



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

November 7, 2021

Consecration of the Church



Next Sunday

The Announcement to Zechariah

Rom 4:13-25 (Inheritance Through Faith)

Lk 1:1-25 (Announcement of the Birth of John)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for October 24th - 30th

Online.....\$845.00

Collection.....\$620.00

Weekly Total.....\$1,465.00

YTD Total.....\$78,265.47

YTD Goal.....\$81,224.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$2,958.53**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, October 7th, 11:00am

+Antoine & Georgette Zogbi

Monday, November 8th

Available

Tuesday, November 9th

Available

Wednesday, November 10th

Happy Birthday Michael

Thursday, November 11th

Available

Friday, November 12th

Available

Saturday, November 13th

Available

Sunday, November 14th

+ Theodora (Barbara) Curran

(Grandmother of Fr. Nick Sertich)

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, November 7th

Available

Sunday, November 14th

Available

Parish / Community Events

Parish Council

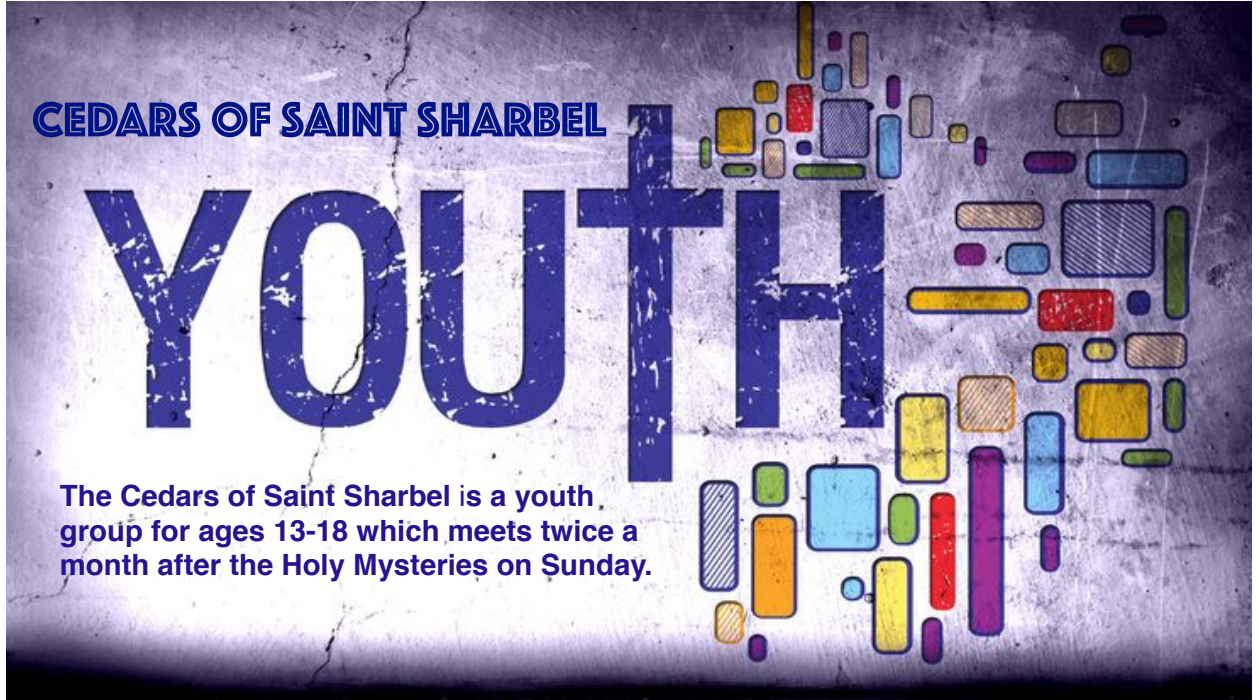
Bruce Ashford
Charlie Ashou
Gus Bekahi
Nick El Hajj
Agopos Ghossein
Adib Karam
+Claude Karam
Anne Marentette
(Secretary)
+Doug Raab
+Thaddeus Rask
Nadia Redmond
Mitch Siekmann

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 to register for the program and for more information.



The Cedars of Saint Sharbel is a youth group for ages 13-18 which meets twice a month after the Holy Mysteries on Sunday.

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)

****November 21** DATE CHANGE**

December 5 — Family Adoration at 10:15am. No additional meeting this month

2022 Meetings

January 9

January 23

February 6

February 20

Meeting dates are posted here and sent out in email. For more information, contact Gennifer Karam: 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

Next Meeting Date TBA

Wedding Planning Checklist

4 MONTHS TO GO

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

NEXT WORKSHOP IS:

Friday, November 12, 6 pm–8 pm &
Saturday, November 13
9 am–11 am & 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/

Follow us on social media!

@2Have2HoldPDX



Prepare for your marriage at our next Couples Workshop!

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 4th step in the Archdiocese of Portland's Marriage Preparation Journey.****



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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 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 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

Unhealed effects from abortion experiences do not have to compound the extraordinarily massive stress in countless lives right now. The power to resolve abortion-related trauma and grief are found in an upcoming Project Aurora sponsored Rachel's Vineyard Retreat weekend.

Upcoming Retreat Dates

Portland: **November 12-14, 2021** and **February 18-20, 2022.**

Retreats are offered in full compliance with COVID-19 safety regulations.

If you are suffering after abortion, experience a Rachel's Vineyard healing weekend sponsored by Project Aurora. The weekends are for women, men, and anyone impacted by abortion regardless of faith background. Each retreat starts on Friday at 2 PM and ends on Sunday at 5 PM. Participation at the retreats is strictly confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness, and compassion.

Cost: The cost is \$250.00 for meals, room, and all retreat materials. *If you have a financial burden, assistance is available!*

For more information or registration contact: Project Aurora at 541-942-2861/E-mail: ProjectAurora@aol.com.

Symptoms of Post-Abortion Trauma: Denial, Depression, Shame, Anger/Rage, Grief/Loss, Drive to Succeed, Emotional Numbness, Difficulty with Relationships, Anxiety and Panic Attacks, Multiple Abortions, Sexual Problems/Promiscuity, Self-Punishment, Guilt/Regret, Risk Taking, Fear of God's Punishment, Eating Disorders, Drug and Alcohol Abuse and Control Issues.

Reflection

Elijah and the pleasant young man, Daniel, are diligent groomsmen. Dear Thomas is the messenger, and Isaiah the collector of gifts. / [Mary] Magdalene is carrying spices and the sinful woman ointments. Matthew sets the tables and Luke mixes the wine vessels. / Abel sent her the first-born lamb from his flock and just Jacob set aside a tenth of his possession for her from the very beginning.

(Trans. from the Syriac Maronite night prayer of the Consecration of the Church)

People running around preparing food and setting tables might evoke the image of a *haffleh* in some minds, but the above is no earthly feast. This hymn from our tradition describes the wedding banquet of the Church, the Bride of Christ, whose feast we celebrate today. It is not a coincidence that this feast is the first at the beginning of the Church year – our tradition emphasizes the existence of the Church from the very beginning with Adam. The servants of Christ have been preparing His Bride's banquet even before He arrived! This is why the above hymn mentions both figures from the Old Testament, such as Elijah and Abraham, as well as from the New Testament, such as Mary Magdalene and Luke, working together. Though separated by thousands of years, all those whom Christ has raised to His service work together throughout time.

This might sound strange, but today we celebrate the continuity of the Church throughout all of time. Christ, our all-knowing and loving God, wanted to establish a way that humanity could be in an intimate relationship with Himself. The means He picked was to become the Bridegroom of the Church, to whom we belong. From before all time, He began to prepare this great wedding banquet with Israel and the prophets of old. The prophets organized the feast by their prophecies, preparing the hearts of the world to receive the Bridegroom. The apostles came to invite all the peoples of the world to this banquet, for Christ wishes all to be with Him. And today, our Church is the continuation of that true Israel, as St. Paul writes in Rom. 9:8, it is “the children of the promise” of God, not a physical descent.

All the saints before us have assisted in preparing this banquet through their own vocation to which Christ has called them until the moment He signed His wedding contract by His own blood when “He entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption,” as our first reading tells us (Heb. 9:12). And the very food of the banquet and purpose is the same in this action – at the banquet, Christ sets on the Holy Table, the altar, His Body and Blood for our eternal life and salvation, so that we may live with Him, glorify Him, and delight with Him for eternity with the rest of those invited to the banquet.

Indeed, every time we enter into the church for the Mass, we enter into this Mystical Banquet with all the saints before us, and the Bridegroom comes to delight with His Bride. Today, we celebrate the love of Christ towards His Bride, the Church, for He had no need to take her as His Bride or prepare the grand banquet that continues until today. Let us join in the banquet He has prepared us and assist. We are not forced to attend the banquet – we have the privilege of being the guests of honor.

Today the sons of the Church shall gather together and offer glory and thanksgiving with joy to God for His love has descended and dwelt in the Church. He has graciously made her a true bride for Himself. Today the true priests surround the holy altar in the likeness of angels. Our Lord gave her the authority for His flock to receive His body and Blood for forgiveness of their debts.

**Gibran N Zogbi**

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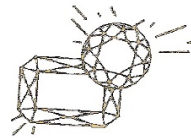
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