

### Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

1804 SE 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214 503.231.3853 <u>stsharbelpdx@gmail.com</u> <u>www.stsharbel.org</u>

## **November 12, 2023**

**Renewal of the Church** 



## Next Sunday

Announcement to Zechariah

Rom 3:13-25 (Inheritance through Faith)

Lk 1:1-25 (Announcement of the Birth of John)

### **Your Gifts To God**

Offering Report for October 29th - November 4th

Online	•
Collection Weekly Total	. ,
YTD Total	\$79,486.52
YTD Goal	\$101,552.00
YTD Difference	\$22,065.48

### **Liturgy Intentions**

Sunday, November 12th, 11:00am

+David Gama

Monday, November 13th

Available

Tuesday, November 14th

Available

Wednesday, November 15th

Available

Thursday, November 16th

Available

Friday, November 17th

Available

Saturday, November 18th

Available

Sunday, November 19th

+Najib Maroun 40 day memorial

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, November 12th

Available

Sunday, November 19th

Redmond Family

#### **Parish Council**

Chair: Lydia Massaad

Charlie Ashou Eva Bekahi Ben El Haji Adib Karam +Claude Karam Michael Layoun +Doug Raab +Thaddeus Rask Nadia Redmond Peter Rizk Mitch Siekmann Gibran Zoqbi

+Finance Committee

# **SECOND**COLLECTIONS

Next Collection:

### December 3rd

Maronite Patriarchal Charities





A Panel Discussion on the Virtue of

# PERSEVERANCE



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SR. CHARLENE HERINCKX



Vocations Director. Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon



**DANIEL JONES** 

Past President, Serra Club International

Tuesday, November 14 from 7-9 p.m. **Ascension Catholic Church** For Young Adults in Their 20s & 30s

FREE FOR MEMBERS | \$15 ONLINE | \$20 DAY OF REGISTER AT YCPPORTLAND.ORG

## Parish Programs

#### **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: NOVEMBER 19th—After Mass

We will discuss Rule #12 of Descernment of Spirits by Saint Ignatius of Lavola.

For more info on the MYA, contact Claude@trazzafoods.com

#### Wanted ONE Holy Hour per Week!



Contact Nadia Redmond 503-671-0440

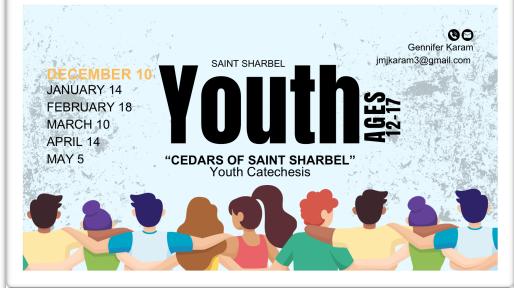
#### PRAY THE ROSARY



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





### **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, <a href="mailto:n.redmond@comcast.net">n.redmond@comcast.net</a>

Please continue to pray for our parish and ministries.



### Reflection

Today's Sunday is inherently coupled with last week's Sunday, the Consecration of the Church, and I highly recommend reading that reflection first as it speaks of God's eternal plans for His Church. And as discussed last week, the Church has existed for as long as humanity, and will exist for eternity, hence why we celebrate the Consecration of the Church as our first Sunday of the year. But the eternal Church is not a stagnant banquet, but one that is continually renewed, with new people contributing their own unique input, and lively activity.

This Sunday's Gospel reading mentions our Lord in Jerusalem during the Jewish Feast of the Dedication, or better Renewal, of the Temple. This feast was established by Judas Maccabaeus after re-dedicating the Temple after a Seleucid king named Antiochus Epiphanes desecrated the Temple by sacrificing a pig on the altar, as a historian called Josephus tells us. In the Jewish tradition, the Renewal signals the Jews overcoming their invading enemy, and making holy again what had once become unholy. As we know from the temple, the Jewish high priest had to repeatedly offer new sacrifices for the remission of sin, using it's blood to remove ritual defilement. But as St. Paul tells us today in Hebrews, "He entered once and for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption (9:12)."

Christ in His love for mankind, the same love that created it, wished to renew humanity once sin had brought death "for the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord (Rom. 6:23)." As St. Ephrem, the great Syriac poet tells us, God expelled Adam from the Garden of Eden not ou of vindictive punishment, but so he will not eat of the Fruit of Life, and life in a state of permanent separation from God. Instead, Christ planned from all eternity to renew His damaged image. And so the Maronite office for Sunday evening prayer says, "The fruit that Adam ate killed him. The Fruit from heaven redeemed him." The Fruit come down from heaven is Christ Himself, Who has made Himself the food of the eternal banquet of the Church so that we might eat the true Body and Blood of the immortal Lord and live forever. This is why we sing today in our night office:

The Church offers to Him on behalf of her children, the mystery of Body and Blood of the Prince, and it is distributed by the hands of priests for forgiveness of debts. Sinners receive it in true faith, and by it their debts and sins are forgiven, hallelujah and hallelujah!

God Established the Church, the eternal banquet in His love for mankind that we know Him intimately, we delight in His company. But not being perfect, we have failed from the very beginning by being disobedient with Adam. But God does not grow impatient with us or tire so long as we show genuine sorrow for our sins. This is why He has placed in His Church His Body and Blood for the remission of our sins, and for our eternal life. In choosing to do wrong, we corrupt the image of God in which we were made (Gen. 1:27), but by the love of God He has established the means of renewal of ourselves, the temples of the Holy Spirit, in the Church through the sacraments - the most frequent of which is His Body and Blood, the Eucharist.



#### Gibran N Zogbi

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