

Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

1804 SE 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214

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stsharbelpdx@gmail.com

www.stsharbel.org

November 4, 2018

Consecration of the Church



Next Sunday

Renewal of the Church

Heb 9:11-15 (Sacrifice of Jesus)

Jn 10:22-42 (Feast of the Dedication)

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, November 4th, 10:30 am
+ Ghassan Farah (40 day mass)

Monday, November 5th
Sexual Abuse Reparations

Tuesday, November 6th
Sexual Abuse Reparations

Wednesday, November 7th
Sexual Abuse Reparations

Thursday, November 8th
Sexual Abuse Reparations

Friday, November 9th
Sexual Abuse Reparations

Saturday, November 10th
Sexual Abuse Reparations

Sunday, November 11th
+ Pierre Kassab

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.

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for October 21st - 28th

Online.....\$1,920.00

Collection.....\$657.00

Weekly Total.....\$2,577.00

YTD Total.....\$81,290.94

YTD Goal.....\$79,414.00

YTD Difference.....**\$1,876.94**

Altar Sponsorship

Sunday, November 4th

Available

Sunday, November 11th

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

Children's Christmas Eve Pageant

You are invited to participate in this year's Christmas Eve pageant. Registration and first choir rehearsal is after the Divine Liturgy this Sunday, November 4th. You will be provided with songs to practice for the pageant and your parents will receive further information. All attendees of this first rehearsal will have the first choice for a role in the Christmas Eve Pageant!

All Children, ages 3-13

Parents: mark these dates in your calendar for pageant rehearsals:
Sundays, November 4th, and December 9th and 23rd.

Time: Immediately after the Liturgy (approximately noon to 1pm)

Place: Upstairs Classroom

Looking forward to a joyful season, Nadia Redmond, Edith Demers, and Katherine Moffitt
Your Christmas Eve Pageant Organizers

email: n.redmond@comcast.net



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 Gennifer Karam. Please contact Gennifer 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 upstairs classroom immediately following the mass on the 2nd and 4th Sundays, 11:45 am - 1:30 pm, unless otherwise indicated. All meetings, social activities and service events are 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 Gennifer Karam in order to be on the email list for up to date reminders and possible changes to this schedule.

November 11: Session 2: **Come and See**

November 25: Session 3: Cedars of Saint Sharbel Matinee: A movie TBA

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

January 13: Session 3: **Real Friends**

January 27: Session 4: **Follow Me**

February 10: Session 6: **The Cost**

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

March 9: Session 7: **Undecided Topic TBA**

March 24: Session 8: **Undecided Topic TBA**

April 28: Session 9: **City of Jerusalem Presentation**

May 12: **End of the Year Bowling Excursion.**

Sunday School Program

Sunday School classes started 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



Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles
Office of the Bishop

October 30, 2018

Dear Parishioners:

The American bishops are joining together in a commitment of prayer and reparation leading up to the bishops' general assembly in Baltimore from November 12 through November 14, 2018. At this meeting we will be making critical decisions in response to the clergy sexual abuse crisis. With my brother bishops across the nation, I will be dedicating myself to seven days of intensified prayer and fasting, from Monday, November 5, through Sunday, November 11. The intentions for this period of prayer and sacrifice are three-fold:

- For the healing and support of all victims of clergy sexual abuse.
- For the conversion and just punishment of the perpetrators and concealers of sexual abuse.
- For the strength of the bishops to be holy shepherds in protecting and leading our sheep from all harm.

If you feel called to do so, you are welcome to join me in praying for these intentions. I would also be grateful for any prayers for me and my brother bishops during our general assembly, that we may follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit in responding to the tragedy of clergy sexual abuse in the Church.

Please be assured of my prayers for you, as well.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+A. Elias Zaidan
Bishop of the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles

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Dena Fredrickson



Kathleen Tansey



Heather Renshaw

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD

@ The Grotto in
Portland, OR
9 AM to 3:30 PM

PLUS an evening
networking event with
refreshments and
special book signing!



Includes:

**HOLY MASS
INSPIRING TALKS
NETWORKING
PRAYER
FOOD & MORE!**

REGISTER NOW! www.cwbn.us/success-summits

Volunteer with the Catholic Charities' Save First Financial Wellness as a Financial Coach! Help us support families in the making a positive financial change. Join us for a Volunteer Financial Coach training on November 7th from 9am-12pm at the Catholic Charities Clark Family Center. Refreshments will be provided. Interested? Please contact Katie Earley at katie@SaveFirstFinancial.org or 503-688-2575.

Tired of living paycheck to paycheck? Attend a Save First Financial Wellness half-day workshop to learn about money management. You will learn about saving money, debt reduction, budgeting and building credit. The cost is \$25 for individuals and \$40 for couples. The cost covers registration fee and class materials (scholarships are available). Sign up for an upcoming workshop from 9 AM to 12:30 PM on Sat., Nov. 3 or Sat., Dec. 1st. Workshops take place at Catholic Charities' Clark Family Center at 2740 SE Powell Blvd., Portland, OR 97202. To register, call 503.688.2596 or email Emily@SaveFirstFinancial.org.

Reflection

Mt 16:13-20

Elijah and the pleasant young man, Daniel, are diligent groomsmen. Dear Thomas is the messenger, and Isaiah the collector of gifts. / [Mary] Magdalene is carrying spices and the sinful woman ointments. Matthew sets the tables and Luke mixes the wine vessels. / Abel sent her the first-born lamb from his flock and just Jacob set aside a tenth of his possession for her from the very beginning.

(Trans. from the Syriac Maronite night prayer of the Consecration of the Church)

People running around preparing food and setting tables might evoke the image of a *hafleh* in some minds, but the above is no earthly feast. This hymn from our tradition describes the wedding banquet of the Church, the Bride of Christ, whose feast we celebrate today. It is not a coincidence that this feast is the first at the beginning of the Church year – our tradition emphasizes the existence of the Church from the very beginning with Adam. The servants of Christ have been preparing His Bride’s banquet even before He arrived! This is why the above hymn mentions both figures from the Old Testament, such as Elijah and Abraham, as well as from the New Testament, such as Mary Magdalene and Luke, working together. Though separated by thousands of years, all those whom Christ has raised to His service work together throughout time.

This might sound strange, but today we celebrate the continuity of the Church throughout all of time. Christ, our all-knowing and loving God, wanted to establish a way that humanity could be in an intimate relationship with Himself. The means He picked was to become the Bridegroom of the Church, to whom we belong. From before all time, He began to prepare this great wedding banquet with Israel and the prophets of old. The prophets organized the feast by their prophecies, preparing the hearts of the world to receive the Bridegroom. The apostles came to invite all the peoples of the world to this banquet, for Christ wishes all to be with Him. And today, our Church is the continuation of that true Israel, as St. Paul writes in Rom. 9:8, it is “the children of the promise” of God, not a physical descent.

All the saints before us have assisted in preparing this banquet through their own vocation to which Christ has called them until the moment He signed His wedding contract by His own blood when “He entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption,” as our first reading tells us (Heb. 9:12). And the very food of the banquet and purpose is the same in this action – at the banquet, Christ sets on the Holy Table, the altar, His Body and Blood for our eternal life and salvation, so that we may live with Him, glorify Him, and delight with Him for eternity with the rest of those invited to the banquet.

Indeed, every time we enter into the church for the Mass, we enter into this Mystical Banquet with all the saints before us, and the Bridegroom comes to delight with His Bride. Today, we celebrate the love of Christ towards His Bride, the Church, for He had no need to take her as His Bride or prepare the grand banquet that continues until today. Let us join in the banquet He has prepared us and assist. We are not forced to attend the banquet – we have the privilege of being the guests of honor.

Today the sons of the Church shall gather together and offer glory and thanksgiving with joy to God for His love has descended and dwelt in the Church. He has graciously made her a true bride for Himself. Today the true priests surround the holy altar in the likeness of angels. Our Lord gave her the authority for His flock to receive His body and Blood for forgiveness of their debts.



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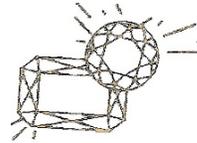
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