

February 19, 2017

**Commemoration of the
Faithful Departed**



Next Sunday is the Miracle of Cana in Galilee
Rom 14:14-23(Consideration for the Weak
Conscience)
Jn 2:1-11 (The Wedding at Cana)

**Saint Sharbel
Maronite Catholic Church**



Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

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on the web: www.stsharbel.org

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, February 19th, 10:30 am
*+Faithful Departed of Parish Families
Torkers Wedding Anniversary*

Monday, February 20th
Available Intention

Tuesday, February 21st
Available Intention

Wednesday, February 22nd
Available Intention

Thursday, February 23rd
Available Intention

Friday, February 24th
Available Intention

Saturday, February 25th
Available Intention

Sunday, February 26th
Available Intention

*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 Sponsorship

Sunday, February 19th
Available

Sunday, February 26th
Available

PARISH EVENTS

LENTEN SCHEDULE:
Will also be available on the Website

Feb 27	<i>Ash Monday</i>	Mass/Qurbano and Distribution of Ashes -Noon
Mar 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 April 7	<i>Fridays</i>	Stations of the Cross (lead by Deacons) – 7 p.m. Presided by the Deacons to include Communion Service. <i>(Confessions will be available during stations of the Cross when the priest is present)</i>
Mar 5, 12, 19, 26 April 2, 9	<i>Sundays</i>	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament – 9:00 a.m. <i>(Confessions will be available <u>before</u> and <u>after</u> Mass during Sundays of Lent)</i>



PARISH COUNCIL 2017

- +Bruce Ashford (Treasurer)
- Charlie Ashou
- Gus Bekahi
- Nick El Hajj
- Agopos Ghossein
- Adib Karam
- +Claude Karam
- Ann Marentette (Sec'y)
- Doug Raab
- +Thaddeus Rask
- Nadia Redmond
- Mitch Siekmann
- Laif Waldron

- Ex Officio
- +Deacon Tony
- +Deacon Wadih

- +Finance Committee

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD

“Money is not the only commodity that is fun to give. We can give time, we can give our expertise, we can give our love or simply give a smile. What does that cost? The point is, none of us can ever run out of something worthwhile to give.”

— Steve Goodier

Offering Report for February 6th-12th

Online.....\$529.00
Collection.....\$1,591.00

Projected Weekly Amount
Required to Meet Budget.....\$1,846.00

Difference.....\$274.00

ABOUNA'S CORNER

SUNDAY OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Luke 16: 19 - 31

On this last Sunday of Epiphany, *Sunday of the Faithful Departed*, we celebrate all the faithful departed, and the memory of all our loved ones who have died, and who have reflected for us the Light of Christ. We also believe that all who sleep in the Lord, with hope, will be awakened into *the New Life* with Christ. This *epiphany celebration* of theirs, today, is also an invigorating joy for us as well as we look forward to *our future life!*

This Sunday the Church prays to Christ for all her children – the living and the departed – that we may all become *worthy of his Kingdom*. “O *True Hope* who never fails, grant the power of your resurrection to their bodies, and the forgiveness of sins to their souls”

Even more fascinating, this Sunday, is the Church's selection of the Gospel passage for today: it is the gospel parable of Lazarus. *Laazar* in Hebrew and Aramaic means the poor and the wretched one. Here Lazarus is portrayed as that helpless one who is totally dependent on the charity of others and the mercy of God. When no one helps, God, compensates for his losses with heavenly rewards. But woe to the one – or the ones – at whose gates the poor man – a Lazarus – lay abandoned and suffering – and did not give a helping hand. We have been warned!

Compassion, is the message of this parable-story told by Jesus, the wise Rabi-teacher of Israel, sent down to us to turn the hearts of *the Children* back to their *Compassionate Father*. Again and again in his parables, Jesus lets us know that It is by the measure of our compassion that we will be judged; or rather – it is by the measure of our deepest compassion – being in the image likeness of God – that our own hearts will judge us! The more compassionate we are, the nearest we should expect to be to God; while the less, the farthest from God.

As we pray *the Our Father* let us ask our *Compassionate and Merciful Father* that his compassion and mercy may deepen and increase within us; that Christ the Lord may bestow upon us, and the faithful departed – through his kindness and mercy and in spite of our failings – the *Robe of his Glory*. As our mother the Church and her saints remind us: none of us is free from *the guilt against Lazarus!*



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