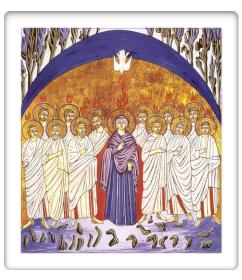


Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

1804 SE 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214 503.231.3853 <u>stsharbelpdx@gmail.com</u> <u>www.stsharbel.org</u>

June 9, 2019 Pentecost Sunday:Descent of the Holy Spirit



Next Sunday Sunday of the Holy Trinity Rom 11:25-36 (God's Irrevocable Call/Triumph of God's Mercy) Mt 28:16-20 (The Commissioning of the Disciples)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for May 26th - June 1st

Online	\$170.00
Collection	\$1321.28
Weekly Total	\$1,491.28

YTD Total	\$43,257.51
YTD Goal	\$40,612.00

YTD Difference......\$2,645.51

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, June 9th 10:30 am Available Monday, June 10th Available Tuesday, June 11th Available Wednesday, June 12th +For All Living and Deceased Members of the Saint Sharbel Parish Community Thursday, June 13th Available Friday, June 14th Available Saturday, June 15th Available Sunday, June 16th Available

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, June 9th Available Sunday, June 16th Available

Parish | Community Events



Parish Council

+Bruce Ashford 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

The 56th National Maronite Convention, sponsored by NAM presents Raffle 2019 fundraiser. **Winners Need Not Be Present**

Drawing will take place at Grand Banquet, Saturday, June 29, 2019, Miami, Florida

1 Raffle ticket = \$5 5 Raffle tickets = \$20

1st Prize – 2 Round trip tickets USA to Beirut Valued at \$3000; donated by Middle East Airlines – Adib Kassis
2nd Prize — \$1000 cash
3rd Prize — \$500 cash

Contact Nadia Redmond at 503-671-0440 or email: <u>n.redmond@comcast.net</u> to purchase a raffle ticket. Deadline to purchase a raffle ticket is *June 16, 2019*.



Divorced, Widowed, Separated? Still Hurting?

Beginning Experience Programs can help renew your hope for the future. Future week-ends June 21-23,2019 & October 4-6, 2019.

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

Reflection

Pentecost Sunday: Descent of the Holy Spirit

This Sunday the Easter Season concludes with the Feast of Pentecost. We celebrated on last Thursday the Feast of the Ascension, which marked the moment Christ ascended to heaven. Now, 50 days (which is what 'Pentecost' means) after the Resurrection we celebrate the fulfillment of Christ's promise:

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another paraclete (advocate) to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth... the Paraclete (Advocate), the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. (John 14:16-17, 26)

Today, the Father sent the Holy Spirit and He came to rest upon the Twelve Apostles in the Upper Room, filling them with His power and wisdom. Whereas Israel relied upon the Law given to Moses, the Apostles interacted with God directly, first with the Son and then with the indwelling of the Holy Spirit:

On Sunday the laws and commands came down from Mt. Sinai in the hands of meek Moses to the Hebrew Peoples. On Sunday the Apostles received the Spirit, the Paraclete, and went out to preach in creation the Resurrection and life.

(Trans. from the Syriac Maronite Morning Prayer for Pentecost)

The Law, which the Jews had received, was given to preserve them from sin. However, it was only intended as a preparation for what was to come in Christ – that we should become temples of God Himself. Just as the Apostles received the Holy Spirit and went out to preach the truths of the Resurrection and life, so too do we receive Him in baptism. On the day of Pentecost, the Apostles received the same Holy Spirit Who had given the prophets of the Old

Testament glimpses of God. But, unlike the prophets, the Apostles had seen both God in the flesh, Jesus Christ, and now became the very dwelling of Himself, the Holy Spirit. It is the same Spirit that perfects the sacraments, and dwells upon us Christians beginning with baptism, which is our spiritual womb into eternal life.

Christ did not abandon us when He ascended to heaven, but raised us up to heaven with Him by bringing our human nature to sit on the right hand of His Father. As Christ never left the Father, He also never left the Spirit, as the Three Persons of the Trinity are inseparable. By being baptized into Christ, we are also joined to the life of the Father and the Spirit as well. Today, Christ made evident to His Apostles, who had been with Him since the beginning, that He would never abandon them but the contrary – He is closer to us than with anyone before. Moses ascended to the height of Mt. Sinai to speak with God, yet He dwells in all the baptized. Likewise, He has sent us the Paraclete – the Advocate – who instructs us and perfects all things for us. It is the Paraclete Who prepares changes the waters of baptism into water, the bread into the flesh of Christ, and turns the sinner's heart back to God. It is the same Spirit Who, always and everywhere, assists us in all things and allows our prayers to be made as part of the Body of Christ. With confidence in this, we supplicate Him:

O Holy Spirit, O Paraclete, Who today descended in the likeness of tongues of fire, Who confirmed the prophets in His mystery, Who perfected the Apostles in His sanctity, Who strengthened the martyrs in His service, and Who made resplendent the resplendent ones by His brilliance, confirm Your servants. Perfect and sanctify us in Your holy things. Strengthen us by Your strength. Make us resplendent by Your brilliance and deliver us from all harm in Your mercy. Our Lord and our God, to You be glory forever. Amen.

— Article Credit: St Rafka Parish

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