



# Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

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503.231.3853

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

[www.stsharbel.org](http://www.stsharbel.org)

## October 24, 2021

6th Sunday After the Holy Cross



**Next Sunday**

7th Sunday After the Holy Cross

Rom 12:9-21 (Mutual Love)

Mt 25:31-46 (The Judgement of the Nations)

## Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for October 10th - 16th

Online.....\$910.00

Collection.....\$0.00

Weekly Total.....\$910.00

YTD Total.....\$71,878.47

YTD Goal.....\$77,532.00

YTD Difference.....-\$5,653.53

## Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, October 24th, 11:00am

**+Joseph Tannous Atie**

Monday, October 25th

**+Whitney Elliot Neal**

Tuesday, October 26th

*Available*

Wednesday, October 27th

*Available*

Thursday, October 28th

**In Honor of Saint Simon & Saint Jude**

Friday, October 29th

*Available*

Saturday, October 30th

*Available*

Sunday, October 31st

**+Rabih Ghostine 40 Day Memorial**

**+Whitney Elliot Neal 40 Day Memorial**

**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, October 24th

*Redmond Family*

Sunday, October 31st

*Available*

# Parish / Community Events

## Parish Council

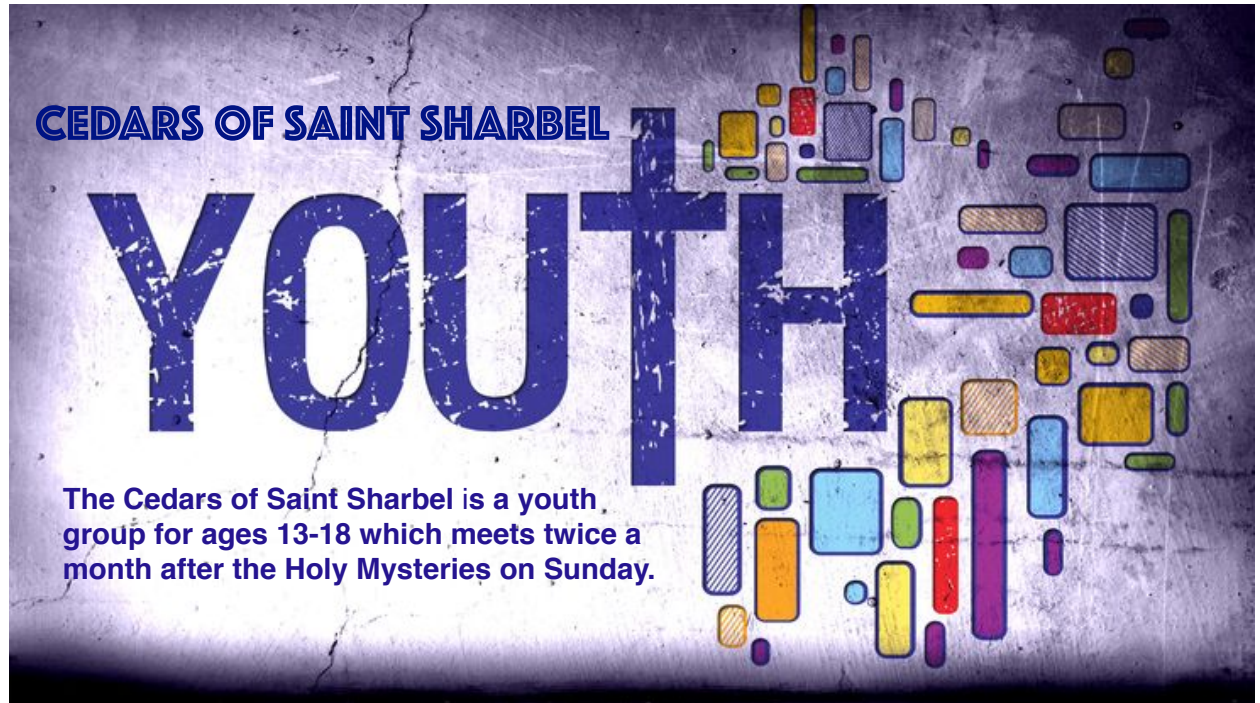
Bruce Ashford  
Charlie Ashou  
Gus Bekahi  
Nick El Hajj  
Agopos Ghossein  
Adib Karam  
+Claude Karam  
Anne Marentette  
(Secretary)  
+Doug Raab  
+Thaddeus Rask  
Nadia Redmond  
Mitch Siekmann

Ex Officio  
+Deacon Tony  
+Deacon Wadih

+Finance  
Committee

## All Families with children age 6 to 12 (grades: 1-7):

**St. Sharbel Sunday School Program** started on Sunday, October 3, 2021. The goal of this program is to prepare our kids for the Sacraments and to build a strong relationship with each other and their parish. Please email Nadia Redmond at [n.redmond@comcast.net](mailto:n.redmond@comcast.net) to register for the program and for more information.



We will be meeting in person, God willing. Meetings will immediately follow mass, in the downstairs basement. All participants will be required to mask and social distance.

Meeting Dates (Subject to Change)

**October 31**

**November 14**

**December 5** — Family Adoration at 10:15am. No additional meeting this month  
**Stay Tuned for a list of 2022 Meetings**

Meeting dates are posted here and sent out in email. For more information, contact Gennifer Karam: [jmjkaram3@gmail.com](mailto:jmjkaram3@gmail.com)



The MYA is a group of men and women ages 18-40 (ish) which meets once a month for fellowship, prayer, and social activities.

If interested, please contact Claude Karam at

[claudio@trazzafoods.com](mailto:claudio@trazzafoods.com)

Next Meeting Date TBA

# JOIN THE ORDER OF SAINT SHARBEL

TO SUPPORT THE EDUCATION OF MARONITE SEMINARIANS  
AND HELP BUILD THE FUTURE OF THE MARONITE CHURCH



## JOIN THE ORDER OF SAINT SHARBEL TODAY

Enroll online at [www.orderstsharbel.org](http://www.orderstsharbel.org) or in your Parish.

For more information about the Order, please contact your Parish Priest or Order of Saint Sharbel President Jim Abdo at [info@orderstsharbel.org](mailto:info@orderstsharbel.org) or call the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles at (314) 231-1021.

If you are interested in becoming a Priest or Religious Sister,  
contact Vocations Director, Msgr. Donald J. Sawyer, D. Min, at 512-458-3693 or [dsawyer@grandecom.net](mailto:dsawyer@grandecom.net)

### Wedding Planning Checklist

#### 4 MONTHS TO GO

- ☐ PLAN THE CEREMONY
- ☐ WRITE VOWS
- ☒ ATTEND COUPLES WORKSHOP  
TO BUILD A STRONG  
FOUNDATION FOR MY  
MARRIAGE

Prepare for your marriage at our next  
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Trained therapists will guide you  
through exercises and activities that will  
help you build communication and  
conflict resolution skills to use  
throughout your marriage.

**\*\*This workshop fulfills the 4<sup>th</sup> step in the  
Archdiocese of Portland's Marriage  
Preparation Journey.\*\***

### NEXT WORKSHOP IS:

Friday, November 12, 6 pm–8 pm &  
Saturday, November 13  
9 am–11am & 1 pm–3 pm  
(Couples must attend each session)

### WHERE

Online with Zoom  
(Couples will be emailed with log-in information)

### COST

\$225 per couple

### REGISTRATION

Register and pay online at  
[nwcounseling.org/product/couples-  
workshop/](http://nwcounseling.org/product/couples-workshop/)

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## Reflection

In today's Gospel, we see a severe master who returns to collect what he has entrusted to his servants in the Parable of the Talents (Matt. 25:14-39). Just as we would expect in a business setting, the servants who increased the amount of money they were entrusted were rewarded by their master, being told to "enter into the joy of your master." However, the servant who buried the amount of money entrusted to him out of fear of loss was punished and even though he was entrusted the least amount he had even his little amount taken away. It seems to be a frightening story from Jesus Christ because it seems the servant who had the least in the end finishes with even less because of his own limitations.

What is the meaning of this parable? Christ is, of course, the master who determines how He distributes His wealth to us, His servants. The generosity of God comes in all forms, from our circumstances to our natural ability – but in some way, we have all been equipped to do His will in a unique way. The parable acknowledges that some simply begin with more entrusted to them than others – that is a fact of life. Some might run multi-million dollar companies, while others wait tables at a diner, but that does not change the dignity of the servant, as well as the mastership of Christ, Who has assigned us our gifts as He wills.

The servant who has been entrusted two talents is rewarded in the same manner as the one who was entrusted five when he has acted well in what he has been given. The master says to both of them, "Enter into the joy of your master." The talents, ultimately, were neither the property of the servants nor was it a transactional exchange – the servant who had ten talents was not rewarded differently from the servant with four. Likewise, the gifts Christ has given us in this life are ultimately not ours because we did not procure them ourselves – even our own accomplishments in life are more fundamentally based on what God has given us to begin with. If He had not allowed us to live to a certain age or possess the skills that we do, we could not accomplish even what might seem to be solely the fruit of our hard labor. Therefore, all things are done for the sake of God and should be used in a manner pleasing to Him.

Knowing that He has distributed different gifts, God will not penalize us for having a difference in effectiveness when doing His will if we try our best. Because of our own circumstances, God would not expect a housemother to pray as much as a monk in a monastery simply because each person is judged on what they have received. The last servant who returns the talent to the master was punished because he decided to do nothing with what he was entrusted. Our Lord is merciful and kind – if the last servant had lost the only talent he had been entrusted earnestly trading to increase it would have pleased his master. But the last servant was wicked because he allowed his laziness and fear to overcome his love for his master.

As servants, we should recall that we have been entrusted a great deal from Christ for the building up of His will on Earth. We participate in what we ask in the Our Father, "Thy will be done on Earth as it is in heaven," when we work to use our gifts. Let fear or laziness not motivate our lives, but the love we have for the Lord.

When the Lord comes and requires the money He gave to us with His interest let us not resemble the wicked servant who took the coin and did not trade with it. Come, let us resemble the servant who received five and earned as many more. The good servant showed his master his commerce and the wicked servant inherited Gehenna.

**Gibran N Zogbi**

Agent

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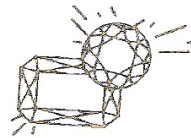
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