



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

March 19, 2023

Healing of the Paralytic



Next Sunday

Healing of the Blind Man

2 Cor 10:1-7 (Accusation of Weakness)

Mk 10:46-52 (The Blind Bartimaeus)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for March 5th - 11th

Online.....\$1,450.90

Collection.....\$711.00

Weekly Total.....\$2,161.90

YTD Total.....\$20,219.35

YTD Goal.....\$23,080.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$2,860.65**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, March 19th, 11:00am

George Layoun

Monday, March 20th

Available

Tuesday, March 21st

Sean

Wednesday, March 22nd

Ali AlHilow

Thursday, March 23rd

Leroy

Friday, March 24th

David

Saturday, March 25th

Available

Sunday, March 26th

+John Moffit

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, March 19th

Redmond Family

Sunday, March 26th

Available

News/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

+Finance
Committee

H O L Y W E E K

April 2 : Palm Sunday

Hosanna Sunday (Shaneene) - 11:00am

Procession to follow with the distribution of Palms.

*Confessions will be heard **before** Mass only*

***Breakfast and Egg Hunt after Mass. ***

April 6: Holy Thursday

Institution of the Eucharist - Mass/Qurbano - 7pm

Washing of the Apostles Feet

Confessions will be heard before/after the Holy Mysteries

April 7: Great Friday

Signing of the Chalice - Pre-Sanctified Liturgy - 10:30am

*Confessions available before or after **by request***

Burial Procession (Zeeyah) - No Eucharist - 7pm

Commemoration of the Burial of our Lord

No Confessions available in the evening

April 8: Saturday of Holy Week

Morning Service: 10:30am

Rite of Forgiveness (General Absolution)

No individual confessions available

Night of Vigil Easter:

Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord (Mass/Qurbano) - 9:00pm

Followed by Rite of Peace and Procession

No individual confessions available

April 9: Easter Sunday

Sunday of the Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord - 11:00am No Procession, Mass

PARISH
COUNCIL &
FINANCE
COMMITTEE
MEETING

SUNDAY, MARCH 19
FOLLOWING MASS

FEAST
OF THE
ANNUNCIATION
MASS

Saturday,
March 25, 2023
12:00pm

**SECOND
COLLECTIONS**

Next Collection

**February 22-April 9,
2023**

Eparchial
Development Appeal

Parish Programs



St. Sharbel's MYO or "The Cedars of Saint Sharbel" gathers in the upstairs meeting room immediately after mass. The group is for boys and girls ages 13-18.

Upcoming Meeting Dates Are:

3/26 Cedars Meeting with Mental Health Focus
4/16 Cedars Meeting and last dabke rehearsal
4/30 Cedars Dabke for/with St. Sharbel Families
5/7 Cedars Movie Day - last meeting until the Fall

Please contact Gennifer Karam at jmjkaram3@gmail.com to register

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:

TBA

For more info on the MYA, contact Claude@trazzafoods.com

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

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

"When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven" (Mark 2:5).

This Sunday we remember the fourth miraculous healing Jesus, the Divine Physician, that our Syriac tradition recounts during the course of Lent. In our Lord's love of humanity He heals a great number of people during His earthly life – those suffer seemingly endless afflictions find rest from their suffering in Christ. But Jesus's goodness is not limited to a simple bodily healing – we often see, such as in the healing this Sunday with the paralytic, that Jesus heals the individual from sins along with the bodily ailment. It might seem an odd pair at first to associate sin and physical illness; some assume God punishes people through such illnesses, but as Christ Himself said during one of His healings, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him" (John 9:3).

To make clearer to us invisible realities, Christ and the Church use what is visible. A common example of this is water, such as the prayer used in the traditional Maronite liturgy by the bishop as he washed his hands:

"Come, let us wash, cleanse and purify ourselves with this washing external to that which is inside that with a pure and pleasant heart we may cry out and say with King David the Prophet, 'Intensely wash me from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sins.'"

We know from practical experience that water washes dirt away. In this ritual hand washing it is less important that it actually cleans one's hands and more so that this physical sign points to the deeper mystery that God is washing away sin. Christ, the God Who created both matter and spirit, uses the visible matter to reveal the invisible spirit. All this is to say that He healed the sicknesses of those who called to Him because He is good, but also to indicate a greater reality. He heals more than simply physical sickness, but the sicknesses no earthly physician can fix: sin.

Sin can seem like an abstract or unreal idea at times because we cannot see it. But Christ makes clear while physical sickness can kill the body that will eventually die, unattended spiritual illness can lead to an eternal spiritual death in hell. But Jesus does not desire the death of any sinner, that all should repent and live, as He demonstrated through His healings, for He loves us enough to die for us who are made in His image. As a hymn from this Sunday aptly says:

When our Savior, the Only-Begotten Son and God, came down, He showed the power of His authority in His image that had decayed. Through the medicine of His assistances, He illumined the earth which had darkened by idols. By His word He gave strength to the paralytic, and he stood and walked. The crowds who heard began to murmur and say, "Who can remit the sins of men but the one God?"

Christ chose to heal specifically those who no physician could help to demonstrate that He is the Divine Physician Who heals what no one else can heal. As we near the end of Lent, let us implore the Lord, as we do throughout the year, to heal us of the sin which He alone can lest we die of it. It is by His death and resurrection that He has killed death itself, which comes is the fruit of sin, and He wishes to grant His victory to us if we only ask Him:

O merciful Lord God, You forgave the paralytic his sin in secret and carried his bed which carried him upon his shoulder in public that by the carrying bed which was carried it may be made known that sin and impurity had been killed. O Lord, now forever kill the sin of us all, strengthen our limbs by Your power and empower our paralysis by Your mighty that wholly and purely we may give thanks and glorify You, and Your Father, and Your living and Holy Spirit, now and at all times, forever. Amen.

Bulletin Sponsors



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