

**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 19, 2009. Sunday after Easter/Sunday of St. 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: Lk 15: 43-16:8).

**THE DIVINE LITURGY is offered for**

- ✦ Sadie & George Rossie
- ✦ Yezda & Charles Mahfouz

**BAPTIZED IN CHRIST:** Congratulations to Antoine & Iris Hechme on the baptism of their son Jonathan!

**PARISH COUNCIL:** The Parish Council will be meeting on *April 21<sup>st</sup>*, at 8 P.M.

**SOLEMN COMMUNION:** On *April 26<sup>th</sup>*, 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.

**BIBLE STUDY:** Our next Bible Study meeting will be on Tuesday, *April 28<sup>th</sup>*, 8:15pm. All are welcome to attend!

**SATURDAY SCHOOL'S TRIP:** On Saturday, *May 2<sup>nd</sup>*, 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 3<sup>rd</sup>*, 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.

**ST. SAVIOUR HIGH SCHOOL:**  
Saint Saviour High School Summer 2009  
"G.A.P. Girls Achieving Potential"  
6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls  
Application Deadline May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
Call(718)768-4406 Ext. 11  
for brochure and information

**FUTURE LITURGIES:** On *May 17<sup>th</sup>*, for Shukrallah Darsi.

**COLLECTION:** *For God loves a cheerful giver.*

**READING** from the Acts of the Apostles:  
5: 12-20

In those days by the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people (and with one accord, they all would meet in Solomon's portico; but of the rest, no one dared to associate with them, yet the people made much of them. And the multitude of men and women who believed in the Lord continued to increase), so that they carried the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and pallets, in order that, as Peter went by, at least his shadow would fall upon some of them. And crowds also came to Jerusalem from neighboring towns, and they brought the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits — and all of them were healed. But the High Priest rose up, and all his supporters (that is, the members of the Sadducean sect), and being filled with hatred, they laid their hands upon the apostles and threw them into the public jail. But during the night, an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the prison, and led them out, saying: "Go, and standing in the temple, speak to the people all words of life."

**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.

**Antiphon**

O Christ God, You showed Thomas Your side from which gushed Blood and Water, symbols of Baptism. You invited him to touch the Wound by which mankind was healed from its ancient deep wound. Strengthen our faith in Your divinity and Humanity, that we may become witnesses for Your glorious Resurrection by our words, our deeds and our new way of life. For You are our Resurrection, O Christ God, and to You we render glory and to Your Eternal Father and Your All-Holy, Good and Life-giving Spirit now and always and forever and ever.

**Troparion of the Feast, 7th Tone (3 times)**

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.

**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.