

# Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

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April 28, 2019 Jesus Appears to the Disciples and Thomas



Next Sunday Jesus Appears to the Two Disciples at Emmaus 2Tim 2:8-13 (Timothy's Conduct) Lk 24:13-35 (The Appearance on the Road to Emmaus)

## Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for April 14th-20th

Online	\$480.00
Collection	\$1,023.00
Weekly Total	\$1,503.00

YTD Total	\$28,627.65
YTD Goal	\$29,536.00

YTD Difference......**\$908.35** 

## **Liturgy Intentions**

Sunday, April 28th 10:30 am Brieanna Anderson Monday, April 29th +John Raffensperger Tuesday, April 30th +John Raffensperger Wednesday, May 1st +John Raffensperger Thursday, May 2nd Available Friday, May 3rd Available Saturday, May 4th Available Sunday, May 5th Dominic Havlicek

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

<u>Sunday, April 28th</u> Available <u>Sunday, May 5th</u> Available

## Parish | Community Events

### **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

Joseph Frank Johns Jan. 13, 1940 - April 19, 2019



Joseph Frank Johns was born in Butte, Mont., Jan. 13, 1940 to Jerry and Agnes Johns. He was the 4th of seven children, five sisters and one brother. He lived his younger life in Great Falls and Neihart, Mont., until the family moved to Oregon in 1952. Joe attended All Saints Grade school and graduated from Central Catholic High School in Portland, Oregon in 1958. After high school, Joe first

After high school, Joe first went to work at Fred Meyer and became an assistant manager. Joe was then drafted into the United States Army, where he was stationed at FL Ord. Calif

was stationed at Ft. Ord, Calif. and Ft. Richardson, Alaska and attended the University of Alaska (1965) while in the Army. He was honorably discharged in 1966. After his discharge from the U.S. Army, Joe attended Loyola University in Chicago, Penn State University. He eventually went to work for Standard Insurance Company

He eventually went to work for Standard Insurance Company (1969-77) and became a highly successful insurance salesman. During his insurance years, Joe bought real estate including a small property with a neighborhood grocery store and deli. The "Pennysaver Market" was a family business, where his mother, sisters and brother all worked. Joe sold the market and began Joe Johns, Inc., a small manufacturing and fabrication company.

In 1988 Joe moved to the Garthwick neighborhood where he was very involved in the local homeowners association and the Sellwood-Moreland Improvement League (S.M.I.E.). He worked from home in Portland until he entered assisted living in 2013. He moved to Spring Meadows Assisted Living, in St. Helens, Ore., in 2016.

Joe was very passionate about his Lebanese heritage. When he learned his grandparents were Maronite Catholics, (an Eastern Rite of the Catholic Church), he contacted the Maronite Archdiocese in Detroit and asked they send a priest to Portland to minister to the large Lebanese community. Working with the Archdiocese in Portland, the Arch-Bishop and Joe were able to have a priest in Portland in less than a year. St. Sharbel (the Patron Saint of the Maronites) Catholic Church was established in 1974 with Joe as the driving force. Joe will have his funeral and last rites in the very Church he

Joe will have his funeral and last rites in the very Church he brought to his family and community at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, April 27, 2019, at St. Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church, 1804 S.E. 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214.

Joe is survived by his sister, Lana of Portland; brother, Kim of Pacific City; and half-sister, Sharon Davis of Las Vegas.

Please sign the online guest book at www.oregonlive.com/obits



BBQ and Workshop Meet the Bishops Our Lady of Lebanon Pool and Beach Party



#### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

\*\*\*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.

April 28: Session 9: City of Jerusalem Presentation

May 12: End of the Year Bowling Excursion.

Parishioners Keep selling those tickets for Hafli and Contact Agopos or Husn with Questions!



## **Reflection**

New Sunday

### Jesus Appears to the Disciples and Thomas

On this Sunday, the Maronite Church celebrates New Sunday. As the Gospel of John (20:26-29) describes it, it was the eighth day of the Resurrection, that is the week after Easter Sunday when Jesus rose from His grave, destroying death by His death. However, His Resurrection had not yet been known to some of His closest followers and friends, the Apostles. He appeared to some, but not all. But today we celebrate the day that our Lord Jesus Christ confirmed in His great mercy that He rose from the dead, granting eternal life to those who follow Him.

Everything Jesus Christ did and does has been in the great abundance of His mercy in His love for mankind: His annunciation of His conception, His birth in the flesh, His baptism in the Jordan, His healings and teachings, His Passion, His crucifixion and death, His burial, His descent into Sheol, His resurrection from the dead, His ascension into heaven and His sending the Spirit at Pentecost. Each action He undertook out of no need of His own, but for His love of us to lead us away from error and unite our weak humanity to His divine life. Beyond the events of His Incarnation in the flesh, which we celebrate as the major milestones of our Church year, everything He has done for us has been in mercy from the creation of the world, the sending of prophets and the Church in the present age. All He did and does is for our assistance in His loving mercy.

Yet the salvation that Christ offered was not always so clearly known. The Apostles themselves were not certain what happened during Christ's Passion and Resurrection, which we just celebrated during Holy Week and Easter Sunday, especially because they had not yet received the Holy Spirit at Pentecost to assist their understanding. This is why Jesus visited them multiple times – to help them understand that He did not die, for He is Life Himself, but it was death itself that died by His death. Before today, perhaps many believed their beloved Master was gone for good, but He confirmed to them that He is the Ancient of Days Who existed before all:

Thomas became a mighty and tall fortification for the Holy Church when he uprooted doubts from her when he touched the side of his Lord. Arise, O Church, and sing glory on the day of his memory when he became a fortification for you! Through his prayers let Him quell the waves of heresies that fight against her and strengthen your children to cry out and say to the Son, "Truly You are my Lord and my God, worshipped by all, and You have confirmed the faith for us. (Trans. from Syriac Maronite Vespers of New Sunday)

In our tradition, we do not criticize St. Thomas the Apostle for having doubted Christ – he did not understand the Resurrection as no one before that week truly experienced it. But St. Thomas is our proof that the risen Lord was not simply a vision or memory, but truly risen flesh when he placed his hand in the Lord's side. The Lord raised His own flesh from death in His love so that we might all overcome death if we follow Him in faith. On this New Sunday, He confirmed in knowledge to us what was always true: His immeasurable mercy towards us is our true source of peace because He would literally go to death and back for the sake of our life.

O Peace, You gladdened the Apostles, sowed harmony in the Upper Room, sent them to the ignorant in the four corners of creation and illuminated the earth by Your teaching more than the sun that shrines in the sky. By it, they brought back the errant peoples who had strayed to gods. May He Who is Peace be with us and amongst us all the days of our lives; our Lord and our God, to You be glory forever. Amen.

— Article Credit: St Rafka Parish

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