



Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

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www.stsharbel.org

May 13, 2018

Seventh Week of the Resurrection/Acension



Next Sunday

Pentecost Sunday: Descent of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:1-21 (The Coming of the Spirit/Peter's Speech at Pentecost)

Jn 14:15-20 (The Advocate)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for April 29th - May 5th

Online.....\$320.00

Collection.....\$957.00

Weekly Total.....\$1,277.00

YTD Total.....\$30,715.68

YTD Goal.....\$33,228.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$2,512.32**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, May 13th, 10:30 am

+George Bassili

Monday, May 14th

Available

Tuesday, May 15th

Available

Wednesday, May 16th

Available

Thursday, May 17th

Available

Friday, May 18th

Available

Saturday, May 19th

Available

Sunday, May 20th

+Tony Abboud

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, May 13th

Available

Sunday, May 20th

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

Congratulations First Communicants



::JOB POSTING::

The National Apostolate of Maronites, NAM, are in the process of recruiting and retaining the services of a new Executive Director.

Executive Director National Apostolate of Maronites (NAM)

Job Description

In accordance with the National Apostolate of Maronites By-Laws, the Executive Director is responsible for the successful leadership and management of the Organization according to the strategic direction set by the Board of Directors in consultation with the Bishops.

The Executive Director performs some or all of the following:

- Participate with the Board of Directors in developing a vision and strategic plan to guide the Organization
- Identify, assess and inform the Board of Directors of internal and external issues that affect the Organization
- Act as a professional advisor to the Board of Directors on all aspects of the Organization's activities
- In addition to the President of NAM, act as a spokesperson for the Organization
- Conduct official correspondence on behalf of the Board as appropriate and jointly with the Board when appropriate
- Represent the Organization at community activities to enhance the Organization's community profile
- Perform the day-to-day operations of the National Office, which can be located anywhere
- In conjunction with the education Chair, supervise NAM's scholarship applications and awards
- Maintain up to date, true and accurate financial records
- Report on the financial standing of the Organization on a monthly, quarterly and annual basis
- Supervise the receipt and disbursement of all funds of the Organization and shall authorize deposits and withdrawals of all monies under such conditions as shall be imposed by the Board and in accordance with an approved budget
- Maintain current records of membership and delegates/representatives
- With the Chairman of Finance, prepare and present to the Board, the National Convention Report and the annual financial statements
- Serve as the Convention Coordinator working in close collaboration with the Bishops, host Pastors and chairpersons of national and regional conventions as well as the organizing committees
- Serve as a non-voting member of the Executive Committee
- In cooperation with the Public Relations committee, maintain a website for the Organization
- Perform all other duties as delegated by the Board of Directors, and all other duties that customarily devolve for the Office, not specifically mentioned herein

In addition to the above, the Executive Director must work with the Bishops on a regular basis.

Qualifications

- Knowledge of Maronite history and heritage
- Understand and believe in NAM's Mission
- Computer skills in Microsoft programs, as well as web design
- Participate in and understand Maronite traditions and interact with the Maronite Bishops, Clergy and laity
- Perform efficiently and on-time all aspects of office operations
- Knowledge of convention planning and hotel negotiations
- Ability to travel, when needed, throughout the year
- Ability to present well to the general public as the face of the Maronite Church
- Abide by all Catholic teaching and morality and practice the Catholic Faith with sincerity
- Ability to prepare, understand and present financial reports
- Bookkeeping Ability
- Bachelor's degree preferred, but not required

For further information, or to be considered for this position, please contact
Father Albert Constantine at (818)416-3839 or fralbertconstantine@gmail.com

Reflection

7th Week of the Resurrection

How often do we trace the sign of the cross upon ourselves? Likely we do so every time we begin to pray and at the end, and perhaps during our prayer as well and throughout the day. The sign of the cross is integral to our faith because Christ by His cross made a fool of death and destroyed sin by His death. But the sign of the cross does not only recall the death of Christ – for if Christ only died and nothing else, our faith would be in vain (1 Cor. 15:14). We do not worship a dead god, but the God of Life. When we sign ourselves with the cross we recall the entirety of Christ's mercy towards us on Earth from His conception at the Annunciation to the Ascension after His Resurrection into heaven, which we just celebrated this past Thursday. By Christ's life we have life. But when we sign ourselves with the cross, we do not simply say "In the name of the Son" but "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" to which we add in the Syriac tradition "the one true God. Amen." Though Christ was the only Person of the Trinity to become man, He was never separated from His Father or Spirit, and though there are three Persons in the Trinity, He is one true God without division.

We often hear and know the mention of the relationship between the Father and the Son, but our tradition brings particular light to the Spirit. The "St. Thomas" Cross of the Syriac tradition presents the truth of the Spirit clearly – this St. Thomas Cross is a cross with a dove, the Holy Spirit, perched on the top. The Holy Spirit, equal in being and majesty as the Father and Son, never left the Son since the Trinity is one, and the Trinity together completed every act of salvation on our behalf. Never was Christ separated or abandoned by the Father or Spirit in His entire life. From the beginning of the world, what the Father and Son began the Spirit also completed – just as we see in Genesis, the Spirit hovered over the waters (Gen. 1:2). Likewise, the Spirit hovers over our sacrifice to God upon the altar, depicted by the priest waving his hands at the epiclesis, just as He hovered over Mary at the Annunciation (Luke 1:35), over the Jordan at Christ's baptism (Matt. 3:16), and over the cross at the Christ's crucifixion. But just as the Father and Spirit never abandoned Christ in their unity of being and love, Christ did not abandon us when He physically ascended back to heaven.

As Christ promised His Apostles before His death, "I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth...I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you" (John 14:16,18). The same Spirit that completes, nourishes, consoles and perfects was poured upon the Apostles at Pentecost that, in union with the Spirit, they would be in union with the Son and Father. Just as the Apostles received the Spirit at Pentecost, we have been given participation in the divine nature by our baptism and confirmation, when the Spirit clothed us between the waters. Christ did not leave us by His Ascension, but incorporated us into the divine life by His Spirit. This is why we eagerly look forward to this great Feast of Pentecost next week – the great completion when the Spirit poured forth upon creation.

The St. Thomas Cross shows us that even at Christ's moment on the cross He was not abandoned by the Spirit, Who has been with Him since before all time. In Christ's love and mercy for us, He has given us, His baptized believers, the same Spirit that we may be united to Him, and His Father, and His Holy Spirit. With this in mind, let us pray in preparation for next week's great feast:

Make us worthy, O Lord God, Lover of Men, that we may sate our souls and fill our hearts with the rational drink of the new wine of the Spirit, the Paraclete, that, while made pure and holy, we may sing pure praises with pure and holy tongues to Your adorable and holy name, and that of Your Only-Begotten Son, and Your Holy Spirit, now and at all times, forever. Amen.

(From the Maronite Kneeling Rite for the Feast of Pentecost)



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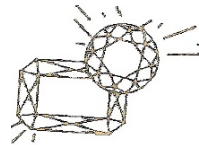
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