



# Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

1804 SE 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214

503.231.3853

[stsharbelpdx@gmail.com](mailto:stsharbelpdx@gmail.com)

[www.stsharbel.org](http://www.stsharbel.org)

## May 26, 2019

**Jesus Appears to the Apostles in the Upper Room**



**Next Sunday**

***Week of the Resurrection/Ascension***

**Acts 1:1-14** The Promise of the Spirit/Ascension of Jesus/The First Community in Jerusalem)

**Mk 16:15-20** (The Commissioning of the Eleven/The Ascension of Jesus)

## Your Gifts To God

***Offering Report for May 12th - 18th***

Online.....\$2,320.00

Collection.....\$756.83

Weekly Total.....\$3,076.83

YTD Total.....\$39,025.23

YTD Goal.....\$36,920.00

YTD Difference.....\$2,105.23

## Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, May 26th 10:30 am

+Antonia & +Graciano Bautista

Monday, May 27th

+Lloyd Barnett

Tuesday, May 28th

Available

Wednesday, May 29th

Available

Thursday, May 30th

Available

Friday, May 31st

Available

Saturday, June 1st

+Rita Louise Youker

Sunday, June 2nd

Private

***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 26th

Available

Sunday, June 2nd

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

Fatal Flaws: Legalizing Assisted Death  
"Are laws allowing euthanasia and  
assisted suicide leading society down a  
dangerous path?"

[www.fatalflawsfilm.com](http://www.fatalflawsfilm.com)

Everyone is welcome to watch the  
documentary film: **Fatal Flaws:  
Legalizing Assisted Death.**

Panel Discussion to follow featuring Dr.  
Charles Bentz and Dr. William Toffler  
Mark your Calendars: June 6, from 7:00-  
9:00 PM in the Our Lady of the Lake  
Parish Hall.

"Assisted suicide laws typically appear to limit  
eligibility to terminally ill patients who are  
expected to die within six months but don't  
distinguish between persons who will die within  
six months with treatment and those who will die  
within six months without treatment. This means  
that patients with treatable diseases (like diabetes  
or chronic respiratory or cardiac disease) and  
patients with disabilities requiring ventilator  
support are all eligible for lethal drugs because  
they would die within six months without the  
treatment they would normally receive." Secretary  
of Pro-life Activities, USCCB.org



56th Annual Maronite Convention | June 26-30th, 2019

Hosted by: Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church | Sponsored by: The National Apostolate of Maronites

## MIAMI BEACH

Click here for Registration

LOEWS MIAMI BEACH HOTEL

**\$189\***  
per night  
plus tax

\*Guest must be  
registered for  
the NAM Convention  
to receive the  
discounted hotel  
rate

Hotel  
please call  
888-879-0462

Deadline is  
June 3rd, 2019

THURSDAY NIGHT

Carla Ramia  
(Lebanese Vocalist)

FRIDAY NIGHT

Amir Yazbeck  
(Lebanese Singer)

FRIDAY NIGHT

Wassim Kattan  
(Local Favorite)

SATURDAY NIGHT

Ghassan Saliba  
(Lebanese Singer)

### EXCURSIONS and ACTIVITIES

BUY YOUR RAFFLE  
TICKETS EARLY

Two Round-Trip Ticket to Lebanon  
Cash Prices of \$1,000 & \$500  
\$5 per ticket or \$20 for 5 tickets!

SILENT AUCTION  
Jewelry, Traps, Electronics  
& so much more!

## HEALING OF OUR FATHER WOUND RETREAT

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](mailto:grace.an.mercy@gmail.com) Phone: [503-269-3736](tel:503-269-3736)**

# Reflection

## Jesus Appears to the Apostles in the Upper Room

This week we will celebrate the Feast of the Ascension on the 40<sup>th</sup> day of Easter. It is an important commemoration, as it marks the day when Christ ascended to heaven after His Resurrection. But it is curious to ask why and how we celebrate Jesus' leaving when He promised "I am with you every day until the end of the world. Amen" (Matt. 28:20).

Until this point in the Church year we celebrated Christ's Incarnation, God becoming man, because by Him becoming man He joined His divinity to our humanity. From celebrating His annunciation and birth in December until last month when we celebrated His resurrection from the dead, each event recounts how Christ had no need to be humbled yet He did so to save us from death and sin. It would seem, then, His leaving should be a sad event. But He has joined Himself to humanity, and by Baptism we clothed ourselves in Him (Gal. 3:27).

Though Christ ascends to heaven on the Feast of the Ascension, He does not leave us just as He did not leave His heavenly Father when He became man because He unchangingly remained God, united to His Father. Christ's promise is true when He promised that He would remain with us forever, which is why even on the Feast of His Ascension in Evening Prayer, we sing:

Glory be to Him Who came down.  
Glory be to Him Who ascended.  
Glory be to Him Who brought us up  
with Him to heaven.

We give thanks to God for, though He did not need, He became man to unite His immortal and sinless self to our weak human nature. After He taught us on Earth of His Father and Spirit, He suffered, died and rose to destroy death and sin. He did all of this in His love for mankind. But He ascended to heaven that He could bring us up with Him. The image often given of Christ the Good Shepherd is a shepherd carrying a lamb on His shoulders. The lamb is Adam, who strayed from God's instruction, but He nonetheless went after the lamb to find him. Upon finding Adam, who represents all of humanity, He saved him from death and brought him back to heaven. What is beautiful about the Ascension is that Christ ascended in the flesh – bringing our human nature to heaven, where His divine nature was already forever.

Christ united divinity to our humanity, and by so allowed us, humanity, to participate in divinity – it is a mystery we call theosis. Just as Christ loved us and did all things for us in His mercy, coming down to be near us, so too do we live to be close to Him, Whom we love. On this day we do not celebrate His departure for He never left from amongst us. On His Ascension, He carried our human nature to the Father, that we may aspire to be like Him as He became like us. We thank Him for the greatness of His love and implore His goodness:

In Your love of mankind, O Lord, You emptied Yourself and became man for our sake. You ascended in the flesh to heaven and You amazed the hosts of heaven by Your Ascension near them. Now show us, O Lord, the glory of Your Lordship and make us gods just as You became like us in all things apart from sin. Make us worthy that we may purely and holily glorify You all the days of our lives, and Your Father, and Your living and Holy Spirit, now and at all times, forever. Amen.

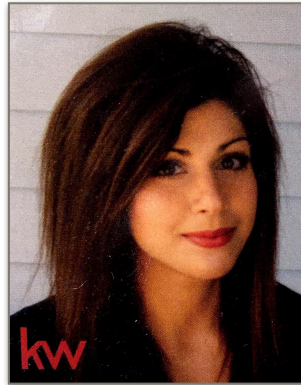
(Trans. from the Syriac Maronite Evening Prayer for Ascension)



**Gibran N Zogbi**

Agent

2925 SE 73rd Avenue  
Hillsboro, OR, 97213  
Bus 503-649-9514 Fax 503-649-1612  
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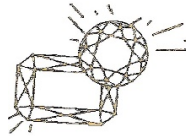
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