

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

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April 12, 2009. Glorious Easter Sunday.
Epistle: Acts 1: 1-8; **p.1170.** Gospel: Jn 1:1-17; **p.1137.** (Next Sunday's readings: Epistle: Acts 5: 12-20. Gospel: Jn 20: 19-31).

THE DIVINE LITURGY is offered for
✦ **All family members of our parish**

CHOIR: Many thanks to the Barbara Mahfouz and to the Choir for the wonderful singing in this Holy Tine of Easter.

ALTAR BOYS: Thanks to the altar boys for their dedication and services.

MANY THANKS: Thanks to Mona Karout for donating the wood of the new clothed, and to Antoine Dirani and Deacon Naji for making it. Thanks to Julie Behette and Marie Claire Andria for donating the curtain of the Choir area and sewing it. Thanks to Fred Akel for donating the Easter eggs and for Ronnie Bache and Joe Shabouk for cooking and coloring them. Thanks to the Ladies Society for preparing for us the Easter Breakfast.

SOLEMN COMMUNION: On *April 26th*, 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.

LADIES SOCIETY: On Sunday, *April 26, 2009*, Feast of the Myrrh-Bearing Women, following the Liturgy the Ladies Society will host the Annual Family Luncheon in honor of its living and deceased members.

SATURDAY SCHOOL'S TRIP: On Saturday, *May 2nd*, the Saturday School team is organizing a trip to Hershey Park, PA. For reservation or for more information, please contact Salwa Awad!

HEALTH FAIR AND BLOOD DRIVE: On Sunday, *May 3rd*, the Church will hold its Annual Health Fair sponsored by the New York Methodist Hospital. You are invited to come and receive important health information and have the opportunity to donate blood. Thanks to Dr. Emile Baccash and Josephine Lian for continuing to organize this very important event.

ROUND TRIP CRUISE: Join Fr. Antoine, *July 13-18, 2009* for a round trip cruise from New York to Canada. Early booking recommended for best choice of cabins. Deposit is refundable until 5/10/09. For more information please contact Joan Paradiso (Paradise Travel) at (718) 745-0556!

ST.GEORGE'S CHURCH: Anyone who has photographs or memories of St. George's Melkite Church in Manhattan is asked to contact Mary Ann DiNapoli (718)522-1916.

FUTURE LITURGIES: On *April 19th*, for Sadie & George Rossie, Yezda & Charles Mahfouz; on *May 17th*, for Shukrallah Darsi.

COLLECTION: *For God loves a cheerful giver.*

Antiphon

O Christ God, You alone are the Light and the Life of all. Enlighten our spirit and our eyes as You enlightened the eyes of the Holy Marys. Gladden our hearts by faith and peace. As You raised us up again from the grave of our sins and delivered us from the darkness, make us also worthy, by your great mercy, to light the lamps of our souls with the bright light of this glorious day of our Illustrious Resurrection. For You are our Light, our Life and our Resurrection of Christ God, and to You we render glory, thanksgiving and worship and to your Eternal Father and your All-Holy, Good and Life-giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.

Epistle Verses – Prokimenon

Reader: This is the day the Lord has made: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

All: Give praise to the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever.

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Gospel of Pascha: John 1: 1-17

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God; and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was made nothing that has been made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness; and the darkness grasped it not. There was a man, one sent from God, whose name was John. This man came as a witness, to bear witness concerning the light, that all might believe through him. He was not himself the light, but was to bear witness to the light. It was the true light that enlightens every man who comes into the world. He was in the

world, and the world was made through him, and the world knew him not. He came to his own, and his own received him not. But to as many as received him he gave the power of becoming children of God; to those who believe in his name: who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelled among us. And we saw his glory (glory as of the only-begotten of the Father) full of grace and of truth. John bore witness concerning him, and cried, "This was the one of whom I said, 'He who is to come after me has been set above me, because he was before me.'" And of his fullness we have all received, grace for grace. For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Troparion of Pascha, 3 times

Christ is risen from the dead and by His death He has trampled upon death; and has given life to those who were in the tomb.

Easter - Hypacoi

Mary and her companions went forth before dawn: they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, and heard the angel say: "Why do you seek Him as a man among the dead when He is in eternal splendor? Behold, the shroud is folded. Hasten, and proclaim to the world that the Lord is risen and has crushed death, for He is the Son of God, the Saviour of Mankind.

Easter Kontakion

Immortal One, when You went down in the tomb, You overthrew the power of Hades. O Christ God, You rose victorious from the dead! You greeted the ointment-bearing women, gave peace to your disciples, and resurrection to those who had fallen.

CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS TRULY RISEN!