



# 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)

## April 26, 2020

**Jesus Appears to the Two Disciples at Emmaus**



**Next Sunday**

*Jesus Appears to the Disciples at Sea*

**Heb 13:18-25** (Final Exhortation, Greetings, Blessings)

**Jn 21:1-14** (The Appearance to the 7 Disciples)

## Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, April 26th 10:30 am

*Living and Deceased Members of this Parish*

Monday, April 27th

*Helene Berger*

Tuesday, April 28th

*Available*

Wednesday, April 29th

*Available*

Thursday, April 30th

*Available*

Friday, May 1st

*Available*

Saturday, May 2nd

*Available*

Sunday, May 3rd

*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.***

## Your Gifts To God

*Offering Report for April 12th - 18th*

Online.....\$600.00

Collection.....\$0.00

Weekly Total.....\$600.00

YTD Total.....\$23,714.00

YTD Goal.....\$27,690.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$3,976.00**

## Altar Sponsorship

Sunday, April 26th

*Available*

Sunday, May 3rd

*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

Sunday, April 26, 2020

Livestream Link

10:30am

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xX1\\_zvZjz1w&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xX1_zvZjz1w&feature=youtu.be)



*You are cordially invited  
to the Priestly Ordination  
of*

***Deacon Michael Shami***

*By the imposition of hands of  
His Excellency Bishop A. Elias Zaidan*

*on the  
2<sup>nd</sup> of May 2020*

*Live-Streamed*  
*on the  
Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon's Facebook,  
@ololeparchy*

*from the  
Chapel of Our Lady of Ilige  
Maronite Pastoral Center  
In the City of St. Louis, Missouri  
At  
11:00 AM*

# Readings

Sunday April 26, 2020

**2 Tim 2:8-13** (Timothy's Conduct)

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David that is my gospel, for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful for he cannot deny himself.

**Lk 24:13-35** (The Appearance on the Road to Emmaus)

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.



# Reflection

“Were not our hearts burning within us while He talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?” Where the world might see death in the Cross, an instrument of torture in the Roman Empire, we have found the fulfillment of eternal life promised throughout all of Scripture. This fulfillment, as St. Luke records, is found in Jesus Himself, Who explains to His disciples that He is the completion of what has been revealed since the beginning of the world. In each prophesy of the Old Testament, an aspect of Christ’s salvation is elucidated until He would come to fulfill it in person. In the Syriac tradition, *rozo* or mystery/sign is a very important way of reading the Bible, as we look we repeated symbols Christ established throughout the history of Israel to prelude His coming. As St. Ephrem describes Scripture because of the *rozo*, Scripture itself is an inexhaustible fountain of wisdom with so many layers of meaning to be explored. In this short reflection we shall briefly examine one: the *rozo* of the lamb that tells us about the Lamb of God, Christ.

The Bible is replete with this *rozo* because it articulately communicates many important realities about our God- become-man. As Christ likely explained to His disciples, the lamb throughout the Scriptures is the sacrifice that saves Israel by its blood from sin. From Genesis, the beginning of God’s promise, when Abraham is going to sacrifice his son, Isaac, a lamb takes the place of Isaac and saves the promise of Israel (Gen. 22:13). Scripture tells us the lamb is caught in a thicket, and St. Ephrem in his *Commentary on Genesis* aptly points out the lamb in the tree delivers the life of Isaac just like the Lamb on the Tree of the Cross would deliver our lives. What this encounter tells us is Christ’s generous deliverance by the shedding of His blood, though innocent, in place of ours.

The *rozo* of the lamb is found, once again, in the Passover meal commanded by God in Exodus. Those who ate the Passover by sacrifices a lamb and marking their abodes with its blood were delivered from the angel of death, and the Israel was eventually free to leave slavery in Egypt to return to the Promised Land. The Syriac Fathers point out just as the sacrifice of a lamb led Israel out of slavery from Egypt and Pharaoh we have been led out of the slavery of Satan in the land of sin back to the Promised Land of the Kingdom, from which sin exiled us. The Lamb has sought to restore us to what we have lost.

The last instance of the lamb this reflection will point out is in Isaiah, where he says about the Lamb, “He was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth” (Is. 53:7). Though Christ could have called twelve legions of angels down to fight His enemies, He instead submitted to be crucified on our behalf for He wished to deliver us by His voluntary humility.

Just by the very brief examination of one *rozo* in Scripture we see so many passages of the Old Testament pointing to creation awaiting its Lord’s coming to redeem it. For a day our Lord explained these symbols and how He fulfilled them to His dear disciples to indicate all things find fulfillment in Him – including life itself in His Resurrection. In the sacred Scriptures we are oriented to understand His Resurrection more deeply by seeing how all things have proclaimed its anticipation since the very beginning of His promise. So let us seek out this encounter with Him, both on the road of Scripture and the holy altar.

**Gibran N Zogbi**

Agent

2925 SE 73rd Avenue  
Hillsboro, OR, 97213  
Bus 503-649-9514 Fax 503-649-1612  
gibran.zogbi.qdmq@statefarm.com



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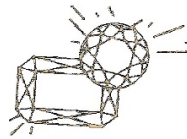
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