

# Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

1804 SE 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214 503.231.3853 <u>stsharbelpdx@gmail.com</u> <u>www.stsharbel.org</u>

# August 14, 2022

11th Sunday of Pentecost



Next Sunday 12th Sunday of Pentecost Eph 3:1-13 (Commission to Preach God's Plan) Mt 15:21-28 (The Canaanite Woman's Faith)

# Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for July 31st - August 6th

Online	\$830.59
Collection	\$220.00
Weekly Total	\$1,050.59

YTD Total	\$69,446.91
YTD Goal	\$71,548.00

YTD Difference......**\$2,101.09** 

# **Liturgy Intentions**

Sunday, August 14th, 11:00am Unavailable Monday, August 15th Unavailable Tuesday, August 16th Unavailable Wednesday, August 17th Unavailable Thursday, August 18th Unavailable Friday, August 19th Unavailable Saturday, August 20th Unavailable Sunday, August 21st Unavailable

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 14th Ghossein Agopos Sunday, August 21st Redmond Family

# Parish 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

### NOTE FROME THE NEIGHBORS: SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 2022

On Sunday morning the 21st, one of the neighbors is hosting a wedding brunch at their house. There will be a food truck parked in front of the house and lots of guests parking right around the time of Sunday service. Heads up parishioners...parking will be tight that day, might be smart to plan some extra time!

ASSUMPTION OF MARY FEAST DAY Monday, August 15, 2022 Please feel free to attend mass at your local Roman Catholic Church.



I delight to do Your will, O God; Your law is within my heart. PSALMS 408 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

IHS

O Lord Jesus Christ, great High Priest, we lift up our prayer to You for deacon Tony as he draws near his priestly ordination. We ask you Lord to let Your holy love surround him and shield him from temptations, and comfort him in struggles. May You Lord, light of the world, guide him in your footsteps, so he may approach the day You will anoint him with a heart full of peace, joy and gratitude. To You be glory and honor now and forever.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

ايها الرب يسوع المسيح، الكاهن الاعظم، نرفع اليك الصلاة لأجل الشماس طوني، وهو يقترب من سيامته الكهنوتية، طالبين منك ان تجعل حبك القدوس يغمره ويحفظه من التجارب ويعزيه في الصعاب. يا رب، يا نور العالم، ليكن نورك هدايته على خطاك، فيقترب من اليوم الذي ستمسحه فيه بقلب مغمور بالسلام والغبطة والشكران. لك المجد والوقار الآن والى الأبد. أبانا، السلام، المجد

## PRAYER FOR DEACON TONY KARAM'S ORDINATION

In preparation for the priestly ordination of Deacon Tony Karam let us get united in prayer with a novena starting on August 18th, nine days prior to the ordination. This is the suggested novena prayer in both English and Arabic . Please check it out. Hard copies of prayers will also be available at church.



# Invitation to all sisters in Christ,

A year ago, we formed a group of 7 sisters in Christ to join the Seven Sisters Apostolate, https://sevensistersapostolate.org/.

Catholic parishes across the United States have joined this beautiful apostolate to pray for our priests.

The Seven Sisters Apostolate is a call to strengthen the Church by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the sole intention of a specific priest or bishop—a "holy wasting" (cf. Mt. 26:10) or lavishing of prayer for his deeper conformity to Christ.

St. Sharbel's 7 sisters are committed to pray for one Holy Hour per week for Abouna Christopher.

If the Holy Spirit is calling you to make this commitment, please contact Nadia Redmond at 503-671-0440 or email:

**Catholic Friendship Group** - Singles, ages 40-60. Eucharistic Adoration followed by a talk and discussion led by Fr. Joshua Clifton. Topic: The Life of St. Bridget of Sweden. Our first meeting was a hit! Come join us for next one. Friday, August 12th, 7:00pm-8:30pm. Visit <u>www.catholicfriendshipgroup.com</u> for more details. Location: St. Birgitta Catholic Church, 11820 NW St. Helens Rd, Portland.

RSVP to: CatholicFriendshipGroup@outlook.com

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### ZOOM LINK tinyurl.com/ofslmonthlyrosary

### Catholic Homeschool Ministry Open House Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Homeschool Ministry

OLMHR's mission is to support all Catholic families who want to homeschool. We currently have over sixty families registered, coming from many parishes around the greater Portland area. Our members use a wide variety of curricula, but are united by our shared Catholic faith and our desire to live our vocation as the primary educators of our children. We offer field trips, annual events like a science fair, parent support meetings, a weekly playgroup, enrichment classes and information sessions for new homeschoolers.

Join us for an Open House on Thursday, August 25th from 7 pm-9 pm at Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Portland. Come learn about all the great events, groups, and field trips we'll be enjoying this year. Questions? Email our leader, Jennifer Friend, at jarrigotti@gmail.com.

### **CEDARS OF SAINT SHARBEL** Youth Group for Ages 3-18 — Meetings for this year have concluded!



Maronite Young Adults (MYA) — The MYA is a group of men and women ages 18-40 (ish) which meets once a month for fellowship, prayer, and social activities SEE YOU IN THE FALL!

St. Sharbel Sunday School Program (Ages 6-12) – Meetings for this year have concluded!



A common protest to going to church is that it is full of hypocrites – "why should I go to church if it is full of sinners?" "These people claim to be seeking God yet I know their many faults!" In today's Gospel reading, the people of Jericho mutter similar things when Jesus accepts to be a guest in the house of Zacchaeus the tax collector. Zacchaeus was seen as a public enemy and a sinner because he collected taxes from fellow Jews on behalf of the Roman Empire, which was seen as an invasive foreign power. Worse, Zacchaeus not only worked for the enemy but he overcharged taxes to take the extra for himself. It was a shock, then, when Jesus, our God known in Israel as a just prophet and teacher, accepted to go to Zacchaeus's house instead of those who keep all the Law and call themselves righteous. Why would Christ go to this sinner rather than those who are known amongst men as righteous?

"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost" (Luke 19:10) as Christ says Himself. Earlier in Luke's Gospel, Christ says, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance" (Luke 5:31-32). As St. Jacob of Sarug wrote about Zacchaeus, "The Good Physician did not descend to heal the healthy...whoever is sick calls a physician to come to him." As we so often emphasize in the Syriac tradition, Christ came down from heaven out of love for mankind alone – He had no obligation to save us. He did not come to condemn but to save in His mercy those who heed Him (John 3:17). It is not strange, then, that the Physician should be seen with the sick Zacchaeus – in fact, it only makes sense for Christ came to lift up our fallen state.

The true arrogance falls with the people who declare Zacchaeus a sinner in protest of Christ going to be his guest. Zacchaeus was certainly a sinner in need of Christ's redemption. However, if they recalled the Psalms they sang in the synagogue they would remember the rhetorical verse, "If you, Lord, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand?" (Ps. 130:3). The verse implies that everyone is guilty before God because no one is perfect, and if God were to call us to account for our sins fairly, we would all be condemned! It is truly arrogant, then, to think that we could be justified of our own doing.

Fortunately for us, Christ has not come to condemn but call to repentance that we might obtain the forgiveness of our sins and have eternal life in Him. As St. Jacob says, Christ would not have taught us to say, "Forgive us our trespasses" in the Our Father if He would not forgive us the same trespasses! As the Lord said through His prophet Ezekiel, "I receive no pleasure in the death of the wicked. Instead, my pleasure is that the wicked repent from their behavior and live" (Ez. 33:11). So Christ not only grants us the opportunity, but really wants us to be forgiven that we may live, and live with Him, His Father and His Holy Spirit. Zacchaeus is the prime example – if a man of such lowly reputation can be saved, anyone can, just as St. Jacob says:

Through Zacchaeus the Tax Collector He [Christ] made a marketplace for repentance that everyone should come and deal in it without restraint. Through that swindler He gave encouragement to the sons of evil that if they should repent they will not be punished by justice.

Let us cast aside our inhibitions with Zacchaeus of how we look in our shortcomings, whether known or secret, and climb to see Christ. There, for love of Him, let us call out by our very lives to Him that He visit us and heal us of our sin in His mercy. No sin is too great nor is it ever too late until the last moment of life for our God's mercy is that abundant. Church is not the meeting place of hypocrites, but the hospital of the Good Physician Who rejoices when sinners enter His house for He heal them of sin and grant them eternal life if they only ask in sincerity.

# Bulletin Sponsors





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