

PARISH NEWS

CHURCH of the RESURRECTION

Nr. 52 (3157) December 25th 2016

CHRISTMAS



The Gospel for the Christmas Mass during the day is taken from the beginning of John's Gospel, but this Gospel is not an Infancy Narrative like those found in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. Instead, John's Gospel begins at the beginning, as it were, and presents the Creation story as the framework for announcing the Incarnation. John's opening words, "In the beginning . . .," echo the opening verse of the Book of Genesis. This framework invites us to view Jesus' birth from God's perspective. Each of the Gospels makes clear that Jesus' birth was the result of God's initiative. However, John's Gospel highlights that this was the divine intention from the very beginning, from the moment of Creation.

In this prologue to the Gospel of John, the main themes that will be developed in his Gospel are introduced. These themes are presented as dualities: light/darkness, truth/falsehood, life/death, and belief/unbelief. We also hear in this prologue a unique aspect of John's Gospel—the motif of testimony. John the Baptist was sent by God to testify about Jesus, the light. Others in this Gospel will also offer testimony about Jesus. The reader is invited to accept this testimony, which bears witnesses to Jesus, the Son of God. But even more directly, Jesus' action and words will themselves testify to his identity with God as God's Incarnate Word.

Thinking about Jesus' birth in these theological and cosmological terms seems particularly appropriate as we celebrate the feast of Christmas in the darkness of winter. At this time, nature itself seems to remind us of the darkness of sin. Into this darkness, in the midst of our sinfulness, God comes to dwell among us. John's Gospel reminds us that through the Incarnation, God saves us from the darkness of sin and makes us his children. (loyolapress.com)

"Almighty God and Father of light, your eternal Word leaped down from heaven in the silent watches of the night. Open our hearts to receive his life and increase our vision with the rising of dawn, that our lives may be filled with his glory and his peace." (dailyscripture.net) R.R.



December 25th Holy Mass

9 a.m. †Cerniauskas and Rimkevicius
deceased family members (family)

11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners

In thanksgiving - for †Fr. E.Jurgutis, O.F.M.
and †Fr. P.Sarpnickas, O.F.M. (A.V.Stanevicius)

†Vytautas Tamulaitis, jr. (N.Tamulaitis)

†Vladas and Leokadija Nakrosius (A.B.Pilipaitis)

†Jonas Dirmantas (daughter Vida)

†Elena Kulnys (53rd anniv.) (family)

Blessings of the Lord for family and friends (Gitana)

†Alfred ir Wanda Kupitis (A.Caldwell)

†Dr.Petras (9th anniv.) and Irena (10th anniv.) Lukosevicius
(family)

†Genovaite Tunkunas (J.E.Siciunas)

†Anicetas and Elena Prialgauskas (by bequest).

This week's holy mass Schedule

MONDAY (December 26): 7 p.m. †Eugenija and Mykolas Tarasovas (K.A.Ambrozaitis); †dr.Eginhart Ehlers (4th anniv.) (L.Ehlers);

TUESDAY (December 27): 7 p.m. living and deceased benefactors; Petras and Vladas Jankaitis (T.Bartkuviene);

WEDNESDAY (December 28): 10 a.m. "Labdara" †Gediminas Smolskis (I.R.R.Smolskis); 7 p.m. †Zenonas Kucinskas (D.Kucinskas); †Egle Sakalaukas-Yarascavitch (family);

THURSDAY (December 29): 7 p.m. †Saulius and Antanas Steigvilas (S.Steigvilas); †Prem Lama;

FRIDAY (December 30): 7 p.m. †Petras Kuncevicius (S.Houlihan);

SATURDAY (December 31): 9 a.m. †Richard Houlihan (S.Houlihan); †Birute Pilipavicius (N.N.); 5 p.m. "Vilnius Manor" †Aleksas Grybas, Petras and Ona Derliunas (E.Shishkus);

SUNDAY (January 1): 9 a.m. †Brough, Cerniauskas and Pranckevicius deceased family members (S.Brough and D.Pranaitis); 11 a.m. for living and deceased parishioners; †Leo Bates (25th anniv.) (family); †Inocentas Jurcevicius (A.Jurcevicius); †Elzbieta Kazlauskas (I.Navickas and family); in thanksgiving (Gitana); †Genovaite Tunkunas (J.E.Siciunas); †Anicetas and Elena Prialgauskas (by bequest).

“Now it happened that when the angels had gone from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go to Bethlehem and see this event which the Lord has made known to us.'” (Lk 2:15)

Let us, during Christmastime, on the Holy Night, while guarding our families, parish, our homes and homeland, hasten again and again, to discover the twinkling hope of Everlasting Life in the Divine Child.



And in His tenderness, may we again experience the strength of faith in the Redeeming Lord's outpouring of Mercy for us, His outstretched hands, ever offering the gift of Redeemed Life, the love shown to one's neighbour...

Blessings of the Newborn Lord descend upon you.

Your Franciscan Fathers and all the ordained Clergy serving our Parish extend Christmas greetings to all our parishioners on the occasion of Christ's birth.



Today the Christ is born! Today on earth choirs of angels sing! Today the just exult and say, Glory to God in the highest! Alleluia!

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In 2016 the Church celebrated the extraordinary jubilee Year of Mercy, which we shared with one another. We experienced God's ever-present mercy, felt the bonds between people strengthen and renewed our faith, so we could further experience the spiritual fruits of our efforts.

We joyfully awaited our Lord during Advent and now celebrate His birth at Christmas. As we begin a new liturgical period, we will revisit the events of Christ's life. Within our families, parishes and among friends we celebrate His life and salvific events together as a Church community.

May the spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ fill your hearts always, but especially during your family celebrations at Christmas.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a blessed 2017. Msgr. Edmond J. Putrimas



ALLELUIA...ALLELUIA...ALLELUIA...

Resurrection Parish's Children's & Youth Choir, "Kankles" Ensemble, "Occasional" Choir, "VOLUNGĖ" Women's Ensemble and "VOLUNGĖ" Choir

wish all Parishioners a Blessed Christmas...



Resurrection Parish's Cafeteria Staff wish you a Blessed Christmas and a New Year filled with success, joy and health.



Camp "Kretinga" wishes everyone a Blessed Christmas and Happy 2017 New Year!

Camp "Kretinga" 2017:

English speaking July 2nd - 15th; Lithuanian speaking July 16th - 29th

Family camp: July 30th - August 5th



Christmas - Soup kitchen in Lithuania - \$6,652

For Christmas, Vincent Paulionis donated to the Parish - \$2,000

Collections on December 18th:

110 envelopes - \$ 4,455

Without envelopes - \$ 206.10

Direct deposit - \$ 815

Attendance 200

To the Parish renovation fund:

Jurate and Gintas Neimanas - \$1,000

Don Sablinskas - \$1,000

N.N. - \$1,000

N.N. - \$1,000

N.N. - \$1,000

May God reward you abundantly for your generosity.

