



Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

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www.stsharbel.org

August 22, 2021

Heeding the Word
14th Sunday of Pentecost



Next Sunday

15th Sunday of Pentecost
Receiving the Word

1 Thes 1:1-10 (Greetings/Thanksgiving for Their Faith)

Lk 7:36-50 (The Pardon of the Sinful Woman)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for August 8th - 14th

Online.....\$1,259.00

Collection.....\$272.00

Weekly Total.....\$1,531.00

YTD Total.....\$60,726.47

YTD Goal.....\$60,918.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$191.53**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, August 15th, 11:00am

+Arthur Johann

Monday, August 16th

Available

Tuesday, August 17th

Available

Wednesday, August 18th

Available

Thursday, August 19th

Available

Friday, August 20th

Available

Saturday, August 21st

Available

Sunday, August 22nd

All St. Sharbel Graduates

***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, August 15th

Redmond Family

Sunday, August 22nd

Available

Parish / Community Events

MASK UPDATE:

Starting Aug. 13, masks are mandatory in all indoor spaces in Oregon. We will need to mask up for Mass starting this Sunday, August 15.

At this time no other measures will be required, but please wear your masks if you are attending mass in person.

Thank you in Advance!

Parish Council

Bruce Ashford

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



Please keep us in prayer--and start filling your local vigil NOW by signing up to pray this **September 22 - October 31**: 40daysforlife.com/portland. Shawn Carney, 40 Days for Life

Upcoming Events in the Archdiocese:

9/16 Human Trafficking Silent Prayer Vigil: Please join us to pray for victims and an end to human trafficking. We will meet at 11 AM on the sidewalk in front of St. Andre Bessette Catholic Church, 601 West Burnside Street, Portland.

9/22 40 Days for Life Begins

Reflection

Lk 10:38-42

Hospitality is one of the coveted possessions of Middle Eastern culture. The very idea of being remarked as a good host is an honor, as the host diligently sees to their guests – and not offering something once, but often three or more times. Beyond being a characteristic of being Middle Eastern, hospitality is a fundamental value of Christianity, as St. Paul suggests (Heb. 13:12). And who could be a greater honor to receive as a guest than Christ, our Lord and God, as Martha and Mary receive Him in the Gospel this Sunday?

At our baptism, we are also honored with the indwelling of Christ to the humble abode of our body. As St. Paul says, “It is Christ who lives in me” (Gal. 2:20) and “Do you not know that you are God’s temple...?” (1 Cor. 3:16). By baptism we welcome Christ into our very selves, and He enters the place we prepare for Him regardless of the sneers of others. Just as when Christ visited Zaccheus the tax collector’s house (Luke 19), He did not listen to those who were questioning Christ for visiting a sinner. In fact, it was because Zaccheus was a sinner that Christ was even more pleased to visit Him because, as He said through the prophet Ezekiel, “For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent and live!” (Ez. 18:32). Should we not prepare, then, a house fitting for the visit of the King of Kings?

But why, then, was Martha corrected by Jesus when she was busy toiling to prepare things for Christ’s visit while Mary sat there entertaining Him? Certainly preparing food and tidying up is an important part of any visit of a guest. But Martha allowed her other cares to distract her from the fact that the King of Kings had come to visit. As our Lord told Martha, “You are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her” (Luke 10:41-42). Christ is not telling Martha to ignore the necessities of life – indeed, if she let the house fall in, there would be no house to have Christ as a guest. But she is allowing other worries to ignore the most life-giving encounter she could possibly have with Life Himself.

We have been honored beyond our deserving with the visitation of our Lord in our bodies. How do we receive Him? Do we sit attentively at His feet as Mary did? Or do we allow the cares of this world to pull us this and that way, while we say that we are doing what is necessary now and we will give Christ a later time? As Christ Himself says, “But about that day or hour no one knows” (Matt. 24:36) so for all we know that later time we give Christ may never come. Placing Christ at the center of our lives is a life-long process, and not merely a box to check but an act of love. Just as we should not approach the amount of time we give our mothers, the Christian does not think “What is the least amount of time that I can give God and He will still love me?” God will always love us regardless of our acts – the amount of time we give Him in return is our response.

**Gibran N Zogbi**

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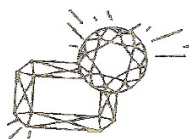
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