



# Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

1804 SE 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214

503.231.3853

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

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

## March 26, 2023

### Healing of the Blind Man



### Next Sunday

#### Hosanna Sunday

**Phil 1:1-13** (Greeting/Thanksgiving)

**Jn 12:12-22** (The Entry into Jerusalem/Coming of Jesus' Hour)

## Your Gifts To God

*Offering Report for March 12th - 18th*

Online.....\$278.30

Collection.....\$718.00

Weekly Total.....\$996.30

YTD Total.....\$21,215.65

YTD Goal.....\$25,388.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$4,172.35**

## Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, March 26th, 11:00am

**+John Moffitt**

Monday, March 27th

**+Evette Ghosson**

Tuesday, March 28th

*Available*

Wednesday, March 29th

*Available*

Thursday, March 30th

*Available*

Friday, March 31st

*Available*

Saturday, April 1st

*Available*

Sunday, April 2nd

*Available*

***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 26th**

*Available*

**Sunday, April 2nd**

*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 5: Wednesday

**Rite of the Lamp - Mass/Qurbano - 7pm**

*Confessions will be heard before/after the Holy Mysteries*

### 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



### PRO-LIFE ROSARY

April 1, 2023, 10 am PST

511 SW 10th Ave Portland, OR 97205

*"America you are beautiful...and blessed... The ultimate test of your greatness is the way you treat every human being, but especially the weakest and most defenseless. If you want equal justice for all and true freedom and lasting peace, then America, defend life."*

- St. John Paul II

The St. Pius X Knights of Columbus would like to invite you, your family, and friends to join us in praying the Rosary for an end to abortion and in thanksgiving to mark the conclusion of the Spring 2023, 40 Days for Life Campaign. We will be praying the Joyful Mysteries in Spanish and English using the USCCB meditations at <https://www.usccb.org/prayers/rosary-life-joyful-mysteries>.

Street parking or Smart park is available on Yamhill and 10th Ave (\$1.80/hr)



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



## Reflection

Every time we attend the Divine Liturgy or pray the office we call out three times in the *Qadishat*, "Holy are You, O God. Holy are You, O Almighty One. Holy are You, O Immortal One. Have mercy on us!" Each time we call to our holy, almighty and immortal Lord and God, Jesus Christ to have mercy upon us. But precisely what does this mercy do?

In today's Gospel we hear that Bartimaeus, a blind man, calls out loudly to the Lord, "Have mercy on me!" Again and again he cried out because he knew the Lord was nearby and only He could heal him. Many nearby told him to be quiet. Perhaps there were those who thought he was crazy, those who thought he was unworthy and those who simply did not want to hear him. But in spite of what others might have thought, Bartimaeus yelled even louder. "Have mercy on me!" While others told him to be silent, the Lord instructed others to call him over. Bartimaeus's faith overcame the demands of his peers. And when Christ asked him what he wanted Him to do, Bartimaeus responded he wanted to see, because he knew the Lord could grant him sight. Christ responds to him, "See! Your faith has given you life!" and the Gospel tells us Bartimaeus immediately saw (Mark 10:52, *Pshitto*).

Bartimaeus provides us such a great example of faith. In his blindness he could see better than the rest of those around him. For whatever reasons, others tried to discourage him from calling upon the Lord. Yet Bartimaeus knew the Lord invites all to Himself because, in His mercy, He desires cure all. Like the rest of the healings in this Season of Great Lent, each one who calls out to the Divine Physician is healed. Though we are unable to pay, He is happy to heal us – not because we deserve it or can repay Him, but He wishes us to be whole. He gives to each what they need if they ask Him in mercy, "Have mercy on me!"

We may ask why the Lord does not respond to us as we desire, but in the faith of Bartimaeus we believe that the Divine Physician knows what He is doing. He Who made us knows what we need. Just as a physician must sometimes operate and cause some pain for the overall betterment of a patient, so does the Lord sometimes pain us so that we may be bettered overall. A surgery out of context seems like damage – someone cutting into another person, perhaps removing an organ. But stepping back, one can see perhaps the organ is cancerous and the physician is preventing the spread of cancer to other organs, which would kill the whole body. Likewise, when we sincerely call out to the Divine Physician, "Have mercy on me!" He responds as we need, for He knows the souls He created. In His goodness, He removes those things of which He wishes to relieve us and gives us those situations, which He knows is for our betterment.

Let us be mindful of the faith of Bartimaeus every time we cry out, "Have mercy on us!" Just as those who were healed by the Lord had confident faith in that He could heal them, let us call to Him with our petitions in mind. Knowing that the Lord is the Physician without fail, Whom not even death can conquer, let us cry out, "Have mercy on us!" And let us pray:

O Lord, heal our souls and minds, and gather them from being scattered and wandering in evil thoughts. As You healed and cured the paralysis of soul by the work of Your hands may we likewise by the mystical reception of Your holy body and blood be thrice healed in soul, body and mind. We shall offer glory and thanks to You, and to Your Father, and to Your living and Holy Spirit, now and at all times, forever. Amen.

(Trans. from the Syriac Maronite Lenten Office)

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