

CHURCH of the RESURRECTION NEWS

Nr. 17 (3387) APRIL 25th, 2021

4th EASTER SUNDAY - B



The fourth Sunday of Easter is also called Good Shepherd Sunday.

This chapter of John's Gospel follows Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the rejection of this miracle by the Jewish leaders who question Jesus' authority to heal. Jesus responds to this challenge by calling himself the Good Shepherd. He is criticizing the leadership of the Pharisees and the other Jewish leaders. The Pharisees and other Jewish leaders are so angry that they attempt to stone and arrest Jesus. This controversy with the religious leaders continues until Jesus' death.

In the portion of the chapter that we hear proclaimed today, Jesus describes his relationship with his followers as similar to the relationship between a good shepherd and his sheep. As a good shepherd will risk and lay down his life in order to protect his sheep, Jesus willingly sacrifices himself for the sake of his sheep. Jesus contrasts the actions of the good shepherd with the actions of the hired shepherd who abandons the sheep in the face of danger. In the verses following Jesus' teaching, we learn that the Pharisees and the other religious leaders understand that Jesus is referring to them when he describes the hired shepherds.

The concern of a good shepherd for his sheep is part of the shepherd's job. Jesus says, however, that the actions of the good shepherd are based upon the relationship that develops between the shepherd and the sheep. This is at the heart of the difference between the good shepherd and the hired shepherd. The good shepherd knows the sheep and therefore acts out of love. For the Good Shepherd, this is never simply part of a job; this love-in-action is integral to his identity.

As with so much of John's Gospel, one hears in this passage John's particular focus on Christology. As the sheep are known by the Good Shepherd, the Father knows Jesus and Jesus knows the Father. There is an essential unity between the Father and the Son. The freedom with which Jesus acts when he lays down his life is rooted in the unity that he shares with his Father.

Jesus also refers to others with whom he shares a relationship. By this reference, John probably understands the eventual inclusion of the Gentiles in the Christian community. Our modern ears hear this as a reference to Christian unity. The work of ecumenism is to restore unity among all Christians so that we form one flock under one shepherd, as God desires. †R.R.
(loyolapress.com)

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS ARE FOR :

- | | | |
|---------|--|--|
| 9 a.m. | †Michael Brough | (S.Brough) |
| 11 a.m. | for living and deceased parishioners | |
| | †Birute (7th anniv.) and Jonas Danaitis | (Danaitis family) |
| | †Vitas Pleckaitis | (R.L.S.Kuliavas) |
| | †Kazimieras Cepaitis (25th anniv.) | (G.A.Valavicius) |
| | †Albina Laurinaitis | (R.Klicius) |
| | †Vladas Melnykas (10th anniv.) | (family) |
| | for Cuplinskas' Matulionis' & Stonkus' living & deceased family members (family) | |
| | †Marija and Marijonas Petrikas | (A.Jurcevicus) |
| | 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://
www.youtube.com/
channel/
UC63RnbJxiayoKXd
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
Facebook Group:**

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

**Mass recordings,
broadcasts**

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

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

**Prisikelimo Parapija,
Tevai Pranciskonai**

THIS WEEK'S HOLY MASSES

MONDAY (April 26): 7 p.m. Marta Simanavicius (35th anniv.) (L.D.Simanavicius); †Liudas Matukas (G.Matukas);

TUESDAY (April 27): 7 p.m. living and deceased benefactors; requesting grace of health for Laimute Grigaitis - Coyle (Reinecker family);

WEDNESDAY (April 28): 7 p.m. †Audrone Ceponis (V.Zaleckaite); †Valentinas and Marija Indris (R.Indris);

THURSDAY (April 29): 7 p.m. †Donatas Vaicieuskas (wife); †Liuda Dainys and Danute and Vilius Fidleris (JMC); †Janina Sarunas (10th anniv.) (R.Martis-Franitza);

FRIDAY (April 30): 7 p.m. †Zivile Vidmantas (T.Siciunas); †Eugenijus Siciunas (N.Ruslys);

SATURDAY (May 1): 9 a.m. Novena; in thanksgiving (Groen in't Woud family); 5 p.m. "Vilnius Manor" †Vytautas and Nijole Tamulaitis (A.Vaskevicius);

SUNDAY (May 2): 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); †Fr. Arvydas Zygas (Ruta G.); †Nijole Banelis (A.G.Valavicius); †Zigmas Dobilas (A.Vaisnoras); †Eugenijus Siciunas (wife); †Jonas and Aldona Gudavicius (A.Jurcevicius).

Capital Fund - \$ 317,944

THANK YOU...

"For it is in giving that we receive".

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Collections of April 18th

20 envelopes - \$ 845

Direct deposit - \$ 1,190

eTransit - \$ 200

eTransit (Mass intention) - \$ 200

Share Life - \$ 140

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 Kazimieras Senda and Arunas Pabedinskas who have tirelessly worked 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.**

Through the sacrament of Baptism, we welcome **Aura Caron** into our community of faith.

We rejoice with her parents, asking God's abundant blessings to her family.



On May 2nd and 9th, Lithuanian food will be available for take-out. Pre-ordering is mandatory by email to Grazina Valintiene 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...

Spring is a season and symbol of new beginnings, when flowers start to bloom, trees start to grow buds again and the weather starts to warm up.

As we look forward to Spring, our Labdara residents are unable to see visitors, because of the pandemic. They too are longing for the family and community connection, that is vital to their health and happiness.



This past Easter, our community came together to write heartfelt greetings to our seniors. You cheered them up and brought immense hope and encouragement. Every one of you should feel proud that you helped spread kindness and renewed hope to each and every one of them. Through your love, kindness and generosity, our community contributed an overwhelming 357 cards to Labdara Lithuanian Nursing Home!



We would like to extend a heartfelt "Thank You" to the Dirmantas-Groen in't Wood family for once again initiating and organizing a Spring/Easter greeting and collection with the Church of the Resurrection. We also thank the many individuals who participated with writing cards to our Labdara residents. In addition, our non-Lithuanian speaking families once again came together in large numbers to support them with lovely cards of well wishes.



Everyone should feel so proud of themselves for these acts of kindness. There is no act that is too small to make a difference in another person's life, especially during this difficult time in our lives.

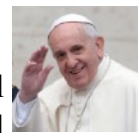
Labdara LNH staff

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: vocal prayer is a sure way to speak with God



Pope Francis reflects on the importance of vocal prayer in his catechesis during Wednesday's General Audience.

Prayer, Pope Francis said at his General Audience on Wednesday, "is dialogue with God; and every creature, in a certain sense, engages in dialogue with God."

For human beings, he continued, "prayer becomes *word*, invocation, hymn, poetry... The divine Word is made flesh, and in the flesh of every person the word returns to God in prayer."

The importance of words

The Holy Father's catechesis began with a reflection on words, which not only proceed from us, but also "to some extent shape us." In the Bible, words bring everything to light, ensuring that "nothing human is excluded, censored."

That, said Pope Francis, "is why Sacred Scripture teaches us to pray, sometimes even with bold words." The human authors of the Bible are intent upon showing humanity as it really is, to the point even of including "harsh expressions against enemies... words that belong to human reality and which find their way into the Sacred Scriptures."

They are included, the Pope explained, "to testify to us that if, in the face of violence, there are no words to make bad feelings harmless, to channel them so they do no harm, then the world would be overwhelmed."

The surest way to pray to God

Pope Francis notes that "the first human prayer is always a vocal recitation. The lips always move first."

While recognizing that prayer does not consist in simply repeating words without meaning, he nonetheless insisted that vocal prayer is the "surest" means of speaking with God. Feelings, he said, can be uncertain and unpredictable, as can the graces that come from prayer. At times, the mysterious "prayer of the heart" can be lacking.

Vocal prayer, however, "can always be practiced" and is necessary, even when our feelings are confused.

Whispered prayer

"We should all have the humility of certain elderly people who, in church... recite softly the prayers they learned as children," Pope Francis said. "That prayer does not disturb the silence, but testifies to their fidelity to the duty of prayer practised throughout their lives, without fail."

These "practitioners of humble prayer," he said, "are often the great intercessors of our parishes." They too, like all of us, sometimes face dark nights, and "empty moments." But, the Pope said, "one can always remain faithful to vocal prayer."

Therefore, Pope Francis concluded, "we must not despise vocal prayer," which is the only "sure" way "to direct to God the questions He wants to hear."

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:
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.

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Parish economist: Fr. Raimundas Bukauskas, OFM
Serving Priests: Fr. Augustinas Simanavicius, OFM
Msgr. Edmundas Putrimas
Emeritus Rev. Kazimieras Kaknevičius
Deacon: Dr. Kazimieras Ambrozaitis
Parish office administrator: Gitana Judvytyte

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