

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

May 17, 2009. Sunday of a Man Born Blind.
Epistle: Acts 16: 16-34; **p.1191.** Gospel: Jn 9: 1-38; **p.1151.** (Next Sunday's readings: Epistle: Acts 20: 16-18, 28-36. Gospel: Jn 17: 1-13).

THE DIVINE LITURGY is offered for

- ✦ Shukrallah Darsi
- ✦ Louis Najab Abou Khaled
- ✦ Rafik Joseph Abou Khaled
- ✦ Linda Merkel ✦ Elizabeth Lynch
- ✦ Najat Hakim

Thursday, May 21st: Feast of the Ascension.

PARISH COUNCIL: The Parish Council will be meeting on **May 19th**, at 8 P.M.

PRE-NAMY: The pre-teens will be meeting on **May 23rd** at 5:30 P.M. All are welcome!

PRAYER GROUP: Our next meeting will be on **May 23rd**, at 8 P.M.

BIBLE STUDY: Our next Bible Study meeting will be on Tuesday, **May 26th**, 8:00pm. All are welcome to attend!

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!

A NEW PORTAL OF OUR WEBSITE: It is an interactive web portal and you must sign up or log in before you can use it. It is intended to be used by the parishioners as a resource. Here is the description of the Menu: **Classifieds:** You may post your Ad under categories and subcategories; **Jobs:** The site will play the role of mediator between those who are looking for jobs and those who are looking to fill jobs; **Media:** It is our Church's Gallery of photos and videos. You may view or upload them; **Forms:** Various forms are published on that page. You may use them at your convenience for different purposes; **Survey:** You may be asked to submit your opinion or vote regarding some subjects, questions or events; **Guest:** You are welcome to sign our Guest Book and feel free to give us your feedback!

FUTURE LITURGIES: On **June 28th**, for Mary Tutunjian.

COLLECTION: *For God loves a cheerful giver.*

Epistle Verses – Prokimenon

Reader: You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation.

All: You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation.

Reader: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any holy man, for truthfulness has vanished from among the children of men.

All: You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation.

READING from the Acts of the Apostles

In those days it came to pass that as we the disciples were going to pray, we were met by a girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her masters much profit by her soothsaying. Now, she was following Paul and us, and kept crying out loudly, "These men are servants of the most high God, and they announce to you a way of salvation!" This she did for many days. But Paul could not stand it, so he turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ: get out of her!" And it went out of her that very moment. But seeing that their hope of profit was gone, her masters seized Paul and Silas and dragged them to the market-place before the authorities; and bringing them to the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city. They are Jews, and they advocate practices it is not permitted for us to adopt or observe, since we are Romans." And the crowd opposed them too, and the magistrates tore off their cloaks and ordered them to be beaten with rods. And after inflicting many blows on them, they threw them in jail, ordering the jailer to keep them under safe guard. And he, receiving this command, consigned them to the inner jail and fastened their feet in the stocks. But at midnight, while Paul and Silas were singing hymns to God, the prisoners listened to them. And suddenly, there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the jail were shaken, and at once all the doors flew open and everyone's chains came loose. But when the jailer woke up and saw all the doors of the jail open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, thinking the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Do not hurt yourself, for

we are all here! " Then calling for a light, he ran in, and trembling with fear, fell at the feet of Paul and Silas. And he let them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" And they replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you shall be saved together with your household." And he spoke to him the word of the Lord, and also to all his household. And he took them at that same hour of the night, and washed their wounds; and he himself was baptized, and all those of his household immediately after. And taking them into his house, he set a table before them, and rejoiced with all his household over his faith in God.

Troparion - Tone 5

O faithful let us sing a hymn of praise and worship to the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, who was born of the Virgin for our salvation. Of his own will, He chose to go up on the cross and to suffer death, in order to raise the dead through his glorious Resurrection.

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!

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.