



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

April 15, 2018

Jesus Appears to the Two Disciples at Emmaus



Next Sunday

Jesus Appears to the Disciples at the Sea

Heb 13:18-25 (Final Exhortation, Greetings, Blessings)

Jn 21:1-14 (The Appearance to the 7 Disciples)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for April 1st - 7th

Online.....\$783.00

Collection.....\$1,789.00

Weekly Total.....\$2,572.00

YTD Total.....\$24,344.93

YTD Goal.....\$25,844.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$1,499.07**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, April 15th, 10:30 am

+Fayda Skaff

Monday, April 16th

Available

Tuesday, April 17th

Available

Wednesday, April 18th

Available

Thursday, April 19th

Available

Friday, April 20th

Available

Saturday, April 21st

Available

Sunday, April 22nd

Available

Adoration/Exposition every Sunday at 9:30 am before the morning Liturgy.

Confession every Sunday at 9:45 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, April 15th

Available

Sunday, April 22nd

Redmond Family

Parish Events

Altar Sponsorship

We are in need of families or individuals to sponsor the altar. Sponsorship helps with altar bread, communion wine, candles for the celebration of the Holy Offering of the Mass. Your gift will be acknowledged on the website calendar and published in the bulletin. Here are a few points:

- Contact Ann Marentette to schedule **Altar Sponsorships**. Her email is : abmarentette@gmail.com
- Your gift is a love offering, with the minimum gift being \$30. (Somewhere between \$50-60 is my guess about the breakeven point for us.) Again, there is no set amount, everyone has different means, so offer what you will.
- You can make your offering on the website, or you can put a check in collection plate, just note on the check or envelope what it is for (Altar Support).
- The big Sundays are Easter and Christmas, but also Mother's Day, and Feast Days (i.e., St Sharbel Feast, Epiphany, Holy Cross, Immaculate Conception, etc). Those are available on **first come first served basis**. Obviously we spend more on flowers those days, so you could bear that in mind in considering your offering for that week's sponsorship.
- If you want to actually have a florist do the flowers for a big weekend, work with Ann to coordinate that.
- Just like Mass Intentions, there might be weeks where no one signs up. I would be ideal for people to sign up for every Sunday, but we are inviting you to take the initiative to sign up.

Parish Council

+Bruce Ashford
(Treasurer)

Charlie Ashou

Gus Bekahi

Nick El Hajj

Agopos Ghossein

Adib Karam

+Claude Karam

Anne Marentette
(Secretary)

Doug Raab

+Thaddeus Rask

Nadia Redmond

Mitch Siekmann

Laif Waldron

Ex Officio
+Deacon Tony
+Deacon Wadih

+Finance Committee



Please pray for our first communicants as they faithfully prepare to be fully initiated into the Catholic Church. On Sunday, April 29th, they will be participating in their First Holy Mystery of Penance (Confession). On the Feast of Our Lady of Lebanon (May Crowning), Sunday, May 6th, the communicants will receive Our Lord's Precious Body and Blood in their First Eucharist during the Divine Liturgy. I thank Nadia Redmond for her dedication and time to catechize the following first communicants:

Malak Alks Hamo
Milad Alks Hamo
Anthony Allam
Thaddeus Calko
Jude Gama
Joseph Massaad

-Abouna Christopher

Join us
SATURDAY, MAY 12TH
for a Mother's Day Haftli
FEATURING SUPER STAR
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Community Events

CAMPAIGN PLANNING STUDY LAST CHANCE TO RESPOND

There are only a few days left to participate in the Eparchy planning study survey. If you have not done so already please return your survey to the parish office or directly to the Eparchy. You may also complete the survey online and read more about the proposed plans by going to steiergroup.com/survey, clicking on Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles and entering the password: Lebanon. **The survey closes April 18, 2018.**

Bishop A. Elias Zaidan would like to thank everyone who has already participated in the study. Your thoughts are extremely valuable to him during this planning process. If you have not yet responded to a survey, you are encouraged to do so. Your input will help the diocese make an informed decision regarding the long-range plans for the Eparchy.

Looking for a natural and affirming way of family planning?

WHEN: May 3rd, 17th, and 31st

WHERE: NW Family Services
6200 SE King Rd.
Portland, OR 97222

INSTRUCTOR: Lauren Fuller

CONTACT: lfuller@nwfs.org



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HEALING OF OUR MOTHER WOUND RETREAT

Father Philip Scott, FJ

June 1-3, 2018

Our Lady Peace Retreat - Beaverton, OR

ROOMS

\$ 172 Single occupancy

\$ 344 Double occupancy

(there are only 5 double rooms, otherwise couples use a single room each)

COMMUTORS ~ \$ 112 for 6 meals (Friday evening thru Sunday lunch)

Deposit \$ 50 is due with registration and goes toward total payment. Remainder to be paid by May 15th, make payable to: Sister Mariam Sharbel Vianney

CALL or EMAIL for REGISTRATION FORM

Email: grace.an.mercy@gmail.com

Phone: [503-269-3736](tel:503-269-3736)

Reflection

Jesus Appears to the Two Disciples at Emmaus

“Were not our hearts burning within us while He talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?” Where the world might see death in the Cross, an instrument of torture in the Roman Empire, we have found the fulfillment of eternal life promised throughout all of Scripture. This fulfillment, as St. Luke records, is found in Jesus Himself, Who explains to His disciples that He is the completion of what has been revealed since the beginning of the world. In each prophesy of the Old Testament, an aspect of Christ’s salvation is elucidated until He would come to fulfill it in person. In the Syriac tradition, *rozo* or mystery/sign is a very important way of reading the Bible, as we look we repeated symbols Christ established throughout the history of Israel to prelude His coming. As St. Ephrem describes Scripture because of the *rozo*, Scripture itself is an inexhaustible fountain of wisdom with so many layers of meaning to be explored. In this short reflection we shall briefly examine one: the *rozo* of the lamb that tells us about the Lamb of God, Christ.

The Bible is replete with this *rozo* because it articulately communicates many important realities about our God-become-man. As Christ likely explained to His disciples, the lamb throughout the Scriptures is the sacrifice that saves Israel by its blood from sin. From Genesis, the beginning of God’s promise, when Abraham is going to sacrifice his son, Isaac, a lamb takes the place of Isaac and saves the promise of Israel (Gen. 22:13). Scripture tells us the lamb is caught in a thicket, and St. Ephrem in his *Commentary on Genesis* aptly points out the lamb in the tree delivers the life of Isaac just like the Lamb on the Tree of the Cross would deliver our lives. What this encounter tells us is Christ’s generous deliverance by the shedding of His blood, though innocent, in place of ours.

The *rozo* of the lamb is found, once again, in the Passover meal commanded by God in Exodus. Those who ate the Passover by sacrifices a lamb and marking their abodes with its blood were delivered from the angel of death, and the Israel was eventually free to leave slavery in Egypt to return to the Promised Land. The Syriac Fathers point out just as the sacrifice of a lamb led Israel out of slavery from Egypt and Pharaoh we have been led out of the slavery of Satan in the land of sin back to the Promised Land of the Kingdom, from which sin exiled us. The Lamb has sought to restore us to what we have lost.

The last instance of the lamb this reflection will point out is in Isaiah, where he says about the Lamb, “He was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth” (Is. 53:7). Though Christ could have called twelve legions of angels down to fight His enemies, He instead submitted to be crucified on our behalf for He wished to deliver us by His voluntary humility.

Just by the very brief examination of one *rozo* in Scripture we see so many passages of the Old Testament pointing to creation awaiting its Lord’s coming to redeem it. For a day our Lord explained these symbols and how He fulfilled them to His dear disciples to indicate all things find fulfillment in Him – including life itself in His Resurrection. In the sacred Scriptures we are oriented to understand His Resurrection more deeply by seeing how all things have proclaimed its anticipation since the very beginning of His promise. So let us seek out this encounter with Him, both on the road of Scripture and the holy altar.



Gibran N Zogbi

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