



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

September 30th, 2018 Third Sunday After the Holy Cross



Next Sunday

Fourth Sunday After the Holy Cross

1 Thes 5:1-11 (Vigilance)

Mt 24:45-51 (The Faithful or the Unfaithful Servant)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for September 16th - 22nd

Online.....\$467.00

Collection.....\$825.00

Weekly Total.....\$1,292.00

YTD Total.....\$66,485.94

YTD Goal.....\$70,184.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$3,698.06**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, September 30th, 10:30 am

Our Brother Thomas for Healing

Monday, October 1st

Available

Tuesday, October 2nd

Available

Wednesday, October 3rd

Available

Thursday, October 4th

Available

Friday, October 5th

Available

Saturday, October 6th

Available

Sunday, October 7th

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, September 30th

Available

Sunday, October 7th

Available

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 1st thru 6th): 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



Attention all young men and women,
come check out St. Sharbel's new youth group,

The Cedars!



Who: Anyone ages 13 to 18 (ish) interested in building friendships, participating in important and relevant discussions, having fun, and most importantly, following Jesus!

Facilitated by Maroun Maroun and Jennifer Karam. Please contact Jennifer or Maroun directly to register.

What: Saint Sharbel's Cedars is a group of young people, inspired by our Lord's call to be His disciples, who will meet twice a month for sessions which teach us about our identity as followers of Christ, service to others, and social activities.

Where/When: All Cedars sessions are held at the St. Sharbel Church basement 7:00 to 9:15 pm, usually on Friday evenings, unless otherwise indicated. Social Activities and Service Events are to be announced ahead of time through email announcements and church announcements.

Save the Dates! Here's our tentative Cedars Schedule for 2018-2019:

***Please make sure to give your email address and cell number to Jennifer Karam in order to be on the email list for up to date reminders and possible changes to this schedule.

October 12:

First meeting - Session 1: Why Are You Here?

October 26: Session 2: Dark Angels and the Light of Christ

November 9 Session 3: Communication

November 30: Cedars Movie Night at St. Sharbel. Movie TBA, 7:00 showtime.

December 16: Breakfast with Santa - Cedars Service Activity for the Church. More info to come.

January 11: Session 4: Follow Me

January 25: Session 5: Modern Media: Screens Part 1

February 8: Session 6: Modern Media: Screens Part 2

February 23: Cedars Snow Day! Snow intertubing on Mt. Hood - Please note this is a SATURDAY. More information to come.

March 9: Season of Great Lent Session 7: Pray Unceasingly (THIS IS ON A SATURDAY DUE TO STATIONS OF THE CROSS ON FRIDAY EVENING)

April 26: Easter Friday Maron-night Session 8 - Mr. Maroun's "City of Jerusalem" Session

May 10: End of the Year Bowling Excursion.

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**



Community Events

40 Days for Life

From September 26th through November 4th, you're invited to join others throughout the world for 40 Days for Life – 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. Come and stand and pray peacefully during a 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way in Portland outside the Lovejoy Surgicenter at 933 NW 25th anytime between 7 am and 7 pm.

Abby Johnson, who left the abortion industry and is now a Pro-Life advocate, told us that on surgical abortion day, when there are people praying outside the facility, there is as high as a 75% NO SHOW RATE for abortion appointments! Your prayerful presence makes a difference and literally SAVES LIVES!

Sign up today at www.40daysforlife.com/portland

Portland Life Chain will be on October 28th, Sunday, 2:30 pm - 4 pm, in front of Planned Parenthood Center at 3727 NE MLK Jr. Blvd, Portland, Oregon. Life Chain is a peaceful and prayerful public witness of pro-life individuals standing for 90 minutes praying for our nation and for an end to abortion. Bring your whole family! Rosaries, lawn chairs, strollers, umbrellas are welcome and encouraged! This event is organized by Oregon Knights of Columbus. For more info, please contact Tony D'Silva at spx.koc.forlife@gmail.com.

Reflection

Mt: 24:23-31

Our scripture readings this Sunday emphasize the final coming of Christ and his victory over all the forces in our world-universe that are destructive — including the terrorizing force of death. The end purpose of God's plan of salvation is made clear: that God may be all in all.

The gospel proclaimed to us gives us the sense that God, our Creator, is about to draw all things to himself where creation will be fully restored to its final image of perfection. This reminds us of Jesus saying in the gospels: "When I am lifted up I will draw all to myself" (Jn. 12:32); and: "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect." (Mt. 5:48). These eternal promises are repeated throughout Sacred Scripture.

For this end the divine Son became incarnate; his sign — the glorious Cross — is now our reminder of his life-giving victory by the regeneration of life that he has activated into his creation. At present all these potentials lie dormant within all that is good in creation, including all the people of good will to whom the good news of hope and salvation is being revealed, and who will be awakened at the end-time.

Our Syriac church sees these powers hidden within Christ's mystical body and in the Mysteries of the saving sign of his Cross. In the *Mazmooro* of the feast-day she asks that his Cross may be a shield and protection for her and her children; and the sign of his compassion on the final day of judgment of the Son of Man.

These gospel (good news) lessons give us a sense of hope and responsibility. A sense that God has not forgotten us, but will send his beloved Son again; that we too will one day dwell where he is — with the Holy Trinity — and be one with them! (Jn 14:3).

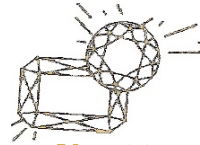
**Gibran N Zogbi**

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