From Cardinal Leo's letter to Fr. Raimundas of the Archdiocese of Toronto: *"You assume the care of souls and take possession of the Parish of Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, Toronto on 25th of June 2025. On this day or soon thereafter, His Excellency, Most Reverend Ivan Camilleri, Auxiliary Bishop of Toronto is to celebrate your installation in a Liturgy when a large number of the faithful are able to attend."*

We invite you to come on March 30 at 4 p.m. to the Resurrection Parish Hall to enjoy a musical afternoon -

"A Classical Tribute to Spring."

Works by Brahms, Banoncini, Gluck, Chopin, Liszt, Piazzola, and Martin will be performed.

The program artists are:

Aleksia Vadauskas (mezzo-soprano),

Ruta Melkis (violin),

Carlos Andara (cello), **Danius Verbyla** (piano),

Ilona Damasius-Beres (piano).

Admission is by donation.



"Auksinis klubas" will meet on Tuesday, March 25th, 1:00pm in the church cafeteria.

We will bake a snack - "bread with garlic".

(Everything is in Lithuanian).



KLJS invites you to come out to watch the 3x3 basketball tournament on March 29th in the parish hall at 1 pm.

There will be cepelinai available for purchase as of 12 noon.

Pre-order requests for cepelinai can be sent to kanadosljs@gmail.com

Our parish "Labdara" committee **CONTINUES The FOOD DRIVE** in aid of the needy in Toronto and **INVITES, till April 13th, 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.

IN MEMORIAM

March 22nd, we bid farewell to our beloved parishioner

†**MARIUS EDVARDAS RUSINAS**, 72

May HE Rest in the Peace of Christ.

Pope's Vocation Day message: Our mission is to be Christ's presence to all



Pope Francis releases his message for the upcoming World Day of Prayer for Vocations, and invites young people to listen to God's voice in their hearts so they may be signs of His love for our world.

As he recovers from bilateral pneumonia at Rome's Gemelli Hospital, Pope Francis has released his message for the 62nd World Day of Prayer for Vocations, which falls this year on May 11.

Entitled "Pilgrims of Hope: The Gift of Life," the Pope's message recalls that every vocation—be it to ordained ministry, consecrated life, or the laity—should offer the world a sign of God's hope for every person.

He noted that young people frequently feel dismay and confusion when they look to the future, given the background of insecurity, identity crises, unjust treatment of others, and general indifference.

"Yet the Lord, who knows the human heart, does not abandon us in our uncertainty," said the Pope. "He wants us to know that we are loved, called and sent as pilgrims of hope."

The Holy Father urged young people to look to the saints to recognize that they are the "now of God," since youth is not an in-between time.

Every vocational call, he said, ignites in us a desire to love others and serve them, rather than a means of self-promotion.

At certain points in life, added the Pope, God calls people to choose a path, whether it be to family life, the priesthood, or religious life.

"Every vocation is inspired by hope, marked by confident trust in God's providence," he said. "Vocations mature through the daily effort to be faithful to the Gospel, and through prayer, discernment and service."

Pope Francis urged young people to take the time to listen to God's voice in prayer, even amid the constant bombardment of daily life and external pressures.

He said it takes courage to pause to pray and to be open to God's dreams for our lives.

"Prayerful recollection," he said, "helps us to realize that all of us can be pilgrims of hope if we make our lives a gift, above all by placing ourselves at the service of those who live on the world's material and existential peripheries."

Every particular vocation, added the Pope, is an expression of our overall Christian vocation to be Christ's presence where His light and consolation are most needed.

The Holy Father went on to invite pastoral ministers and vocation directors to patiently accompany young people in their journey to discover their vocation, listening respectfully and offering wise guidance.

"A vocation is never a treasure stored away in the heart," he said. "Rather, it grows and is strengthened within a community that believes, loves and hopes."

In conclusion, Pope Francis invited all Christians to pray for vocations and trust that the Holy Spirit will inspire young people to welcome their vocation.

"Let us never tire, then, of asking the Lord for new labourers for His harvest, certain that with great love He continues to call them," he concluded. "Keep walking as pilgrims of hope on the path of the Gospel!"

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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SAVE THE DATE

RCU ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, April 8, 2025

1 Resurrection Rd.
Toronto, ON M9A 5G1

62nd RCU Annual General Meeting will take place in person.
Details to follow.

Pastor: Fr. Jonas Sileika, OFM

Associate Pastor/Parish economist:

Fr. Raimundas Bukauskas, OFM

Serving Priest: Fr. Augustinas Simanavicius, OFM

Deacon: Dr. Kazimieras Ambrozaitis

Parish office administrator: Gitana Judvytyte

Office hours:

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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

Phone.: (416) 533 0621

Web: www.prisikelimas.ca

Email: resparish@prisikelimas.ca

Church of the Resurrection

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