



Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

1804 SE 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214

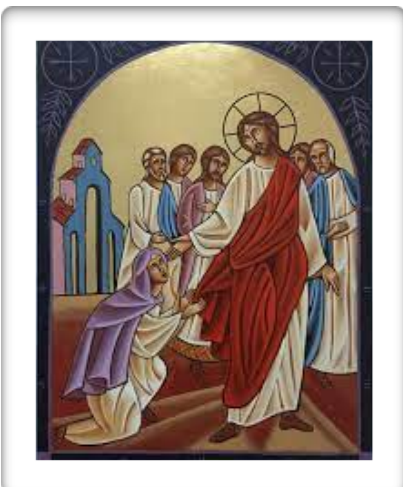
503.231.3853

stsharbelpdx@gmail.com

www.stsharbel.org

March 5, 2023

Healing of the Hemorrhaging Woman



Next Sunday

Parable of the Prodigal Son

2 Cor 13:5-13 (Final Warnings and Appeals)

Lk 15:11-32 (The Parable of the Lost Son)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for February 18th - 25th

Online.....\$943.30

Collection.....\$397.25

Weekly Total.....\$1,340.55

YTD Total.....\$12,329.15

YTD Goal.....\$18,464.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$6,134.85**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, March 5th, 11:00am

+Luis Ángel Martínez Canales (40 Day Memorial Mass)

Monday, March 6th

Available

Tuesday, March 7th

Available

Wednesday, March 8th

Available

Thursday, March 9th

Available

Friday, March 10th

Available

Saturday, March 11th

Available

Sunday, March 12th

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 5th

Agopos Ghossein

Sunday, March 12th

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

EPARCHY OF OUR LADY OF LEBANON OF LOS ANGELES REGULATION FOR GREAT LENT

Then to all Christ Said, "Whoever wishes to be my follower must deny his very self, take up his cross each day, and follow in my steps." (Lk 9:23)

The Church has always helped us fulfill these words of Jesus by prescribing very definite penance for all Catholics. Accordingly, the Pope, the Patriarch, and the American bishops have outline obligatory fasting and abstinence. Our Eparchial Regulations are:

- **Ash Monday (February 20, 2023) and Great Friday (Good) Friday (April 7, 2023)** are days of abstinence for all Catholics *over the age of 14*. On these two days, *fasting* as well as abstinence is also obligatory for those *from the ages of 18-59*. Abstinence means abstinence from meat and meat products. Fasting means no food from midnight to noon, except for plain water. No Catholic will lightly excuse himself or herself from this obligation.
- **All other Fridays of Lent** are days of *abstinence* from meat (and meat products) for everyone 14 years of age and older. Here again, Catholics will not hold themselves lightly excused.
- **If there is a serious health problem, the obligation of fasting and abstinence would not apply.**
- **Fasting from midnight to noon daily is optional.**
- **We strive to make all days of Lent a time of prayer, penance, and charitable assistance toward the less fortunate and needy.**

Safe Environment Training for Youth, Grades 9-12

Our Eparchy offers annual safe environment training for our youths in grades 9-12. This year the training is on Internet and Social Media Safety. This training will be offered to all parents and their youth on Sunday, March 5th after the Divine Liturgy from noon to 1 pm in the upstairs classroom.

This topic is very important for our youth who are growing up in our current culture.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Nadia Redmond at 503-671-0440 or email: n.redmond@comcast.net.

LUNCH AFTER MASS

Sunday, March 5

MENU:

*Falafel Sandwich, French
Fries, & Kids Cheese Pizza*

Come Eat and Socialize!

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:

3/12 Cedars Meeting with Surprise Guest
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

A common, natural reaction to seeing oneself bleed is fear – fear because blood is both, symbolically and, in some sense, literally life. Blood not only represents that something is living but without blood we would die. One could hardly imagine the fright, then, of the hemorrhaging woman who had been bleeding for twelve years straight (Mark 5) – every day of her life she saw her own life fleeting away, separated from life by bleeding and suffering. Perhaps even worse was, because of her bleeding, Jewish Law considered her unclean and anything she touched unclean (Lev. 15:19-30); she was considered untouchable by those who wished to worship in the Temple, and she herself could not make an offering.

This is why when Jesus asks who touched Him in a crowd the Apostles are confused because there are imaginably a bunch of people bumping into each other, but both Jesus and the woman know she is considered unclean and she trembled before Him (Mark 5:33). If Jesus had been any ordinary man, He would have been made unclean. Instead, He Who is the Pure One without blemish, Who takes away all imperfection, Who is the Life for all those who come to Him (John 11:25) took away the suffering of the woman. Though the Jewish Law prohibited the woman from going to the earthly Temple, in her great faith she approached the true Temple, Priest and Sacrifice – our Lord and God, Jesus Christ. Christ does not reprimand her for touching Him – as most Jewish men would have done in anger for rendering them ritually impure, but He affirms her, “Your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering” (Mark 5:34).

We celebrate this encounter of Christ with the hemorrhaging woman this Sunday as it continues our Lenten theme of the goodness of the Heavenly Physician Who has come to heal us of our suffering, bodily and spiritual. We also uphold the example of the hemorrhaging woman, who trusted the purity of Christ would overcome her own impurity that separated her from life and worship for He is truly our life. Though it seemed like she had no hope, for no earthly doctor could help her, the Creator of life took away her twelve years of suffering in simply being touched in faith. She provides us a great example: The defiled woman, from whom blood flowed, grabbed the garment of the Son of God, and His power went out and healed her members. She has become an allegory for the earth which sat in its own defilement until it approached and took His body, by which it was healed. (From the Evening Prayer of the Sunday of the Hemorrhaging Woman)

Each of us are ill and defiled by our own sins, which are far worse than any involuntary disease. But how much more has the Heavenly Physician given us by His Medicine of Life, the Eucharist? The hemorrhaging woman approached Him in faith and was healed by simply touching the tip of Christ’s robe. Christ now gives us His own body and blood upon the altar, not to only touch but consume every time we come to Him. The hemorrhaging woman was healed because she saw her life was bleeding out and in confidence grabbed Life Himself. Let us approach Him in the same faith to receive life and wholeness:

O Lord Whose mercy did not reject the disgraceful impurities of our nature but taught us by a miracle that revealed what was hidden. When the ailing woman drew near and secretly touched the tip of Your cloak, though doctors had taken all her possessions without having helped her, power immediately went out from You and stopped the involuntary flow of her blood, showing the greatness of her faith. O Lord, now show in us Your upright faith. Grant us that in purity and holiness we may give thanks, worship and glorify You, and Your Father, and Your living and Holy Spirit, now and at all times, forever. Amen. (From the Morning Prayer of the Sunday of the Hemorrhaging Woman)

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