

CHURCH of the RESURRECTION NEWS

Nr. 13 (3593) March 30th, 2025

4th SUNDAY OF LENT - C



Today we hear the third of three parables that Jesus tells in response to his critics. These three familiar parables—the lost sheep, the lost coin, and today's parable of the prodigal son—invite us to consider the depth of God's mercy and love.

Our familiarity with today's parable risks dulling us to its tremendously powerful message. We call this the parable of the lost son or the prodigal son. Any focus on the younger son, however, must also be balanced by an examination of the unusual behaviour of the father.

First, we must imagine our first response to the audacity of a son who asks for his inheritance before his father has died. Indignation would certainly be a justifiable response to such a request. Yet the father in this parable agrees to honour the son's request and divides his property among his two sons. How might we describe such a father? Foolish comes to mind, but so does trusting. Without property of his own, the father must rely upon his sons to provide for his well-being.

The younger son takes his inheritance and leaves home. The older son remains, continuing to provide for the father and the household. Having been disgraced by the younger son, the father spends some time watching the road for the return of the lost son. When he eventually sees his wayward son returning, the father not only welcomes him but also runs out to greet him and then honours him with a party. We say that this father is loving and forgiving. Yet these adjectives only begin to describe the depth of love and mercy that characterize the father.

We find no surprise in the anger of the older son. Yet the father appears sad and even confused by the older son's indignation. He says in reply that they should celebrate because the lost son had returned. The father is filled with gratitude and love for the older son's faithfulness. This love is in no way diminished by the father's rejoicing at the return of the younger son. Yet the older son's jealousy reveals his limited understanding of the depth of his father's love.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally called Laetare Sunday. Laetare is a Latin word that means "rejoice." Today's Gospel describes the reason for our joy: God's great love for us has been revealed in Jesus. Through his Passion, Death, and Resurrection, Christ has reconciled us with God and one another. (loyolapress.com) †R.R.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS ARE FOR:

9 a.m.	†Filix Manapul, jr.	(E.Manapul)
11 a.m.	for living and deceased parishioners	
	for peace in the world	
	†Teodoras Stanulis	(family)
	††Karolina Kubilius	(Prakapas family)
	†Antanas Laurinaitis (2nd anniv.)	(daughter)
	†Marija Karasiejus	(G.Gaizutis)
	†Jenny Vingelis	(daughters)
	†Jurgis Kiskunas	(R.R.Syvokas)
	†Karolis Hagedorn and Jeronimas Budra	(M.Hagedorn)
	for living and deceased friends	(GJ)
	for the forgotten souls	(GJ)

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 - Gintas Pabedinskas, Spencer Gallop

11 AM - children

organist - Ilona Beres

The week's Holy Masses

MONDAY (March 31): 7 p.m.

†Marius Rusinas ("Kretinga");

TUESDAY (April 1): for living and deceased benefactors; †Loreta Murauskas (daughter Ramona);

WEDNESDAY (April 2): 7 p.m.

†Edmundas Urniezius (RU); blessings of the Lord for our Catholic youth;

THURSDAY (April 3): 7 p.m. †Iria Lukosius (Jaglowitz family);

FRIDAY (April 4): 7 p.m. †Kostas Astravas (Prakapas family);

SATURDAY (April 5): 9 a.m. †Danute and Bronius Staskevicius (V.Baliunas); 5 p.m. "Vilnius Manor";

SUNDAY (April 6): 9 a.m. †Algirdas Smolskis (1st anniv.)(family); 11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners;

†Antanas Laurinaitis (daughter); †Izabele Matusevicius (58th anniv.) (relatives); †Eugenijus Siciunas (wife); †Kostas and Eugenija Gaputis (D.Gaputis); †Algis and Edukas Zemaitis (I.Zemaitis); †sister Mary Louise Brooks (I.Matus); †Birute Tamoliunas (5th anniv.) (Zubrickas family); in thanksgiving (JP).

"Capital Fund" - \$ 519,248

THANK YOU...

"For it is in giving that we receive".

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Sunday (03.23) & "Vilnius Manor" Collections

43 envelopes - \$ 1,805

No envelopes - \$ 234

Direct deposit - \$ 1,100

"Children's envelopes": Audra & Kipras - \$ 25

In memory of Marius Rusinas, the family Rusinas donated to the Parish \$ 500

V.K.P. donated \$ 500

for the Renovation fund

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.



TODAY we invite you to come at 4 p.m. to the Resurrection Parish Hall to enjoy a musical afternoon **"A Classical Tribute to Spring."**

Admission is by donation.



The Lenten Retreat, April 4th - 6th, will be conducted by Fr. Arvydas Jakušovas who has a degree in Scripture studies.

He is the Spiritual Father of the Pontifical St. Casimir Lithuanian College.

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

April 26 at Resurrection Parish Hall.

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!



Spring is a time of rebirth and a beautiful opportunity to continue with the Lenten spirit of giving; doing good deeds for others.

We invite everyone to write heartfelt Easter greeting cards for the seniors living at "Labdara" nursing home. Your greetings will bring them hope, love, happiness, and a feeling of close connection to our community.

We welcome everyone to the parish cafe on April 6th & 13th, after 9AM and 11M Mass, you will have an opportunity to make some greeting cards. All materials will be provided.

For further questions, please contact Vida Dirmantaite-Groen in 't Woud vidag@primus.ca

We thank you for your continued generosity.

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE

May 2nd - 3rd

Our **Labdara Committee** cannot invite everyone individually but **needs everyone** to assist in making this event a success! Men, women, teens, welcome!

On April 28th, the hall is occupied for the election.

We kindly ask you to come on Tuesday, April 29th at 9 AM to set up the tables, 10 AM to gather for the distribution of items.

ATTENTION:

we will NOT be having a 'CAFE' and will NOT be selling baked goods BUT will gladly accept cakes/cookies for our volunteers.

We also ask that you **do not bring any USED cosmetics.**

We ask you to bring your donations NO EARLIER than Tuesday, APRIL 29th at 12NOON!

Some items that DO NOT sell are:

- old radios, computers, encyclopedias,
- old TVs (LED are ok)

We ask that you discard these items elsewhere.

We will no longer accept large furniture, nor will we pick-up or deliver any items.

Teens who volunteer will receive "Community Service" credit.

We ask for your cooperation and THANK YOU in advance!

*For other info please contact:

Raminta Nakrosius 416-669-0271;

Dalia Rocca 905-820-3088;

Ramune Stravinskas 416-523-1095.

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.

TODAY, March 30th, SHARE LIFE Campaign.

Envelopes can be found 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**.*

Thank you...

Pope Francis: Even if we hit rock bottom, God lets us start over with Him



<...> Since his medical team discharged the Pope calling for two months of rest for a proper convalescence, the Press Office continues to distribute the catecheses prepared for the Audience, as it did during his hospitalization.

In his catechesis, focusing on encounters in Jesus' life, the Pope focused on the biblical episode of the Samaritan Woman recounted in the Gospel of St. John.

At our 'crossroads' - The Samaritan woman meets Jesus at a well, where He asks her for water and reveals that He is the Messiah. Through their conversation, He exposes her past and offers her "living water," symbolizing eternal life. Transformed by this encounter, she leaves her water jar, runs to her village, and brings others to Jesus.

After contemplating the encounter between Jesus and Nicodemus, who went in search of Jesus, and the Samaritan woman, the Pope observed that we are reflecting on moments where Jesus shows that He is waiting "right there," at that "crossroads" in our life.

He recognized how this could have been somewhat shocking for the Samaritan woman, who likely felt ashamed of her life. "Perhaps she felt judged, condemned, and not understood," said the Pope, recalling that she had had five husbands and now was with a sixth who was not her husband.

"She felt judged, condemned, not understood... She had had five husbands and now was with a sixth man."

To go to Galilee from Judea, he observed, Jesus would have had to choose another road and not pass through Samaria. Yet, Pope Francis marveled, "He wants to pass through there, and stops at that very well, right at that time!" Jesus waiting when we've lost all hope - This, the Pope underscored, shows how "Jesus waits for us" and "lets Himself be found precisely when we think that there is no hope left for us."

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"He helps her to reread her history, which is complicated and painful," the Pope said, recalling how she discovers that the Messiah loves her.

The Pope asked, "What proclamation could she have brought, if not her experience of being understood, welcomed, forgiven?" He added that this "should make us reflect on our search for new ways to evangelize."

Leaves behind her troubled life - Just like a person in love, the Samaritan forgets her water jar, leaving it at Jesus' feet. "The weight of that jar on her head, every time she returned home," the Pope recognized, "reminded her of her condition, her troubled life. But now the jar is left at Jesus' feet."

At this point, he noted, "the past is no longer a burden; she is reconciled," noting, "it is like this for us too."

"To go and proclaim the Gospel," the Holy Father said, "we first need to set down the burden of our history at the feet of the Lord, to consign to Him the weight of our past."

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"Dear brothers and dear sisters," the Holy Father underscored, "let us not lose hope! Even if our history appears burdensome, complicated, perhaps even ruined to us, we always have the possibility of consigning it to God and setting out anew on our journey."

Finally, Pope Francis concluded by reassuring, "God is merciful, and awaits us always!"

"Even if our history appears burdensome, complicated, perhaps even ruined to us, we always have the possibility of consigning it to God and setting out anew on our journey."

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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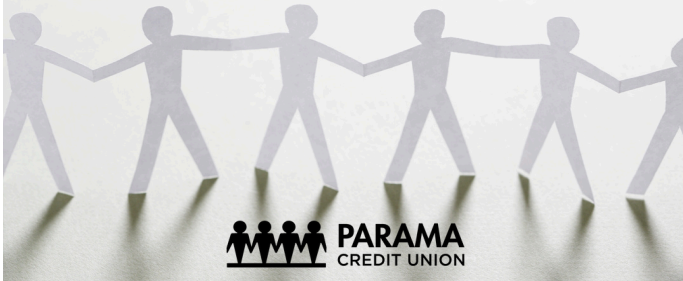
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SAVE THE DATE

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.

RCU CREDIT UNION

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

1 Resurrection Rd., Toronto, ON. M9A5G1

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