



Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

1804 SE 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214

503.231.3853

stsharbelpdx@gmail.com

www.stsharbel.org

February 7, 2021

Commemoration of the Faithful Departed



Next Sunday

Miracle of Cana In Galilee

Rom 14:14-23 (Consideration for the Weak Conscience)

Jn 2:1-11 (The Wedding at Cana)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for Jan 24th - 30th

Online.....\$845.00

Collection.....\$380.00

Weekly Total.....\$1,225.00

YTD Total.....\$8,005.00

YTD Goal.....\$9,230.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$1,225.00**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, February 7th, 10:30am

10:30am +Manne Atie

Monday, February 8th

Available

Tuesday, February 9th

+Karam Karam

Wednesday, February 10th

Available

Thursday, February 11th

Available

Friday, February 12th

Available

Saturday, February 13th

Available

Sunday, February 14th

12:00pm Joseph & Vivian 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, February 7th

Available

Sunday, February 14th

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: Saturday, February 13, 2021

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 7, 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>

LEBANON IN CRISIS

Adopt in helping a Lebanese Family in need. You can help sponsor some of the expense for a Family. The first link will take you to a list of families to be sponsored. The second link will take you to the Caritas webpage with more information. There is a "Donate" link in the upper right hand side if you choose to donate.

<https://www.caritaslebanon.org/media/1/CaritasFamiliesLeb%20for%20sponsorship2021.pdf>

<http://www.caritaslebanon.org/>

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

If we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him (Romans 6:8).

This Sunday brings us to the third and final week of commemorations of the dead – the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed. We continue to pray that God have mercy upon the departed this week, specifically focusing on the average faithful who have died, such as our friends, siblings, parents, and grandparents. It pays to ask, though, what were they faithful to and what is the result if they are dead? Jesus Christ answers this, saying, “I am the resurrection and the

life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die” (John 11:25-26).

We implore the Lord this Sunday that He have mercy and grant rest to those who have “eaten Your body, drank Your blood and have fallen asleep in Your hope” – the hope of the eternal life that Christ promises. And Christ will certainly grant eternal life to those who were faithful to Him, as He Himself is life. He is the Lord of life Who created life in the beginning, and has willed to destroy death by His becoming man. As St. Paul said, “The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Cor. 15:57). Jesus Christ, Who is our immortal God and source of all life, united His divine life to our human mortality by becoming man that by dying He might destroy death. He joined His immortality to our mortality by becoming man, that death may not kill us if we cling to Him. By His dying, He – Life Himself, over Whom death has no power – went down to death to destroy it for those who follow Him. When Christ rose, He foreshadowed the life He offered to those who will also overcome death with Him at the end of time.

The resurrection of the dead is truly a real event. As a hymn verse from this Sunday recounts, Christ indicated the mystery of the resurrection multiple times throughout His life on earth:

Through three dead persons Christ revealed to us the mystery of the Resurrection. In three places of His journey He made death without threat: the daughter of Jairus in the house (Luke 8:49-56), the boy in the middle of the road (Luke 7:11-17) and Lazarus from the grave (John 11:1-44). Behold, in it were lain milestones of peace from beginning to end. (Trans. from the Commemoration of the Faith Departed)

In these various situations worth reading and recounting, Christ restores to life those who died with faith to foreshadow the resurrection. Each reveal a lot about the resurrection. When Jairus, for instance, asks Jesus to help his sick daughter who died, He responds, “She is not dead but asleep” (Luke 8:52) and the crowd responded by laughing at Jesus for they knew she was dead. In the cleverness of this world, the crowd thought the girl was lost for good, but Jesus Christ, Who is the Lord of the living and the dead, knows that to whom He grants the resurrection death is only like a nap. That is why we say the faithful departed “sleep” in Christ’s hope – for when the resurrection occurs at the end of time, their death will only have been like a nap and they will live again. Likewise, we call them faithful “departed” (unlike those who go to hell, who are eternally “lost”) because they will one day return to life just as Christ did.

This Sunday let us implore the Lord to grant the faithful departed rest in His Kingdom, and the resurrection into new eternal life:

O Lord, our Lord, Who delivered Yourself to the cross and tasted death for our salvation, raise and give life to the departed buried in Sheol for the sign of Your Lordship (i.e. baptism) is upon them, hallelujah! Through You may they have spiritual wings and enter with You into the bridal chamber of joys.

— Article Credit: St Rafka Parish



Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles

February 2, 2021

Dear Monsignors/Fathers,

I hope that my letter finds you enjoying the best of health and success in your parishes.

As we approach the Holy season of Lent, I wanted to address the observance of Ash Monday in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic and to thank you for all you have been doing to stay connected with your parishioners.

All parish priests are to bless and distribute ashes on Ash Monday during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, except in parishes where local civil authorities have banned in-person Religious Services. The distribution of Ashes will follow the normal practice, with “Q tips” being used to mark each parishioner on the forehead with the sign of the Cross. Discard the Q tip after each use, but the same Q tip may be used for a family that lives together in the same household.

Ash Monday is a day of fasting. Fasting in the Maronite Church involves eating and drinking nothing at all (except water and medicine) from midnight until noon. The rest of the day normal meals can be taken, but without meat. All Maronites who are physically capable are to fast on Ash Monday. All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat and meat products. However, I urge you to emphasize to the parishioners the importance of the spiritual and corporal works of mercy during Lent.

Again, I wish to thank you for all you continue to do under very difficult circumstances and to assure you that I am keeping each of you in my prayers.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ A. Elias Zaidan

Bishop of the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles

**Gibran N Zogbi**

Agent

2925 SE 73rd Avenue
Hillsboro, OR, 97213
Bus 503-649-9514 Fax 503-649-1612
gibran.zogbi.qdmq@statefarm.com



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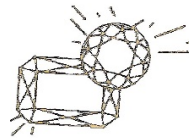
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