

CHURCH of the RESURRECTION NEWS

Nr. 33 (3507) August 13th, 2023

19th Sunday in Ordinary time - A



In today's Gospel Jesus finds some time for quiet and prayer. He sends his disciples ahead of him by boat, dismisses the crowds, and then withdraws to the mountain to pray.

The disciples do not fare well. They struggle to weather the wind and waves, making little progress in their journey. We are reminded of a previous story in Chapter 8 of Matthew's Gospel, when Jesus calms the seas. This time, however, Jesus does not calm the seas, and the disciples do not express fear until they see Jesus

walking toward them on the water. In this story, it is not the storm that is feared but the sight of Jesus before them, whom they mistake for a ghost.

Clues like these suggest that this story is about the disciples' growing understanding of the identity of Jesus. Today's Gospel is about what the disciples' faith in Jesus will enable them to do.

Jesus calls to the disciples and calms their fears. He is not a ghost. The impulsive Peter seeks proof that the person is indeed Jesus. He asks Jesus to call him out onto the water, and Jesus grants this request. Peter's fear and doubt overtake him, however, once he is walking on the water. Jesus reaches out to Peter and saves him. When Jesus and Peter enter the boat, Matthew reports that the wind ceases, and the disciples confess that Jesus is the Son of God.

Faith in Jesus will enable the disciples to do the work that Jesus has done. Peter walks on water. The disciples can and will participate in the work of the kingdom of heaven. When Peter fears and doubts the person of Jesus, however, he falters. Peter's example teaches us that true Christian ministry emerges from the faith that Jesus is the Messiah, God's only Son. (loyolapress.com)

"Lord Jesus, help me to trust you always and to never doubt your presence and your power to help me. In my moments of doubt and weakness, may I cling to you as Peter did. Strengthen my faith that I may walk straight in the path you set before me, neither veering to the left nor to the right". (daily scripture.net) †R.R.

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS ARE FOR:

9 a.m.	†Brone Beresnevicius	(N.Slivinskas)
11 a.m.	for living and deceased parishioners for peace in Ukraine and the world	
	†Albina Laurinaitis	(G.Laurinaitis)
	†Bob White (5th anniv.)	(V.White)
	†Vladas Koncius	(daughter and family)
	for Palazijus' deceased family members	(M.Grambus)
	†Liudmila Sukauskas	(I.Matus)
	special intention	(JMC)
	for Cuplinskas', Matulionis' and Stonkus' living and deceased family members	(family)



2023

October 14

MOZAIKA

A Silent Art Auction

October 20-21

Fall Rummage Sale

November 18

70th Anniversary

Parish Dinner

December (date TBD)

Advent Retreat

December 10

Christmas Concert

December 25

Christmas

Parish office
hours

June - October

Monday - Thursday

9 a.m. - 2 pm.

Friday

9 a.m. - 1 pm.

September 4th - closed

The week's Holy Masses August 14 - 20

MONDAY (August 14): 7 p.m. †Alfonas Stungurys (“Kretinga”);
TUESDAY (August 15): 7 p.m. for living and deceased parishioners;
†Aldona Gudavicius (R.Gulyas);
WEDNESDAY (August 16): 7 p.m. request grace of health for Elena,
Terese, Valentina (friend); †Marcele, Jonas and Algimantas Valaitis
(G.Mickevicius);
THURSDAY (August 17): 7 p.m. †Algimantas, Dr.Leonardas and Vitas
Januska (D.J.Didzbalis); †Antanina Jankunas (Jaglowitz family); †Sofija
Dilkus (Zimnickas family);
FRIDAY (August 18): 7 p.m. †Elena and Jonas Agurkis (B.B.Degutis);
SATURDAY (August 19): 9 a.m. †Eugenijus Cuplinskas (family); 5 p.m.
“Vilnius Manor” †Brone and Adolfas Vilkus (OP);
SUNDAY (August 20): 9 a.m. †Julie D’Souza and Cyril D’Gama
(C.Monis); 11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners; †Ona and
Juozapas Vydmantas (GJ); †Eleonora Stanevicius-Holmes (Stanevicius
family); †Marija Gudelis (A.Tallo); †Alfonas Stungurys (Prakapas
family); †Saulius Macijauskas (wife and daughter).

The week's Holy Masses August 21 - 27

MONDAY (August 21): 7 p.m. †Jeronimas and Pijus Pleinys
(I.Kavanagh);
TUESDAY (August 22): 7 p.m. for living and deceased parishioners;
WEDNESDAY (August 23): 7 p.m. †Birute and Juozas Tarnauskas
(G.Mickevicius);
THURSDAY (August 24): 7 p.m. †Alfonas Stungurys (R.Jaglowitz);
†Liudmila Sukauskas (Cuplinskas);
FRIDAY (August 25): 7 p.m. †Kazimieras and Marija Kalinauskas
(B.B.Degutis); †Liudas Matukas (wife);
SATURDAY (August 26): 9 a.m. †Jonas Andriulis (Juzukonis family); 5
p.m. “Vilnius Manor” †Monika Jasionis (OP);
SUNDAY (August 27): 9 a.m. special intention (NN); 11 a.m. for living
and deceased parishioners; †Sofija Oleka (25th anniv.) (O.Oleka); for
Sakevicius’ deceased family members (D.Gudelis); †Algis Vaisnoras
(V.Groen in’t Woud); †Albinas Radziunas (16th anniv.) (family); †Irena
Gimbutis (V.Zaleckaite); †Liuda Daunys; †Nijole, Algimantas and
Algirdas Banelis (Cuplinskas).

Capital Fund - \$ 346,510 THANK YOU...

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

Sunday and “Vilnius Manor” Collections -

July 30th - 44 envelopes - \$ 1,310
No envelopes - \$ 49.65
Direct deposit - \$ 1,065

August 6th - 45 envelopes - \$ 1,240
No envelopes - \$ 70.25
Direct deposit - \$ 3,095

In memory of Stasys Prakapas, the family
donated \$ 1,000 to the Monastery

In memory of Sofija Dilkus, \$ 680 was donated to the parish

In memory of Valentina Grybas, \$ 1,365 was donated to the parish

THANK you for your generosity...



The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated August 15th.

The Feast of the Assumption of Mary is the oldest of all the Marian feasts honouring the Mother of God. In Lithuania it is also called “Zoline”. Since early Christianity the Church would bless the fields herbs, flowers, plants. It is believed that blessing the house would protect the flowers from the lightning, fire, and evil spirits.

In the fifth century, Catholics believed that Mary’s body did not remain in the tomb, but was spiritualized and taken to heaven. St. John of Damascus (died 780) mentions in his writings a popular story that the apostles gathered in Jerusalem to say goodbye to the Saviour’s dead mother. After the funeral, they stood guard at the tomb of the Mother of God. The apostle Peter inspired by God declared that Mary was resurrected, and suggested they open her tomb. Mary’s body was no longer there, and the tomb was full of beautiful flowers and herbs. “And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars” - the apostle John, a disciple of Jesus, recorded this vision of the “Radiant Woman” - the Church’s symbol of fighting against the biblical dragon.

The rites of the Ancient Balts dedicated “Zoline” to Mother Earth and entrusted their their offerings of mature crops. On this occasion, relatives and neighbours assembled (an old proverb says: “those who don’t socialize during “Zoline”, will have nothing all their lives) - to socialize, is to share joys and sorrows. This festival is unique in that a person having gathered their harvests into their granaries, showed concern for their neighbour and shared with them out of their bounty.

Each year the Feast of “Zolines” is organized in Lithuanian Churches and many people gather from near and far.

This is a day of thanksgiving, early potatoes are eaten with mushrooms, berries (preserved), and greens are picked for salads or garnishes. During “Zoline”, as at “Kucios” the entire family gathers at the table to eat of 12 dishes prepared from the newly harvested grains, fruits and vegetables. A candle is lit on the table; it is carried around the table and passed from hand to hand around the table. The leftovers are given to the poor – this was to honour the ancestors.

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20th Sunday in Ordinary time - A



Today we move ahead in our reading of Matthew's Gospel. Last week we read about Jesus walking on the water and the disciples' confession of faith that Jesus is the Son of God. If we were reading Matthew's entire Gospel, we would have read about Jesus' debate with the Pharisees about Jewish purity laws. Jesus argues that it is not what goes into us that makes us unclean; he is referring to the strict Jewish dietary rules. Instead our words and our actions—what comes out of us—make us unclean because they emerge from a heart that is unclean.

Knowing about Jesus' debate with the Pharisees helps us to understand today's Gospel. In fact, the story heightens the surprise and shock we feel as we hear Jesus' exchange with the Canaanite woman. The woman, who is not Jewish, approaches Jesus, requesting that he heal her demon-possessed daughter. At first Jesus ignores her; he says nothing. The disciples ask Jesus to send her away, and Jesus agrees, remarking that he was sent to minister to the Jews alone.

The woman persists, paying homage to Jesus, and yet Jesus denies her request again. He even insults her, using a Jewish word of derision for Gentiles, "dog." But the woman cleverly turns Jesus' insult into an affirmation of faith. Only then does Jesus grant her request and heal her daughter.

Jesus' unresponsiveness to this woman may strike us as uncharacteristic or shocking. Yet in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus' ministry is directed primarily to the people of Israel. At only a very few points, such as the one found in today's Gospel, do we find Jesus anticipating the later Christian ministry to the rest of the world.

Behind Matthew's text we can hear this early Christian community's struggle to understand how God's selection of Israel is consistent with two events: Israel's rejection of Jesus and the Gentiles' acceptance of Jesus. Just as Jesus was surprised by the faith expressed by the Canaanite woman, so too the first Christians were surprised that the Gentiles would receive the salvation God offered through Christ. In today's second reading from Paul's letter to the Romans, we hear the apostle Paul considering this same concern.

The faith that the Canaanite woman expresses is an affirmation of and confidence in God's abundant mercy. Yes, salvation comes through Israel, but it overflows for the benefit of all.

†R.R.

O God, be gracious bless us, and let your face shine upon us.

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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.

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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:

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

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