



Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

1804 SE 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214

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www.stsharbel.org

July 12, 2020

The Mission of the 72 Disciples



Next Sunday

The Spirituality of God's Messenger

Rom 8:1-11 (The Flesh and the Spirit)

Mt 12:14-21 (The Chosen Servant)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for June 28th - July 4th

Online.....\$165.00

Collection.....\$932.00

Weekly Total.....\$1,097.00

YTD Total.....\$43,107.29

YTD Goal.....\$47,996.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$4,888.71**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, July 12th 10:30 am

Georges Jannoura

Monday, July 13th

Available

Tuesday, July 14th

Available

Wednesday, July 15th

Available

Thursday, July 16th

Private Intention

Friday, July 17th

Available

Saturday, July 18th

Available

Sunday, July 19th

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, July 12th

Available

Sunday, July 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

Sunday, July 12, 2020, 10:30am

We're doing things a little differently this Sunday. Rather than sending out a link to a specific video, we'll be sending out the link to the Youtube Channel itself. Then Parishioners will just have to click on the video with the corresponding Mass date.

Channel Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCi8CEQIEnX-VeERKBMqhKRA>

We'll be using this same link every week since it connects to St. Sharbel's Youtube Channel. The only thing that will change is that each week new videos will be added to that channel. Some changes are being made to the streaming process this Sunday so we've had to adjust for the changes.



REMINDERS FOR MASS

- You will need to come with a mask. Mask may be removed to receive Communion obviously. We don't have masks to give you so please bring one.
- I cannot give Communion outside of Mass – this means in your cars, on the sidewalk, etc. Communion for the homebound is suppressed also at this time.
- Sit only in spot marked on pews. Remain physically distant as you enter and exit the church through the basement entrance only.
- No lingering after Mass, you will need to leave directly.
- If your name is not of the sign up list the ushers cannot allow you to come in. We will need to be strict about this and apologize in advance for problems that might arise.
- I request you only use the downstairs entrance, below the main stairs, the other doors will be closed, this will help us to be able to clean commonly touched surfaces.
- We will not allow use of missals, or other books in the pews. Do your best with the responses.
- Only people who are members of the parish are eligible at this point to attend our limited Masses. If you have been coming regularly, and are not registered elsewhere but have not registered with us, now is the time to do this. Archbishop has asked that we keep people going to the parishes they are registered as a way to respect fair and equitable access to all.

Reflection

Francis, Raphael and Abdel Massabki, three Maronite brothers who were martyred on July 10 in 1860 in the city of Damascus. The brothers came from an extended family that was both successful and pious. The Muslim sheikhs of Damascus referred to the Massabki clan as people who joined in prayer and spiritual reading every night in their homes.

The family was descended from a Maronite priest, and had lived in Damascus for over 400 years. Brothers Francis and Abdel were married men with large families. Raphael lived a quiet life of devotion to Our Lady. They were each devout in their personal prayer lives, and attended both the Latin rite Franciscan friary Mass and their own Maronite Qurbana/ Divine Liturgy.

In 1860, Syria was swept by a fierce anti-Christian purge in which 11,000 Christians were murdered in Damascus itself and over 12,000 in Lebanon. The Turkish army stood by, its only actions being robbing the Christian refugees, as radical Muslims and the Druze both rose up and falsely accused the native Christians of being in league with foreign powers by virtue of their faith. It was a situation somewhat similar to the atrocities of today; there were some moderate Muslims who intervened to save whole families, including Abdel Kader who saved 1,000 souls himself. Muslim neighbors protected the Christians of the Midan district and kept the jihadists out. But these were outnumbered by fanatics and thieves who butchered 26,000 Christians in three days, including foreigners.

Refugees had fled to the supposed safety of the Franciscan friary, as all of them were foreigners and presumably the building would be spared from the fires and looting. But the jihadists were let in by a servant who betrayed a hidden door to them. The Massabki Brothers were offered their lives and wealth if they would convert to Islam. In fact, the killers stated: "Sheikh Abdallah has sent us to save you from death; you, your brothers, your families, and all those who depend upon you for protection, on the condition that you deny your faith and convert to Islam." Abdallah owed money to Francis, but Francis forgave the debt and refused to abandon Christ. He was promptly murdered in front of the altar of Our Lady of Sorrows. Abdel-Mohti was caught at the door of the Franciscan church and offered his life if he converted. "I am a Christian, kill me, I am ready." He was cut up with daggers and hatchets. Raphael was discovered, and offered his life if he would change religions. He also refused, and was slain while praying to Our Lady. All of the Franciscans were butchered as well. If the Massabki Brothers had converted, it would have weakened Christian resolve. They refused, and all three were beheaded and their blood mixed with that of eight Franciscan friars. All eleven were beatified by Pope Pius XI in 1926.

**Gibran N Zogbi**

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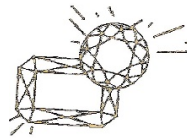
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