



# Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

1804 SE 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214

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[stsharbelpdx@gmail.com](mailto:stsharbelpdx@gmail.com)

[www.stsharbel.org](http://www.stsharbel.org)

## October 23, 2022

Sixth Sunday After the Holy Cross



**Next Sunday**

*Seventh Sunday After the Holy Cross*

**Rom 12:9-21** (Mutual Love)

**Mt 25:31-46** (The Judgement of the Nations)

## Your Gifts To God

*Offering Report for October 9th - 15th*

Online.....\$1,022.00

Collection.....\$756.00

Weekly Total.....\$1,778.00

YTD Total.....\$90,398.49

YTD Goal.....\$94,628.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$4,229.51**

## Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, October 23rd, 11:00am

**+Joseph Atie**

Monday, October 24th

*Available*

Tuesday, October 25th

*Available*

Wednesday, October 26th

**Sister Mariam Vianney**

Thursday, October 27th

**+Evette Ghosson**

Friday, October 28th

**Sister Mariam Vianney**

Saturday, October 29th

*Available*

Sunday, October 30th

**+ Farida Ibrahim (Lina Zogbi's mother) 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 at 10:30 am before the Liturgy begins.***

## Altar Sponsorship

**Sunday, October 23rd**

*Redmond Family*

**Sunday, October 30th**

*Available*



**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

+Finance  
Committee

**Message From Abouna:**  
**Abouna has a new Oregon phone number!**  
**503-961-4881**

Please change his number in your contacts to this new number as the old phone number will not be in operation much longer.

**Thanks!**



**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**

**October 10**

**December 12**

**November 14**

**ZOOM LINK** [tinyurl.com/ofslmonthlyrosary](https://tinyurl.com/ofslmonthlyrosary)



# Parish Programs



St. Sharbel's MYO or "The Cedars of Saint Sharbel" will start gathering again on October 23 in the upstairs meeting room immediately after mass. The group is for boys and girls ages 13-18.

Upcoming Meeting Dates Are: 10/23, 11/6, 12/4, 1/15

## 10 Reasons to Sign up Your Son or Daughter for the Cedars of Saint Sharbel Youth Group this year:

1. Engaging discussions on topics which are important to young people today
2. Opportunities for fun and creativity among friends
3. Opportunities to make new friends in a safe environment
4. Fosters in our young people self-esteem, communication skills, listening skills and good mental health
5. Gives young people a chance to not only receive, but to give of their time, attention, and talent
6. Helps young people find answers to their questions by using the teachings of our faith
7. Teaches young people how to explain what we believe as Catholics to someone who asks them.
8. Strengthens a sense of community in our youth, the future of the Church!
9. It's convenient: Meetings are held at our church, once or twice a month, after mass on Sunday. No additional driving required!
10. Parents get to take turns volunteering and being present at meetings, therefore, taking part in some of the fun we'll be having.

Please see Gennifer to register.

**First meeting is October 23.**

## Religious Education

To ALL Families with children between Ages 6-11

For Information about family catechesis and sacrament preparation Contact Nadia Redmond, Coordinator of Religious Education, [n.redmond@comcast.net](mailto:n.redmond@comcast.net)

Please continue to pray for our parish and ministries



## Young Adults (MYA)

MYA is a local chapter of a national Maronite organization for single and married men and women ages 19+

more info on the MYA, contact [Claude@trazzafoods.com](mailto:Claude@trazzafoods.com)

## 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](mailto:n.redmond@comcast.net)

## Reflection

In today's Gospel, we see a severe master who returns to collect what he has entrusted to his servants in the Parable of the Talents (Matt. 25:14-39). Just as we would expect in a business setting, the servants who increased the amount of money they were entrusted were rewarded by their master, being told to "enter into the joy of your master." However, the servant who buried the amount of money entrusted to him out of fear of loss was punished and even though he was entrusted the least amount he had even his little amount taken away. It seems to be a frightening story from Jesus Christ because it seems the servant who had the least in the end finishes with even less because of his own limitations.

What is the meaning of this parable? Christ is, of course, the master who determines how He distributes His wealth to us, His servants. The generosity of God comes in all forms, from our circumstances to our natural ability – but in some way, we have all been equipped to do His will in a unique way. The parable acknowledges that some simply begin with more entrusted to them than others – that is a fact of life. Some might run multi-million dollar companies, while others wait tables at a diner, but that does not change the dignity of the servant, as well as the mastership of Christ, Who has assigned us our gifts as He wills.

The servant who has been entrusted two talents is rewarded in the same manner as the one who was entrusted five when he has acted well in what he has been given. The master says to both of them, "Enter into the joy of your master." The talents, ultimately, were neither the property of the servants nor was it a transactional exchange – the servant who had ten talents was not rewarded differently from the servant with four. Likewise, the gifts Christ has given us in this life are ultimately not ours because we did not procure them ourselves – even our own accomplishments in life are more fundamentally based on what God has given us to begin with. If He had not allowed us to live to a certain age or possess the skills that we do, we could not accomplish even what might seem to be solely the fruit of our hard labor. Therefore, all things are done for the sake of God and should be used in a manner pleasing to Him.

Knowing that He has distributed different gifts, God will not penalize us for having a difference in effectiveness when doing His will if we try our best. Because of our own circumstances, God would not expect a housemother to pray as much as a monk in a monastery simply because each person is judged on what they have received. The last servant who returns the talent to the master was punished because he decided to do nothing with what he was entrusted. Our Lord is merciful and kind – if the last servant had lost the only talent he had been entrusted earnestly trading to increase it would have pleased his master. But the last servant was wicked because he allowed his laziness and fear to overcome his love for his master.

As servants, we should recall that we have been entrusted a great deal from Christ for the building up of His will on Earth. We participate in what we ask in the Our Father, "Thy will be done on Earth as it is in heaven," when we work to use our gifts. Let fear or laziness not motivate our lives, but the love we have for the Lord.

When the Lord comes and requires the money He gave to us with His interest let us not resemble the wicked servant who took the coin and did not trade with it. Come, let us resemble the servant who received five and earned as many more. The good servant showed his master his commerce and the wicked servant inherited Gehenna.

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