



# 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)

## October 11, 2020

**Fourth Sunday After the Holy Cross**



**Next Sunday**

*Fifth Sunday After the Holy Cross*

**Phil 2:12-18** (Obedience and Service in the World)

**Mt 25:1-13** (The Parable of the Ten Virgins)

## Your Gifts To God

*Offering Report for Sept 27th -Oct 3rd*

Online.....\$245.00

Collection.....\$1,780.00

Weekly Total.....\$2,025.00

YTD Total.....\$67,101.76

YTD Goal.....\$71,994.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$4,892.24**

## Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, October 11th 10:30 am

+Yvonne Foulia

Monday, October 12th

Available

Tuesday, October 13th

Available

Wednesday, October 14th

Available

Thursday, October 15th

Available

Friday, October 16th

Available

Saturday, October 17th

Available

Sunday, October 18th

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, October 11th

Torker Family

Sunday, October 18th

Redmond Family

# Parish / Community Events

## St. Sharbel's First Holy Communion Preparation Information

Dear Parents,

If you have a child of age and you feel is ready to receive our Lord in Holy Communion, we can offer your child the opportunity to receive the Holy Mysteries of Penance and Holy Communion in Spring 2021. We are offering a hybrid program to give families the opportunity to grow in their faith life together. Textbook, worksheets, and lesson schedule will be provided to families for learning at home. Limited in-person connection will be once a month from November 2020 thru May 2021.

To register, please contact Nadia Redmond via email: [n.redmond@comcast.net](mailto:n.redmond@comcast.net) or call: 503-671-0440 **by October 25th.**

Thank you and God Bless,  
Nadia

### 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

### In-Person Mass Sign Ups

We are switching over to using Sign-Up Genius for our weekly in person sign ups. The system will allow you to access at any time and register or alter a reservation. It is able to update in real-time, where as I am not.

**Here is the link in case you need to check or alter your reservation.**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4EA9AF23A4FC1-inperson>

## YOUTH GROUP

**Calling all Youth ages 13-18!!**

The Cedars of Saint Sharbel is a "family" of young people who will meet in virtual meetings to discuss real life and how it relates to our faith in God and His tremendous love for humankind. We'll dig deep to answer some of life's greatest questions while developing friendships and having fun at the same time.

Save the date and time!

First meeting will be on Saturday, October 10

1:00-2:30 pm

[Zoom invitation soon to come](#)

Please email Gennifer Karam for questions or to sign up for the email list:

[jmjkaram3@gmail.com](mailto:jmjkaram3@gmail.com)

Sunday, October 11, 2020, 10:30am

Youtube 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. Once there click on the appropriate date for mass.

# 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

“You know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night” (1 Thess. 5:2) St. Paul wrote in today's epistle. The Last Day is an unavoidable reality, but we do not know when it will come. Today's Gospel presents two types of responses servants of the Lord can give to this inevitable day – one servant does as he is instructed, while the other parties and squanders what he has been entrusted because he assumes his Master will be away for a long time. Unfortunately for the second servant, his Master returns when he did not expect Him and he is punished.

But to those who love Christ, to the servant who he has been instructed by the Gospel, His return is a frightening event to dread, but an event we await with great eagerness. The servant who does not do as he has been instructed rightly fears the day his Master returns because he knows he will get in trouble for his purposeful disobedience. But the servants who try their best to follow their Master's commands simply wish to see their Master again for their love of the Master is the same reason they follow His commands. And Christ, our Master, has not left us with commands to simply busy us, but because He knows best, as our omnipotent God and Creator, what should bring fulfillment and holiness.

Christ never said the instructions He has left would be always simple or easy, but He invites us to imitate Him, saying “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me” (Luke 9:23). Knowing we would face great challenges in the world at times to complete His commands, Christ left us with every divine tool needed to overcome them. As St. Paul wrote, “Let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Thess. 5:8-9). Faith and hope is our armor in the world, and our greatest weapon is the cross of Christ that protects us from harm and evil for God does not wish us to suffer, but to rejoice with Him forever in His love.

Equipped with faith, hope and love, and armed with the cross, we are prepared to face any challenge, whether our Lord will return tomorrow or in a thousand years. God is timeless, as is His love. If we truly wish to emulate Him, we must imitate His timeless love, not only in reciprocity to Him but to one another. Perhaps one of the greatest apparent crosses to carry and challenges we face in opposition to our faith and hope is Christ's command to love our enemies and pray for them (Matt. 5:44). But that is, in fact, not in opposition but essential to how Christ has equipped us. We will only defeat our enemies in an ultimate sense by loving them – not in a naïve way thinking that everyone shall become our friends, but with the same love that God loves even those who offend Him. If God in His love wishes that we should be saved, then we must also love our enemies with the hope that we can all enter heaven. We can begin today to prepare concretely for the last day with things as simple as praying for those who wish us ill, and being the one to reach out and make peace when possible.

The day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night, sneaking up on us. It is left to us whether we shall receive it in great joy because we will see the Master we love so dearly, or be horrified when we realize we have neglected His commands.



**Gibran N Zogbi**

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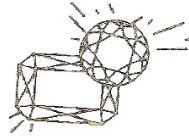
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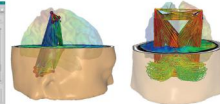
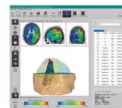


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\*Board Registered EEG Technologist  
\*\*Board Certified in Neurofeedback

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