

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

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July 19, 2009. *The Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils.* Epistle: Titus 3:8-15 15: 1-7; **p.1320.** Gospel: Mt 5: 14-20; **p.1015.** (Next Sunday's readings: Epistle: Cor 1: 10-18. Gospel: Mt 14: 14-22).

THE DIVINE LITURGY is offered for

✦ Nabil Daghim (40 days)

✦ Ann Nassour

Monday, July 20, 09 - Holy Prophet Elijah

We mourn the death of *Nabil Daghim* in Syria at the age of 58. He survived by his brothers Razak, Samir, Ghassan; his sisters Maghda, Amal, Najwa, Roula; and all their families. We mourn also the death of *Ann Nassour*. She passed away on June 3rd at age 85. She is survived by her children Edward Nassour and Kathy Nassour Sobel. Please remember them in your prayers!

BAPTIZED IN CHRIST: Congratulations to Sam & Lenna Shaheen on the baptism of their daughter Natalie Maria; to George & Paula Katra on the baptism of their children Anthony and Ibrahim.

ROUND TRIP CRUISE: This past week, members of our parish joined Fr. Antoine for a round trip cruise from New York to Canada. It was a relaxing and enjoyable journey for all!

MAHRAJAN: In celebration of their 80th Anniversary, St. Ann Melkite Church of Waterford, CT., is pleased to have Archbishop Cyril Bustros as celebrant of their Pontifical Divine Liturgy for the Feast of St. Ann on Sunday, **July 26th**, at 10 am. Following is a Middle Eastern Festival from 12-6 pm with food, activities and games for the children. Call Fr. Ed Kakaty (860)442-2211 or Denise Samaha (860)642-4038 for more information. All are welcome, admission free!

PICNIC: On *August 9th*, the Church is sponsoring its Annual Breezy Point Picnic at Ft. Tilden. So bring your BBQs and games and come enjoy a beautiful day together. Please reserve the date and for more information, contact Al Dekki.

COLLECTION: *For God loves a cheerful giver!*

Epistle Verses – Prokimenon

Reader: Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, you just; exult, all you upright of heart.

All: Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, you just; exult, all you upright of heart.

Reader: Happy are those whose faults are taken away, and whose sins are covered.

All: Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, you just; exult, all you upright of heart.

READING from the Epistle of St. Paul to Titus: 3:8-15

My son Titus, this saying is true, and in this matter I want to insist that those who

believe in God be careful to excel in good works; these are good and useful to people. But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and quarrels, and disputes about the Law, for they are useless and futile. Avoid a factious man after warning him once or twice, knowing that such a man is perverted and sins, since he is condemning himself. When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, make every effort to meet me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way, taking care that they lack nothing. And let our people also learn to excel in good works, in order to help cases of urgent need so that they may not be unfruitful. All my companions greet you. Greet those who love us in the faith. The grace of God be with all of you. Amen.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST

The Lord said to his disciples, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Neither do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but upon the lamp-stand, so as to give light to all in the house. Even so let your light shine before men, in order that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. Do not think I have come to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I have not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For amen I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not one letter or one stroke shall be lost from the Law till all things have been accomplished.

Therefore whoever does away with one of these least commandments, and so teaches men, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever carries them out and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

Troparion – Tone 6

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.

Troparion of the Fathers

O Christ our God, you are above all glory, for you have established our Holy Fathers as radiant stars on earth, and through them you have guided us all to the true faith. Most Merciful One, glory to You

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

O never failing Protectress of Christians and their ever present intercessor before the Creator, despise not the petitions of us sinners, but in your goodness extend your help to us who call upon you with confidence. Hasten, O Mother of God, to intercede for us, for you have always protected those who honor you.