



Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

1804 SE 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214

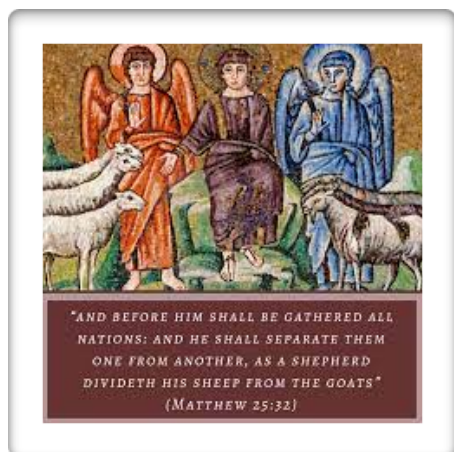
503.231.3853

stsharbelpdx@gmail.com

www.stsharbel.org

October 30, 2022

Seventh Sunday After the Holy Cross



Next Sunday

Consecration of the Church

Heb 9:1-12 (The Worship of the First Covenant)

Mt 16:13-20 (Peter's Confession About Jesus)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for October 16th - 22nd

Online.....\$787.75

Collection.....\$615.00

Weekly Total.....\$1,402.75

YTD Total.....\$91,801.24

YTD Goal.....\$96,936.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$5,134.76**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, October 30th, 11:00am

+ Farida Ibrahim (Lina Zogbi's mother) 40 Day Memorial

Monday, October 31st

Available

Tuesday, November 1st

Available

Wednesday, November 2nd

Available

Thursday, November 3rd

Available

Friday, November 4th

Available

Saturday, November 5th

Available

Sunday, November 6th

+Diane Walsh 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 30th

Available

Sunday, November 6th

Available

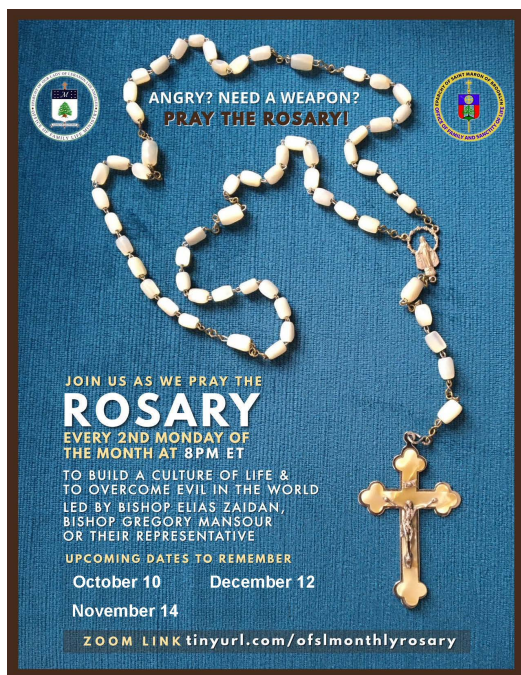
Parish Council

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 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.



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

Catholics Care. Catholics Vote.

We vote because we are citizens. But we vote conscientiously because we are people of faith. Our consciences are formed through studying Scripture and the teachings of the Church, examination of the facts, and prayerful reflection.

This brief insert is intended as a starting point to help us respond to our choices in the current political landscape.

While there are many moral issues before us, every issue is not equal.

- ★ **Issues that directly affect human lives**—such as abortion and euthanasia—are fundamental and demand serious consideration.
- ★ Our Constitution heralds **religious liberty** in the First Amendment, yet increasingly people of faith are having to fight to retain this basic right.
- ★ There is a move in the nation to **redefine marriage**. The marriage of a man and a woman is the foundation of the family and an essential core element of a flourishing society.
- ★ The **growing disparity between rich and poor** means most of the world's resources are in the hands of a small percentage of its people. The federal budget is a moral document and must prioritize the poorest and most vulnerable among us.
- ★ The **millions of undocumented persons** living in the United States deserve our compassion. There is an immigration problem, and we need a humane solution to it.
- ★ War, terror, and **violence** have caused thousands of lost lives. We must work for just solutions to conflict in the Holy Land, throughout the Middle East, and beyond.

Forming Consciences



**Not liberal.
 Not conservative.
 Simply Catholic.**

Catholic citizenship & your vote

We have a dual heritage as both faithful Catholics and American citizens. As Catholics, our baptismal commitment to bear public witness to the values of Jesus Christ requires our active participation in the democratic life of our nation. As Americans, we have a serious moral obligation to vote. This brief insert is intended as a starting point to help us respond to our choices in the current political landscape.

There are many issues before us ... ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The Right to Life and Dignity of the Human Person

Innocent human life is destroyed by abortion, euthanasia, "fertility treatments" such as in-vitro fertilization, experimentation using stem cells from human embryos, and cloning to manufacture human body parts. Catholic teaching about the sanctity of human life also leads us to oppose the death penalty, genocide, torture, unjust wars, and economic policies that ignore the needs of the poor and vulnerable.

Call to Family, Community, and Participation

The family, which emerges from marriage between a man and a woman, is the original and basic unit of society. Social and economic policies should work to strengthen the family rather than weaken it.

Rights and Responsibilities

Every human being has the right to life and to religious freedom. Everyone has a right to refuse to participate in actions contrary to one's religious beliefs and to share and defend one's creed and moral principles in the public forum. Everyone has the right and duty to participate fully in all aspects of life: political, social, cultural, and economic.

Option for the Poor and Vulnerable

We must have special concern and charity toward the unborn, persons with disabilities, the dying, refugees, long-term unemployed, prisoners, and all who are marginalized in our nation and beyond. Today, the situation of immigrant workers is especially urgent.

Dignity of Work and Rights of Workers

Economic justice includes the opportunity for dignified work at wages sufficient to support a family, workplace safety, and the right to take time for religious observances. Workers also have the duty to provide a fair day's work for a fair day's pay.

Solidarity

Loving our neighbor has global dimensions and requires us to eradicate racism and address the extreme poverty and disease plaguing so much of the world. We are called to welcome the stranger among us, including immigrants seeking work, a safe home, education for their children, and a decent life for their families. We are called to promote peace and pursue justice.

Caring for God's Creation

As stewards, not owners, of the earth, people have an obligation to cherish and care for the environment. The earth yields forth many resources needed for human flourishing, especially energy and the capacity to produce food. These precious resources must be used prudently, fairly, safely, and with a constant concern for future generations.

Visit **FaithfulCitizenship.org** today.

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: 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.

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

Please continue to pray for our parish and ministries



Maronite Young Adults (MYA)

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

For more info on the MYA, contact Claude@trazzafafoods.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

Reflection

“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me” (Matt.25:40) says Christ in this Sunday’s Gospel. It is a daunting invitation. As Christ explains, at Judgment all deeds we have done for those in need, whether it be something like feeding the hungry, visiting the sick or consoling the sorrowful, we are actually doing for Him. This is because each person is made in the image of God and all Christians are made part of the Mystical Body of Christ by virtue of baptism. The converse is also true as Christ explains – any wrongdoing or negligence of one another is ultimately a sin against Him Himself. This is why King David says, “Against You, You alone, have I sinned” (Ps. 51:4) for whether we intend to or not, sin is a rejection of God’s instruction to love one another – even if they are an enemy. And Christ is quite clear that those who do not love even their enemies will inherit “eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me” (Matt. 25:41-43).

It is a very difficult task that Christ has given us – love each other, even those who hate us, or we shall choose to go into the eternal fire. But before we understand the task, why would Christ even tell make mention of this threatening fire? If God is all-loving, why would there be such punishment? God is love and the source of all life. If we reject loving those made in His image, which includes our enemies, we reject His image, His self – Who is the source of all life. Those who go into the eternal fire choose it themselves by rejecting love and, therefore, life. It was Christ, after all, Who knew that Judas would betray Him. Yet, in His love He still washed the feet of His beloved friend, Judas. Jesus, our omnipotent God, could have called legions of angels down from heaven to stop Judas but instead chose to wash his feet. That is our example of how to treat even our enemy.

But even if a person is not our enemy, we must be aware that they are made in the image of God. We are called to serve our Lord present in the other in whatever situation presents itself. Perhaps we do not often encounter a homeless person whom we would readily clothe and feed, but the mundane situation of an upset coworker or neighbor might occur. In that moment, we have the opportunity to serve the Lord by seeing Him in the other and assisting that person in need by every little action. Our service of the Lord need not, and generally will not, be dramatic and largely notable. But it is precisely by every little action that we serve the Lord throughout all our days. And likely we will have moment where we fail in seeing the Lord in one another or reject helping Him. But, just as in loving a human, if our love of God persists we apologize and try again. Shortcomings are inevitable if we try by ourselves, but if we recall that we are motivated by divine love and ask for God’s assistance we can serve Him in a pleasing manner, seeing Him in each and every person.

With confidence in faith and motivated by the love in our God, which governs how we treat one another, we should not fear Judgment. Instead, we should hope to hear Him say after having served Him, “Take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world” (Matt. 25:34).

Bulletin Sponsors



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