

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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March 22, 2009. Fourth Sunday of Lent. (Commemoration of St. John Climacus)
Epistle: Heb 6: 13-20; p.1329. Gospel: Mk 9: 17-31; p.1077. (Next Sunday's readings: Epistle: Heb 9: 11-14. Gospel: Mk 10: 32-45).

THE DIVINE LITURGY is offered for
✠ Joseph Seikali

LENTEN PRAYERS SCHEDULE

Monday – The Great Compline, 7:30 PM
Wednesday – The Pre-sanctified, 7:30 PM
Friday – The Akathist, 8:00 PM

LENTEN BLESSINGS: In this Holy Season of Lent, every Friday, following the supper and the Akathist prayer, we will have a guest speaker.

March 27: Lenten Supper -
Speaker – Most Rev Gregory Mansour Bishop of the Eparchy of St Maron of Brooklyn

The proceeds of the Lenten Suppers will be given to the Shepherds Care. May this season be a time of renewal.

FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION: This Wednesday, March 25, feast of the Annunciation,

we will be celebrating the Divine Liturgy at 7:30pm.

LENTEN SUPPER: We would like to thank NAMY who sponsored the Lenten Supper. The proceeds were \$500. NAMY donated \$200 to the Shepherd's Care.

NEWBORN: Congratulations to Matthew and Alexee Conroy on the birth of their son Alexander Quinn.

MOVIE NIGHT FOR YOUNG ADULTS (18 and over): Last evening, the young adults had an opportunity to watch the movie *"The Ultimate Gift."* They journeyed with the main character to learn what kind of man he truly wanted to be, as well as what is most important in life. *Popcorn was served!*

PARISH COUNCIL: We will be meeting on Tuesday, March 24, at 8:00pm.

SUNDAY BOWLING: The social club is bringing back bowling. Everyone is welcomed to join us on Sunday *March 29*, from 3:00-5:00pm for an afternoon at Melody Lanes, 37th St, Brooklyn (between 4th and 5th Avenue).

SPIRITUAL RETREAT: Join us on Saturday, *March 28*, at Mount Manresa Jesuit Retreat House, 239 Fingerboard Road, SI, where their staff will lead our day of retreat, from 8:30a.m. until 3:00p.m. Coffee and cake will be served in the conference room upon arrival and lunch will be around noon. Presentations, meditation, chance for reconciliation and the Liturgy will be conducted during the retreat day. A suggested donation is \$34.00 per person. If you would like to join us please call the rectory (718)788-5454 or Vincent Zaloom (718)448-2008 by *March 22th*.

BABY CLOTHING DRIVE: On Sunday,

March 29th, the Fraternity is hosting a "baby clothing" drive. All items collected will be brought to *Sisters of Life*. **Thank you all for your generous spirits!**

SOLEMN COMMUNION: On *April 26th*, 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.

SATURDAY SCHOOL'S TRIP: On Saturday, *May 2nd*, 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 3rd*, 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!

FUTURE LITURGIES: On *March 29*, for Sleiman El-Ashkar (40 day) and Chucri Rached.

COLLECTION: *For God loves a cheerful giver.*

Epistle Verses – Prokimenon

Reader: The Lord will give strength to his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace.

All: The Lord will give strength to his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace.

Reader: Give to the Lord, you sons of God, give to the Lord glory and praise.

All: The Lord will give strength to his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace.

Troparion – Tone 4

The women who followed the Lord heard from the angel the joyful news of the Resurrection and the abolition of the sentence imposed upon our forefathers. They announced with pride to the disciples: "Death is vanquished! Christ is risen and has bestowed great mercy upon the world.

Sunday of St. John Climacus

Your abundant tears made the wilderness to sprout and bloom, and your deep sighs of love made your labors fruitful a hundredfold; you became a shining star showering miracles upon the world. Holy Father John, pray to Christ God that He may save our souls.

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!

Lenten Kontakion

We are your own, O Mother of God! We dedicate to you our songs of victory as a means of thanksgiving, for you have delivered us from all tribulations. Since your light is invincible, save us from every danger so that we may cry out to you: "Hail, O Bride and Maiden ever-pure!"