

**CHURCH OF THE VIRGIN MARY**

216 Eighth Avenue  
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Daily Liturgy 9:30, Sunday Liturgy 11:00  
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Fr. Antoine Rizk, BSO, Pastor  
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**September 13, 2009. Sunday before the Holy Cross. Dedication of the Basilica of the Resurrection.** Epistle: Galatians 6: 11-18; Gospel: John 3: 13-17.

**THE DIVINE LITURGY is offered for**

✦ For Elias Farran (40 day)

We mourn the death of Eleanor Hidar at the age of 89. She is survived by her sister Jessie Gerro; her nieces Mareleine Canarelli, and Barbara Jazrawi; and Robert, Howard, Carol, Cathy, and Denis Rice; and their families. Please remember her in your prayers!

**Feast of the Holy Cross:** We will be celebrating the Divine Liturgy on Monday **September 14th**, at 7:30pm.

**NOMINATIONS:** Today, after the Divine Liturgy, we will be electing 5 parishioners for the Parish Council. Here are the names of our nominees: 1- George Baladi. 2- Sam Kirdahi. 3- Josephine Lian. 4- Sam Maloof. 5- Tony Msallem. 6- Johnny Nehmeh. 7- Robert Paradiso. 8- Mireille Seikali. 9- Helen Sayegh. 10- Mona Zaloom. 11- Vincent Zaloom.

**BIBLE STUDY:** To discover the love of God and his salvation, join our meetings which are held every other Tuesday of each month, at 8:00pm. Our opening meeting after the Summer will be on Tuesday, **September 15th**. "Ignorance of the Bible is ignorance of Christ" (St. Jerome).

**CELEBRATING DIVERSITY:** Today, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2-5PM, a journey of an interfaith gathering for reflection and hope will begin at Mount Sinai United Christian Church, 15 Pike St & 199 Victoria Blvd 10301, to The Trinity Lutheran Church 309 St Paul's Ave 10301, then to Mount Sinai and to the Buddhist Temple 115 John St. For more information call 718/47-8583.

**SATURDAY SCHOOL- BE A VOUNTEER:** Do you like to be a catechist? Do you like to teach Arabic? Do you like to assist our teachers in their classrooms? Part time? Full time? Do you like to help or mentor our children? Do you have a skill or talent you would like to share? Do you like to perform (act, puppet show, dance, play guitar)? **Time/Place:** We meet on Saturdays between 10:00 am and 1:00pm, September through May, at Xaverian High School, 7100 Shore Road, Brooklyn. **Volunteering is a way to meet new people, build our community, and set an example of service for our children.** If needed, we will be offering a personal training. **Remember that there is no greater feeling than to know that the lives of others have been changed and shaped by your actions.**

**FUTURE LITURGIES:** On September 20<sup>th</sup> for Nicholas Lutfey (10 years), and for Mary & Antoine Adjami; on October 25<sup>th</sup> for Rose

Gennaway (1year), and for Gabriel (3 years) & Lillian Gennaoui (10 years).

**Epistle Verses – Prokimenon**

**Reader:** O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance!

**All:** O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance!

**Reader:** To You, O Lord, I have called: O my Rock, be not deaf to me.

**All:** O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance!

**READING from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians: 6: 11-18**

**BRETHREN**, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand! All those who want to please in a human way are forcing you to be circumcised merely to avoid persecution because of the cross of Christ. For not even the circumcised observe the Law: but they want you to be circumcised that they may boast of your subjection to external rites. But as for me, God forbid that I should glory save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom the world is crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision but a new creation is of any account. And whoever follow this rule, peace and mercy be upon them and on God's Israel. From now on, let no man give me trouble, for I bear the marks of the Lord Jesus in my body. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

**THE HOLY GOSPEL according to St John the Evangelist (3: 13-17)**

The Lord said, "No one has gone up into heaven except the one who has come down from heaven: the Son of Man who is in heaven. And

as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that those who believe in him may not perish, but may have life everlasting." For God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that those who believe in him may not perish, but may have life everlasting. For God did not send his Son into the world in order to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

**Troparion – Tone 6**

The angelic powers appeared at your tomb, and the guards became as dead men, and Mary stood by the Sepulcher seeking your spotless Body. You despoiled Hades and yet were not tempted by it, You met the Virgin O Bestower of Life. O Lord who rose from the dead glory to you.

**Troparion of the Dedication, (4<sup>th</sup> Tone)**

As You had shown from on high the splendor of the firmament, so did You show on earth the splendor of the dwelling-place of your holy glory. Make it stand firm for ever and ever, and accept the supplications which we offer there to You, unceasingly, through your Mother, O You the Life and Resurrection of all!

**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 Theotokos. You have passed to life being the Mother of Life. Through your intercession, save our souls from death.

**Kondakion of the Dedication (4<sup>th</sup> Tone)**

You have made of the church a resplendent heaven, enlightening all the faithful: wherefore we stand in the midst of this holy dwelling-place and cry out to You: "Make firm this house, O Lord!"