



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

May 29, 2022

Week of the Resurrection/Ascension



Next Sunday

Pentecost Sunday: Descent of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:1-21 (The Coming of the Spirit/Peter's Speech at Pentecost)

Jn 14:15-20 (The Advocate)

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, May 29th, 11:00am

+Albertina Meyer (Mary Havlicek's mother)

Monday, May 30th

Available

Tuesday, May 31st

+Duane Graham

Wednesday, June 1st

+Theresa Jawich

Thursday, June 2nd

+Sonia Bsaibes

Friday, June 3rd

+Michael Shehadi

Saturday, June 4th

+Nadia Abdallah

Sunday, June 5th

+Albertina Meyer

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.

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for May 15th - 21st

Online.....\$405.00

Collection.....\$1,751.00

Weekly Total.....\$2,156.00

YTD Total.....\$52,287.83

YTD Goal.....\$46,160.00

YTD Difference.....\$6,127.83

Altar Sponsorship

Sunday, May 29th

Available

Sunday, June 5th

Available

Parish / Community Events

Parish Council

Bruce Ashford
 Charlie Ashou
 Gus Bekahi
 Ben El Hajj
 Agopos Ghossein
 Adib Karam
 +Claude Karam
 Lydia Massaad
 +Doug Raab
 +Thaddeus Rask
 Nadia Redmond
 Peter Rizk
 Mitch Siekmann

Ex Officio
 +Deacon Tony

+Finance
 Committee



I delight to do Your will,
O God;
 Your law is within
my heart.

PSALMS 40:8

With Praise and Thanksgiving to Almighty God
 the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles
 and the Karam family
 are honored to invite you to

the Ordination to the Holy Priesthood of Jesus Christ
 of Deacon Antoine Karam

through the invocation
 of the Holy Spirit
 and by the Imposition of Hands of His Excellency
 The Most Reverend Bishop A. Elias Zaidan, D.D., M.L.M

Saturday, August 27, 2022, 11:00 a.m.
 at St. Pius X Catholic Church
 1280 NW Saltzman Rd.
 Portland, Oregon

A lunch reception will follow immediately
 at Saint Pius X Community Center hall.

Abouna Tony Sharbel will celebrate his First Mass of Thanksgiving
 at St. Sharbel Maronite Church on August, 28, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.
 1804 SE 16th Ave, Portland Oregon, 97214



Please respond by July 1st, 2022 by call or
 text: Deacon Antoine Karam (503) 705-5874
 Emelin Karam (503) 989-6911



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

Meetings for this year have concluded!

SEE YOU AGAIN IN THE FALL!



OREGON'S CATHOLIC SUMMER CAMP!



VISIT OUR OPEN HOUSE

FAMILIES HAVE TWO OPPORTUNITIES TO TOUR CAMP HOWARD: SATURDAY, MAY 21ST FROM 2 PM TO 5 PM OR SUNDAY, JUNE 26TH FROM 2 PM TO 5 PM. NO NEED TO RSVP. DRIVING DIRECTIONS CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE.

NEW PROGRAM: CAMP PARENT VOLUNTEERS

ENJOY TIME IN THE OUTDOORS
 SHARE YOUR GIFTS AS A COUNSELOR
 EARN CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS
 BECOME A PART OF OUR CAMP HOWARD STORY

WE'RE HIRING!

NOW HIRING OUR SUMMER STAFF:
 AGES 17 YEARS AND UP
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Proudly announces
Scholarship Program for 2022-2023

High School Graduate Scholarships

MYO — John A. Solomon
Two for High School Seniors \$2000

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One for High School Seniors \$2000

Naomi & Paul Kassouf
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Bouna sharbel
One for High School Seniors \$2000

Undergraduate Scholarships

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One for College Student \$2000

Thomas & Jennie Ayoub
One for College Students \$2000

Grad & Professional Scholarship

Gilbert Chagoury Graduate
One for Graduate Student \$2000

Study Abroad in Lebanon Opportunities

Notre Dame University-Louaize
Up to 10 scholarships total for Fall 2022 or Spring 2023

The Holy Spirit University of Kaslik
Up to 12 students for Summer 2023 Semester

For more information and applications visit www.namnews.org, nam scholarships@gmail.com, or call NAM at 330-212-9207

Application Deadline: May 31, 2022

CEDARS OF SAINT SHARBEL

— Meetings for this year have concluded!

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.

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

Meetings for this year have concluded!

For more information, contact Nadia Redmond at n.redmond@comcast.net.

Reflection

How often do we trace the sign of the cross upon ourselves? Likely we do so every time we begin to pray and at the end, and perhaps during our prayer as well and throughout the day. The sign of the cross is integral to our faith because Christ by His cross made a fool of death and destroyed sin by His death. But the sign of the cross does not only recall the death of Christ – for if Christ only died and nothing else, our faith would be in vain (1 Cor. 15:14). We do not worship a dead god, but the God of Life. When we sign ourselves with the cross we recall the entirety of Christ's mercy towards us on Earth from His conception at the Annunciation to the Ascension after His Resurrection into heaven, which we just celebrated this past Thursday. By Christ's life we have life. But when we sign ourselves with the cross, we do not simply say "In the name of the Son" but "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" to which we add in the Syriac tradition "the one true God. Amen." Though Christ was the only Person of the Trinity to become man, He was never separated from His Father or Spirit, and though there are three Persons in the Trinity, He is one true God without division.

We often hear and know the mention of the relationship between the Father and the Son, but our tradition brings particular light to the Spirit. The "St. Thomas" Cross of the Syriac tradition presents the truth of the Spirit clearly – this St. Thomas Cross is a cross with a dove, the Holy Spirit, perched on the top. The Holy Spirit, equal in being and majesty as the Father and Son, never left the Son since the Trinity is one, and the Trinity together completed every act of salvation on our behalf. Never was Christ separated or abandoned by the Father or Spirit in His entire life. From the beginning of the world, what the Father and Son began the Spirit also completed – just as we see in Genesis, the Spirit hovered over the waters (Gen. 1:2). Likewise, the Spirit hovers over our sacrifice to God upon the altar, depicted by the priest waving his hands at the epiclesis, just as He hovered over Mary at the Annunciation (Luke 1:35), over the Jordan at Christ's baptism (Matt. 3:16), and over the cross at the Christ's crucifixion. But just as the Father and Spirit never abandoned Christ in their unity of being and love, Christ did not abandon us when He physically ascended back to heaven.

As Christ promised His Apostles before His death, "I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth...I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you" (John 14:16,18). The same Spirit that completes, nourishes, consoles and perfects was poured upon the Apostles at Pentecost that, in union with the Spirit, they would be in union with the Son and Father. Just as the Apostles received the Spirit at Pentecost, we have been given participation in the divine nature by our baptism and confirmation, when the Spirit clothed us between the waters. Christ did not leave us by His Ascension, but incorporated us into the divine life by His Spirit. This is why we eagerly look forward to this great Feast of Pentecost next week – the great completion when the Spirit poured forth upon creation.

The St. Thomas Cross shows us that even at Christ's moment on the cross He was not abandoned by the Spirit, Who has been with Him since before all time. In Christ's love and mercy for us, He has given us, His baptized believers, the same Spirit that we may be united to Him, and His Father, and His Holy Spirit. With this in mind, let us pray in preparation for next week's great feast:

Make us worthy, O Lord God, Lover of Men, that we may sate our souls and fill our hearts with the rational drink of the new wine of the Spirit, the Paraclete, that, while made pure and holy, we may sing pure praises with pure and holy tongues to Your adorable and holy name, and that of Your Only-Begotten Son, and Your Holy Spirit, now and at all times, forever. Amen.

(From the Maronite Kneeling Rite for the Feast of Pentecost)

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