

CHURCH OF THE VIRGIN MARY

216 Eighth Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11215-2604
Rectory: (718) 788-5454
Church Hall: (718) 788-9024
Fax (718) 499-7702

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: fr_antoine@hotmail.com

February 8, 2009. The Prodigal Son. Epistle: Eph 2:4-10; **p.1279.** Gospel: Lk 15: 11-32; **p.1119.** (Next Sunday's readings will be: Epistle: Philemon 1:1-25. Gospel: Mt 25: 31-46).

THE DIVINE LITURGY is offered for
✠ Josianne Seikali

CARD PARTY: The Fratority held their card party last evening. Everyone had a good time playing at the various games organized!

PRE-NAMY: The pre-teens met yesterday and continued their journey of learning about their faith through enjoyable activities and discussions. All pre-teens are welcome to join!

BIBLE STUDY: We will be meeting on Tuesday, February 10th, at 8:00pm. **"Ignorance of the Bible is ignorance of Christ"** (St. Jerome). All are welcome to attend!

VALENTINE PARTY: On Friday, February 13th, our Youth Group NAMY and Young Adult MAYA are sponsoring a Valentine's party. For more information and tickets please contact Christine Seikali.

200 CLUB: Congratulations to the winner of the January drawing, Dr. Issam El-Achkar.

ECUMENICAL PRAYER GROUP: This group, together with many parishioners of different parishes, is visiting us on Wednesday, February 18, at 6:30pm. After a prayer service, Fr. Antoine will give us a talk about the Melkite Church and the Church of the Virgin Mary. Rev. Archimandrite Eugene Pappas of The Three Hierarchies Greek Orthodox Church and Rev. Guy Massie, pastor of St. Andrew the Apostle Church, will be among the guests. All are welcome!

Save the Date: Sunday, April 26, 2009
Feast of the Myrrh-Bearing

Women

Annual Family Luncheon hosted by the Ladies Society
following the Liturgy honoring living and deceased members.
Plan your table of family and friends. Details to come.

ROUND TRIP CRUISE: Join us, July 13-18, 2009 for a round trip cruise from New York with family and friends. Visit Canada's beautiful ports at Saint John and Halifax. Enjoy the luxury and pampering of the Carnival experience. Your days at sea will be restful and exciting and the ports will be fun for all. The rate per person is: \$617 inside cabin; \$792 Oceanview; \$837 Balcony. Quad cabins and insurance are available. Early booking recommended for best choice of cabins. Deposit is refundable until 5/10/09. For more information please contact Mrs. Joan Paradiso (Paradise Travel) at (718) 745-0556!

FUTURE LITURGIES: On February 15, for Jacqueline Daghim(40 days Mass), Mary Chammas Hajjar, Elias Hajjar, Clare Hajjar-Zaher, Diane Zaher and Anthony Hajjar; on February 22, for Nicholas Homs; on March 1, for Victoria Kateb (40 day); on March 8, for Evelyn Gorayeb (40 day); on March 15 for Linda Wilson; on March 22, for Joseph Seikali.

COLLECTION: *For God loves a cheerful giver.*

Epistle Verses – Prokimenon

Reader: Awesome in his saints is God, the God of Israel.

All: Awesome in his saints is God, the God of Israel.

Reader: In the churches, bless God, the Lord out of Israel's wellsprings.

All: Awesome in his saints is God, the God of Israel.

Antiphon

O Lord God of mercy, who does not want that the sinner retrieve, but to live and repent, we ask you Lord to enlighten and return us to You. We who were cheated by the enemy who stripped us from Your Grace. Give us back our garment of grace, and open the large doors of mercy that as we enter your home with the chosen ones, we praise You for sending us Your only begotten Son for our salvation. For You are good, Our God, and You love mankind, and we offer glory to You, to your Eternal Father and to your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

READING from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to Timothy: 3: 10-15

MY son Timothy, you have followed my teaching, my behavior, my faith, my long-suffering, my love, my patience, my persecutions, my afflictions — such as befell me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, such persecutions as I suffered: and out of them all, the Lord delivered me. And all who want to live piously in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But the wicked and impostors will go from bad to worse, erring and leading into error. As for you, keep on with the things you have learned and which have been entrusted to you, and remember from whom you have learned them. For you have known from infancy the Sacred Scriptures which are able to give you instruction for your salvation by the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Troparion – Tone 6

O Christ, the angelic powers appeared at your tomb, the guards were as dead, and Mary stood by the sepulcher, seeking your sacred body. You despoiled Hades and remained untouched by its corruption. You met the Virgin and bestowed Life. O You who are risen from the dead, glory to You!

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 the Preparation

Come, O faithful, let us extend our arms to celebrate the Lord's coming to the Temple. Let us welcome Him with pure hearts, singing hymns of preparation for the Feast.