



# Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

1804 SE 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214

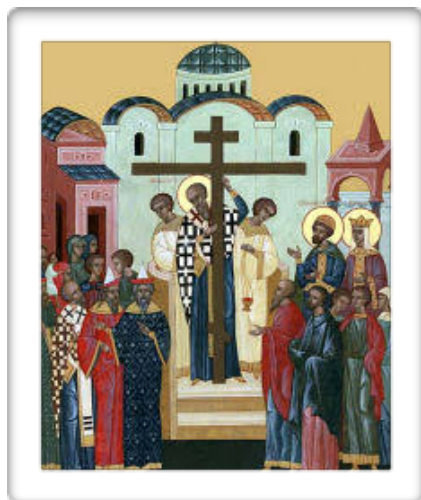
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[stsharbelpdx@gmail.com](mailto:stsharbelpdx@gmail.com)

[www.stsharbel.org](http://www.stsharbel.org)

## September 16th, 2018

### Feast of the Holy Cross



**Next Sunday**

*Second Sunday After the Holy Cross*

**1Cor 15:19-34** (Christ the Firstfruits/Practical Arguments)

**Mt 24:1-14** (the Destruction of the Temple Foretold/Beginnong of Calamities)

## Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for September 2nd - 8th

Online.....\$495.00

Collection.....\$1,326.00

Weekly Total.....\$1,821.00

YTD Total.....\$63,614.94

YTD Goal.....\$66,492.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$2,877.06**

## Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, September 16th, 10:30 am

*Available*

Monday, September 17th

*Available*

Tuesday, September 18th

*Available*

Wednesday, September 19th

*Israel and the Jews*

Thursday, September 20th

*Israel and the Jews*

Friday, September 21st

*Israel and the Jews*

Saturday, September 22nd

*Israel and the Jews*

Sunday, September 23rd

*+Hanna and Souad Karam*

***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, September 16th

*Available*

Sunday, September 23rd

*Redmond Family*

## 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

## Parish Events

### Safe Environment Presentation for Children (Grades 1 - 6):

To all St. Sharbel Parents of children (Kindergarten thru high school) participating in the Catechism Programs (Altar Servers, Sacrament Preparation, Angel Scouts, and Crossroads):

The US Bishops' *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* is requiring each Catholic parish to offer personal safety education for the children in all our programs. Our Eparchy requires us to participate and follow the policies that are in place by the Archdiocese of Portland.

To comply, the Archdiocese of Portland has implemented the *Called to Protect* programs for children and young people in all parishes. All minors in Catholic schools and in parish, religious education or youth ministry activities are required to participate in these programs, every school year.

For our children in Sacrament Preparation and in Angel Scouts (grades in 1<sup>st</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup>): On Sunday, September 30 at 9:15 AM, I will be presenting the *Called to Protect* program to our children. I will present the program upstairs in the classroom.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 503-671-0440.

Thank you for working with me and Abouna on providing a safe environment for the children/youth in our parish.

Sincerely in Christ,

Nadia Redmond  
Coordinator of Religious Education  
& *Called-to-Protect* Trainer

### Safe Environment Presentation to all Parents

Dear parents of children in the parish,

I want to first commend Nadia for keeping our parish in strict compliance with Diocesan/Eparchial standards relating to protection of minors. Part of her work involves a mandated training for all in the parish. What is required is that we offer training to parents. The training is kind of a reminder about principles which keep our kids safe. (All those working with youth are required to take similar annual trainings).

We will offer this annual training **after Mass on Sunday, September 23rd (adults only)**. This is very important, and I want to encourage you to attend if you haven't done it in a while.

Let us all attend to this important matter, especially in light of recent revelations of problems.

God bless and keep each of you safe and happy!  
Abouna

### Sunday School Program

**Sunday School classes begin  
September 30, 2018 for grades 1st-6th.  
Classes start at 9:15 am till 10:15 am.**

**To register your child(ren) for classes,  
please complete the registration form  
(attached as pdf to original email).**

**Contact Nadia Redmond for further  
information, phone: 503-671-0440 or  
email: [n.redmond@comcast.net](mailto:n.redmond@comcast.net)**



## Community Events

### REGINA CAELI ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE



We are pleased to invite you to our Open House at Regina Caeli Academy - Portland, October 22, 2018, 10:30am, 2710 N.E. 65th Ave. Vancouver, WA 98661.

RCA is a hybrid academy, serving students in grades Preschool-12th grade in the Catholic tradition. RCA provides fully accredited academic and extracurricular classes for homeschoolers. Students attend classes using the Socratic method two days per week and are homeschooled the remaining days. For more information visit [www.rcahybrid.org](http://www.rcahybrid.org) or call Mrs. Rebecca Aldrich, Center Coordinator of Education at 971-238-9249. We look forward to welcoming you to RCA!

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### Sisters of St. Mary Associate Program

SSMO Associates are lay men and women covenanted with the Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon and sharing in the charism and mission of the congregation within the context of the associates' own lifestyles. Associates and Sisters are committed to each other through shared prayer, presence and enrichment opportunities.

If you would like more information, [come and see](#) on

Sunday, October 28  
1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.  
4440 SW 148<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Beaverton, OR 97078

Contact: Sr. Barbara Jean  
[srbarbarajeanl@ssmo.org](mailto:srbarbarajeanl@ssmo.org)  
503-644-9181

(or) Sr. Catherine Hertel  
[srcatherineh@ssmo.org](mailto:srcatherineh@ssmo.org)  
503-644-9181

# Reflection

Jn 12:20-32

On the Fest of the Exaltation of the Cross (or Triumph of the Cross) we honor the Holy Cross by which Christ redeemed the world. The public veneration of the Cross of Christ originated in the fourth century, according to early accounts. The miraculous discovery of the cross on September 14, 326, by Saint Helen, mother of Constantine, while she was on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, is the origin of the tradition of celebrating the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross on this date. Constantine later built the Church of the Holy Sepulchre on the site of her discovery of the cross. On this same pilgrimage she ordered two other churches built: one in Bethlehem near the Grotto of the Nativity, the other on the Mount of the Ascension, near Jerusalem. In the Western Church the feast came into prominence in the seventh century — after 629, when the Byzantine emperor Heraclitus restored the Holy Cross to Jerusalem, after defeating the Persians who had stolen it.

Christians “exalt” (raise on high) the Cross of Christ as the instrument of our salvation. Adoration of the Cross is, thus, adoration of Jesus Christ, the God Man, who suffered and died on this Roman instrument of torture for our redemption from sin and death. The cross represents the One Sacrifice by which Jesus, obedient even unto death, accomplished our salvation. The cross is a symbolic summary of the Passion, Crucifixion and Resurrection of Christ — all in one image.

The Cross — because of what it represents — is the most potent and universal symbol of the Christian faith. It has inspired both liturgical and private devotions: for example, the Sign of the Cross, which is an invocation of the Holy Trinity; the “little” Sign of the Cross on head, lips and heart at the reading of the Gospel; praying the Stations (or Way) of the Cross; and the Veneration of the Cross by the faithful on Good Friday by kissing the feet of the image of Our Savior crucified.

Placing a crucifix (the cross with an image of Christ’s body upon it) in churches and homes, in classrooms of Catholic schools and in other Catholic institutions, or wearing this image on our persons, is a constant reminder — and witness — of Christ’s ultimate triumph, His victory over sin and death through His suffering and dying on the Cross.

We remember Our Lord’s words, “Whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all. For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (Mk 10:43-45). Meditating on these words from this week’s Gospel we unite ourselves — our souls and bodies — with His obedience and His role of sacrifice for others.

**Dying, you destroyed our death; rising you restored our life. Save us by your cross, Christ our Redeemer.**



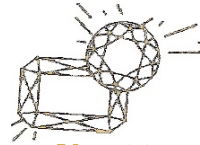
**Gibran N Zogbi**

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