



# 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)

## September 29, 2019

### Third Sunday After the Holy Cross



### Next Sunday

### Fourth Sunday After the Holy Cross

1 Thes 5:1-11 (Vigilance)

Mt 24:45-51 (The Faithful or the Unfaithful Servant)

## Your Gifts To God

*Offering Report for September 15th - 21st*

Online.....\$455.00

Collection.....\$620.00

Weekly Total.....\$1,075.00

YTD Total.....\$69,551.76

YTD Goal.....\$70,148.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$596.24**

## Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, September 29th 10:30 am

+George Issa

Monday, September 30th

Teresa Rodrigues

Tuesday, October 1st

Available

Wednesday, October 2nd

Available

Thursday, October 3rd

Available

Friday, October 4th

Available

Saturday, October 5th

Available

Sunday, October 6th

Not 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, September 29th

Allam Family

Sunday, October 6th

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

## Note from Abouna:

I really need the help of the parish with our special events. The committee and myself as your pastor are really inviting all of you to participate in our three major events. We have the fall dinner coming up very soon, and will be meeting this Sunday to discuss not only that but also the Mother's Day Hafley and choosing a band. Please stay after mass and join us as we talk about all of these exciting things. You'll meet just outside of my office on the new side Altar right after mass ends!

## St. Sharbel Sunday School Program

Begins on Sunday, September 22, 2019 at 9:15 am.

Our Sunday School program is for ages 6 to 12 years old. Children who are preparing for their first Holy Communion and Penance are taught in the upstairs classroom (above the Sanctuary). Older Children who have completed their First Holy Communion will join Angel Scouts and they are taught in the parish hall classroom (just below the cry room).

Please see attached registration form for further information. If you have questions or need more information, please contact Nadia Redmond at 503-671-0440 or via email: [n.redmond@comcast.net](mailto:n.redmond@comcast.net).

## The Cedars of Saint Sharbel

Is group of teens which meets twice a month for the purpose of discipleship, fellowship, service, and fun.

The topics of discussion this year will be relevant, exciting, and of interest to girls and boys ages 13 – 18. Gennifer Karam and Michael Gama will be facilitating the discussions this year.

The first meeting will be on **Sunday, September 29** after the mass. Please see Gennifer or Michael for more information, or email Gennifer at [jmjkaram3@gmail.com](mailto:jmjkaram3@gmail.com).

# **Reflection**

Third Sunday After the Holy Cross

Mt 24:23-31

Our scripture readings this Sunday emphasize the final coming of Christ and his victory over all the forces in our world-universe that are destructive — including the terrorizing force of death. The end purpose of God's plan of salvation is made clear: that God may be all in all.

The gospel proclaimed to us gives us the sense that God, our Creator, is about to draw all things to himself where creation will be fully restored to its final image of perfection. This reminds us of Jesus saying in the gospels: "When I am lifted up I will draw all to myself" (Jn. 12:32); and: "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect." (Mt. 5:48). These eternal promises are repeated throughout Sacred Scripture.

For this end the divine Son became incarnate; his sign – the glorious Cross – is now our reminder of his life-giving victory by the regeneration of life that he has activated into his creation. At present all these potentials lie dormant within all that is good in creation, including all the people of good will to whom the good news of hope and salvation is being revealed, and who will be awakened at the end-time.

Our Syriac church sees these powers hidden within Christ's mystical body and in the Mysteries of the saving sign of his Cross. In the *Mazmooro* of the feast-day she asks that his Cross may be a shield and protection for her and her children; and the sign of his compassion on the final day of judgment of the Son of Man.

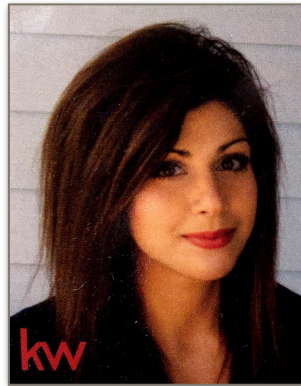
These gospel (good news) lessons give us a sense of hope and responsibility. A sense that God has not forgotten us, but will send his beloved Son again; that we too will one day dwell where he is – with the Holy Trinity – and be one with them! (Jn 14:3).



**Gibran N Zogbi**

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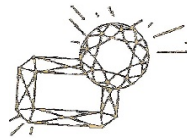
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