



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

November 6, 2022

Consecration of the Church



Next Sunday

The Announcement to Zechariah

Rom 4:13-25 (Inheritance through Faith)

Lk 1:1-25 (Announcement of the Birth of John)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for October 23rd - 29th

Online.....\$1,334.63

Collection.....\$2,300.00

Weekly Total.....\$3,634.63

YTD Total.....\$95,435.87

YTD Goal.....\$99,244.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$3,808.13**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, November 6th, 11:00am

+Diane Walsh 40 day memorial

Monday, November 7th

Available

Tuesday, November 8th

Available

Wednesday, November 9th

+Harold Cronk

Thursday, November 10th

Available

Friday, November 11th

Available

Saturday, November 12th

Available

Sunday, November 13th

+Anthony & Georgette Zoghi

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, November 6th

Available

Sunday, November 13th

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.

RELICS OF ST. SHARBEL

The Relics of St. Sharbel will be at the parish next **Sunday, November 13**
There will be Veneration and prayer after mass, please join us.

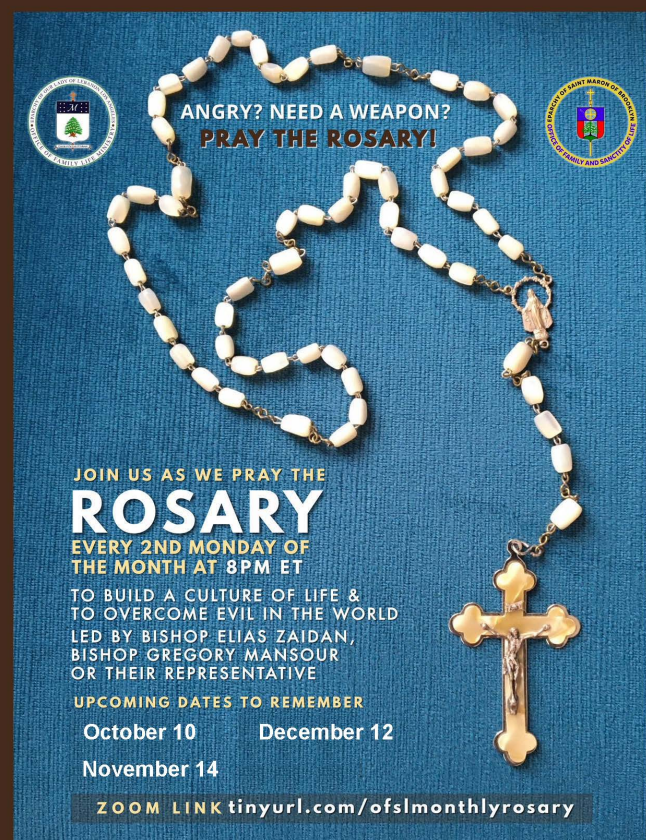
Catholic Friendship Group - Singles, ages 40-60. Prayer followed by a talk and discussion.

Our current series: *The Seven Deadly Sins*

Come join us for our next gathering on **Friday, November 18th from 6:30pm-8:00pm.**

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

October 10 December 12
November 14

ZOOM LINK 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: 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 contact Gennifer Karam at jmjkaram3@gmail.com 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+

•**Next Event:** Sunday, November 20th — after Mass at St. Sharbel

We will look and discuss the 6th rule from St. Ignatius of Loyola on discernment of Spirits.

For more info on the MYA, contact 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

Reflection

Elijah and the pleasant young man, Daniel, are diligent groomsmen. Dear Thomas is the messenger, and Isaiah the collector of gifts. / [Mary] Magdalene is carrying spices and the sinful woman ointments. Matthew sets the tables and Luke mixes the wine vessels. / Abel sent her the first-born lamb from his flock and just Jacob set aside a tenth of his possession for her from the very beginning.

(Trans. from the Syriac Maronite night prayer of the Consecration of the Church)

People running around preparing food and setting tables might evoke the image of a *haffleh* in some minds, but the above is no earthly feast. This hymn from our tradition describes the wedding banquet of the Church, the Bride of Christ, whose feast we celebrate today. It is not a coincidence that this feast is the first at the beginning of the Church year – our tradition emphasizes the existence of the Church from the very beginning with Adam. The servants of Christ have been preparing His Bride's banquet even before He arrived! This is why the above hymn mentions both figures from the Old Testament, such as Elijah and Abraham, as well as from the New Testament, such as Mary Magdalene and Luke, working together. Though separated by thousands of years, all those whom Christ has raised to His service work together throughout time.

This might sound strange, but today we celebrate the continuity of the Church throughout all of time. Christ, our all-knowing and loving God, wanted to establish a way that humanity could be in an intimate relationship with Himself. The means He picked was to become the Bridegroom of the Church, to whom we belong. From before all time, He began to prepare this great wedding banquet with Israel and the prophets of old. The prophets organized the feast by their prophecies, preparing the hearts of the world to receive the Bridegroom. The apostles came to invite all the peoples of the world to this banquet, for Christ wishes all to be with Him. And today, our Church is the continuation of that true Israel, as St. Paul writes in Rom. 9:8, it is “the children of the promise” of God, not a physical descent.

All the saints before us have assisted in preparing this banquet through their own vocation to which Christ has called them until the moment He signed His wedding contract by His own blood when “He entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption,” as our first reading tells us (Heb. 9:12). And the very food of the banquet and purpose is the same in this action – at the banquet, Christ sets on the Holy Table, the altar, His Body and Blood for our eternal life and salvation, so that we may live with Him, glorify Him, and delight with Him for eternity with the rest of those invited to the banquet.

Indeed, every time we enter into the church for the Mass, we enter into this Mystical Banquet with all the saints before us, and the Bridegroom comes to delight with His Bride. Today, we celebrate the love of Christ towards His Bride, the Church, for He had no need to take her as His Bride or prepare the grand banquet that continues until today. Let us join in the banquet He has prepared us and assist. We are not forced to attend the banquet – we have the privilege of being the guests of honor.

Today the sons of the Church shall gather together and offer glory and thanksgiving with joy to God for His love has descended and dwelt in the Church. He has graciously made her a true bride for Himself. Today the true priests surround the holy altar in the likeness of angels. Our Lord gave her the authority for His flock to receive His body and Blood for forgiveness of their debts.

Bulletin Sponsors



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