



# 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)

## March 21, 2021

### Healing of The Blind Man



### Next Sunday

#### Hosanna Sunday

**Phil 1:1-13** (Greeting/Thanksgiving)

**Jn 12:12-22** (The Entry into Jerusalem/Coming of Jesus' Hour)

## Your Gifts To God

### Offering Report for March 7th - 13th

Online.....\$1,165.00

Collection.....\$1,317.00

Weekly Total.....\$2,482.00

YTD Total.....\$21,150.47

YTD Goal.....\$20,306.00

YTD Difference.....\$844.47

## Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, March 21st, 10:30am

+*Rosette Kasaab*

Monday, March 22nd

+*Anne Bellet*

Tuesday, March 23rd

+*Leonard Slusher*

Wednesday, March 24th

+*Duane Graham*

Thursday, March 25th

*Emma Nickerson*

Friday, March 26th

*Available*

Saturday, March 27th

+*Ron Graham*

Sunday, March 28th

+*Rosette Kasaab*

***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, March 21st**

*Redmond Family*

**Sunday, March 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



*Virtual Meeting with  
His Eminence and Beatitude  
Patriarch Bechara  
Cardinal Peter Rai*

THE EPARCHY OF OUR LADY OF  
LEBANON OF LOS ANGELES

INVITES YOU TO A SPECIAL  
GATHERING WITH OUR PATRIARCH

MARCH 27, 2021

8PM LEBANON TIME

10 AM PACIFIC

11 AM MOUNTAIN

12 PM CENTRAL

1PM EASTERN

VIA ZOOM  
TO REGISTER VISIT OUR [PAGE](#)

## 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, April 10, @ 1pm on ZOOM**

Watch for invitation in your inbox

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

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

**Sunday, March 21, 2021, 10:30am**

**Youtube Channel Link:**

**<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCi8CEQIEEnX-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.





## The National Apostolate of Maronites Presents

The 29th Annual Spring Raffle - 2021

Only 450 Tickets are printed

Donation: \$100 per ticket

Last Chance!!!!

\$17,500.00 In Cash Prizes!!!

1st Prize — \$10,000.00

2nd Prize — \$3,000.00

3rd Prize — \$2,000.00

4th Prize — \$1,500.00

5th Prize — \$1,000.00

Only 450 Tickets Printed - \$100 Each

This year's drawing will be held on **May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021** at St. Maron, Youngstown (Ohio)

You can see the drawing live at [NAM FaceBook](#)

Thank you for your support in previous years for this raffle fund-raiser, as it is an important part of the NAM annual budget. We are counting on your generosity once again, to support our community projects.

**Call Nadia Redmond at 503-671-0440 by April 11 if you would like to purchase a raffle ticket.**

## 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>

## 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

Every time we attend the Divine Liturgy or pray the office we call out three times in the Qadishat, "Holy are You, O God. Holy are You, O Almighty One. Holy are You, O Immortal One. Have mercy on us!" Each time we call to our holy, almighty and immortal Lord and God, Jesus Christ to have mercy upon us. But precisely what does this mercy do?

In today's Gospel we hear that Bartimaeus, a blind man, calls out loudly to the Lord, "Have mercy on me!" Again and again he cried out because he knew the Lord was nearby and only He could heal him. Many nearby told him to be quiet. Perhaps there were those who thought he was crazy, those who thought he was unworthy and those who simply did not want to hear him. But in spite of what others might have thought, Bartimaeus yelled even louder. "Have mercy on me!" While others told him to be silent, the Lord instructed others to call him over. Bartimaeus's faith overcame the demands of his peers. And when Christ asked him what he wanted Him to do, Bartimaeus responded he wanted to see, because he knew the Lord could grant him sight. Christ responds to him, "See! Your faith has given you life!" and the Gospel tells us Bartimaeus immediately saw (Mark 10:52, Pshitto).

Bartimaeus provides us such a great example of faith. In his blindness he could see better than the rest of those around him. For whatever reasons, others tried to discourage him from calling upon the Lord. Yet Bartimaeus knew the Lord invites all to Himself because, in His mercy, He desires cure all. Like the rest of the healings in this Season of Great Lent, each one who calls out to the Divine Physician is healed. Though we are unable to pay, He is happy to heal us – not because we deserve it or can repay Him, but He wishes us to be whole. He gives to each what they need if they ask Him in mercy, "Have mercy on me!"

We may ask why the Lord does not respond to us as we desire, but in the faith of Bartimaeus we believe that the Divine Physician knows what He is doing. He Who made us knows what we need. Just as a physician must sometimes operate and cause some pain for the overall betterment of a patient, so does the Lord sometimes pain us so that we may be bettered overall. A surgery out of context seems like damage – someone cutting into another person, perhaps removing an organ. But stepping back, one can see perhaps the organ is cancerous and the physician is preventing the spread of cancer to other organs, which would kill the whole body. Likewise, when we sincerely call out to the Divine Physician, "Have mercy on me!" He responds as we need, for He knows the souls He created. In His goodness, He removes those things of which He wishes to relieve us and gives us those situations, which He knows is for our betterment.

Let us be mindful of the faith of Bartimaeus every time we cry out, "Have mercy on us!" Just as those who were healed by the Lord had confident faith in that He could heal them, let us call to Him with our petitions in mind. Knowing that the Lord is the Physician without fail, Whom not even death can conquer, let us cry out, "Have mercy on us!" And let us pray:

O Lord, heal our souls and minds, and gather them from being scattered and wandering in evil thoughts. As You healed and cured the paralysis of soul by the work of Your hands may we likewise by the mystical reception of Your holy body and blood be thrice healed in soul, body and mind. We shall offer glory and thanks to You, and to Your Father, and to Your living and Holy Spirit, now and at all times, forever. Amen.



Please make your gift to the Lenten Appeal through your local parish. Place your gift in an envelope noted "Bishop's Appeal", or note "Bishop's Appeal" on your check. You may also make a gift online at [www.eparchy.org](http://www.eparchy.org).

## Additional Ways to Help

**Make a Bequest.** A bequest is naming the Eparchy (or your parish) in your will. This can be for a specific amount of money, or a percentage of your estate. To do this, include this language in your will:

"I give and bequeath to the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles \_\_\_\_\_% of the residue of my estate [or: the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_]."

**Give from your IRA.** Generally speaking, taxpayers who are age 70½ years old and older may give up to \$100,000 each year from their IRA to the Eparchy without paying the mandatory tax on IRA distributions. This is a significant benefit because taxes on an IRA are normally very high. The practical effect of this is that you can give more, tax free, from your IRA – and this makes it a very effective way to support the Church. Contact your broker or the Eparchy for more information about this.

**Make the Eparchy a Beneficiary of Your Retirement Plan.** Another way to help the Church is to name the Eparchy as the beneficiary of your retirement plan. This avoids estate taxes (which are often very high on retirement plans) – and can be tremendously helpful to the Church.

**Make a Gift of Life Insurance.** Naming the Eparchy as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy is a way to help the Church in the future while not impacting your income or lifestyle today. Ask your insurance agent or contact the Eparchy for more information about this.

"God loves a cheerful giver!" (2 Corinthians 9:7)



Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles

1021 S. 10th St.  
St. Louis, MO 63104  
314-231-1021

[admin@eparchy.org](mailto:admin@eparchy.org) [www.eparchy.org](http://www.eparchy.org)

## EPARCHY OF OUR LADY OF LEBANON OF LOS ANGELES

### 2021 Lenten Appeal

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I sincerely thank you for your support of the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles, especially in light of the challenges of the past year. The Eparchy's mission is to serve the People of God and proclaim the Gospel message in today's world. We can only continue to do this with your prayers and financial support.

The past year was filled with adversity, including the pandemic and difficulties at home and abroad. But we are a people of hope, and God helps us through all adversity to get to a brighter future.

Today, I would like to ask for your help with our Annual Lenten Appeal, to address the Eparchy's most important and immediate needs. The proceeds of the Lenten Appeal will contribute to three especially key areas:

- **Opening New Parishes and Missions:** There are many areas across the country where Maronite communities are unable to have Maronite services due to the lack of parishes and priests. Our goal is to strengthen existing parishes and build new missions so that our people can celebrate their faith and heritage.
- **Expanding Services:** In light of the economic and emotional hardships of the past year, it is more imperative than ever to offer our support to young people, families, and those with the greatest need.
- **Helping our brothers and sisters in Lebanon and the Middle East:** Lebanon has been especially affected after the Beirut explosion in August of 2020. Many people were displaced; and homes, hospitals, schools, and businesses suffered extreme damage. We need to give our support to our brothers and sisters as they go through these trying times.

Some people have asked about the Eparchy's long-term Capital Campaign – Vision for the Future, Mission for Today. Unfortunately, the Campaign was temporarily suspended due to the pandemic, but we hope to re-start it at an appropriate time in the future.

In the meantime, I ask for your help through this Annual Lenten Appeal with the important and immediate needs described more fully in this short brochure. Please review it and prayerfully consider how you may help, and please be generous.

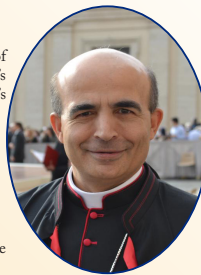
May God bless you and keep you!

Gratefully yours in Christ,

*+ A. E. Zaidan*

+A. Elias Zaidan

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



### 1. Seminarians and Retired Priests

The Eparchy educates and prepares men (called "seminarians") for the priesthood, so that there will be enough priests to serve in our parishes and missions in the future. The Eparchy currently has 6 seminarians and 8 married men in formation. The average cost of educating and supporting a seminarian is \$45,000 per year (our seminarians cost \$471,000 last year). When a priest retires, he receives a modest pension from the Eparchy, along with basic health insurance coverage. The Eparchy now has seven retired priests who served for over 224 years in parishes. The total cost of supporting them is estimated to be \$210,000 in 2021. **35% of this year's Annual Appeal proceeds will support Seminarians and Retired Priests.**

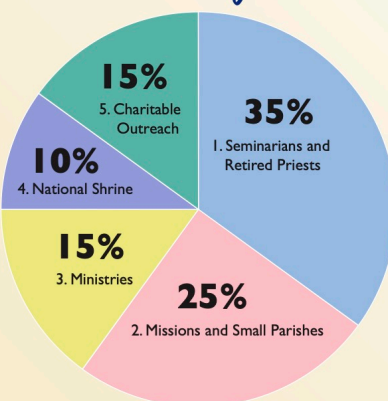


### 2. Missions and Small Parishes

The Eparchy consists of thirty-two [32] parishes and ten [10] missions with over 46,800 Catholics across 34 states of the Eparchy. Missions (new parishes) were opened in recent years in places like Milwaukee (WI), Riverside (CA) and Stockton (CA). Some missions and parishes are very small and need additional financial support with basic expenses such as insurance and utilities. It is a priority to strengthen our parishes and missions so that they may better serve the Maronite faithful. **25% of this year's Annual Appeal proceeds will support Missions and Small Parishes.**

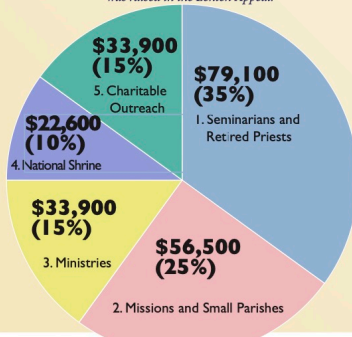


## 2021 Lenten Appeal Allocation of Funds



## Report on 2020 Lenten Appeal Use of Funds (\$164,797)

\*Due to the pandemic, the Eparchy was not able to raise the full Eparchial Appeal amount of \$226,000, so the Eparchy paid for the difference of \$61,203. The Eparchy has also paid more to each objective than was raised in the Lenten Appeal.



### 3. Ministries

The Eparchy maintains several ministries to serve Maronites, including Religious Education, Youth Ministry, Young Adults Ministry, Family Life Ministry, and Catholic Social Teaching. The Eparchy needs to increase the number and scope of its ministries to better serve the faithful in the Eparchy, especially when crises arise. **15% of this year's Annual Appeal proceeds will assist the Eparchy's Ministries.**



### 4. National Maronite Shrine

Our Lady of Lebanon National Shrine, located in North Jackson, Ohio, was founded over 50 years ago to invoke Our Lady's protection over all Maronites in the United States. It is a place of pilgrimage for the faithful 365 days a year. Due to the pandemic, the Shrine has experienced an increased need for support due to the restrictions on gatherings and pilgrimages. **10% of this year's Annual Appeal proceeds will assist the National Shrine.**



### 5. Charitable Outreach

As the Eparchy asks the faithful to be generous to it, the Eparchy strives to be generous to those in need. With your support, the Eparchy helps the less fortunate in the United States, and abroad in Lebanon and the Middle East. With your help, we are able to lend a helping hand to those suffering and in need. **15% of this year's Annual Appeal proceeds will go to charity, especially to help the needy in Lebanon.**



**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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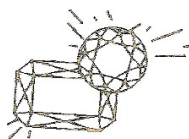
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