



# 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)

## January 14, 2023

2nd Sunday of Epiphany



**Next Sunday**

***Commemoration of the Priests***

**1 Tm 4:6-16** (Counsel to Timothy)

**Lk 12:42-48** (Vigilant and Faithful Servant)

## Your Gifts To God

*Offering Report for January 1st-6th*

Online.....\$1,040.00

Collection.....\$0.00

Weekly Total.....\$1,040.00

YTD Total.....\$1,040.00

YTD Goal.....\$2,308.00

YTD Difference.....-\$1,268.00

## Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, January 14th, 11:00am

**+Kameel Mouammar**

Monday, January 15th

*Available*

Tuesday, January 16th

**John Myers**

Wednesday, January 17th

*Available*

Thursday, January 18th

**Holy Souls in Purgatory**

Friday, January 19th

*Available*

Saturday, January 20th

*Available*

Sunday, January 21st

**+Richard Allam**

***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, January 14th

*Available*

Sunday, January 21st

*Redmond Family*

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

## INCLEMENT WEATHER

We know this weekend might pose some challenging weather conditions. We will do our best to communicate any changes the weather brings to our Mass Schedule.

Stay Safe and Warm Out There!

## End-of-Year Giving Letters

Letters will be going out over the next two weeks for your Sunday giving amounts to the Parish. If you have moved or changed addresses this year, please email and let us know your correct address.

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



## OREGON RIGHT TO LIFE EDUCATION FOUNDATION ANNUAL PRO-LIFE CONTESTS

THIS YEAR'S THEME:

EVERYONE HAS A BEGINNING

**DRAW** Deadline January 15, 2024 **WRITE**

All artwork must be original, incorporate the contest theme, and completed on the original form on cardstock.

Essays must incorporate the contest theme and will be judged on general organization, grammar, clarity of message, and originality.

### DIVISIONS

KINDERGARTEN  
1ST-2ND GRADE  
3RD-5TH GRADE  
6TH-8TH GRADE  
9TH-10TH GRADE  
11TH-12TH GRADE

### COMPUTER DRAWING

9TH-12TH GRADE

WIN UP TO  
\$500

### DIVISIONS

5TH-6TH GRADE  
7TH-8TH GRADE  
9TH-10TH GRADE  
11TH-12TH GRADE

WIN UP TO  
\$500

## SPEAK

First place winner of local contest will compete in the state contest at the Together We Advocate Conference in Tualatin on March 2, 2024. Winner will give their speech at the conference and earn an expense paid trip to compete in the National Right to Life oratory contest - location TBD.

### Division

11th-12th Grade as of 2/1/24

Speech must directly address one of the following topics:

Abortion

Infanticide

Euthanasia

Stem Cell Research

WIN UP TO  
\$600

## FILM

Film must be three minutes or less and sent digitally via link or mailed flash drive. Group entries are permitted. Does not need to follow theme, but must affirm life in a creative way.

### Divisions

Youth: Ages 10-13

Junior: Ages 14-17

Adult: Ages 18+

WIN UP TO  
\$500

### STATE ONLY COMPETITION

For more information contact your contest coordinator or Jalaya Taylor, [jalaya@ortl.org](mailto:jalaya@ortl.org), 503-463-8563

THE POLITICS OF  
ABORTION:  
CHALLENGING THE  
NARRATIVE

**JANUARY  
27TH 2024**

Doors open at 1:30 with  
Resource Organizations  
2:00-4:00 Expert Speakers

**\$10 Admission  
Students/Children Free**

JOHNSON CENTER  
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9101 E BURNSIDE  
PORTLAND OR

To Register and follow  
event updates:



**MYTH VS TRUTH IN THE PRO-LIFE DEBATE**

# SAVE THE DATE

# Parish Programs



**Wanted ONE Holy Hour per Week!**

Contact Nadia Redmond  
503-671-0440

-or-

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

More info at:

<https://sevensistersapostolate.org/>

## 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**

SAINT SHARBEL

**Youth** AGES 12-17

JANUARY 14  
FEBRUARY 18  
MARCH 10  
APRIL 14  
MAY 5

"CEDARS OF SAINT SHARBEL"  
Youth Catechesis

Gennifer Karam  
jmjkaram3@gmail.com

A colorful illustration of a group of diverse youth standing in a circle, viewed from behind, with their arms around each other in a supportive gesture.

## 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:

**JANUARY 21, 2024** — Right after Mass  
We will be discussing the final rule, rule 14 of St Ignatius on  
descendant of spirits.

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

Please continue to pray for our parish and ministries.





Water is an essential of life. Our planet and our bodies are mostly made of water. Without water, a human cannot live more than a week nor would the food we eat grow. It is an irremovable part of our reality – in fact, both science confirms Scripture in that all life began in the waters of the ocean. In the very beginning, Genesis begins with the Spirit hovering over the waters (Gen. 1:2), and the gospels begin with the Spirit hovering over the waters of Christ's Baptism (Matt. 3, Mark 1, Luke 3, John 1). It is not a coincidence that creation – all life, and the Gospel both begin with water and the Spirit. God has chosen the visible sign of water to communicate the infinitely greater reality of life and the Spirit. What was created in the beginning is made anew by the waters of baptism by the Holy Spirit. As Christ tells Nicodemus in today's Gospel reading, without this new life brought about by the Spirit, one will not have life eternal (John 3:5). The Syriac Father Aphrahat relates the reception of the Holy Spirit at baptism with that of God breathing into the molded dirt in Genesis to give Adam life (Gen. 2:7) – if we refuse the waters of baptism we remain lifeless dirt.

At our Maronite wake services we sing, "It was unknown in the past that there was eternal life," referring to Isaac mourning Abraham, for baptism had not yet been given to us by God. Yet God in His mercy still alluded to it through signs and symbols through the prophets to give hope for His coming to remove death. Christ refers to Nicodemus one such sign in the life of Moses when Moses lifted up his staff as God instructed and those bitten by serpents were healed of the venom (Num. 21:9). Christ our God, being the reality behind this symbol, was lifted on the cross, and those who look on Him with eyes of faith are healed of the venom of the serpent, Satan, who poisoned Adam and receive eternal life (3:14-15). It is through baptism we enter into this mystery of the Son by the Holy Spirit, "Marked an innocent lamb of [His] flock... numbered amongst [His] spiritual herd" as the Maronite rite of baptism tells us. In the preparation for the waters of baptism, the rite tells us the Trinity makes the waters a "new womb for spiritual sons." Moses struck a rock in the desert at the command of God while Israel thirsted to death, and from it flowed water (Num. 20:11). Likewise, left to our own we would thirst to death in the desert of sin, but Christ has granted us a baptism of new life to remove from us this thirst.

Though coming to the spiritual, second birth through baptism is a one-time event we must continue to nourish our souls. Just as the second birth obtains eternal life for us like our first birth in flesh obtains life, we must nourish our spirits as we nourish our bodies. Revisiting the event of Moses striking the rock in the desert, the Maronite liturgy used to associate this with the priest removing the veil on the chalice, saying, "You are the flint rock which gave forth twelve rivers of water for the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel." Christ is the true rock from Whom flows the waters of life granting eternal life (John 4:14) that poured forth at His crucifixion. We are lambs branded with the sign of our Lord, the cross, given eternal life, and fed by the Body and Blood He has given us in His mercy. Nourished by these, we are consecrated as living temples of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:19), and called to lives fitting to holy dwelling places of God.



# Bulletin Sponsors



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