

CHURCH OF THE VIRGIN MARY

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Daily Liturgy 9:30, Sunday Liturgy 11:00
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Fr. Antoine Rizk, BSO, Pastor

Deacon Naji Youssef

Deacon William Williamsen

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August 16, 2009. The Eleventh Sunday of Pentecost. Epistle: 1 Cor 9: 2-12; **p.1239**. Gospel: Mt 18: 23-35; **p.1039**. (Next Sunday's readings: Epistle: 1 Cor 15: 1-11. Gospel: Mt 19: 16-26).

THE DIVINE LITURGY is offered for

✦ Our Parish Families

WELCOME: We would like to welcome Bishop John Elya. We are blessed by his presence. He will be serving our parish while Father Antoine is abroad. His cell phone is: 617-290-7315. Thank you Sayedna for making yourself available to be among us!

FR. ANTOINE'S TRIP TO LEBANON: Fr. Antoine left Tuesday the 11th to travel home to visit his family and friends in Lebanon. He will be returning on September 4th.

NOMINATIONS: In a short time, the parish is going to hold nominations for additional membership on the Parish Advisory Council. We are in need of 5 parishioners or more to be elected. The deadline for nominations is September 12th. On Sunday, **September 13th**, the elections will take place after the Divine

Liturgy. Names could be submitted to the Rectory or provided to the Nomination Committee: **Al Corhan, Salwa Awad, Sam Maloof, and Mireille Seikali.**

FUTURE LITURGIES: On September 20 for Nicholas Lutfey (10 years), and for Mary & Antoine Adjami.

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.

READING from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians: 9:2-12

BRETHREN, you are the seal set upon my apostleship in the Lord. My defense against those who question me is this: Have we not a right to eat and to drink? Have we not a right to take around with us a sister woman, as do the other apostles, and the brethren of the Lord, and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have not the right of exemption from manual labor? What soldier ever serves at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat of its fruit? Who tends the flock and does not drink of the flock's milk? Do I speak these things on human authority? Or does not the Law also say these things? For it is written in the Law of Moses. *Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treads out the grain.* (Dt.25:4) Is God concerned about

the oxen, or does he say this simply for our sakes? These things were written for us. For he who plows should plow in hope, and he who threshes. in the expectation of partaking of the fruit. If we have sown for you spiritual things, is such an affair if we reap from you material things? If others share in this right over you. why should it not rather go to us? Yet, we have not used this right, but we bear all our expenses. lest we be a hindrance to Christ's Good News.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST 18:23-35

The Lord told this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who desired to settle accounts with his servants. And when he had begun the settlement, one was brought to him who owed him millions. And as he had no means of paying, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all he had, and payment to be made. But the servant fell down and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me and I will pay you all.' And moved with compassion, the master of that servant released him, and forgave him the debt. But as that servant went out, he met one of his fellow-servants who owed him a small amount, and he laid hold of him and throttled him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' His fellow-servant therefore fell down and began to entreat him, saying, Have patience with me and I will pay you all.' But he would not; but went away and threw him into prison until he would pay what was due. His fellow-servants therefore, seeing what had happened, were very much saddened, and they went and informed their master of what had taken place. Then his master called him, and said to him, 'Wicked servant, I forgave you all the debt, because you begged me. Should not you also have had pity on your fellow-servant,

even as I had pity on you?' And his master, being angry, handed him over to the torturers until he would pay all that was due to him. So also my heavenly Father will do to you, if you do not each forgive your brothers from your hearts."

Troparion – Tone 2

O Saviour, your tomb was sealed with the stone and the soldiers kept guard over your sacred body, and yet You rose on the third day, giving life to the world. Wherefore, O Giver of Life, the powers of heaven cried out: "Glory to your resurrection, O Christ! Glory to your kingdom! Glory to your plan of redemption, O You who alone are the Lover of Mankind!

Troparion of the Transfer of our Lord's Icon

Before your most pure image we bow in worship, O Good One, begging forgiveness for our stumblings, Christ God: because You in the flesh chose of your own free will to ascend upon the cross, to deliver from the enemy's yoke those you had created. For this reason we cry out to You in thanksgiving: "You, our Saviour, have filled all things with Joy when You came to save the world."

Troparia of the Dormition

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.

Kontakion of the Dormition

Neither death nor the tomb could hold the Mother of God. She is always ready to intercede for us, forever our steady hope and protection. Since she is the Mother of Life, Christ who dwelt in her ever-virginal womb lifted her up to life.