



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

September 4, 2022

14th Sunday of Pentecost



Next Sunday

Feast of the Holy Cross

1 Cor 1:18-25 (Paradox of the Cross)

Jn 12:20-32 (The Coming of Jesus' Hour)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for August 21st - 27th

Online.....\$1,575.00

Collection.....\$512.00

Weekly Total.....\$2,087.00

YTD Total.....\$74,020.61

YTD Goal.....\$78,472.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$4,451.39**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, September 4th, 11:00am

**+Michel Diab Naimy (40 day
memorial father of Jihane Naimy
Farah)**

Monday, September 5th

Available

Tuesday, September 6th

Available

Wednesday, September 7th

Available

Thursday, September 8th

Available

Friday, September 9th

Available

Saturday, September 10th

Available

Sunday, September 11th

+Laurent El Hajj 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

Altar Sponsorship

Sunday, August 4th

Available

Sunday, September 11th

Available

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

Portland's Singing Christmas Tree Youth Cast for 2022 Come sing with us!



5th - 8th grade

Email us for more information
info@singingchristmastree.org or call 503-557-8733



Parish Programs

CEDARS OF SAINT SHARBEL

Youth Group for Ages 3-18



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.

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

Community Events



Star of Bethlehem Raffle Quilt
Tickets
\$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00

St. Mary's 50th Quilt & Crafts Fair

September 15, 16, & 17
Thursday through Saturday
10 AM – 4 PM

Lunch Served Daily at 11:00 AM

St. Mary's Catholic Church
960 Missouri Avenue
Vernonia, OR 97084
503-429-8841

maryscatholicchurch@frontier.com

Catholic Friendship Group - Singles, ages 40-60. Eucharistic Adoration followed by a talk and discussion led by Fr. Joshua Clifton. Next topic: Mary in the Scriptures – Part II. Our group continues to grow! Come join us for our next gathering.

Friday, September 9th, 7:00pm-8:30pm.
Visit www.catholicfriendshipgroup.com for more details.

Location: St. Birgitta Catholic Church, 11820 NW St. Helens Rd, Portland. RSVP to: CatholicFriendshipGroup@outlook.com

ANGRY? NEED A WEAPON?
PRAY THE ROSARY!

JOIN US AS WE PRAY THE
ROSARY
EVERY 2ND MONDAY OF
THE MONTH AT 8PM ET

TO BUILD A CULTURE OF LIFE &
TO OVERCOME EVIL IN THE WORLD
LED BY BISHOP ELIAS ZAIDAN,
BISHOP GREGORY MANSOUR
OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVE

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER
JUN 13 AUG 8
JUL 11 SEPT 12

ZOOM LINK tinyurl.com/ofslmonthlyrosary

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: n.redmond@comcast.net

Over **75** years of Making Great Memories for Kids!

Come play with us!

Cross Country Boys & Girls | Grades 3-8
Basketball “Hot Shots” Co-Ed | Grades 1-2
Volleyball Girls | Grades 3-8

Call 503-231-9484 or visit cyocamphoward.org for more information

CYO builds character, friendships, confidence, skills and a respect for one's self and others that lasts a lifetime.

Reflection

This upcoming Sunday is the Feast of the Nativity of the Mother of God. We do not normally commemorate the births of saints, but John the Baptist and Mary, the Mother of God, are two exceptions because, like Christmas, the Birth of Christ, they impact our salvation. Mary's Nativity in particular is second only to Christmas, when our Lord and God was born as a man, come to mankind to save us from sin. His Mother's birth, then, is important because it allows His birth – her birth is the beginning of the fulfillment of what had been promised to the prophets for thousands of year.

Mary's birth is a sign of Christ, the Hope of All, because it fulfills the ancient promises He made to His people awaiting His coming since the Fall of Adam. With Mary's birth, three hopeful promises are fulfilled, which our tradition emphasizes in their hymns. The first is that "the Lord will not forsake His people" (Ps. 94:14). The People of God are those who love Him and follow His commands. Joachim and Anna, the parents of Mary, are two steadfast examples of God-loving people. They were known for being righteous, and for praying and fasting constantly. But for sixty years they were childless – and as such, for sixty years they were considered cursed by God by their contemporaries and prohibited from offering sacrifice in the Temple. But they did not despair, though other humans claimed their hard times were a curse from God. They continued their lives in love of God and God did not forsake them, remaining true to His word. But instead blessed them with the daughter who is blessed by all generations as the holiest of women to bear the Son of God.

As our Lord promises His disciples, He turns sorrow into joy for those who follow Him (John 16:20). From the very beginning of the prophets and patriarchs, God promised both fruitfulness and great nations while Abraham and Sarah were barren. Rachel was barren for Jacob, and the High Priest Samuel's wife could not conceive. But when least expected, God granted them the promise given to them. This theme is repeated throughout the prayers of the Nativity of Mary because she is the descendant and fulfillment of all the patriarchs. The Syriac prayers emphasize the transmission of this great blessing, the Hope of the Hopeless, Who is Christ, until it reaches Mary. The most terrible barrenness that has plagued the world since Adam is sin, which stole life from us. With the birth of Mary, the vessel for Life Eternal is prepared.

The greatest and most ancient promise which Mary's birth fulfills is the promise our tradition says Christ made to Adam. Reflected in Ezekiel (33:11), we believe our Lord is grieved by sin, which brought death into the world and decayed His image in Adam. From the Fall of Adam, Christ began to prepare the way for Him to heal the barrenness of sin. That is why He blessed the prophets repeatedly to foreshadow and transmit His blessing that He will never abandon His people or the sinner, but instead make the barren fruitful and the dead living if they follow Him. Christ became incarnate after the holiest woman ever was born who would become His Mother, Mary. Mary, though Virgin, is the Mother of the Creator of All, Who died to bring us life, in this great paradox.

The Nativity of Mary is a reminder that strife is not a curse from God, but an opportunity for Him to bless us. Moreover, He will not abandon us in our need. That is why we so fondly call Christ throughout our prayers the Hope of the Hopeless. May the prayers of the Mother of God be a rampart to us!

Bulletin Sponsors



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