

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

May 19, 2019

Jesus Delivers the Office of Shepherd to Peter



Next Sunday

Jesus Appears to the Apostles in the Upper Room

Rom 10:1-13 (Righteousness Based on Faith)

Lk 24:36-48 (The Appearance to the Disciples in Jerusalem)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for May 5th - 11th

Online......\$1,610.00 Collection.....\$1,597.75 Weekly Total.....\$3,207.75

YTD Total......\$35,948.40 YTD Goal.....\$35,074.00

YTD Difference......**\$874.40**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, May 19th 10:30 am

Grace Zogbi

Monday, May 20th

Available

Tuesday, May 21st

Available

Wednesday, May 22nd

Available

Thursday, May 23rd

Available

Friday, May 24th

Available

Saturday, May 25th

Available

Sunday, May 26th

+Antonia & +Graciano Bautista

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, May 19th

Redmond Family

Sunday, May 25th

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

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future.

Future week-ends June 21-23,2019 & October 4-6, 2019.

www.beginningexperienceoforegon.org or contact Karen @ 971-404-6512





Father Philip Scott, FJ July 26-28, 2019 Our Lady Peace Retreat – Beaverton Oregon

ROOMS

\$172 Single occupancy \$344 Double occupancy

(there are only 5 double rooms, otherwise couples use a single room each)

COMMUTORS ~ \$112 for 6 meals (Friday evening thru Sunday lunch)

Deposit \$50 is due with registration and goes toward total payment Remainder to be paid by July 1st make payable to: Sister Mariam Sharbel Vianney

CALL or EMAIL for REGISTRATION FORM

Email: grace.an.mercy@gmail.com Phone: 503-269-3736

Reflection

Jesus Delivers the Office of Shepherd to Peter

"Do you love me?" is a question that can evoke many different feelings from its recipient, especially after a fight. In today's Gospel, Peter is eating with our Lord after seeing Him for the first time after Peter denied Him three times before His Crucifixion. One can only imagine the tension Peter held in his heart for his betrayal – when His Lord and beloved friend needed him most, he not only ran away but denied him. Then our Lord asked Peter, "Do you love me?" The Gospel tells us that Peter was hurt after Christ asked a third time, but perhaps Peter was hurt from the first time he was asked because of His own denial of the Lord three times. But Christ does not ask Peter "Do you love me?" in condemnation, but in negation for his previous rejection of Christ. In God's mercy, for every denial against Him He invites Peter back to Him!

God's mercy is wider than the sea, which is why He asks Peter the question "Do you love me?" for every time he denied the Lord. As Christ said earlier in the Gospel, "If you love me, you will keep my commands" (John 14:15). As the Lord of Mercy, Christ came to forgive our sins and so always gives us renewed opportunity to be forgiven. "Perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment" (1 John 4:18). It is God Who always initiates with us, even when we do not realize, but responding to the Lord with love, Peter is restored in his relationship with Jesus. Likewise, no offense of ours is too great for the Lord of Mercy – we must respond in contrition and love towards the Lord at His constant invitation to return to His love by denouncing our sin instead of denouncing Him.

When Peter responds three times that he does love the Lord, Christ restores him to a trusted place in the mission of the Church. As one of the diaconal proclamations during the Ordination Rite proclaims:

The Lord gave His sheep to Peter's care for he obeyed;

He made him a shepherd for He saw he loved Him.

Christ had asked him if he loved Him to feed His lambs;

He knew Peter's love for Him was much so He gave much.

Love does indeed drive out fear and the fear of punishment, and "God is love" (1 John 4:8). When we separate ourselves from God, we delve into fear itself. And shortcomings are inevitable because we are imperfect people. But when we turn back to the Lord and seek to reunite with Him, we are restored just as Peter. But in desiring to be united to the love of the Lord, Peter was asked to be a light to the world (Matt. 5:14), and see that others are brought to the true faith and the eternal life of the Resurrection. Peter's love of God was not to be a "personal matter," but required him to change the very nature of his life. Because Peter loved the Lord, the Lord asked him to shepherd other lambs to the True Shepherd's sheepfold, the Church.

How shall we then respond to the Lord's constant inviting question "Do you love me?"

— Article Credit: St Rafka Parish



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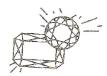
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