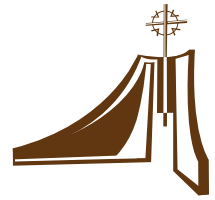


# CHURCH of the RESURRECTION NEWS

Nr. 51 (3368) December 20th, 2020

## 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT - B



This Sunday we read the story of the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary about the birth of Jesus. This story is found only in Luke's Gospel. On this fourth Sunday of Advent, the liturgy shifts our attention from John the Baptist to Mary, the mother of Jesus. Both John and Mary serve as important figures for our reflection during the season of Advent; they both played instrumental roles in preparing the way for Jesus. This week we reflect upon Mary's example of faith and obedience to God, traits which permitted her to receive the angel's message that God's Son would be born as a human person, as one of us.

We are familiar with the story of the Annunciation, and it is fitting that we recall how God announced the birth of Jesus as we make our final preparations for our celebration of the Incarnation. The angel Gabriel visited Mary, a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph. Mary greeted the angel's news with awe and wonder and asked how it could be possible that she could give birth to a child. In his reply, the angel Gabriel announced the seemingly impossible reality: the child to be born would be conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and would be God's own Son. The angel reported to Mary another miracle; her relative Elizabeth was also pregnant despite having been thought to be unable to have a child. Mary's response to the angel, which is called her *fiat*, is an example of complete faith and obedience to God.

The story of the Annunciation calls to our attention God's wondrous action in human history. God chose a human person to give birth to his Son so that all humanity would know God's salvation. Mary, already full of God's grace, was able to cooperate in this great plan for our salvation. Thus, Jesus was born as one of us, fully human and also fully divine. This is the mystery we prepare to celebrate at Christmas, the mystery of the Incarnation. In the model of Mary, we pray that we will be people of faith who recognize God's saving plan for us and are able to respond with obedience. ([loyolapress.com](http://loyolapress.com))

"Heavenly Father, you offer us abundant grace, mercy, and forgiveness through your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ. Help me to live a grace-filled life as Mary did by believing in your promises and by giving you my unqualified 'yes' to your will and plan for my life." ([dailyscripture.net](http://dailyscripture.net)) †R.R.

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***For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.***

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### SUNDAY'S MASS INTENTIONS ARE FOR :

9 a.m. for Dirmantas', Nevulis' and Groen in't Woud deceased family members  
(family)

11 a.m. For living and deceased parishioners

Alfonsas Stanevicius (Stanevicius family)

in thanksgiving - for †Fr. E.Jurgutis, ofm and †Fr. P.Sarnickas, ofm  
(Stanevicius family)

for Judvytis', Dackus' and Vydmantas' living and deceased family members (GJ)  
special intention - SG (IM)

for Giendrienis' and Laurinavicius' deceased family members (L.D.Laurinavicius)

†Marija and Pranas Laurinaitis (A.Laurinaitis)

†Albina (24<sup>th</sup> anniv.) and Petras (10<sup>th</sup> anniv.) Styra (family)

†Louis Pogorski (family)

†Viktoras Jankauskas (J.R.Kuliesius)

†Regina Matukas - Taunys (family)

request blessings and grace of health for Dainora (GJ)

### 2020 CALENDAR

**Resurrection Parish**  
(new website)

[https://  
www.prisikelimas.ca/lt/  
word from pastor](https://www.prisikelimas.ca/lt/word-from-pastor)

#### **December 20**

**4 pm - 5 pm**

*"Kretinga Camp  
Advent Gathering -  
Christmas Concert"*  
(via the Zoom app -

[https://  
centennialcollege.zoom.  
us/j/95222755655](https://centennialcollege.zoom.us/j/95222755655))

#### **December 25**

*Christmas*

## THIS WEEK'S HOLY MASSES

**MONDAY** (December 21): 7 p.m. †Antanas Ceponis (V.Zaleckaite); †Viktoras Grazulis (Buozis family);

**TUESDAY** (December 22): 7 p.m. living and deceased benefactors; †Edvardas Peciulis (Slabosevicius family);

**WEDNESDAY** (December 23): 7 p.m. †Donatas Vaiciekauskas (wife); †Romas Kalinauskas (B.B.Degutis);

**THURSDAY** (December 24): 10 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.

**FRIDAY** (December 25): 9 a.m. for living and deceased family members and friends (GJ); 11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners; †Romualdas Tumpa (L.Tumpa); †Marija and Bronius Matusevicius (family); †Bronius and Vanda Saulenas (family); for Jankevicius' and Kartanas' living and deceased family members (I.F.Zilinskas); special intention; for living and deceased family members and friends (Pazera family).

**SATURDAY** (December 26): 9 a.m. for Cuplinskas', Matulionis' and Stonkus' living and deceased family members (JMC); 5 p.m. "Vilnius Manor" †Julija Zienkoviciute (20<sup>th</sup> anniv.) and deceased family members (I.F.Zilinskas);

**SUNDAY** (December 27): 9 a.m. for Cernauskas', Rimkevicius' and Levisauskas' deceased family members (V.Cernauskas); 11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners; †Kazimieras Grigaravicius (family); †Regina Sinkevicius (2<sup>nd</sup> anniv.) (Bazarauskas family); †Eugenijus Cuplinskas (Stanevicius family); †Domarkas Slizauskas (G.Kobelskis); †Rita Radziunas (S.Gruchalla and I.Matus); †E.Kriksciunas, E.Ginciauskas, T.Stanulis and J.Zukauskas (Stanevicius family); †Laima Macionis (IM).

### Capital Fund - \$ 312,844

G.Matukas, J.G.Neimanas - \$ 1,220

V.L.Zubrickas - in memory Mary Anne

Kušlikis - \$ 75

**THANK YOU...**

*"For it is in giving that we receive".*

*Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi*

**Collections, beginning week of  
December 8th - 13th**

12 envelopes - \$ 5,245

Direct deposit - \$ 1,585

eTransit - \$ 100 (Mass intention)

THANKS to PARAMA for \$ 15,500 donation

**THANK you for your generosity**



Dear parishioners,

At controlling the spread of COVID 19 in the region, Thomas Cardinal Collins has directed parishes in Toronto to implement some new restrictions. We are sharing them here, along with the impact on our parish:

- By Monday, November 23, 2020, parishes must restrict attendance inside the church to 10 people, including priests hearing confessions or a staff member/volunteer required to monitor capacity restrictions. Due to these measures, public Masses must be temporarily cancelled. The Franciscan Fathers will celebrate private Mass daily for the intentions of parishioners and for those suffering from Covid-19.
- While maintaining the maximum capacity of 10 people, our church will be open for private prayer weekdays between 5PM and 7PM, and Sundays 8AM to 10AM.
- For the faithful to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, please call 416-533-0621 and make an appointment.
- Weddings, funerals and baptisms (without Mass) are restricted to 10 persons, including those who are involved in ministry (priest, cantor, etc.).
- Parishioners are encouraged to view online/livestream/televised Masses. A full list is available at [www.archtoronto.org](http://www.archtoronto.org) and Cardinal Collins will continue to celebrate the live-streamed Mass each day from St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica at 7:30 a.m. Sunday Mass (in Lithuanian), from our parish, will continue to be available via YouTube.
- No meetings should take place in parish halls or other church spaces at this time.

We join with Cardinal Collins in his expression of hope that we will soon be able to fully and safely resume public worship. And as we enter into this very unique Advent season, we will inform you of additional virtual ways to stay connected through the "Parish News" and [www.prisikelimas.ca](http://www.prisikelimas.ca).

**The Lord leads and cares for ALL of you in this difficult time and leads you to bright hope...**

**Your 2021 Church Collection Envelopes** - are available at the back of the church Monday-Friday, from 9 am till 12 pm.

**All donations for tax purposes** should reach the Parish Office by the **31st of December, 2020. Please don't wait until the last day.**

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

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

**Donor envelopes** - we ask that everyone donating to the parish, or in support of its causes by way of donor envelopes, kindly ensures that **all** the information requested on the envelope front is submitted correctly, i.e. name, address, etc.

*Thank you in advance!*

Our parish started 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.

## Christmas concert "SEPTYNIOS ŽVAIGŽDĖS"

(available from Sunday, December 20th, 6 pm)

<https://youtu.be/Bk9FskYugEU>

Singers - Grazina Adie, Danute Biskys, Danguole Cingiene, Julija Danaitis, Zibute Janeliunas, Zita Nausedas, Ilona Tarvydas, Laima Underys, Rasa Wilkinson.

Kankles/singers - Jacintha Groen in't Woud, Tessa Groen in't Woud, Gabriele Navickas, Gintas Pabedinskas, Alexandra Valaitis (teacher), Zibute Janeliunas (teacher).

Contributors to the concert video - Judita Cuplinskas (reader), Birute Litvinas (texts), Nijole Benotas (advisor), Ilona Beres (organist) Dalia Viskontas (conductor), Gitana Judvytyte and Aidas Pazera (decorations), Andrius Kaknevičius (videographer/editor).

Parish priests: Pastor - Fr. Jonas Sileika, OFM; Monsignor - Edmundas Putrimas Guardian - Fr. Augustinas Simanavicius, OFM; Vicar - Fr. Aurelijus Kazimieras Kasparavicius, OFM.

Parish Council Chair - Ruta Girdauskas.

*Happy Holidays...*

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Plotkeles/Kaledaiciai are available in the ParishOffice, Monday-Friday, from 9 am till 12 pm. 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.

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Christmas is fast approaching. As we prepare to celebrate, let's remember our less fortunate brothers and sisters in Lithuania. Throughout Advent, donations to support soup kitchens in Lithuania may be made by leaving the donation in the parish mailbox, at RCU bank or by e-transfer.

Thank you for your generosity in this difficult time ...

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### 5TH ANNUAL FRANCISCAN NATIVITY SCENE COMPETITION

Let's join Franciscan Parishes across Lithuania in the tradition of creating nativity scenes.

Families and individuals are invited to build 3D nativities and submit photos to an online gallery. Online voting will determine the favourites in various categories. We invite you to photograph and register your creation at [www.prakartele.lt](http://www.prakartele.lt) by December 14.

A meaningful, fun and creative activity for this pandemic Advent. Kids (14 and under) may opt to submit drawings instead of 3D models.

Get inspiration for your nativity scene by reading the Gospel according to Luke (Lk 2, 1-21)

Share locally – post your photos to the parish's Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/prisikelimo.parapija>

Or email to [musuprakartele@gmail.com](mailto:musuprakartele@gmail.com) to share on the parish website.

A blessed Advent to all!

## Pope at Audience:

### Those who pray, pray for all

Pope Francis reflects on "the prayer of intercession" during his weekly General Audience.



Continuing his catechesis on prayer, Pope Francis on Wednesday focused on "intercessory prayer"; that is, prayer which asks on behalf of another."

Those who are accustomed to pray, said Pope Francis, "never turn their backs on the world." If prayer is not engaged with every aspect of human existence – its joys and sorrows, its hopes and anxieties – it becomes a "decorative" activity.

Bread, broken and shared

The Pope noted a resemblance between those who pray for others, and Christ in the Eucharist. "In prayer," he said, "God 'takes us, blesses us, breaks us, and gives us,' to satisfy everyone's hunger." Every Christian, he added, "is called to become bread, broken and shared, in God's hands."

Men and women of prayer, the Pope said, always "keep the doors of their hearts wide open," even when they seek solitude and silence. They pray for those who do not pray, or do not know how to pray, as well as for those "who have erred and have lost the way." In their solitude, those who pray "separate themselves from everything and everyone" precisely in order to "rediscover everything and everyone in God."

### Praying for all

The Pope said these people "pray for each and every person," they see "the face of Christ in every poor person who knocks at their door, in every person who has lost the meaning of things."

Prayer is "simply human," Pope Francis said. "The human heart tends toward prayer." But prayer necessarily involves love for our brothers and sisters. Human experience, said the Pope, "is present in every prayer, because no matter what errors people may have committed, they should never be rejected or discarded."

### Neither judgment nor condemnation

Pope Francis insisted that when those who pray offer prayers for sinners, there should be no judgment or condemnation: those who pray, pray for all, and first of all for themselves. The Holy Father suggested, for this very reason, a prayer that all can pray: "Lord, no one is just in your sight; we are all debtors, each with an outstanding balance to pay; no one is sinless in your eyes. Lord, have mercy on us!"

The Pope continued, noting that, even despite the sins of His people, God remains faithful, persevering "in His service as a Shepherd even with those force him to get His hands dirty; He does not close His heart to those who have even made Him suffer."

### A mission of intercessory prayer

The Church, too, said Pope Francis, "has the mission of practicing the prayer of intercession" – and this duty is especially incumbent upon those who have responsibility for others. "Like Abraham and Moses," he said, "they must at times 'defend' those entrusted to them before God."

In fact, the Pope said, by praying to God, they are "guarding them with God's eyes and heart, with His same invincible compassion and tenderness."

### Leaves on the same tree

"We are all leaves on the same tree," the Pope said in conclusion. "Each one that falls reminds us of the great piety that must be nourished in prayer for one another."

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.**

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.**



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



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Jerzy Kulesza M.Eng.,  
Sales Representative

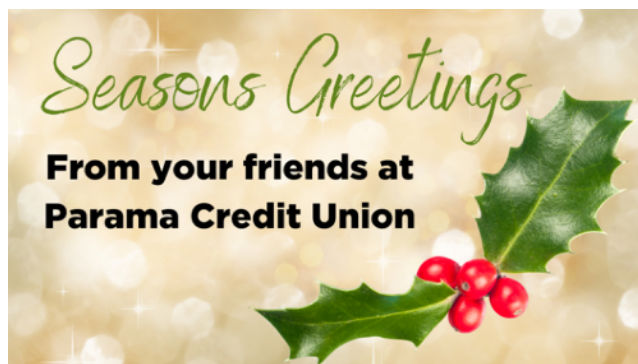
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*We wish you a very  
Happy Holiday  
season and a peaceful  
New Year!*

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**Pastor: Fr. Jonas Sileika, OFM**

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

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*

**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)

**Church of the Resurrection**  
1 Resurrection Rd., Toronto, ON. M9A5G1