



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

July 2, 2023

6th Sunday of Pentecost



Next Sunday

7th Sunday of Pentecost

2 Cor 3:1-6 (Ministers of a New Covenant)

Lk 10:1-7 (The Mission of the 72)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for June 18th- 24th

Online.....\$643.30
Collection.....\$334.00
Weekly Total.....\$977.30

YTD Total.....\$45,019.35

YTD Goal.....\$57,700.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$12,680.65**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, July 2nd, 11:00am

***For the intentions of Steph Stewart ,
and for her family.***

Monday, July 3rd

Available

Tuesday, July 4th

Available

Wednesday, July 5th

Available

Thursday, July 6th

Available

Friday, July 7th

Available

Saturday, July 8th

Available

Sunday, July 9th

***All Souls in Purgatory especially
deceased members of Friends of
Sufferings Souls FOSS members***

***Adoration/Exposition every Sunday at 10:00
am before the morning Liturgy.***

***Confession every Sunday 10:35-10:50am
before the morning Liturgy.***

Altar Sponsorship

Sunday, July 2nd

Available

Sunday, July 9th

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

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Next Collection:

September 10, 2023

Catholic University



Wanted ONE Holy Hour per Week!

Contact Nadia Redmond

503-671-0440

-or-

Email: n.redmond@comcast.net

More info at:

<https://sevensistersapostolate.org/>

**Understand Your Catholic Faith with
The Catechism in a Year Podcast
with Fr. Mike Schmitz!**

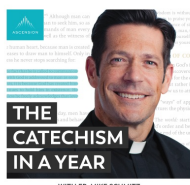
By listening to this podcast, Catholics will:

- Read the entire *Catechism of the Catholic Church* in 365 days
- Understand the essentials of the Catholic Faith and why they matter
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**Read and Understand the Bible
with *The Bible in a Year* Podcast
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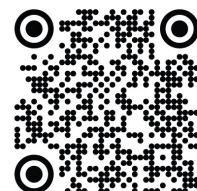
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—Ignacio G.

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Maronite Young Adults (MYA)

SAVE THE DATE

BBQ PARTY



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

SAVE THE DATE:

August 26th, Barbecue and Bonfire at Claude and Gennifer's home in Dundee.

MORE DETAILS TO COME

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

Reflection

Mt 10:16-25 (Coming Persecutions)

Christ is the Truth, and in Him is no falsehood. "I am sending you out like sheep among wolves" (Matt. 10:16) is the warning He gives to His disciples as He sends them into the world. Christ warns of the persecution that will come to those who follow Him, being beaten by one's own community, betrayed by one's own friends, and put on trial. This is certainly a frightening prospect! Jesus is not sugarcoating the potential danger of being a Christian. Perhaps we do not see this so explicitly in contemporary America, but there's definitely social ridicule and ostracizing that comes with being Christian. But why would He ask this of us?

The answer can be found in the very name we call ourselves – Christian. We are those who follow Christ. We believe that Christ is the one and only Almighty God Who existed before all things and created all things. He has more power than imaginable – He created the vast stars of the heavens and the great raging oceans and every animal. He revealed His power to us throughout history – He split the Red Sea before Moses and sent a column of fire from heaven to stop Israel's enemies. The signs of His power are endlessly listed in the Bible, as well as everything we observe in the world. Yet in spite of His omnipotence, He voluntarily descended from His throne in the heavens and became a child so poor His parents put Him in animals' manger in a cave. He did this because He saw the sin of humanity which tarnished His image in us and in His love did not wish to see us suffer the ultimate pain – separation from Him, in Whom all find completion. So He became weak that He might give us His strength by uniting His divinity with our humanity, and destroy sin by His death. Though many taunted Him and questioned Him, He remained steadfast in His mission. Even at the last moment the crowd at His crucifixion mocked Him by saying, "So! You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, come down from the cross and save yourself" (Mark 15:29-39).

The wisdom of the world would have you think if you have power you should use it. The crowd doubted Christ's divinity at His death because He did not come off the cross. But it is precisely that Christ could suffer on the cross that makes Him so great. A tyrant or dictator must constantly show their force to the world for people to continue respecting them. A dignified leader knows the authority he has, and as such acts because he knows what is right, not because he must evoke a certain public image. Christ, being the true King of All, chooses to die in humility so that we might have life. Likewise for us, Christ says, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it" (Matt. 16:24-25).

It is in selfless humility governed by love that we imitate Christ, Who lowered Himself to be weak even though He has all the power in the universe. Christ could have destroyed His crucifiers on the cross and all who insulted Him. In fact, there is a Syriac hymn verse for Good Friday about how all the angelic armies in heaven were about to descend with lightning and fire upon those who harmed their Lord. But Christ told them to stop. And by Christ's example of power in humility at least two men converted there – the Good Thief on His right, who moments before taunted Him, and Longinus, the soldier who pierced His side with a lance but then proclaimed that He was truly the Son of God. By a mere show of strength, there would be no one left. Instead Christ chooses to love and give opportunity for love to be returned, which is why He instructs us to love our enemies and pray for our persecutors (Matt. 5:44). By participating in Christ's meekness and love we participate in His almightiness.

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