



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

February 24, 2019

**Commemoration of the
Faithful Departed**



Next Sunday

Miracle of Cana in Galilee

Rom 14:14-23 (Consideration for the Weak Conscience)

Jn 2:1-11 (The Wedding at Cana)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for February 10th -16th

Online.....\$700.00

Collection.....\$423.00

Weekly Total.....\$1,123.00

YTD Total.....\$10,597.15

YTD Goal.....\$12,922.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$2,324.85**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, February 24th 10:30 am

Maronite Monks of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

Monday, February 25th

Available

Tuesday, February 26th

Available

Wednesday, February 27th

Available

Thursday, February 28th

Available

Friday, March 1st

Available

Saturday, March 2nd

Available

Sunday, March 3rd

+Fouzie Ghousan 40 day memorial

***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, February 24th

Redmond Family

Sunday, March 3rd

Available

Parish Events



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.

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

March 10: 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.**

Community Events



The National Apostolate of Maronites (NAM)
Presents

The 27th Annual Spring Raffle - 2019

Only 450 Tickets are printed

Donation: \$100 per ticket

This just may be the year your lucky number is chosen!!!!

\$17,500.00 In Cash Prizes!!!

1st Prize \$10,000.00

2nd Prize \$3,000.00

3rd Prize \$2,000.00

4th Prize \$1,500.00

5th Prize \$1,000.00

Only 450 Tickets Printed - \$100
Each

This year's drawing will be held on **April 28th, 2019** at St. Rafka, Livonia Michigan

Thank you for your support in previous years for this raffle fund-raiser, as it is an important part of the NAM annual budget. We are counting on your generosity once again, to support our community projects.

To purchase a personal ticket(s), your parish NAM Delegates have 4 tickets to sell, please contact Christopher or Nadia Redmond at 503-671-0440

All requests and payments must be received by **April 1st, 2019.**

www.namnews.org

Parish Council

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(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

Reflection

Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

If we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him (Romans 6:8).

This Sunday brings us to the third and final week of commemorations of the dead – the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed. We continue to pray that God have mercy upon the departed this week, specifically focusing on the average faithful who have died, such as our friends, siblings, parents, and grandparents. It pays to ask, though, what were they faithful to and what is the result if they are dead? Jesus Christ answers this, saying, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die” (John 11:25-26).

We implore the Lord this Sunday that He have mercy and grant rest to those who have “eaten Your body, drank Your blood and have fallen asleep in Your hope” – the hope of the eternal life that Christ promises. And Christ will certainly grant eternal life to those who were faithful to Him, as He Himself is life. He is the Lord of life Who created life in the beginning, and has willed to destroy death by His becoming man. As St. Paul said, “The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Cor. 15:57). Jesus Christ, Who is our immortal God and source of all life, united His divine life to our human mortality by becoming man that by dying He might destroy death. He joined His immortality to our mortality by becoming man, that death may not kill us if we cling to Him. By His dying, He – Life Himself, over Whom death has no power – went down to death to destroy it for those who follow Him. When Christ rose, He foreshadowed the life He offered to those who will also overcome death with Him at the end of time.

The resurrection of the dead is truly a real event. As a hymn verse from this Sunday recounts, Christ indicated the mystery of the resurrection multiple times throughout His life on earth:

Through three dead persons Christ revealed to us the mystery of the Resurrection. In three places of His journey He made death without threat: the daughter of Jairus in the house (Luke 8:49-56), the boy in the middle of the road (Luke 7:11-17) and Lazarus from the grave (John 11:1-44). Behold, in it were laid milestones of peace from beginning to end. (Trans. from the Commemoration of the Faith Departed)

In these various situations worth reading and recounting, Christ restores to life those who died with faith to foreshadow the resurrection. Each reveal a lot about the resurrection. When Jairus, for instance, asks Jesus to help his sick daughter who died, He responds, “She is not dead but asleep” (Luke 8:52) and the crowd responded by laughing at Jesus for they knew she was dead. In the cleverness of this world, the crowd thought the girl was lost for good, but Jesus Christ, Who is the Lord of the living and the dead, knows that to whom He grants the resurrection death is only like a nap. That is why we say the faithful departed “sleep” in Christ’s hope – for when the resurrection occurs at the end of time, their death will only have been like a nap and they will live again. Likewise, we call them faithful “departed” (unlike those who go to hell, who are eternally “lost”) because they will one day return to life just as Christ did.

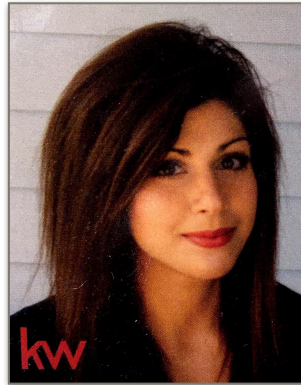
This Sunday let us implore the Lord to grant the faithful departed rest in His Kingdom, and the resurrection into new eternal life:

O Lord, our Lord, Who delivered Yourself to the cross and tasted death for our salvation, raise and give life to the departed buried in Sheol for the sign of Your Lordship (i.e. baptism) is upon them, hallelujah! Through You may they have spiritual wings and enter with You into the bridal chamber of joys.

**Gibran N Zogbi**

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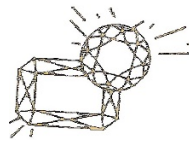
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