

Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

1804 SE 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214

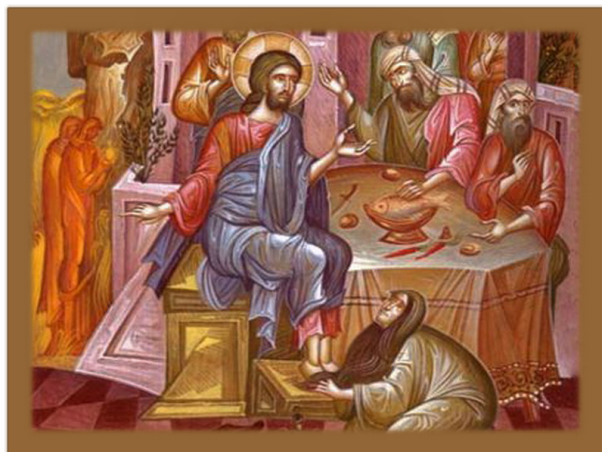
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stsharbelpdx@gmail.com

www.stsharbel.org

Aug 30, 2020

Heeding the Word



Next Sunday

Receiving the Word

1 Thes 1:1-10 (Greetings/Thanksgiving for Their Faith)

Lk 7:36-50 (The Pardon of the Sinful Woman)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for Aug 16th - 22nd

Online.....\$521.00

Collection.....\$902.00

Weekly Total.....\$1,423.00

YTD Total.....\$53,344.29

YTD Goal.....\$60,918.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$7,573.71**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, August 30th 10:30 am

Ursula Kelly and Lil Zubrinsky

Monday, August 31st

Available

Tuesday, September 1st

Available

Wednesday, September 2nd

Available

Thursday, September 3rd

Available

Friday, September 4th

Available

Saturday, September 5th

Available

Sunday, September 6th

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, August 30th

Available

Sunday, September 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

Sunday, August 30, 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.

COVID MASS POLICIES

- 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

Hospitality is one of the coveted possessions of Middle Eastern culture. The very idea of being remarked as a good host is an honor, as the host diligently sees to their guests – and not offering something once, but often three or more times. Beyond being a characteristic of being Middle Eastern, hospitality is a fundamental value of Christianity, as St. Paul suggests (Heb. 13:12). And who could be a greater honor to receive as a guest than Christ, our Lord and God, as Martha and Mary receive Him in the Gospel this Sunday?

At our baptism, we are also honored with the indwelling of Christ to the humble abode of our body. As St. Paul says, “It is Christ who lives in me” (Gal. 2:20) and “Do you not know that you are God’s temple...?” (1 Cor. 3:16). By baptism we welcome Christ into our very selves, and He enters the place we prepare for Him regardless of the sneers of others. Just as when Christ visited Zaccheus the tax collector’s house (Luke 19), He did not listen to those who were questioning Christ for visiting a sinner. In fact, it was because Zaccheus was a sinner that Christ was even more pleased to visit Him because, as He said through the prophet Ezekiel, “For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent and live!” (Ez. 18:32). Should we not prepare, then, a house fitting for the visit of the King of Kings?

But why, then, was Martha corrected by Jesus when she was busy toiling to prepare things for Christ’s visit while Mary sat there entertaining Him? Certainly preparing food and tidying up is an important part of any visit of a guest. But Martha allowed her other cares to distract her from the fact that the King of Kings had come to visit. As our Lord told Martha, “You are

worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her” (Luke 10:41-42). Christ is not telling Martha to ignore the necessities of life – indeed, if she let the house fall in, there would be no house to have Christ as a guest. But she is allowing other worries to ignore the most life-giving encounter she could possibly have with Life Himself.

We have been honored beyond our deserving with the visitation of our Lord in our bodies. How do we receive Him? Do we sit attentively at His feet as Mary did? Or do we allow the cares of this world to pull us this and that way, while we say that we are doing what is necessary now and we will give Christ a later time? As Christ Himself says, “But about that day or hour no one knows” (Matt. 24:36) so for all we know that later time we give Christ may never come. Placing Christ at the center of our lives is a life-long process, and not merely a box to check but an act of love. Just as we should not approach the amount of time we give our mothers, the Christian does not think “What is the least amount of time that I can give God and He will still love me?” God will always love us regardless of our acts – the amount of time we give Him in return is our response.

**Gibran N Zogbi**

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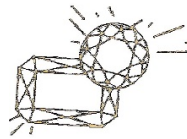
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