

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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January 31, 2010. Sunday of the Prodigal Son.

Epistle: 1 Cor. 6: 12-20, **p.1136**. Gospel: Luke 15: 11-32, **p.1119**. Next Sunday's readings: Epistle: 1 Cor 8:8-13 & 9:1-2. Gospel: Matthew 25, 31-46.

THE DIVINE LITURGY is offered for

✦ Charles, Naima, and Joseph Kurdy

✦ Filomena Trivigno

We mourn the death: of **Josephine Rashid** at the age of 96. She is survived by her sons Stanley and Raymond; her grandchildren Ray Jr., Michael and Matthew; and their families; and of **Stephanie Makhoul** at the age of 61. She is survived by her parents Frederic and Eleanor, and her brothers John and Gerard; and their families. Please remember them in your prayers.

February 2nd: Feast of the Presentation of our Lord to the Temple

DIVINE LITURGY BOOK: We would like to create a Mass Book to remember our beloved departed at the daily Divine Liturgy. All those who are interested should fill out the form at the back of the church and return it to the rectory. Please remember that if you want a Sunday Divine Liturgy said for a loved one, those arrangements need to be made directly through the rectory.

SPIRITUAL TALK: On Friday, **February 12th**, Fr. Antoine will give his talk, at 8:15pm sharp, on "Fasting," followed by a social gathering.

VALENTINE'S PARTY: Our young adults group, MAYA, invites you to a Valentine's Day Party, at 8 PM on **Saturday, February 13th**, at the Church of the Virgin Mary, including a DJ and Full Course Italian Buffet. The cost is \$40/adults, \$20/children (under 16 years of age). For reservations please call Amanda Romhen (917) 414-7812, Christine Seikali (917) 402-7470, or Kareem Youssef (347) 680-5633, no later than **February 6, 2010**.

FUTURE LITURGIES: On **February 14th**, for George Kawas (40day), Jozian Seikali, and Renee Baghdadi; on **February 21st**, for George Hindy (30Years); on **March 21th**, for Joseph Seikali; on **May 9th**, for Thomas Muratore; on **May 16th**, for Shukrallah Darsi (5 Years).

COLLECTION: For God loves a cheerful giver.

Epistle Verses – Prokimenon

Reader: May your kindness, O Lord, be upon us, for we have hoped in you.

All: May your kindness, O Lord, be upon us, for we have hoped in you.

Reader: Exult, you just, in the Lord, praise from the upright is fitting.

All: May your kindness, O Lord, be upon us, for we have hoped in you.

Antiphon Prayer

O Lord God of mercy, who does not want that the sinner retrieve, but to live and repent, we ask you Lord to enlighten and return us to You. We who were cheated by the enemy who stripped us from Your Grace. Give us back our garment of grace, and open the large doors of mercy that as we enter your home with the chosen ones, we praise You for sending us Your only begotten Son for our

salvation. For You are good, Our God, and You love mankind, and we offer glory to You, to your Eternal Father and to your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

Gospel: Luke 15: 11-32

The Lord told this parable: "A man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his possessions between them. And not many days later, the younger son gathered up all his wealth and traveled to a far country; and there he squandered his fortune in loose living. And after he had spent all, there came a severe famine over that country, and he began to suffer from it. And he went and joined one of the local landowners, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. And he longed to fill himself with the pods the pigs were eating, but no one offered to give them to him. But when he had come to his senses, he said, 'How many hired men in my father's house have bread in abundance, while I am perishing with hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me as one of your hired men.'" And he got up and went to his father. But while he was yet a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with compassion and ran and fell upon his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the Father said to his servants, 'Fetch quickly the best robe and put it on him, and give him a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet; and bring out the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; because this my son was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came close to the house, he heard music and dancing. And calling one of the

servants he asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has got him back safe.' But he was angered and would not go in. His father, therefore, came out and began to beg him. But he answered and said to his father, 'Look, these many years I have been serving you, and have never disobeyed any of your orders; and yet, you have never given me a kid that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours comes, who has devoured your wealth with prostitutes; you have killed for him the fattened calf!' But he said to him, 'Son you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours; but we were bound to make merry and rejoice, for this your brother was dead, and has come to life; he was lost and is found.'"

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 2)

When you descended to death, O Immortal Life, 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 our God, the giver of life, 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 Mother of God. You have passed to life being the Mother of Life. Through your intercession, save our souls from death.

Kondakion of the Presentation of our Lord to the Temple (Tone 1)

O Christ our God who through your birth have sanctified the virginal womb and have now blessed the arms of Simon, today You have come to save us. O Lord, when wars prevail, keep your people in peace and strengthen our Public Authorities in every good deed, for You alone are the lover of Mankind.