

**CHURCH OF THE VIRGIN MARY**

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

Deacon Naji Youssef

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**August 23, 2009. *The Twelfth Sunday of Pentecost / Leave-taking of the Dormition.***

Epistle: 1 Cor 15: 1-11; **p.1246**. Gospel: Mt 19: 16-26; **p.1041**.

**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 is home visiting 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.**

**BIBLE STUDY:** To discover the love of God and his salvation, join our meetings which are held every other Tuesday of each month, at 8:00pm. Our opening meeting after the Summer will be on Tuesday, **September 15th**. "Ignorance of the Bible is ignorance of Christ" (St. Jerome).

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

**Epistle Verses – Prokimenon**

**Reader:** Sing praise to our God, sing praise! Sing praise to our King, sing praise!

**All:** Sing praise to our God, sing praise!

Sing praise to our King, sing praise!

**Reader:** All you peoples, clap your hands!

Shout to God with cries of gladness.

**All:** Sing praise to our God, sing praise!

Sing praise to our King, sing praise!

**READING from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians: 15: 1-11**

BRETHREN, I remind you of the Good News I preached to you, and which you received, and in which you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold fast to it as I preached it to you — otherwise you would have believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all what I had also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that he was

buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Kephaz, and after that, to the Twelve. Then he was seen by more than five hundred brethren at one time, many of whom are still with us, while some have fallen asleep. After that, he was seen by James, then by all the apostles, and last of all, as by one born out of due time, he was seen also by me. For I am the least of the apostles, and am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted God's Church. But by God's grace. I am what I am, and his grace in me has not been fruitless — in fact, I have labored more than any of them, yet not I, but God's grace with me. Whether it be I or they (who speak), this is what we preach, and this you have believed.

**THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST 19:16-26**

At that time a certain young man came to Jesus and said, "Good Master, what good work shall I do to have eternal life?" He said to him, "why do you call me good? No one is good but God. But if you will enter into life, keep the commandments." He said to him, "Which?" And Jesus answered, - *'Thou shalt not kill, thou shalt not commit adultery, thou shalt not steal, thou shalt not bear false witness, honor thy father and mother, and, thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.'* The young man said to him, "All these I have kept; what is still lacking in me?" Jesus said to him, "If you will be perfect, go, sell what you have, and give to the poor, and you shall have treasure in

heaven; and come, follow me." But when the young man heard these words, he went away sad, for he had great possessions. But Jesus said to his disciples, "Amen I say to you, with difficulty will a rich man enter the kingdom of heaven. And further I say to you it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven." The disciples, bearing this, were exceedingly astonished, and said, "Who then can be saved?" And looking upon them, Jesus said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

**Troparion – Tone 3**

Let the Heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord has done a wondrous deed with his arm: He has crushed death by his death, becoming the first to rise from the dead. He has delivered us from the mouth of Hades and bestowed great mercy upon 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.