



# Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

1804 SE 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214

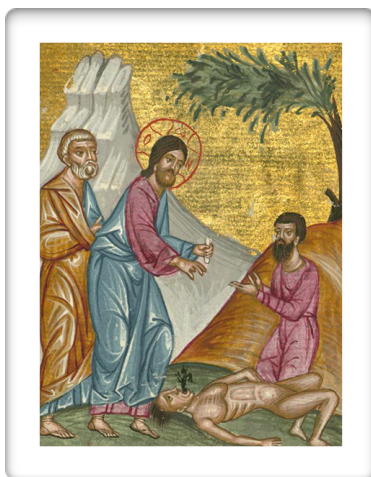
503.231.3853

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

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

## October 8, 2023

Fourth Sunday After the Holy Cross



**Next Sunday**

***Fifth Sunday After the Holy Cross***

**Phil 2:12-18** (Obedience and Service in the World)

**Mt 25:1-13** (The Parable of the 10 Virgins)

## Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, October 8th, 11:00am

**+Temather, +Nesret, +Vera, +Fehad,  
+Arkan and +Alex**

Monday, October 9th

*Available*

Tuesday, October 10th

**Isaac French**

Wednesday, October 11th

**Jacinta Havlicek**

Thursday, October 12th

*Available*

Friday, October 13th

*Available*

Saturday, October 14th

*Available*

Sunday, October 15th

*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.***

## Your Gifts To God

*Offering Report for September 24th - 30th*

Online.....\$633.30

Collection.....\$1,572.00

Weekly Total.....\$2,205.30

YTD Total.....\$71,088.07

YTD Goal.....\$90,012.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$18,923.93**

## Altar Sponsorship

Sunday, October 8th

*Available*

Sunday, October 15th

*Available*

## Parish Council

Charlie Ashou

Eva Bekahi

Ben El Hajj

Agopos Ghossein

Adib Karam

+Claude Karam

Lydia Massaad

+Doug Raab

+Thaddeus Rask

Nadia Redmond

Peter Rizk

Mitch Siekmann

+Finance Committee

## PRAY THE ROSARY



EVERY SUNDAY BEFORE MASS WE PRAY THE ROSARY AT 10:30AM.

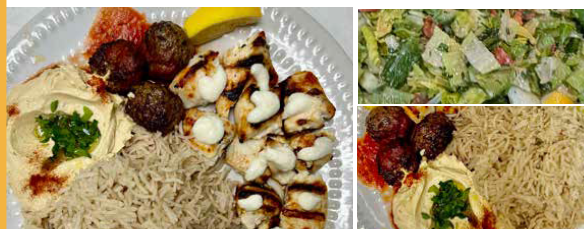
PLEASE JOIN US IN PERSON OR WITHIN YOUR OWN FAMILY TO PRAY THE ROSARY TOGETHER.

SUNDAYS 10:30AM

## SECOND COLLECTIONS

*Next Collection: **October 22, 2023**, World Mission Sunday—  
Propagation of the Faith*

### JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISER ST. SHARBEL CATHOLIC CHURCH AUTHENTIC LEBANESE DINNER



Join us for our delicious and authentic Lebanese Dinner Fundraiser in our parish hall. We'll be serving generous portions of grilled chicken with lemon garlic sauce, basmati rice, kafta balls, hummus and mediterranean salad.

**October 15th • Noon till 5pm**

**\$18 Dinner Ticket Donation • To Go Orders Available  
1804 SE 16th Avenue, Portland • [saintsharbel.com](http://saintsharbel.com)**

We'll also be holding a bake sale of tasty Middle Eastern and American pastries that will tempt any sweet tooth. Children's activities.

FOR TICKETS  
CONTACT

AGOPOS GHOSSEIN 503.317.4164

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ALEXANDER K. SAMPLE  
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October 2, 2023

My brothers and sisters in Christ,

*Praised be Jesus Christ!*

Each October the celebration of World Mission Sunday leads us to the heart of our Christian faith. At the heart of the Faith and of the Church is the Mission of Discipleship. In his World Mission Sunday message for this year, Pope Francis encourages us to have "hearts on fire" and "feet on the move":

*So let us set out once more, illumined by our encounter with the risen Lord and prompted by his Spirit. Let us set out again with burning hearts, with our eyes open and our feet in motion. Let us set out to make other hearts burn with the word of God, to open the eyes of others to Jesus in the Eucharist, and to invite everyone to walk together on the path of peace and salvation that God, in Christ, has bestowed upon all humanity.*

Pope Francis tells us that "Missionary conversion remains the principal goal that we must set for ourselves as individuals and as a community, because 'missionary outreach is paradigmatic for all the Church's activity.'" He reminds us that "[t]oday more than ever, our human family, wounded by so many situations of injustice, so many divisions and wars is in need of the Good News of peace and salvation in Christ." We need to be the hearts and feet that bring salvation and material assistance to our brothers and sisters.

I ask you again to remember the needs of the people the Church serves in her worldwide missionary work and to offer our financial help through the Propagation of the Faith. Please be as generous as your means will allow and be assured of my personal gratitude for your generosity in the past. The missionary work of the Church depends on each one of us.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Alexander K. Sample  
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon



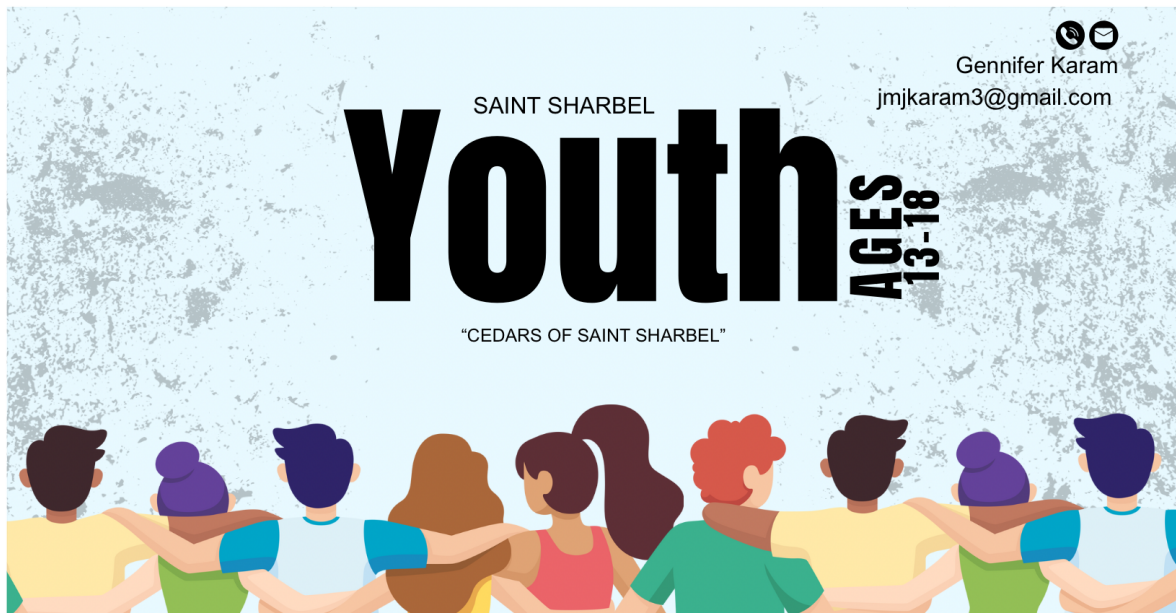
## Maronite Young Adults (MYA)



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

**NEXT MEETING:** OCTOBER 22nd after Mass in the upper classroom. We will be discussing Rule #11 of St. Ignatius on Discernment of Spirits

For more info on the MYA, contact [Claude@trazzafoods.com](mailto:Claude@trazzafoods.com)



## Wanted ONE Holy Hour per Week!

Contact Nadia Redmond

503-671-0440

-or-

Email: [n.redmond@comcast.net](mailto:n.redmond@comcast.net)

## 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.



Gargantuan monsters (whether political or actual), widespread natural disaster, and a blackened sky while the very fabric of society falls apart are the assumed elements of any standard apocalypse movie. However, these are probably not the ideas that come to mind when we say “We await Your Second Coming” every time we go to the Maronite Divine Liturgy. Whether or not these things occur before the Second Coming of Christ these are certainly not what we await nor what is really meant by the word “apocalypse,” which means the revealing of something.

As odd as it is to say, as Christians we have long awaited the apocalypse. But it is not an apocalypse of destruction and calamity for the Christian faith, but the revealing of the glory of God. As St. Paul writes in this Sunday’s epistle, the end is destruction for those who are not expecting it. However, we are children of light and the Last Day should not surprise us like a “thief in the night,” whether it is in a day or 10,000 years. For the unprepared, the apocalypse is a frightening idea because it marks the end of the material world and the coming of the Judge of Judges. But for those who put on “faith and love as armor, and the hope of salvation as a helmet,” the Second Coming is something worth mentioning every Liturgy because it marks the coming of our beloved Lord. Rather than unexpected, for those who await the Lord’s coming, it is a surprise visit like a dear family member or friend who comes to our house without our knowledge but we are nonetheless overjoyed to see them.

Sunday’s Gospel compares a good and a bad servant upon the arrival of their master’s return. The good servant has continued to do what he was asked because he has faith in his lord’s justice, love for his lord and his household, and hope that his lord shall actually return to him.

When the master returns, the good servant is so happy to see his lord again because he missed him and the day he would see him again. The good servant is honored in the household. The bad servant, in turn, focuses on using his master’s possessions for his own good because he does not have faith, love or hope. When the master returns, he is taken by surprise and punished for selfishly abusing his master’s possessions given for the good of the household and the other servants. The bad servant thought he could fool his master, had no love of him or his servants, and did not wish to see him again because that marked the end of his “freedom.”

Likewise is the spiritual reality of the apocalypse; the preparation of the good Christian is faith, love and hope. In the end, the Second Coming is not meant as a threat or a device of fear – after all, as St. Paul says, “God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through Jesus Christ” (1 Thess. 5:9). For those who have faith in the Lord, love Him and His servants, and hope in His return, the apocalypse is not the end but the revelation of a new and greater life with Him. God is the God of the Living, not death, and therefore He comes to bring us life, love and light that we may forever live with Him. Let us recall this each time we say, “We await Your Second Coming.”

*O Splendor of brilliant rays and the Illuminating Light of all Who shone forth from the Eternal Father, You illumined us lying in darkness, through Your bodily appearance rolled away the darkness of sin from the earth, and rejoiced the whole world by Your light. Now, O Lord, rejoice us on the day of Your glorious apocalypse and gladden us by Your sight. Shine Your mercy upon us and dawn Your compassion on us for You are the True Light and Illuminator of Creation, now and at all times, forever. Amen.*

(From the Syriac Maronite Morning Prayer for Sunday)

—Article Credit: St Rafka Parish



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