

# Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

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## April 12, 2020

**Sunday of the Glorious Resurrection**



**Next Sunday**

*Jesus Appears to the Disciples & Thomas*

**2 Cor 5:11-21** (The Ministry of Reconciliation)

**Jn 20:26-31** (Thomas/Conclusion)

## Your Gifts To God

*Offering Report for March 29th -April 4th*

Online.....\$345.00

Collection.....\$0.00

Weekly Total.....\$345.00

YTD Total.....\$20,944.00

YTD Goal.....\$23,998.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$3,054.00**

## Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, April 12th 10:30 am

*Living and Deceased Members of this Parish*

Monday, April 13th

*Available*

Tuesday, April 14th

*Available*

Wednesday, April 15th

*Available*

Thursday, April 16th

*Available*

Friday, April 17th

*Available*

Saturday, April 18th

*Available*

Sunday, April 19th

*Living and Deceased Members of this Parish*

***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, April 12th

*Available*

Sunday, April 19th

*Redmond Family*

# 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

## HOLY WEEK LIVESTREAM LINKS

**Holy Thursday**, April 9, 7:00pm — <https://youtu.be/Ao0BqfzzDzo>

**Great Friday**, April 10, 12:00pm — <https://youtu.be/jAu6QqD57X0>

**Easter Sunday**, April 12, 10:30am — [https://youtu.be/\\_yUw\\_\\_16WE](https://youtu.be/_yUw__16WE)

## Back Up Links

**Holy Thursday Backup** <https://youtu.be/hm77YKUYFLI>

**Good Friday Backup** [https://youtu.be/V5DE\\_7EzN9s](https://youtu.be/V5DE_7EzN9s)

**Easter Sunday Backup** <https://youtu.be/NlIEjArMmtA>



# **Readings**

Sunday April 12, 2020

## **1Cor 15:12-26**

If Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

## **Mk 16:1-8**

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

# Reflection

## Sunday of the Glorious Resurrection

*The mighty voice of the Son descended to Sheol, and its fortresses crumbled and its high citadels were shattered. He called out in a loud voice, "Where are you, Adam?" as He had called to him in the beginning. Adam heard the voice of his Lord and raised his head, saying, "I give thanks to You, Compassionate One, for You have visited me in the House of Perdition." (From the Syriac Maronite Morning Prayer for the Great Saturday of Light)*

As we heard today, on the greatest feast of the year, St. Paul said, "For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive" (1 Cor. 15:22). Death entered the world through Adam's sin, but life has been given to us today anew. In His love God created humanity in His great image in the beginning. Adam rejected God – Who is life – and therefore chose death instead. But from the very moment Adam chose death and sin God prepared His plan of salvation to give all the chance to choose holiness and life again, including Adam himself.

But this plan of salvation was not fully known before Jesus, the Son of the Father, for His becoming man was the plan of salvation appointed by the Father. Jesus revealed by His prophets throughout the ages glimmers of hope, but hope itself was not known. Before the Son was sacrificed on Golgotha in His crucifixion there was nothing that could forgive the sin of Adam – the Jews had to make daily sacrifices in the Temple in Jerusalem every time they sought forgiveness only to need to make more sacrifices. Similarly, because Adam had the gates of Paradise closed to humanity, heaven was closed to those who died. Instead those faithful who died went to Sheol, the place of the dead. It was neither good nor bad, but a place of nothingness. This is where Adam himself went to as well, since he was a righteous man apart from his original sin.

But God, Who created man in His image and likeness, did not want to see mankind simply languish in darkness. The Good Physician, the Lover of Mankind, Jesus Christ in His love sought to take away the death that entered the world through Adam. Therefore the Immortal One humbled Himself to die so by His death He put to death our death. By descending to death, Christ, Who is Life, brought life to death itself and gave Adam a new chance. In the beginning He called out "Where are you?" (Gen. 3:9) in the Garden to give Adam a chance to repent after His sin but Adam did not repent. So in Christ's patience He suffered a humiliating death in His love to give Adam the second chance so that when He would ask again Adam could rejoice in the option of new life in Christ. Christ has offered us the same life by His death and resurrection, lowering Himself to our fallen state so that He could elevate us to the heights of heaven.

Today we rejoice in the Resurrection of Christ because in Christ's great glory, having destroyed death – that is the perdition of separation from God – He has offered us eternal life. Eternal life is not simply a platitude or consolation, but as Christ promised to Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die" (John 11:25). We believe because of Jesus's promise that we shall all resurrect on the Last Day. Let us rejoice today for Christ has spared us from death that has loomed over us from Adam, and has given us the means of life that will extend forever with the God Who loves us so greatly that He suffer every insult and die for us so as to destroy even death itself for us.

Christ is risen!

**Gibran N Zogbi**

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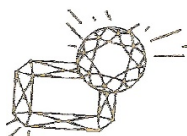
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