



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

July 1, 2018

The Mission of the 72 Disciples



Next Sunday

The Spirituality of God's Messenger

Rom 8:1-11 (The Flesh and the Spirit)

Mt 12:14-21 (The Chosen Servant)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for June 17th -23rd

Online.....\$660.00

Collection.....\$859.00

Weekly Total.....\$1,519.00

YTD Total.....\$43,465.68

YTD Goal.....\$46,150.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$2,684.32**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, July 1st, 10:30 am

+John and Farrel Kleem

Monday, July 2nd

Available

Tuesday, July 3rd

Available

Wednesday, July 4th

Available

Thursday, July 5th

Available

Friday, July 6th

David Havlicek

Saturday, July 7th

Available

Sunday, July 8th

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, July 1st

Available

Sunday, July 8th

Available

Parish Events



Lebanese Food Festival Sponsorship



Interested in Sponsoring the Food Festival? Send us your logo and business information and we will prominently display it on the banner at the festival. Please contact Gladys Allam alunui3r@frontier.com or Katherine Mofitt at moffittkatherinea@gmail.com if you're interested. Sponsorships are available to all parishioners and any referrals from parishioners. The deadline for all sponsors is Monday July 9th. For your convenience, the sponsor form is attached to the original email.

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

Food Festival Sign Up

We have a food sign up to help with supplies for the food festival. Please Sign up in the google doc below if you can help. Supplies need to be to the church by Sunday, July 8.

SIGN UP HERE

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1jHxKp1iUp5uIVjCKAfWHhjw9qkT9EWMggcuqkVFIYY/edit?usp=sharing>

Community Events

WANT AN EXTRAORDINARY WAY TO LIVE OUT YOUR BELIEFS ABOUT THE POWER OF FAITH, HOPE & LOVE?

Check out Project Aurora, a unique ministry whose mission is mending lives affected by abortion. An informative introductory workshop and orientation will be presented in three separate locations to introduce the curious and the serious to Project Aurora's work of providing Rachel's Vineyard™ post-abortion healing retreat services in Oregon.

Yes! You can become one of the compassionate pieces of this exceptional healing ministry serving those who are experiencing the after-math of abortion.

LAKE OSWEGO – July 21, 2018 Our Lady of the Lake parish center
EUGENE – August 18, 2018 St. Mary's Catholic Church parish center
GRANTS PASS – September 15, 2018 Taprock Grill

For detailed information and to pre-register please go to our website www.Project-Aurora.org or email ProjectAurora@aol.com/ Registration is requested but not required.

2018 SAINT SHARBEL LEBANESE FOOD FESTIVAL

COME ENJOY A BITE OF LEBANESE CULTURE!

Kids activities, games and fun for the whole family!

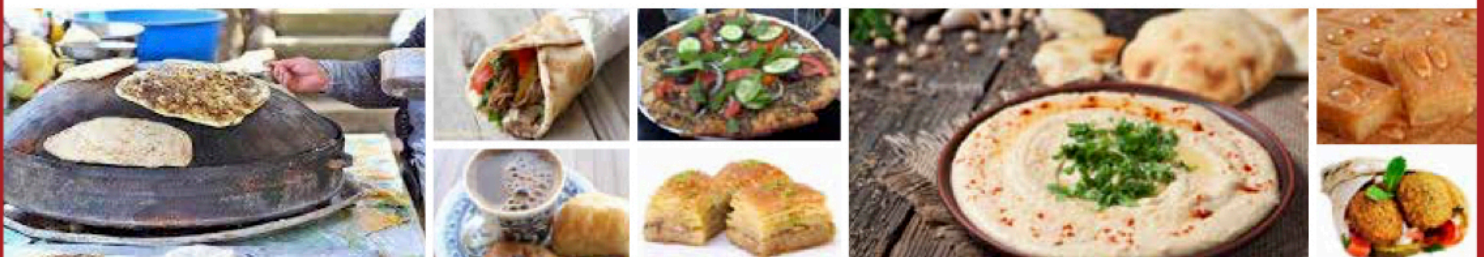


July 14th & 15th
Saturday Noon–9pm
Sunday Noon–5pm

A SHOWCASE OF AUTHENTIC LEBANESE CUISINE & MUSIC

- Hummus
- Fattouch Salad
- Falafel
- Chicken/Lamb Shawarma
- Chicken Skewers
- Rice
- Manakish Zaatar (ground thyme with sesame seed)
- Elephant Ears
- Desserts

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Reflection

The Mission of the 72 Disciples

In addition to the inner circle of the Twelve, we are told today that he appointed another 72 and sent them two by two to the places he himself would be visiting. (Only Luke mentions this group.) That is a good description of our Christian role. We are supposed to go first to prepare the ground but then it is Jesus himself who comes to plant the seed of faith. Jesus then goes on to give an instruction to his disciples. We, too, should be listening to his words:

He first points out that the harvest is great and there are very few laborers, few who are willing to do the harvesting work with Jesus. The challenge was being thrown out to all his followers to find more people to join in the harvesting work. We have to be careful as we listen to these words not to exclude ourselves because we are middle-aged, or married, or already have a career. The words are addressed to all of us and call for some kind of response from every one of us. It is never too late to respond to the call.

Second, Jesus warns his followers that it may not be easy. "I am sending you out as lambs among wolves." In spite of the message of truth, love, compassion and justice that we bring, it does not mean that we will be received with open arms. On the contrary, we may meet with strong opposition and even persecution. Our message will be seen as threatening. It will be distorted and misunderstood.

The disciple is called on to travel light. Jesus himself "had nowhere to lay his head" and he only had the clothes he wore. So many of us are weighed down by the things we own. Some of us have to protect our property with the latest in security devices. In our search for prosperity and material security we have lost the more precious gift of freedom. They are not to stop to greet people in the sense of carrying on lengthy conversations. Their mission was urgent – there are few laborers for a potentially huge harvest.

They are to be bearers of peace. Peace, shalom, is much more than an absence of violence. It is a deep inner harmony with oneself, with others, with one's environment, with God. "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God." We could hardly bring a more precious gift to others than this inner peace. It is, in fact, the heart of our Christian message. Faith, hope and love are the keys to peace.

The evangelizer is, first, to stay in the first house that accepts him. He should not be going around looking for better accommodation. At the same time, he is to be provided with shelter and hospitality for "the laborer is worthy of his hire". This, it seems, was the way Jesus himself lived. And this was the overall ideal of the Christian community: a network of mutually supporting people sharing their resources with each other and with those in greater need than themselves.

Their work is primarily to heal the sick in the places they go to. 'Healing' should be taken in a wider sense of including body, feelings, mind and spirit. And 'healing' should also be seen not just as getting rid of a sickness but of making a person whole again. Bringing healing and wholeness into the lives of individuals and communities is of the essence of the Kingdom and at the heart of Jesus' work and that of his followers. The sign of that wholeness is inner peace. Today it is no different. And they are to say, "The kingdom of God has come near to you." This is not just a statement they are to throw out. It is the core of Jesus' message and an explanation of why people are experiencing healing and wholeness coming into their lives. This is the effect of the coming of the kingdom; this is what the coming of the kingdom means. God's power is penetrating their lives, transforming them and making them whole again. In short, the kingdom, the rule of God is intended to be both a present reality as well as a future hope.

Finally, if there is any place where they are not received, they are to leave it to its own fate. Even then those people are to know that the kingdom of God is near to them also. There is always the hope that the results of their very rejection of the kingdom will lead to a deeper awareness later on. But by rejecting the messengers of God they have opened themselves to a fate worse than that of Sodom, a city utterly destroyed because of its shameful lack of hospitality to divine visitors. But those hearing the message of Jesus are even more accountable for hearing the message of the Kingdom proclaimed to them and turning their back on it. Clearly, we cannot literally apply all of these points to our own work on behalf of the Gospel but we need to make the underlying principles and values ours too. It will require some reflection on our part both as individuals and as communities on how we should effectively share the Gospel with those around us and be the harvesters that are so badly needed.

Indeed, let us pray for vocations but let us remember that every single one of us is being called to work in the harvest field and not just some chosen souls who are totally unknown to us.



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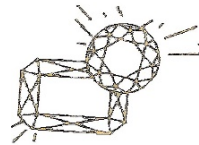
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