



# 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)

## January 23, 2022

Third Sunday of Epiphany



### Next Sunday

Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

Rom 7:1-6 (Freedom from the Law)

Jn 4:5-7, 9-26 (The Samaritan Woman)

## Your Gifts To God

### Offering Report for January 9th - 15th

Online.....\$1,200.00

Collection.....\$865.00

Weekly Total.....\$2,065.00

YTD Total.....\$5,881.00

YTD Goal.....\$4,616.00

YTD Difference.....\$1,265.00

## Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, January 23rd, 11:00am

+*Manne Atie*

Monday, January 24th

*Available*

Tuesday, January 25th

*Available*

Wednesday, January 26th

*Available*

Thursday, January 27th

*Available*

Friday, January 28th

*Available*

Saturday, January 29th

*Available*

Sunday, January 30th

*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, January 23rd

*Redmond Family*

Sunday, January 30th

*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

*With Gratitude to Almighty God  
and to our Blessed Mother, Mary,  
The Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles announces  
and the Kaldawi family invites you to the  
Ordination to the Priesthood of Jesus Christ  
of Deacon Wadih Z. Kaldawi  
Through the invocation of the Holy Spirit  
and the Imposition of hands by  
His Excellency Bishop A. Elias Zaidan, D.D., M.L.M.  
On Saturday, January 29, 2022 at eleven o'clock in the morning  
At St. John Maron Maronite Catholic Church  
500 Flower St. Orange, California  
A lunch reception will immediately follow  
in the Church banquet hall.*

*Father Wadih will celebrate his first Divine Liturgy at  
St. John Maron on Sunday January 30, 2022 at  
twelve fifteen o'clock in the afternoon.  
A lunch will be served after the Divine Liturgy in the church hall.*

*Please respond by January 10, 2022 to Mona Kaldawi  
(503) 313-6403 or email Monzak21@hotmail.com*



CEDARS OF SAINT SHARBEL

## YOUTH

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.

### 2022 Meetings (Subject to Change)

**January 23**  
**February 6**  
**February 20**

Meeting dates are posted here and sent out in email.  
For more information, contact  
Gennifer Karam: [jmkaram3@gmail.com](mailto:jmkaram3@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

## St. Sharbel Sunday School Program (Ages 6-12):

Our catechism program will continue to meet in person following the Divine Liturgy in the upstairs classroom. Our air filter will remain on and masks will be required. Our meeting dates so far will be **January 23 and February 6 & 20** (subject to change).

For more information, contact Nadia Redmond at [n.redmond@comcast.net](mailto:n.redmond@comcast.net).



## Reflection

Water is an essential of life. Our planet and our bodies are mostly made of water. Without water, a human cannot live more than a week nor would the food we eat grow. It is an irremovable part of our reality – in fact, both science confirms Scripture in that all life began in the waters of the ocean. In the very beginning, Genesis begins with the Spirit hovering over the waters (Gen. 1:2), and the gospels begin with the Spirit hovering over the waters of Christ's Baptism (Matt. 3, Mark 1, Luke 3, John 1). It is not a coincidence that creation – all life, and the Gospel both begin with water and the Spirit. God has chosen the visible sign of water to communicate the infinitely greater reality of life and the Spirit. What was created in the beginning is made anew by the waters of baptism by the Holy Spirit. As Christ tells Nicodemus in today's Gospel reading, without this new life brought about by the Spirit, one will not have life eternal (John 3:5). The Syriac Father Aphrahat relates the reception of the Holy Spirit at baptism with that of God breathing into the molded dirt in Genesis to give Adam life (Gen. 2:7) – if we refuse the waters of baptism we remain lifeless dirt.

At our Maronite wake services we sing, "It was unknown in the past that there was eternal life," referring to Isaac mourning Abraham, for baptism had not yet been given to us by God. Yet God in His mercy still alluded to it through signs and symbols through the prophets to give hope for His coming to remove death. Christ refers to Nicodemus one such sign in the life of Moses when Moses lifted up his staff as God instructed and those bitten by serpents were healed of the venom (Num. 21:9). Christ our God, being the reality behind this symbol, was lifted on the cross, and those who look on Him with eyes of faith are healed of the venom of the serpent, Satan, who poisoned Adam and receive eternal life (3:14-15). It is through baptism we enter into this mystery of the Son by the Holy Spirit, "Marked an innocent lamb of [His] flock... numbered amongst [His] spiritual herd" as the Maronite rite of baptism tells us. In the preparation for the waters of baptism, the rite tells us the Trinity makes the waters a "new womb for spiritual sons." Moses struck a rock in the desert at the command of God while Israel thirsted to death, and from it flowed water (Num. 20:11). Likewise, left to our own we would thirst to death in the desert of sin, but Christ has granted us a baptism of new life to remove from us this thirst.

Though coming to the spiritual, second birth through baptism is a one-time event we must continue to nourish our souls. Just as the second birth obtains eternal life for us like our first birth in flesh obtains life, we must nourish our spirits as we nourish our bodies. Revisiting the event of Moses striking the rock in the desert, the Maronite liturgy used to associate this with the priest removing the veil on the chalice, saying, "You are the flint rock which gave forth twelve rivers of water for the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel." Christ is the true rock from Whom flows the waters of life granting eternal life (John 4:14) that poured forth at His crucifixion. We are lambs branded with the sign of our Lord, the cross, given eternal life, and fed by the Body and Blood He has given us in His mercy. Nourished by these, we are consecrated as living temples of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:19), and called to lives fitting to holy dwelling places of God.

**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.com](http://www.thepropertybrokersgroup.com)[katy@thepropertybrokersgroup.com](mailto:katy@thepropertybrokersgroup.com)

(503) 807-4845

 Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated**KARAM LEBANESE DELI  
& CATERING**

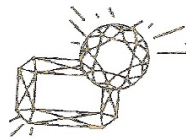
30 years in business

Beaverton Location  
2800 SW Cedar Hills Blvd  
Beaverton, OR 97005

Portland Location  
1111 SW Jefferson  
Portland, OR 97205



[karamldc.com](http://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](mailto:wady@northwestdiamond.com)

Sales - Service  
Maintenance  
Supplies

Gus &amp; Eva Bekahi

Printers, Fax Machines, Copiers,

12227 SE Stark St  
Portland, OR 97233

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



CONTEMPORARY &  
TRADITIONAL HOMES

**Oreste** RESIDENTIAL  
CONSTRUCTION

**Darin Oreste**  
503.705.6609 • [darin3100@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:nisreen.mouammar@gmail.com)