

CHURCH of the RESURRECTION NEWS

Nr. 51 (3421) December 19th, 2021

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT - C



On this the last Sunday before Christmas, our Gospel reading prepares us to witness Christ's birth by showing us how Jesus was recognized as Israel's long-awaited Messiah even before his birth. The Gospel turns our attention from the ministry of John the Baptist to the events that preceded John the Baptist's birth. The story of John the Baptist and his parents, Elizabeth and Zechariah, are reported only in Luke's Gospel. Luke pairs the birth of John the Baptist and Jesus, establishing John's early connection to the Messiah.

Our Gospel reading recalls Mary's actions after the announcement of Jesus' birth by the angel Gabriel. Mary goes to visit Elizabeth, her cousin, who is also with child. Elizabeth greets Mary with full recognition of the roles that they and their unborn children will play in God's plan for salvation. If we were to continue to read the verses that follow in Luke's Gospel, we would hear Mary respond to Elizabeth's greeting with her song of praise, the Magnificat. Both women recall and echo God's history of showing favor upon the people of Israel.

In Luke's Gospel the Holy Spirit helps reveal Jesus' identity as God to those who believe. Elizabeth is filled with the Holy Spirit and sings Mary's praise because she bears the Lord. We sing these words of praise to Mary in the Hail Mary. Even John the Baptist, the unborn child in Elizabeth's womb, is said to recognize the presence of the Lord and leaps for joy.

It is appropriate in this season of Advent that we consider the role of Mary in God's plan of salvation. Elizabeth describes Mary as the first disciple, as the one who believed that God's word to her would be fulfilled. Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God in her people's history and in her own life. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to everyone. Because of this, Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan for salvation.

(loyolapress.com)

"Lord Jesus, fill me with your Holy Spirit and give me joy in seeking you more earnestly. Increase my faith in all your promises, my hope in the joy of heaven, and my love for You as my All." (dailyscripture.net) †R.R.

God of hosts, bring us back: let your face shine on us, and we shall be saved.

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS ARE FOR :

9 a.m.	†Bronius, sr. and Bronius, jr. Stoncius	(O.Stoncius)
11 a.m.	for living and deceased parishioners	
	†Eugenijus Cuplinskas	(family)
	†Eugenijus Siciunas	(wife)
	†Alfonsas Stanevicius	(family)
	†Fr.Kazimieras Kaknevicius	(family)
	†Viktoras Jankauskas	(R.J.Kuliesius)
	†Jadvyga Ruginyte	(granddaughter Viktorija)
	†Elyte and Romualdas Mankelevicius	(daughter)
	for Judvytis', Dackus' & Vydmantas' deceased family members (GJ)	
	for Dirmantas', Nevulis' & Groen in't Woud deceased family members (family)	
	request grace of health for sister Marija Fisher	(D.A.Pabedinskas)
	request grace of health for parents	(daughter)
	request grace of health for parish priests	(NN)

December 24

8:45 p.m. -

Christmas music

9 p.m. -

Christmas Eve Mass

December 25

Christmas Day

9 a.m. Mass (in EN)

11 a.m. Mass (in LT)

2022 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 25-28

CLOSED

December 31

CLOSED

January 3, 2022

CLOSED

Sunday Masses

online -

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Mass recordings,

broadcasts

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Search:

Prisikelimo Parapija,

Tevai Pranciskonai

Cantors of the Masses:

9 AM - Gabriele Navickas, Gintas Pabedinskas

11 AM - Grazina Adie, Danguole Cingiene, Laima Underis,
Julija Danaitis, Zibute Janeliunas, Dana Pranaitis,
Gintas Neimanas, Gintas Neimanas, jr. Romas Puteris,
Romas Krasauskas, Ted Chornomaz, Taras Chornomaz
organist - Ilona Beres

THIS WEEK'S HOLY MASSES

MONDAY (December 20): 7 p.m. †Romas and Julija Vaitkevicius (V.R.Barrick); for souls in heaven (O.Dirmantas);

TUESDAY (December 21): 7 p.m. living and deceased benefactors; †Antanas Ceponis (V.Zaleckaite);

WEDNESDAY (December 22): 10 a.m. 7 p.m. †Viktoras Grazulis (K.Buozis); †Vladas Sleinys and Borkertas', Saukaitis' & Sleinys deceased family members (family);

THURSDAY (December 23): 7 p.m. †Regina Antanaitis and Antanaitis', Vaikutis' deceased family members (Daiva); †Petras Nekrosius (L.R.S.Kuliavas); †Genute and Romas Simkus (V.Baliunas); †Juožas Stankaitis (B.Sadauskas); request grace of health for Adomas Alisaukas (M.V.Neverauskas); for Selmys' and Juraitis' deceased family members (Zivile, Jaunius, Danguole); †Kęstutis Steponaitis (R.Steponaitis);

FRIDAY (December 24 Christmas Eve): 9 p.m. for living and deceased Parishioners, for our living and deceased benefactors, for the members of the Friars Minor Order of St. Casimir's Lithuanian Province; and for all Lithuanians in the diaspora.

SATURDAY (December 25 - Christmas): 9 a.m. †Aldona Podsidecki (G.D.Bonner); 11 a.m. living and deceased parishioners; for living and deceased family and friends (GJ); †Kobelskis' and Kodis' deceased family members (children); †Ieva and Vincas Jonuska & Elena and Jurgis Krakauskas (Januszko family); †Fr.Kazimieras Kaknevičius (B.V.Bireta); †Jonas Dirmantas (O.Dirmantas); †Veronika, Benediktas, Antanas and Vytautas Navickas (I.F.Zilinskas);

SUNDAY (December 26): 9 a.m. †Elena Pacaitis (10th anniv) (V.M.Navickas); 11 a.m. living and deceased parishioners; in thanksgiving - for †Fr. E.Jurgutis, OFM & †Fr. P.Sarpanickas, OFM (Stanevicius family); †Eugenijus Siciunas (wife); †Kazimieras Grigaravicius (family); †Ruta and Paulius Stankus (R.Buksaitis); †Balbina and Juozas Tamulionis (D.A.Nausedas); †Fr.Kazimieras Kaknevičius (D.S.Peterson); †Maria and Bronius Mausevicius & Irena and Anicetas Zalagenas (I.Matus); for Burauskas' and Samulevicius' deceased family members (T.V.Samonis); 3 p.m. "Vilnius Manor" for "Vilnius Manor" residents and working personal.

Capital Fund - \$ 324,404

E.Benetis, B.Pichler, R.Rygelis - \$ 900

THANK YOU...

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

Collections of December 12th

51 envelopes - \$ 4,615

No envelopes - \$ 38.15

Direct deposit - \$ 1,190

eTransfer - \$ 1,950

*In memory of Balys and Janina Vaisnoras, Algis Vaisnoras
donated \$ 3,000 to the Parish*

*In memory of Birute Alksnis, friends
donated \$ 350 to the Parish*

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. As we approach the Christmas season, 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 in Lithuanian is continuing Sundays at 11, as well the streaming of English language Mass from St. Michael's Cathedral.

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

Christmas Eve Mass - December 24th., 9 PM

There is a possibility that we will not be able to seat all those who want to participate in the church during the Christmas Eve Mass while keeping safe distances. Additional seats will be prepared in the parish hall where it will be possible to watch a live stream of the Mass. We ask for your understanding and patience. We remind you that you must wear masks in the church premises.

Please arrive at the check-in desk upon arrival at the church.

Plotkeles/Kaledaiciai - will be available in the Parish Office, Monday-Friday, from 9 am till 2 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.

LAST SUNDAY

Christmas is fast approaching. As we prepare to celebrate, let's remember our less fortunate brothers and sisters in Lithuania. Beginning today, and throughout Advent, **donations to support soup kitchens in Lithuania** will be accepted in the church vestibule. In the true Christmas spirit, why not consider making a donation instead of buying gifts?

ATTENTION

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR DONATIONS DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME. EVERY DONATION HELPS WITH MAINTENANCE OF THE CHURCH AND THE PARISH...

Your 2022 Church Collection Envelopes - are available at the back of the church.

A request regarding donor's envelopes - Please ensure that **all** the **information** requested on the donor's envelope is **completed**: your first and last name, current address, envelope number (if you are not using a personalized envelope, but a generic one).

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.

Donations to the parish should be written to **Resurrection Parish** and in the MEMO, write the charitable purpose: **Donation to Parish or Mass.**

Donations to the Franciscan Fathers should be written to **Franciscan Fathers** and in the MEMO, write the charitable purpose: **Parish renovation fund, Monastery, Capital fund, Sielovada, Soup kitchen, Camp "Kretinga", Oncology centre Klaipeda, Franciscan Fathers projects in Lithuania.**

Our parish, from September 19th, CONTINUES our 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.

IN MEMORIAM

†**BIRUTE TERESE ALKSNIS**, 87

buried on December 6th.

She is survived by her daughters Cindy (Gary), Christine (Serge) and son Victor (Maria), five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild, with another on the way. Birute will be missed by her brother, Vytautas (Aldona) Levisauskas and sister-in-law, Adele Jushka (Antanas).

*Sincere condolences to her families.
Please remember her in your prayers.*

Pope at Audience:

Make room for the Word through silence

In his catechesis at the Wednesday General Audience, Pope Francis reflects on St Joseph's silence in the Gospel.



"St Joseph with his silence invites us to make room for the Presence of the Word made flesh, for Jesus," Pope Francis said at the weekly General Audience.

Silence full of listening

However, the Pope continued, "Joseph's silence is not muteness," but is instead "a silence full of listening, an industrious silence, a silence that bring out his great interiority." Quoting St John of the Cross, the Holy Father explained that God the Father spoke the Word, His Son, in eternal silence "and in silence it must be heard by the soul."

In his earthly life, Jesus, too, had this experience of silence, "with the daily example of Mary and Joseph." Pope Francis noted that "He Himself sought spaces of silence... and invited His disciples to have such an experience" as well.

The contemplative dimension of life

The Holy Father emphasized the importance of following St Joseph's example "in recovering this contemplative dimension of life opened wide by silence," but noted that it is not easy. Silence, he said, can be frightening, because "it asks us to delve into ourselves and confront the truest part of us."

Pope Francis invited everyone "to cultivate spaces for silence in which another Word can emerge: that of the Holy Spirit who dwells in us." This will involve being careful of our speech, which if unchecked can become evil, and our words can become "flattery, bragging, lies, backbiting, and slander."

Learning to cultivate silence

This, the Pope said, "is why we must learn from Joseph to cultivate silence: that space of interiority in our days in which we give the Spirit the opportunity to regenerate us, to console us, to correct us." And, he concluded, "the benefit to our hearts will also heal our language, our words and above all our choices," like St Joseph, who combined silence with action."

Pope Francis concluded the catechesis at Wednesday's General Audience with a prayer to St Joseph:

Saint Joseph, man of silence,
you who in the Gospel did not utter a single word,
teach us to fast from vain words,
to rediscover the value of words that edify, encourage,
console and support.
Be close to those who suffer from words that hurt,
like slander and backbiting,
and help us always to match words with deeds. Amen.

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.**

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www.prisikelimas.ca/give.

Also, you can donate through banks -
RCU and Parama by direct deposit.



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



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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

Office hours:

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

Phone.: (416) 533 0621

Fax.: (416) 533 7247

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