

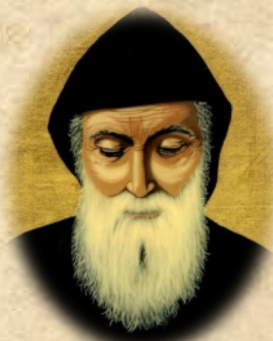
January 1, 2017

The Circumcision of Jesus



Next Week is the First Sunday after Epiphany.
Read the following Scriptures in preparation:
2 Corinthians 10: 1-11 (*Accusation of Weak-ness*) and the Gospel According to **JOHN 1: 29-34** (*John's Testimony to Jesus*).

Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church



Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

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Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, January 1st, 10:30 am
Available intention

Monday, January 2nd
The Shepard Family

Tuesday, January 3rd
The Ward Family

Wednesday, January 4th
Peter Judge by Mark Koutubaoi

Thursday, January 5th
Available intention

Friday, January 6th
Available intention

Saturday, January 7th
Available intention

Sunday, January 8th, 10:30 am
✠ *Norman Pfatzgraff*



*Adoration/Exposition every Sunday at 9:00 am
before the morning Liturgy.*

*Confession every Sunday at 9:15 am before the
morning Liturgy.*

*Also join us to pray the Rosary on Sundays at
10:00 am before the Liturgy begins.*

Altar Flowers

Sunday, January 1st
Denise Khory

Sunday, January 8th
Denise Khory

1973-2017
FORTY FOUR YEARS.
FIFTY EIGHT MILLION UNBORN BABIES.
WE WILL REMEMBER.

Roe v. Wade

MEMORIAL RALLY AND WALK

JANUARY 15, 2017 // 2:30 PM

NEW VENUE: OREGON CONVENTION CENTER // PORTLAND
WALK IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE RALLY.



YOUR GIFTS TO GOD

The three kings traveled a great distance at considerable cost to offer their richest gifts to the Infant Jesus. How far will YOU go and what will YOU offer to pay homage to the newborn King and Savior?

Offering Report for December 19th - 25th

General Collection..... \$2,670.00

Projected Weekly Amount

Required to Meet Budget.....\$2,307.00

Difference.....+\$363.00

Abouna's Corner

New Year's Day

While the old familiar Christmas carols are still echoing, one of the Psalms familiar to those of us who pray the Divine Office invites us to sing a song of joy to the Lord. At this time of year it seems that we have the possibility of new song, a new song made possible by the Incarnation of Jesus. A new song to the One who became God in the flesh and who makes all things new. A new song that revels in the Father's love for us. A new song that makes our hearts leap with joy at the promise of the gospel.

So sing a new song, flowing from the relationship you can now experience with God. Join the angels in singing "Glory to God in the highest," because you see signs of his glory everywhere you go (Luke 2:14). Sing in imitation of Mary, who magnified the Lord and rejoiced in God her savior. Sing of the joy of knowing you have been redeemed by a loving God. Sing, knowing the next time you fall into sin, forgiveness and grace await you.

But don't sing just because God has made you happy. Sing because it makes him happy too! Sing a song that proclaims the wonders he has done by inviting us into a relationship with him. God knows that sometimes we are sad too, and so the Psalms teach us that we can sing to the Lord all our troubles. If we realize the true blessing of God coming among us as a man, a human, into the human condition, we know we can sing to him of all our human experience.

So, it is almost New Year's Day, the time were we make resolutions. Whatever you resolve, I invite you to make ONE resolution in particular. If you don't regularly spend time with God, now is a good time to start. A new start is in itself a new song. If you are uncomfortable with this kind of prayer, your new song might be simply telling him that you don't know him in that way yet, but you want to experience something new: "Lord, let me feel your Spirit moving in me. Let your truths light a new fire in my heart." Some days your song might be "Help me Lord, I don't know what to do." On others it might be "Are you kidding me, I cant do this alone." And on others it might be "Thank you Lord for just being with me." We sing a song to God whenever we invite Him along in our days.

May this new year, this coming twelve months be filled with our invitation to the One, the One who created us, the One who came to save us, and the One who remains with us as the Holy Spirit guiding the Church on earth. "Be with us Lord, we invite you into our lives, and we give you thanks, for you are Good and Mighty and we know that you love us!"

**Gibran N. Zogbi**

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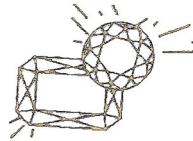
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