

Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

1804 SE 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214

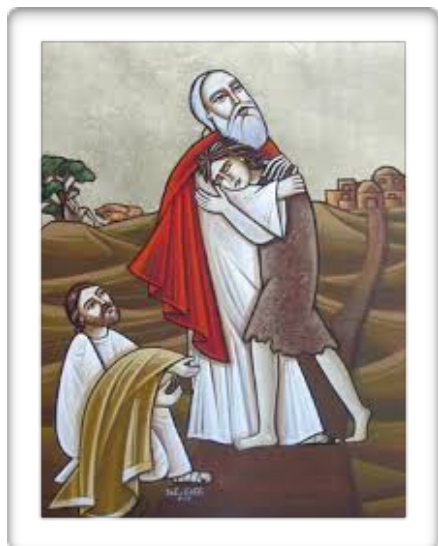
503.231.3853

stsharbelpdx@gmail.com

www.stsharbel.org

March 19, 2017

The Parable of the Prodigal Son



Next Sunday is Healing of the Paralytic

1 Tim 5:24-6:5 (False Teaching & True Wealth)

Mk 2:1-12 (The Healing of a Paralytic)

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, March 19th, 10:30 am

Caroline Beardsley

Monday, March 20th

Available Intention

Tuesday, March 21st

Available Intention

Wednesday, March 22nd

Stewart Family

Thursday, March 23rd

Available Intention

Friday, March 24th

Available Intention

Saturday, March 25th

Available Intention

Sunday, March 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.

Your Gifts To God

“Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops.” -Proverbs 3.9

Offering Report for March 5th-12th

Online.....\$592.00

Collection.....\$ 493.00

Projected Weekly Amount

Required to Meet Budget.....\$1,846.00

Difference.....-\$761.00

Altar Sponsorship

Sunday, March 19th

Available

Sunday, March 26th

Available

Parish Events

LENTEN 2017 REMINDERS

Stations of the Cross (Lead by the Deacons) —
7pm with communion service presided by the
Deacons

Fridays During Lent:

March: 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
April: 7

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY (MYA)

Ages 18-35

MARCH:

18th: Volunteer event cancelled, instead meet at Claude and
Gennifer's House, 7pm.

APRIL:

8th: Basketball Night — Teaming up w/Crossroads and Maronteens
Youth at THPRD Athletic Center 5-6pm and dinner at Sweet
Tomatoes afterwards* (**MUST RSVP**)

9th: Service on Palm Sunday (Shaneeni) — Serve brunch at St.
Sharbel 8:30-2pm (Must stay until cleanup is complete)...
followed by a round of the murder mystery board game Clue in
the church basement.

22nd: Taco Night At Claude and Gennifer's home and discussion of
Answering the Questions of Jesus chapters 8-9*

MAY:

6th: Dinner at Bethany Public House and game night at Bethany
Starbuck's across the street* (**MUST RSVP**)

27th: BBQ and discussion of *Answering the Questions of Jesus*
Chapters 10-11*, followed by late night basketball at Claude
and Gennifer's.

JUNE:

10th: Day hiking trip TBA and discussion of final chapter of
*Answering the Questions of Jesus** (**MUST RSVP**)

*Contact Claude or Gennifer Karam at **971-205-8076** or
jmjkaram3@gmail.com to **RSVP**, get location, get PDF of
chapters emailed to you, or learn about the MYA.

**JOIN US FOR
SPIRITUAL, SOCIAL, AND SERVICE EVENTS**

Community Events

**Looking for a natural and
affirming way of family
planning?**

WHEN: 4/6, 4/20 & 5/4 7-9pm

WHERE: NW Family Services

6200 SE King Rd.
Portland, OR 97222

INSTRUCTOR: Lauren Fuller

CONTACT: lfuller@nwfs.org



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- Come, experience prayer life
- Come, learn about the Antonine Sisters' ministry
- Go and tell, the joy of living together

**Program Starts Friday May 19 @ 6:30pm
until Sunday May 21 @ noon 2017**

For More information call Sr Jinane at:
330-538-9822 or send an email at
anto9srs@aol.com

Address: 2675 North Lipkey Road-North Jackson,
Ohio 44451



**Nadia Redmond has 2 tickets to sell for
NAM's 25th Annual Spring Raffle. Donation
is \$100 per ticket. She must return the
tickets to the NAM office April 2nd. Please
see Nadio at church, if interested. See flyer
for prizes.**

ABOUNA'S CORNER

Prodigal Son

The Prodigal Son is one of the most important teaching parables of Jesus. It was common among Jewish teachers to use comparisons from the daily life of their people to demonstrate how they should live according to the Torah, the Word of God, and his Commandments.

This parable may rather be more fittingly called the Parable of the Merciful Father, as it demonstrates the compassion of the Heavenly Father in human terms – It is this aspect that Jesus wants to emphasize the most. The Son of God has come to reveal his Father to us so that we may model ourselves according to his compassionate image. Jesus stresses in his teachings how God often prefers compassion to fasting. This is the lesson and the goal for us to strive towards during this season of Lent in this awesome parable we also see the extent of God's compassion. The Father is not only forgiving towards his prodigal son but he is also patient with the righteous older brother. In fact he judges no one but loves and rejoices in everyone. What a positive image of God is Jesus portraying for us here in this story!

This is the kind of God whom we approach after having strayed away; and also after having been judgmental towards others. It is this Father of Mercy that the Church wants us to approach during this season of forgiveness through his beloved Son Jesus. It is through the model of the beloved son that the love of God becomes victorious in the life, passion, and resurrection of Jesus.

The Syriac Churches recognize Our Lord Jesus as the New Adam, who shined forth from the Father's heart, and who came to renew our human image according to his own. By this light humanity is now instructed. We can say that it IS the gospel of God's love and forgiveness. And just as the prodigal son returned to his Father's house, now Jesus brings us back to his Father having taken upon himself the fall of our sins; and having enlightened us with the light and joy of his holy gospel.

Therefore let us forgive that we may be forgiven; and with the Father and the Son and in the Holy Spirit let us rejoice and celebrate for we were once (many times) lost and we now have been found. I invite you all to meditate on this Gospel this week. The process of Lectio Divina allows us to meditate on a passage of Sacred Scripture. Take a moment in silence, no words, no prayers – then read the Gospel and see if something stands out. Then be quiet again for a while and see what comes. May we all be merciful like the Father during the Season of Lent.

**Gibran N Zogbi**

Agent

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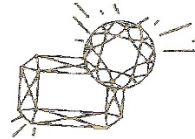
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