

CHURCH OF THE VIRGIN MARY

216 Eighth Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11215-2604
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Daily Liturgy 9:30, Sunday Liturgy 11:00
www.ChurchOfTheVirginMary.net

Fr. Antoine Rizk, BSO, Pastor
Deacon Naji Youssef
Deacon William Williamsen

Fr. Antoine's Email: abouna@melkitesofnyc.net

February 7, 2010. Meat Fare Sunday. Epistle: 1 Cor 8: 8-13 & 9: 1-2, **p.1238**. Gospel: Mt 25: 31-46, **p.1054**. Next Sunday's readings: Epistle: Romans 13: 11-14, 14: 1-4. Gospel: Mt 6: 14-21.

THE DIVINE LITURGY is offered for

✦ Kamil, Nadia, and Elias Hechme
✦ Raymond Kanj

Wednesday, February 10 and Friday, February 12 are Alliturgical and are Fasting days in preparation of the Great Lent.

MAYA/NAMY: Last Sunday, MAYA/ NAMY honored Ronnie Bache for being their Advisor for about 40 years, by organizing for him a surprise party.

EL GRECO TRIP: The Social club is planning a trip on Saturday February 13th to view **THE ORIGINS OF EL GRECO: ICON PAINTING IN VENETIAN CRETE** exhibition. We will be meeting at the church at 11am or at the exhibition at 12. Following the visit we will gather at a nearby coffee shop. Admission is Free and it is located at the Onassis Cultural

Center on 51st or 52nd between Madison and Fifth Ave. Please RSVP.

SPIRITUAL TALK: On Friday, **February 12th**, at 8:15pm sharp, Fr. Antoine will give his talk, on "**Fasting**," followed by a social gathering.

VALENTINE'S PARTY: Our young adults group, MAYA, invites you to a Valentine's Day Party, at 8 PM on **Saturday, February 13th**, at the Church of the Virgin Mary, including a DJ and Full Course Italian Buffet. The cost is \$40/adults, \$20/children (under 16 years of age). For reservations please call Amanda Romhen (917) 414-7812, Christine Seikali (917) 402-7470, or Kareem Youssef (347) 680-5633, no later than *February 6, 2010*.

FUTURE LITURGIES: On **February 14th**, for George Kawas (40day), Jozian Seikali, and Renee Baghdadi; on **February 21st**, for George Hindy (30Years); on **March 7th**, for Stephanie Makhoul (40day); on **March 21st**, for Joseph Seikali; on **May 9th**, for Thomas Muratore; on **May 16th**, for Shukrallah Darsi (5 Years).

COLLECTION: *For God loves a cheerful giver.*

Epistle Verses – Prokimenon

Reader: My strength and my courage is the Lord, and he has been my Savior.

All: My strength and my courage is the Lord, and he has been my Savior.

Reader: The Lord has chastised me through his teaching, yet he has not delivered me to death.

All: My strength and my courage is the Lord, and he has been my Savior.

Antiphon Prayer

O Christ, Our God, You were sent by the Father, not to judge the world, but to save it. We ask You in your boundless Compassion: Assist our weakness. Overcome our selfishness. Teach us to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked and to serve all people faithfully for your sake. Then we shall deserve to hear your Divine Voice saying: "Come you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." For You are our Life and our Hope, O Christ God, and to You we render glory, and to your Eternal Father, and your All-holy, Good and Life-giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.

Troparion of the resurrection (3rd tone)

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad! For the Lord has done a wondrous deed by his arm! He has crushed Death by his death becoming the first to rise from the dead. He has delivered us from the mouth of Hades and bestowed great mercy upon the world.

Troparia of the Patron of the Church

In giving birth you have preserved your virginity and in falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Mother of God. You have passed to life being the Mother of Life. Through your intercession, save our souls from death.

Kondakion of Meat-fare, (1st Tone)

O God, when You shall come down upon earth in your glory, every creature shall tremble before You. A river of fire shall flow before your judgment-seat, the books shall be opened and all secrets revealed. On that day, O Just Judge, deliver me from eternal fire and make me worthy to stand at your right!

Mother Teresa: "Life is life. Let us defend it always and with the smiles, helping the weakest, the poor, the sick, the old..."

The Final Analysis

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered; ...**Forgive them anyway.**

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives; ...**Be kind anyway.**

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies; ...**Succeed anyway.**

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you; ...**Be honest and frank anyway.**

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight; ...**Build anyway.**

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous; ...**Be happy anyway.**

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow; ...**Do good anyway.**

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough; ...**Give the world the best you've got anyway.**

You see, in the final analysis, it is **between you and God**; It was never between you and them anyway.

Mother Teresa