

CHURCH OF THE VIRGIN MARY

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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 26, 2009. Sunday of the Ointment Bearing Women. Epistle: Acts 6: 1-7; **p.1177.**
Gospel: Mk 15: 43-16:8; **p.1088.** (Next Sunday's readings: Epistle: Acts 9: 32-42. Gospel: Jn 5: 1-15).

THE DIVINE LITURGY is offered for

- ✦ The Communicants and their parents and teachers
- ✦ Antoun & Rose Polo
- ✦ Farajallah Raheb
- ✦ Bassam Al- Shami
- ✦ Youssef Al- Shami
- ✦ Odette Al- Shami

BAPTIZED IN CHRIST: Congratulations to Anthony and Jennifer Mekel on the baptism of their daughter Juliana!

SOLEMN COMMUNION: At their baptism we give our children their first communion. Today, as they grow in life they receive communion with more understanding of the sacrament of the Eucharist. We congratulate the communicants and their parents. We wish that the children keep their souls pure and always

have Christ in their heart. We would like to thank those who helped prepare them for this happy occasion.

EASTER SHOW: "Behold the Lamb!" was the title of the show attended by our Parish, in Lancaster, PA. After the show, they shared a delicious dinner and spent a wonderful evening together. Thanks to the Fraternity for organizing this successful event.

LADIES SOCIETY: Following the most beautiful First Communion Ceremony, the Ladies Society hosted their Family Luncheon in honor of its living and deceased members. It was a wonderful afternoon filled with great food and fellowship!

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

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.

PRE-NAMY PARTY: The Pre-NAMY Club is organizing a party on Friday, May 8, at 6:00pm.

All preteens 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!

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.

FUTURE LITURGIES: On May 17th, for Shukrallah Darsi; on June 28 for Mary Tutunjian.

COLLECTION: *For God loves a cheerful giver.*

Antiphon

O Christ God, You alone are the Light and Life of all. Enlighten our spirit as You enlightened the eyes of the holy Martyrs. Gladden our hearts with Faith and Peace; and as You raised us up again from the grave of our sins and delivered us from the power of Darkness, make us also worthy, in Your Great Mercy, to light the lamps of our souls from the resplendent Light of this glorious day, commemorating your Holy Resurrection.

For You are the Light, our Life and our Resurrection, O Christ God, and to You we render glory, thanksgiving and worship, and to Your Eternal Father and Your All-holy, Good and Life-giving Spirit, now and always forever and ever.

Epistle Verses – Prokimenon

Reader: My strength and my courage is the Lord, and he has been my Savior.

All: My strength and my courage is the Lord, and he has been my Savior.

Reader: The Lord has chastised me through his teaching, yet he has not delivered me to death.

All: My strength and my courage is the Lord, and he has been my Savior.

Troparion – Tone 2

Immortal life, when You surrendered to death, You destroyed Hades by the splendor of your divinity, and when You raised the dead from under the ground, all the powers of heaven cried out: "O Christ God, the Giver of Life, glory to You!

Troparion of Joseph of Arimathea

The noble Joseph, taking down your spotless body from the wood and wrapping it in a clean shroud with aromatic spices, laid it in a new tomb. But on the third day, You arose, O Lord, and bestowed great mercy upon the word.

Myrrh Bearing-Women

The angel stood by the tomb and cried out to the Ointment-Bearing Women: "Ointments are for the dead, but Christ has proved Himself free from corruption. Cry out, then: 'The Lord is risen and has bestowed great mercy upon the world.'"

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.