

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
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Fr. Antoine Rizk, BSO, Pastor

Deacon Naji Youssef

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April 11, 2010. Sunday of Saint Thomas.

Epistle: Acts 5: 12-20, **p.1176**. Gospel Jn 20: 19-31, **p.1166**. Next Sunday's readings: Epistle: Acts 6:1-7. Gospel: Mk 15:43-16:8.

THE DIVINE LITURGY is offered for

- ✦ Mary, Elias & Anthony Hajjar
- ✦ Dianne, Clare & Michael Zaher
- ✦ George & Sadie Rossie
- ✦ Yazda & Charles Mahfouz

SPECIAL COFFEE HOUR: Next Sunday, April 18th, we will be having a special coffee hour in honor of **John (Jan)**, our beloved custodian, for he is leaving to Poland at the end of this month. It will be an opportunity for each of us to thank him for all the hard work he has done to our community during the past years!

CONGRATULATIONS: Veronique Hayek, has completed all requirements for a Doctorate degree in Psychology (PsyD) after she successfully defended her dissertation two weeks ago. Veronique would like to thank everyone in our church community who helped by providing or collecting research material for this purpose. Congratulations to **Dr. Hayek**, and to her proud husband and parents!

THE 46TH ANNUAL NATIONAL MELKITE CONVENTION:

Saint Joseph Melkite Mission in Seattle, Washington, will host the 46th Annual National Melkite Convention, **June 30th -July 4th, 2010**, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Bellevue City. The theme of the convention will focus on the Unity and Diversity within the Church, as being one of the most important issues that faces our Melkite Church in this beautiful country. The keynote speaker of the convention will be **Archbishop Elias Chacour**, Melkite Eparch of Galilee in the Holy Land. Our distinguished guest his Excellency the **Most Rev. Celestino Migliore** Titular Archbishop of Canosa, Apostolic Nuncio, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations. Our religious guest **Mirna Nazour** from Our Lady of Soufania in Damascus, Syria, will share her unique spiritual experience as an "Ambassador" of Christian Unity in the Middle East. All are invited, on behalf of the community of St. Joseph Mission, to a magnificent 4-day celebration honoring our Eastern heritage under the auspices of our Beloved Eparch Cyril Bustros of Newton. For more information, please visit <http://stjosephofseattle.org/convention.htm>.

SOLEMN COMMUNION: At their baptism we give our children their first communion. As they grow in life they receive communion with a greater understanding of the sacrament of the Eucharist. On **April 25th**, we will be celebrating the Solemn Communion of our children. We would like to thank our Saturday School team for preparing them for this wonderful event.

MAKE-UP WORKSHOP: We are sponsoring a beauty workshop, on Sunday **April 18th** at 2pm, at the Church Hall. Come learn the secret to radiant & healthy skin and how to enhance

your beautiful features. Offered by Professional make-up artists & estheticians. \$20 is a minimum donation. Appetizers and drinks will be provided. Proceeds will go to the Sisters of Life to buy clothes for pregnant women who don't have much support. Seating is limited. For reservations please contact the Rectory at 718-788-5454 or Mireille Seikali at 646-229-2288 or 718-836-8606.

FUTURE LITURGIES: On **April 18th**, for Robert Mouzayek (40day); on **May 2nd**, for Janet Turquie Kinani (40day); on **May 9th**, for Thomas Muratore; on **May 16th**, for Shukrallah Darsi (5 Years) & Jeannette Farage (5 Years); on **June 6th**, for Basil Mouzayek.

COLLECTION: *For God loves a cheerful giver.*

Gospel: John 20: 19-31

When it was late, that same day, the first of the week, though the doors where the disciples gathered had been closed for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst and said to them, "Peace be to you!" And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples therefore rejoiced at the sight of the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be to you! As the Father has sent me, I also send you." When he had said this, he breathed upon them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit; whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven them; and whose sins you shall retain, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into his side I will not believe." And after eight days, his disciples were again inside, and Thomas with

them. Jesus came, the doors being closed, and stood in their midst, and said, "Peace be to you!" Then he said to Thomas. "Bring here your finger, and see my hands; and bring here your hand, and put it into my side; and be not unbelieving, but believing." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen me, Thomas, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen, and yet have believed." Many other signs also Jesus worked in the sight of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.

Epistle Verses – Prokimenon

Reader: Great is our Lord, and great is his power, and to his wisdom there is no limit.

All: Great is our Lord, and great is his power, and to his wisdom there is no limit.

Reader: Praise the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever.

All: Great is our Lord, and great is his power, and to his wisdom there is no limit.

Troparion of the Feast (7th Tone) (3x)

While the tomb was sealed You shone forth from it, O Christ our Life, and while the doors remained closed, You stood among your Disciples, O Resurrection of all, and through them You restored a new spirit in us according to your great Mercy.

Kondakion of Pascha (8th Tone)

Though You went down in the tomb, O Immortal One, You overthrew the power of hades, and rose victorious, O Christ God, Your greeted the Ointment Bearing Women, saying: Rejoice! You gave peace to your Apostles, and to those who had fallen resurrection.