

CHURCH OF THE VIRGIN MARY

216 Eighth Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11215-2604
Rectory: (718) 788-5454
Church Hall: (718) 788-9024
Fax (718) 499-7702

Daily Liturgy 9:30, Sunday Liturgy 11:00
www.ChurchOfTheVirginMary.net

Fr. Antoine Rizk, BSO, Pastor
Deacon Naji Youssef
Deacon William Williamsen

Fr. Antoine's Email: abouna@melkitesofnyc.net

July 26, 2009. The Eighth Sunday of Pentecost. Epistle: 1 Cor 1: 10-18; **p.1231.** Gospel: Mt 14: 14-22; **p.1032.** (Next Sunday's readings: Epistle: 1 Cor 3: 9-16. Gospel: Mt 14: 22-34).

THE DIVINE LITURGY is offered for
✦ Our Parish Families

PARACLISIS PRAYER: The first 15 days of August are dedicated to prayer and fasting in preparation to the Feast of the Dormition - Assumption of our Lady the Mother of God on August 15. Please join us every night at 7:30PM, except for Sundays.

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION (August 6): Vespers and Divine Liturgy will be celebrated on Wednesday, August 5, at 8:00pm, and grapes will be blessed in this feast.

CONGRATULATIONS: To Jacqueline Lutfey, as member of the Holy Sepulcher, who was honored on June 3rd by receiving a Pontifical Honor with 41 lay faithful of the Diocese of Brooklyn for their services and devotion of charitable work.

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.

FR. ANTOINE'S TRIP TO LEBANON: Fr. Antoine will be leaving Brooklyn on August 11th to travel home to visit his family and friends in Lebanon, returning on September 4th. Bishop John Elya will be serving our parish while Father is abroad.

THE AMBASSADORS: The Melkite Young Ambassadors is for those Melkites, ages 26 and older, who want to grow spiritually through faith building discussions about current life issues, share in prayer, and develop friendships. Fr. Peter, from the Arizona parish is serving as their spiritual advisor. He will be guiding the Young Ambassadors on their spiritual journey as they prepare for next year's meetings at the Convention in Seattle, WA. If you are interested in joining, please e-mail Rosa Ailabouni at rosaailabouni@gmail.com with your name and cell phone number to add you to the listserve.

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

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.

READING from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians: 1:10 – 18

Brethren, I beseech you, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all say the same thing and that there be no dissensions among you, but that you be perfectly united in one mind and one purpose. For I have been informed about you, my brethren, by those of the house of Chloe, that there are quarrels among you. Now this is what I mean: each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ." Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in Paul's name? I thank God that I baptized none of you but Crispus and Caius, lest anyone should say that you were baptized in my name. I baptized also the household of Stephanas. I am not aware of having baptized anyone else. For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the Good News, not with the skill of eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be made useless.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST

At that time when Jesus saw a large crowd, out of compassion for them he cured their sick. Now when it was evening, his disciples came to him, saying, "This is a desert place and the hour is already late; send the crowds away, so that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food." But Jesus said to them. "They do not need to go away; you yourselves

give them some food." They answered him, "We have here only five loaves and two fishes." He said to them, "Bring them here to me." And when he had ordered the crowd to sit down on the grass, he took the five loaves and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to his disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowd. And all ate and were satisfied; and they gathered up what was left over, twelve baskets full of fragments. Now the number of those who had eaten was five thousand men, not counting women and children. And immediately afterwards he made his disciples get into the boat and cross ahead of him, while he dismissed the crowd.

Troparion – Tone 7

Through your cross, You destroyed death, You opened paradise to the thief and put an end to the wailing of the ointment-bearing women. O Christ God, You ordered your disciples to proclaim your Resurrection in their preaching, and You bestowed great mercy upon the world.

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.