



# Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

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

## May 3, 2020

**Jesus Appears to the Disciples at Sea**



## Next Sunday

*Jesus Delivers the Office of Shepherd to Peter*

**Eph 2:1-10** (Generosity of God's Plan)

**Jn 21:15-19** (Jesus and Peter)

## Your Gifts To God

*Offering Report for April 19th - 25th*

Online.....\$1,605.00

Collection.....\$450.00

Weekly Total.....\$2,055.00

YTD Total.....\$25,769.00

YTD Goal.....\$29,536.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$3,767.00**

## Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, May 3rd 10:30 am

+Rosemary R. Adams

Monday, May 4th

Available

Tuesday, May 5th

Available

Wednesday, May 6th

Available

Thursday, May 7th

Available

Friday, May 8th

Available

Saturday, May 9th

Available

Sunday, May 10th

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, May 3rd

Available

Sunday, May 10th

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

TO OUR BELOVED FRIENDS AND FAMILY,

WE WANTED TO INFORM YOU OUR WEDDING WILL BE POSTPONED DUE TO COVID-19. AT THIS TIME WE ARE WORKING WITH ALL OUR VENDORS AND WE WILL BE IN CONTACT AS SOON AS WE HAVE A NEW DATE.

BE SAFE, BE WELL & GOD BLESS JESSICA & CAMERON



*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  
2nd 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*

Sunday, May 3, 2020

Livestream Link: <https://youtu.be/iSysGuPM230>

Aboutna is out of town this weekend so this mass will be a Latin Mass

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# Readings

Sunday May 3, 2020

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

Pray for us; we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things. I urge you all the more to do this, so that I may be restored to you very soon. Now may the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do his will, working among us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever and ever. Amen. I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, bear with my word of exhortation, for I have written to you briefly. I want you to know that our brother Timothy has been set free; and if he comes in time, he will be with me when I see you. Greet all your leaders and all the saints. Those from Italy send you greetings. Grace be with all of you.

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

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have you?' They answered him, 'No.' He said to them, 'Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish.

That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake.

But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.' So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, 'Who are you?' because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.



## Reflection

“Friends, haven’t you any fish?” said Christ to His disciples, appearing to them for the third time after His Resurrection. When they answered ‘no’ Christ instructed them, like when He first met them (Matt. 4), to cast their nets again. To their amazement the disciples pulled in a catch full to the seams of the net – 153 fish to be exact. If that seems like an oddly specific number, it is meant to be. In the ancient world it was believed that there were exactly 153 species of fish, so by Christ’s command Peter caught every fish in the sea. When Christ first called Peter He said, “I shall make you fishers of men” (Matt. 4:19) and many believed salvation was limited to the People of Israel. But here Christ emphasizes, in His mercy, the Apostles are to “go and make disciples of all nations” (Matt. 28:19).

One of the common themes of the writing of the Syriac Father Aphrahat, who was possibly previously a Jew himself, is the idea of the peoples becoming the People. To Israel God promised “I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God” (Ex. 6:7) and established with them through Moses His covenant for their protection and deliverance. He established the Law to teach the People obedience and proper worship. But God loves all mankind as His creation made in His image, and so the People were established as an example and foreshadowing of the peoples who would later be called when He would come Himself. Previously, it was by the human womb that one became part of the saved People – being born of a Jewish woman made one part of Israel. But Christ came to grant salvation to all those who seek Him, and so He commanded the Apostles to make disciples of all nations by “baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matt. 28:19). One is born into the true Israel by the womb of baptism, which is what Christ means when He tells Nicodemus he must be born again by Spirit and water (John 3). In the waters of baptism one buries their old self – sin is put to death – and what rises out of the tomb of the womb of waters with the resurrected Christ is a new man, the Christian. Christ first established Israel as an example for following His commands, but sent His Apostles out to make all peoples His People and ensure that in love and worship of Him they come to eternal life and forgiveness of sins.

So great is the love of our God that although we have sinned He calls us all to Himself, not simply to serve but to rejoice with Him. But one people is not sufficient, nor one hundred, but He desires that every people on earth should share in His eternal life and holiness. He has called us, His disciples, to participate in His mercy by going out into the world and bringing people to the womb of new life, baptism, that they may participate in His Resurrection. His Resurrection has delivered us from the sting of death and sin, freeing us, though we have sinned. With great joy, let us go out and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, bringing others to the true faith. The Lord has given us the command to cast our nets – to courageously invite a friend or coworker to church on Sunday or knock on our neighbor’s door and visit with them. If we have gratitude and joy for the gift we have unworthily received let us freely share it with others as Christ has freely given it to us. Let us eagerly spread the Gospel of the Resurrection for love of Christ and fellow man so that on the last day when we stand before the throne of God with all our deeds before us and we are asked, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?” we may respond, “Yes, all 153!”

**Gibran N Zogbi**

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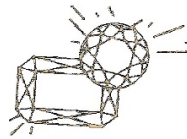
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