

Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

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October 25, 2020 Sixth Sunday After the Holy Cross



Next Sunday Consecration of the Church Heb 9:1-12 (The Worship of the First Covenant) Mt 16:13-20 (Peter's Confession About Jesus)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for Oct 11th -17th

Online	\$1,565.00
Collection	\$181.00
Weekly Total	\$1,746.00

YTD Total	\$70,627.76
YTD Goal	\$75,686.00

YTD Difference......**\$5,058.24**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, October 25th, 10:30am Available Monday, October 26th +Walid Trad Tuesday, October 27th +Helen and Halim Mouawad Wednesday, October 28th Andrew & Francesca Thursday, October 29th +Rodney Galvez Friday, October 30th +May Haddad Saturday, October 31st +Therese Jawich Sunday, November 1st, 12:00pm +Youssed Antoun Semaan and Family

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 24th Available Sunday, November 1st Available

Parish | Community Events

St. Sharbel's First Holy Communion Preparation Information

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: <u>n.redmond@comcast.net</u> or call: *503-671-0440* by October 25th.

Thank you and God Bless, Nadia

Parish Council

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.

Next meeting will be on Saturday, October 24 7:00pm**New Time

Zoom invitation soon to come

Please email Gennifer Karam for questions or to sign up for the email list: imikaram3@gmail.com

> Sunday, October 25, 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.

+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

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

In today's Gospel, we see a severe master who returns to collect what he has entrusted to his servants in the Parable of the Talents (Matt. 25:14-39). Just as we would expect in a business setting, the servants who increased the amount of money they were entrusted were rewarded by their master, being told to "enter into the joy of your master." However, the servant who buried the amount of money entrusted to him out of fear of loss was punished and even though he was entrusted the least amount he had even his little amount taken away. It seems to be a frightening story from Jesus Christ because it seems the servant who had the least in the end finishes with even less because of his own limitations.

What is the meaning of this parable? Christ is, of course, the master who determines how He distributes His wealth to us, His servants. The generosity of God comes in all forms, from our circumstances to our natural ability – but in some way, we have all been equipped to do His will in a unique way. The parable acknowledges that some simply begin with more entrusted to them than others – that is a fact of life. Some might run multi-million dollar companies, while others wait tables at a diner, but that does not change the dignity of the servant, as well as the mastership of Christ, Who has assigned us our gifts as He wills.

The servant who has been entrusted two talents is rewarded in the same manner as the one who was entrusted five when he has acted well in what he has been given. The master says to both of them, "Enter into the joy of your master." The talents, ultimately, were neither the property of the servants nor was it a transactional exchange – the servant who had ten talents was not rewarded differently from the servant with four. Likewise, the gifts Christ has given us in this life are ultimately not ours because we did not procure them ourselves – even our own accomplishments in life are more fundamentally based on what God has given us to begin with. If He had not allowed us to live to a certain age or possess the skills that we do, we could not accomplish even what might seem to be solely the fruit of our hard labor. Therefore, all things are done for the sake of God and should be used in a manner pleasing to Him.

Knowing that He has distributed different gifts, God will not penalize us for having a difference in effectiveness when doing His will if we try our best. Because of our own circumstances, God would not expect a housemother to pray as much as a monk in a monastery simply because each person is judged on what they have received. The last servant who returns the talent to the master was punished because he decided to do nothing with what he was entrusted. Our Lord is merciful and kind – if the last servant had lost the only talent he had been entrusted earnestly trading to increase it would have pleased his master. But the last servant was wicked because he allowed his laziness and fear to overcome his love for his master.

As servants, we should recall that we have been entrusted a great deal from Christ for the building up of His will on Earth. We participate in what we ask in the Our Father, "Thy will be done on Earth as it is in heaven," when we work to use our gifts. Let fear or laziness not motivate our lives, but the love we have for the Lord.

When the Lord comes and requires the money He gave to us with His interest let us not resemble the wicked servant who took the coin and did not trade with it. Come, let us resemble the servant who received five and earned as many more. The good servant showed his master his commerce and the wicked servant inherited Gehenna.



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*Board Registered EEG Technologist **Board Certified in Neurofeedback

Parkinson's Neurofeedback Research Stud



Contact Nisreen Mouammar to set up your advertisement today!

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