



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

July 11, 2021

The Spirituality of God's Messenger



Next Sunday

The Mission of God's Messenger

2 Cor 5:20-6:10 (The Ministry of Reconciliation)

Lk 4:14-21 (The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry/
The Rejection at Nazareth)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for June 27th - July 3rd

Online.....\$195.00

Collection.....\$167.00

Weekly Total.....\$362.00

YTD Total.....\$49,675.47

YTD Goal.....\$49,842.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$166.63**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, July 11th, 11:00am

Available

Monday, July 12th

Available

Tuesday, July 13th

Available

Wednesday, July 14th

Available

Thursday, July 15th

Available

Friday, July 16th

Available

Saturday, July 17th

Available

Sunday, July 18th

Available

***Adoration/Exposition every Sunday at 10:00
am before the morning Liturgy.***

***Confession every Sunday 10:35-10:50am
before the morning Liturgy.***

***Also join us to pray the Rosary on Sundays
at 10:30 am before the Liturgy begins.***

Altar Sponsorship

Sunday, July 11th

Available

Sunday, July 18th

Redmond Family

MASS UPDATES:

Brothers and Sisters,

Given the bishop has removed the dispensation to attend Mass on July 1st (see letter below) we will be discontinuing our live streaming of the Holy Mysteries. We want to thank, and acknowledge Jonathan Zogbi for his devoted service every week over these past 15 months. I would like to formally invite everyone back to church. Mask use will be optional — wear a mask if you'd like. It's your preference beginning this weekend. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your patience and generous support through this difficult period.

God Bless, Abouna

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

****SUNDAY MASS TIME****

11:00am

Confessions: 10:35-10:50am

St Sharbel Feast and Picnic Sunday, July 18

In order to plan food,
Please RSVP by Wednesday 7/14
using the Sign-Up Genius link below.

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

Reflection

When Our Lord Jesus Christ was asked by His disciples, “Teach us to pray” (Luke 11:1) it says a lot that His response was the prayer we have come to know as the “Our Father.” Jesus, Who is good and the Lover of Mankind, wishes to equip us with every spiritual nourishment and so He provided us with the perfect prayer. As St. Jacob of Sarug said, whoever meditates upon the words of the Our Father holds perfect in their heart. God Himself gave us this prayer that we might have the perfection of God to reflect upon all the days our life. The Our Father is not only a basic prayer in that we learn it as children, but it summarizes the entire perfection of Christian life that we must continually pray and meditate upon. The Our Father is a rich and inexhaustible fount of divine wisdom and direction for how to address the Lord. According to the Syriac Peshitta for this Sunday’s reading (Luke 11:2-4), Christ tells us to pray:

Our Father, Who is in heaven,

We call God Father so often, we sometimes forget the radicalness of it. As Philoxenus of Mabbug says not everyone can do so. God created all and everyone, but only the baptized can call God *our* Father because they have become children of God and siblings of Christ through the Holy Spirit. As our baptismal rite emphasizes, the baptismal font is a spiritual womb through which we are born again/ from above (John 3:3), as Christ says is necessary to see the Kingdom. Through the womb of baptism we are born are children of the Father in heaven, and therefore can call Him Father and ask of Him as a child to his or her parent. But even before we ask, the fact that we are children of the Divine means that we too share in divine things.

Hallowed be Your name.

The name of God is to be blessed at times, for His name is the name before which “Every kneel shall bend” (Phil. 2:10). To hallow and sanctify a thing is to set it apart, and God has given us the intimacy of knowing His name that we should only honor it, which is set above all things.

May Your Kingdom come; may Your will be on Earth as it is in heaven.

We await the coming of the Kingdom in the Apocalypse. For those who are children of God, we do not fear His coming, but await it in excitement. Just like those who await the coming of a groom, those who prepare themselves for Christ’s coming will rejoice when they see Him. That preparation is acting according to the will of God today and now, and repenting when we fail.

Give us the bread we need daily.

We should have confidence that God will provide what we need, and ask Him in our anxiety. Everything comes from God – as the popular Christmas hymn *Shubho lhaw qolo* says, “No one lives without air, no one exists without the Son.” The parallel drawn is that Christ is the breath of our very existence – without Whom we would not even exist. Therefore, even our basic needs are supplied by God, and we should not fear to implore Him for our needs for, like a loving Father to His children, He will help us meet our needs.

Forgive us our sins as we have forgiven those who have wronged us.

This is a most difficult petition. It is humanly impossible that to match the infinite abundance of God’s mercy. However, Jesus has warned us that we will be judged the same way we judge others (Matt. 7:2). We must discern right and wrong – but we must also forgive all who wrong us if we wish to receive forgiveness for our innumerable sins. If we should ever hesitate to forgive, we need only to remember how often we against God, yet, as St. Jacob said, if He would not forgive us, He would not have taught us to say “Forgive us our sins.” Forgiveness is a divine quality, and we must ask God for the strength to forgive. Forgiveness is much like the Exodus of Israel from Egypt – if Israel tried to swim across the Red Sea, either Pharaoh’s Army or the tide would have drowned them, no matter how adept they were at swimming. Likewise, if we forgive by human power alone, perhaps we can stay afloat for a bit, but without the help of God, the smallest reminder will undo it, even with great effort. Let us always ask Him for our daily needs. *Lead us not into trial but save us from the Evil One.* God sends no evil, but He is the Lord of All and has authority over all. The Evil One, Satan, and his hosts seeks to lead us away from our divine sonship with every little opportunity. It is not that God sends us tests to make us stumble, but He also does not infringe on our free will. As Jesus says, God knows what you need before you even ask. God often has us ask, not because we need to inform or instruct Him, but to meditate and reflect upon our sins and calling to intimacy with God. Let us implore God, our Father, as His beloved children over Whom He broods.



Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles

June 30, 2021

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings and Peace!

The past year and a half has been a difficult and painful time for many of us as the COVID-19 Pandemic raged at home and abroad but now we see the light at the end of the tunnel. We are finally able to return to gather with our families and friends, and most importantly, to gather as a community of Christian faithful.

As of **July 1, 2021**, the canonical dispensation from attending the Divine Liturgy will be completely lifted in our Eparchy, with a call on everyone to return to their second home and give the proper respect due to God. All of our Churches continue to take the proper health and safety precautions and follow the CDC requirements.

Please find below the list of guidelines for General Consideration:

- Liturgical celebration and other religious services are allowed indoors without limitations on capacity or social distancing.
- Masses may be celebrated without restrictions.
- The Holy Communion may be given by intinction or on the hand but will be at the Pastor's discretion.
- Holy Water will be available.
- Hymnals, missalettes, bulletins, and offertory baskets will be reinstated at the discretion of the Pastor.
- The Sign of Peace during Mass will also be reinstated at the discretion of the Pastor.
- We ask those who are not fully vaccinated or unable to receive the vaccine to continue to wear masks during any gatherings. Masks are not required for those who have received the full dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. We ask Parishes to post signs stating mask use for unvaccinated attendees. Vaccination verification is not required.
- Parishes may resume gatherings including social gatherings, group gatherings, and prayer meetings while observing the proper health measurements.
- Our parishes will continue to diligently clean the Churches after services and provide hand sanitizer for those in attendance.

Letter from Bishop A. Elias Zaidan

June 30, 2021

Page 2 of 2

- Those who are homebound, seriously ill, or immunocompromised will be exempted from the obligation to attend Mass.
- Live-streamed Divine Liturgical service continuation will be at the discretion of the Pastor and according to local needs.

We are joyous to welcome you back home and to celebrate the Divine Liturgy once again as a community. As Jesus said, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them" (Matt 18:30). We have been physically, emotionally, and psychologically distant from each other and our Church for a long time, it is now time for us to celebrate and rejoice together.

My brother priests and I welcome all of you back with open hearts and open arms. We look forward to seeing you and your families back at the Liturgies and connecting once again with the greater community.

With my sincere best wishes and prayers, I remain

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



The Property Brokers Group
Keller Williams Sunset Corridor

Katy Redmond

Real Estate Broker

www.thepropertybrokersgroup.comkaty@thepropertybrokersgroup.com

(503) 807-4845



Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated

**KARAM LEBANESE DELI
& CATERING**

30 years in business

Beaverton Location
2800 SW Cedar Hills Blvd
Beaverton, OR 97005

Portland Location
1111 SW Jefferson
Portland, OR 97205



karamldc.com
503-626-5272



Diamond Wholesaler

Northwest Diamonds & Jewelry

Wady Kaldawi
(503) 222-5571
(503) 222-1344 FAX

534 SW 3rd # 216
Portland, OR 97204
wady@northwestdiamond.com

Sales - Service
Maintenance
Supplies

Gus & Eva Bekahi

Printers, Fax Machines, Copiers,

12227 SE Stark St
Portland, OR 97233

(503) 255-1617
FAX (503) 255-1626

CONTEMPORARY &
TRADITIONAL HOMES

Creste RESIDENTIAL
CONSTRUCTION

Darin Oreste
503.705.6609 • darin3100@aol.com
849 SW Troy St. Portland, OR 97219
CCB# 114416 "Where detail makes the difference"

Want to Advertise Your Business?

Contact **Nisreen Mouammar** to set up
your advertisement today!

nisreen.mouammar@gmail.com