



Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

1804 SE 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214

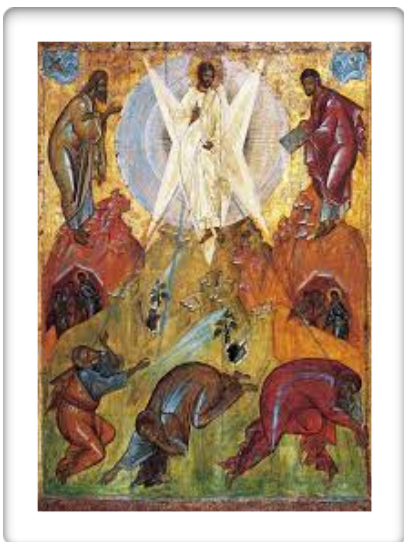
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stsharbelpdx@gmail.com

www.stsharbel.org

August 6, 2023

Transfiguration of Our Lord



Next Sunday

12th Sunday of Pentecost

Eph 3:1-13 (Commission to Preach God's Plan)

Mt 15:21-28 (The Canaanite Woman's Faith)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for July 23rd - 29th

Online.....\$1,563.30

Collection.....\$6,838.00

Weekly Total.....\$8,401.30

YTD Total.....\$58,490.85

YTD Goal.....\$69,240.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$10,749.15**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, August 6th, 11:00am

Unavailable

Monday, August 7th

Unavailable

Tuesday, August 8th

Unavailable

Wednesday, August 9th

Unavailable

Thursday, August 10th

Unavailable

Friday, August 11th

Unavailable

Saturday, August 12th

Unavailable

Sunday, August 13th

Unavailable

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, August 6th

Available

Sunday, August 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



BRIDGE CLOSURES — PLAN AHEAD AUGUST 13th

BRIDGE PEDAL takes place in Portland **AUGUST 13th**. Due to this you will want to check/plan your route to church ahead of time as many bridges will be closed for the event.

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Contact Nadia Redmond
503-671-0440

-or-

Email: n.redmond@comcast.net

More info at:

<https://sevensistersapostolate.org/>

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Next Collection:

**September 10,
2023**

Catholic University

Parish Programs

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.

Starting @ 5:00PM

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.

CEDARS OF SAINT SHARBEL

Mandatory Parent Mtg.
Sunday, August 27

After the Holy Mysteries — We will meet to discuss the needs and goals of the youth group this year!



Reflection

Saint Paul had been schooled in depth in the Scriptures of the Judaism, possibly in the Greek Septuagint version and in the Hebrew Texts of his time. He even claims that he had been schooled by the famous Rabbinical teacher Gamaliel. As a Pharisee he felt that the Scriptures were primarily about the Mosaic Law, and that following The Law had kept the Jewish people ethically different from the pagan peoples around them. With his encounter with the Risen Lord Jesus the veil was lifted off of him. Now he wishes to lift this veil off of others, Jews, Samaritans, and Gentiles alike. In speaking to the Corinthians he does not want others to come and persuade them that since

they are Gentile converts they must also convert to strict adherents of the Mosaic Law, for Paul this is trading one veil for another; rather he wants to explain to them that true glory is Jesus Christ, and that the fullness of life is living in the Spirit of Jesus Christ.

In our Gospel reading today we see that some of the Apostles are allowed to witness glory of Christ on the mount of Transfiguration. The Syriac Father Jacob of Serug devoted one of his theological poems to this event, entitled *The Transfiguration of Our Lord on Mount Tabor and on Moses and Elijah, Who Were Conversing with Him*. He writes:

Now why was it necessary for these servants of the King to come to talk to him? How and why did they come? He (Jesus) wanted to join to the first the second to make them equal that the Gospel mingle with the Torah and prevail on earth. He wanted to assign the keys of Moses to John to allow him (John) to write "in the beginning" spiritually. The son of Amram is substituted by the son of Zebedee that he too become a great scribe for the hidden mysteries of the Godhead. He gave the power that Elijah had to Simon that he "loose and bind" in a divine manner like a steward. He joined to the followers of Moses those of Simon to make the latter together with the former worthy of his message. He wanted to change stewards. Therefore, he summoned them that the old [stewards] give the keys to the young [stewards]. He wanted to honor those who properly labored with him and give to the others an exalted position and work of righteousness. He relieved Moses, put John to work, set free Elijah and summoned Simon to "loose and bind". He wanted to confirm his New Testament. Thus, he summoned his Father's old servants that they subscribe [it]. He called the apostles and summoned the prophets, [thus] making them equal to manifest the one teaching of truth to the whole world. He mingled the latter with the former that the earth be aware that he is the Lord of both the last and first [stewards].

He summoned the wisest, choicest, and most exalted [figures] from the Old Testament that they witness to the teaching of the New Testament. He wanted to retire the law that was in the hand of Moses, so he called him that he entrust the truth to Simon and then leave.

Beautifully Jacob describes this event as the passing of "the keys" of authority from Moses and Elijah to Peter and the Apostles of Jesus. In the Transfiguration the work of Moses and Elijah is honored but it is also done, now is the final age and the totality of truth for which they had laboured and awaited, and now the keys are given to the Apostolic Church to proclaim the glory of Jesus Christ and the salvation won by him.

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