



Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

1804 SE 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214

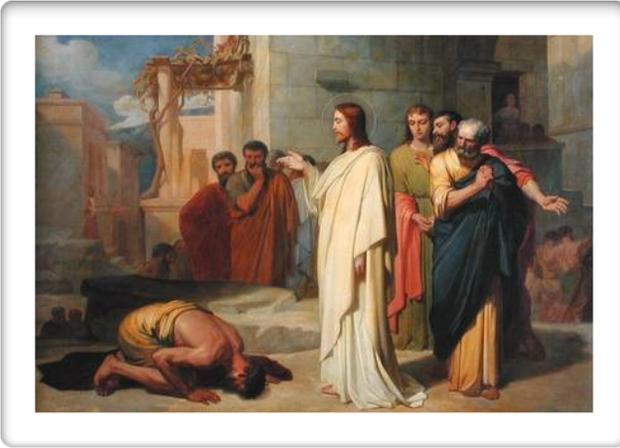
503.231.3853

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www.stsharbel.org

February 21, 2021

Cleansing of the Leper



Next Sunday

Healing of the Hemorrhaging Woman

2 Cor 7:4-11(Call to Holiness/Paul's Joy in Macedonia)

Lk 8:40-56 (Jairus' Daughter and the Women with a Hemorrhage)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for Feb 7th - 13th

Online.....\$1,135.00

Collection.....\$909.47

Weekly Total.....\$2,044.47

YTD Total.....\$14,232.47

YTD Goal.....\$12,922.00

YTD Difference.....\$1,310.47

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, February 21st, 10:30am

+*Samir Sawan*

Monday, February 22nd

Available

Tuesday, February 23rd

Available

Wednesday, February 24th

Available

Thursday, February 25th

Available

Friday, February 26th

Available

Saturday, February 27th

Available

Sunday, February 28th

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, February 21st

Redmond Family

Sunday, February 28th

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

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.

NEXT MEETING: TBA

Watch for invitation in your inbox

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

jmjkaram3@gmail.com

Sunday, February 21, 2021, 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.



" I am the Lady of the Rosary. Continue always to pray the Rosary every day" ~*Our Lady of Fatima*



JOIN US AS WE PRAY THE **ROSARY**

**EVERY 2ND MONDAY OF THE MONTH
AT 8PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME**

FOR THE INTENTIONS OF GOOD HEALTH,
PEACE, & STABILITY FOR OUR WORLD

FEBRUARY 8

LED BY BISHOP GREGORY MANSOUR

MARCH 8

LED BY CHORBISHOP MICHAEL THOMAS

APRIL 12

LED BY BISHOP ELIAS ZAIDAN

LOOKING AHEAD ■ **MAY 10**

 **ZOOM LINK**

MEETING ID: 883 4965 1080

PASSCODE: rosary

<https://tinyurl.com/OFSLROSARY>

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

Going to the doctor's office can always be a bit nerve wrecking whether because of the scrutiny of being examined, the possibility of getting injections or, worse, the need to have surgery. Sometimes a physician must even perform very painful procedures, like pull teeth or remove an organ. But, ultimately, we go to the physician, not for the pain, but in spite of it because we place our hope in him to make us better – even if that means feeling worse in the short run. These next few weeks of Lent we commemorate the different healing miracles of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Divine Physician. In the entrance to Lent, Cana Sunday, we witnessed that Jesus is truly the Creator of all things, demonstrated by His power to command even water to become wine, and so He can likewise easily make the sick well.

So often in the Syriac tradition do we hear Christ called a physician, such as in one of the *Hoosoye* for this Sunday of the Leper: "Heavenly Physician Who meekly appeared in the land of beings below to heal the sicknesses and blemishes of earthly men..." Christ is the Physician who has come down from heaven, lower Himself to be mistaken for a lowly servant even though He is God, to heal us from our wounds. But those who have faith in God see Him by the light of faith – that is why the leper in today's gospel boldly calls out to Him to heal him with confidence, saying, "If you are willing, you can make me clean" (Mark 1:40). Christ responds to the man, being moved to mercy, simply with "I will. Be clean!" (Mark 1:41).

How rich the man's faith to call out to Christ with such boldness, but how can he now repay Christ? Who could possibly pay a physician of such skill? The answer is we cannot and we need not for Christ's medicine and motivation are one in the same. As our office beautifully puts it, He is "the Heavenly Physician Whose mercy sent Him to those lost in sin to heal their illnesses by the medicine of His compassion..." It is His love for humanity that moves Him to come to us, reveal His divinity and heal us – not due to our merits, but due to His incomprehensible goodness. Over the next few weeks, we will see again and again the sick call out and our Lord heal them – whether they are leprous, blind, paralytic, hemorrhaging, possessed or even dead.

But Christ is not only the Creator and Physician of the body but also the soul. He revealed to us that He is the Physician to our souls by the healing of bodies as an outward sign. Indeed, the lesson we should learn from each of those healed in the Gospel is that someone calls out to Christ to hear them and have mercy. Just as in today's gospel, it says Jesus "*etraham 'alaw*" or "had mercy upon him," that is the leper. The leper called and the Lord heard him. Each Sunday before the readings during the *Qadishat* we call out *etraham alain* – have mercy on us! When we call out to Christ, Who is God, almighty and immortal, let us cry out "have mercy on us" in the same faith of the leper who called and was healed of all his illness. The leper knew he called to the almighty and immortal God Whom he could not repay, but instead had absolute trust in His love of humanity. When we call out "have mercy on us," let it not be by sheer memorization of words but with the conviction of the leper who called out with faith and was saved from his sickness that decayed his body. We can have ever the more trust because, unlike the leper, we have the example of all these previous healings in the Gospel as proof that Christ is truly the Divine Physician Who has come to take away the illness that has taken root in us – worst of all, sin.

Let us implore our Lord Jesus Christ, the Divine Physician, Who heals in the abundance of His goodness to have mercy on us and heal us now for the sake of His love of humanity:

O Good and King Lord, in Your goodness You healed the leper who approached You. In Your compassion and Your abundant mercy heal our bodies and souls, we who are sinners and Your servants who have become leprous with sin and by the abundance of our transgressions. Purify us in Your mercy and with Your hyssop wash Your worshippers, now and at all times, forever. Amen.

(Trans. from the Evening Prayer of the Sunday of the Leper)



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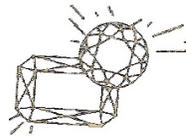
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