

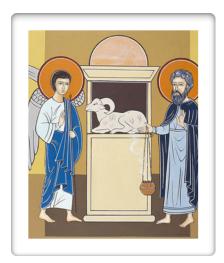
Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

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 19, 2023

Announcement to Zechariah



Next Sunday Announcement to Mary

Gal 3:15-22 (The Law Did Not Nullify the Promise)
Lk 1:26-38 (Announcement of the Birth of Jesus)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for November 5th - 11th

Online	\$1,477.36
Collection	\$2,609.00
Weekly Total	\$4,086.36

YTD Difference......-\$20,287.12

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, November 19th, 11:00am

+Najib Maroun 40 day memorial

Monday, November 20th

Tylese McAdoo

Tuesday, November 21st

Mary Freeman

Wednesday, November 22nd

Phillip McAdoo, Jr

Thursday, November 23rd

Available

Friday, November 24th

Available

Saturday, November 25th

Available

Sunday, November 26th

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, November 19th

Redmond Family

Sunday, November 26th

Available

News | Events

Parish Council

Chair: Lydia Massaad

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

+Finance Committee

SECONDCOLLECTIONS

Next Collection:

December 3rd

Maronite
Patriarchal
Charities



CAMP HOWARD IS HIRING

SUMMER CAMP DIRECTOR

- Develop and implement summer programs for kids
- Present our summer program at Catholic Schools
- Coordination of program planning, budget proposals, and personnel

Submit your Resume:

WWW.CYOCAMPHOWARD.ORG/HIRING



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 Discernment 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

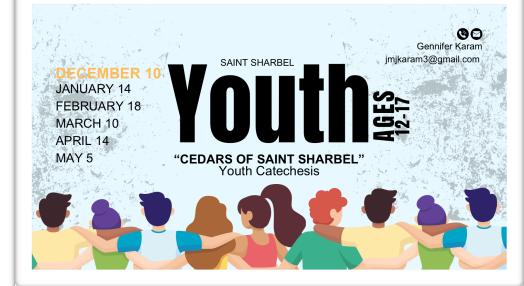
PRAY THE ROSARY



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, n.redmond@comcast.net

Please continue to pray for our parish and ministries.



Reflection

Announcement, annunciation, greeting, and good news (that is the Gospel) all share a common root in Syriac Aramaic, our liturgical language. Starting today for the next few weeks, the Maronite Church, along with all the other Syriac Churches, will celebrate a period often called the Season of Announcements. On each Sunday, an announcement, a greeting, the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ is announced to mankind, first by Gabriel Whom the Father sends from heaven. The reason for the Father sending Gabriel to deliver this good news is to make Himself better known to us, just as previously mentioned with the establishment of the Church, so that we can come to be near Him, and rejoice with Him.

Particular to this Sunday, God sends the archangel Gabriel to Zechariah, the father to-be of John the Baptist and high priest at the time in the Temple in Jerusalem. The Gospel tells us that Zechariah and his wife, Elizabeth, were obedient and followed all of God's commands, but were both barren and old (Luke 1:6-7). Nonetheless, they prayed devoutly that God would grant them a child – apart from Zechariah's office, Zechariah and Elizabeth were devout Jews and so would have heard the Old Testament read out entirely at very least once a year, listening to how God began His covenant of an intimate relationship with Abraham by granting him a son, even though he and his wife were old and barren. This demonstrates God's entire dealings with Israel are the pure gift of His initiative, mercy, and love that overcome the expectations of the world. Knowing this, Zechariah and Elizabeth had the confidence to ask that God do it again.

God in His mercy heard their prayer and answered by sending Gabriel to announce the birth of John. After all, nothing is impossible for God, which is why He chooses to work what seems to be the impossible at times. In fact, the birth of John foreshadows Christ's own birth, Whom Isaiah says will be a "shoot from the stump of Jesse" (Is. 11:1). Israel at this point has been destroyed, conquered by Rome, and any rebellion thoroughly crushed – the monarchy's lineage, that of Jesse, has been lost. Humanity would expect nothing to come from this now "dead" stump – but God works unexpected wonders, and comes Himself from this supposedly dead stump by His birth. We call John the Forerunner and Proclaimer of Christ, as he was sent ahead to "make ready for the Lord a people prepared" (Luke 1:17) like Gabriel tells Zechariah. His first message is his extraordinary birth from barren parents, demonstrating God shall make even the dead alive in Him, and He shall come from this stump. Gabriel tells Zechariah not only has God answered his prayer, but his son will be the preparing the world for the coming of God.

But Zechariah doubts what the archangel Gabriel is telling him – instead of rejoicing at the good news, which John is being sent to specifically proclaim, he cheapens it with dispute. Though he knew the Scriptures so well he doubted the generosity of God and that He would work such a miracle in his life because it simply does not seem likely by his expectations. Of course, God has given us reason to use, but He also gives us faith and knowledge of Him in His revelation. All things are a gift from God; even the tongue that enables us to speak was given to us by God, for which we should be thankful, and the tongue that does not thank God is essentially useless – Zechariah learned this by being made mute until his son was born. But we must also remember we ask for the intercession of Saint Zechariah because, though he failed at one moment, he loved God and continued being faithful as he was before. So today with St. Zechariah, let us praise Jesus Christ our God by remembering when we pray and professing with our tongues that He is the "Hope Who has given hope to the hopeless, and makes a way for the impossible, the Maker of great miracles, and Giver of beautiful gifts, the Creator Who, by the beckon of His Creatorship, His will exists in those Who He willed to make – everything is easy for His love..." (Evening Prayer for the Announcement to Zechariah).



Gibran N Zogbi

Agent

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