

Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

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

March 17, 2024

Healing of the Blind Man



Next Sunday

Hosanna Sunday

Phil 1:1-13 (Greeting/Thanksgiving)

Jn 12:12-22 (The Entry into Jerusalem/The Coming of Jesus' Hour)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for March 3rd - 9th

Online	\$700.00
Collection	\$919.00
Weekly Total	\$1,619.00

YTD Total	\$13,411.40
YTD Goal	\$23,080.00

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, March 17th, 11:00am

+Lynn E Harris & *Tom Sellikan (celebrating their friendship and service to our parish)

Monday, March18th

Available

Tuesday, March 19th

Father Francisco Cancino

Wednesday, March 20th

Martha Babich

Thursday, March 21st

Available

Friday, March 22nd

Available

Saturday, March 23rd

Available

Sunday, March 24th

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.

Altar Sponsorship

Sunday, March 17th

Available

Sunday, March 24th

Redmond Family

News | Events

Parish Council

Chair: Lydia Massaad

Sara 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

STATIONS OF

THE CROSS

Fridays During Lent

@7:00PM

Questions to Gibran or Ben



March 24: Palm Sunday

Hosanna Sunday (Shaneenee) — 11:00am

Procession to follow with the distribution of Palms.

Confessions will be heard before Mass only

Breakfast and Egg Hunt after Mass

March 28: Holy Thursday

Institution of the Eucharist (Mass/Qurbono) - 7pm

Washing of the Apostles Feet

Confessions will be heard before/after the Holy Mysteries

March 29: Great Friday

Signing of the Chalice - Pre-Sanctified Liturgy - 11am

Confessions available before of after by request

Burial Procession (Zeeyah) — No Eucharist — 7pm

Commemoration of the Burial of our Lord No confessions available in the evening

March 30: Saturday of Holy Week

Morning Service — 11am

Rite of Forgiveness (General Absolution)

No individual confessions available

Night of Vigil Easter

Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord (Mass/Qurbono) - 9pm

Followed by Rite of Peace and Procession No individual confessions available

March 31: Easter Sunday

Sunday of the Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord — 11am

No Procession, Mass



The National Apostolate of Maronites (NAM)

Presents

The 32nd Annual Spring Raffle - 2022 Only 450 Tickets are printed

Donation: \$100 per ticket

This just may be the year your lucky number is chosen!!!!

Cash Prizes!!!

1st \$10,000.00 2nd \$3,000.00

3rd \$2,000.00

4th \$1,500.00

5th \$1,000.00

This year's drawing will be held on April 14, 2024 at Our Lady of Lebanon Church, Washington, D.C.;

Thank you for your support in previous years for this raffle fund-raiser, as it is an important part of the NAM annual budget. We are counting on your generosity once again, to support our community projects.

To purchase a personal ticket(s), your parish NAM Delegates have 4 tickets to sell, please contact Nadia Redmond at 503-671-0440 or email: n.redmond@comcast.net

All requests and payments must be received by March 17, 2024.

Wanted ONE Holy Hour per Week!



Contact Nadia Redmond 503-671-0440

-or-

Email: n.redmond@comcast.net

More info at:

https://sevensistersapostolate.org/

MYO EVENTS TBA

All Youth ages 13-18 are welcome!

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



Cedars of St. Sharbel Youth Catechesis

Ages 12-17

To sign up, contact Gennifer Karam jmkaram3@gmail.com

March 10 - Mental Health and Faith w/guest speaker

April 14 - Love and Responsibility

May 19 - The Theology of the Body





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: MARCH 17th 2nd Session on the Eucharist

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.

Reflection

Bartimaeus the blind man gives testimony to the immeasurable generosity and love for mankind of the Good Physician, Jesus Christ. Our Lord Himself said to those who listened to Him, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened" (Matt. 7:7-8). God's generosity towards us cannot be overstated for, as we know, the Immortal and Untouchable became mortal and vulnerable to heal us and forgive our sins ultimately even dying so that we may live. Though God's generosity is so abundant, we must also ask for His help for He has given us free will in His love because love cannot be received involuntarily. So let us look to Bartimaeus as an example of someone who knows how to call upon the Lord and ask Him for His assistance.

Our Lord Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a physician, but the sick" (Mark 2:17). One who is healthy would not consult a physician because they would see no need. But Bartimaeus calls upon Christ because he knows that he is blind and that he is limited by his blindness. It would be an absurd image if Bartimaeus insisted he was not blind and tried to live his daily life as not impeded, stumbling around town and struggling through daily tasks. The first guidance the story of Bartimaeus gives to the Christian through his life is that we must acknowledge our sickness. Everyone is alive is spiritually sick in some sense, and so all must seek the Physician of the Soul – Jesus Christ. However, many are spiritually blind and think they are healthy and without need of the Physician. It is just as absurd as a blind man claiming to have sight if one thinks about how often we might fail throughout our daily lives. That is why the first step we must take to becoming spiritually better is acknowledge that we do indeed have something wrong, even if we are not quite sure what it is.

Bartimaeus could have despaired in his blindness but instead he chose to have hope that Jesus Christ was a wise enough physician to heal him, so he calls out loudly to Christ. It is not enough to recognize that one is sick – but that person goes to a physician whom they trust to cure them. Bartimaeus confidently chooses the Physician Who can heal all illnesses. Even when others might have laughed at him or told him to keep quiet, perhaps because he or his illnesses was not important enough in their minds, he persisted. Because of his faith, Christ called him to himself. If we have true faith in Christ to heal us we must call Him with confidence. Though others may laugh or tell us to keep quiet, and He might not respond the first time, we must persist in knowing only Christ can heal all infirmities.

One must pay a physician appropriately for their work, but how does one pay the One Who needs nothing? You cannot. But Bartimaeus, knowing this, gives Christ the only thing he can – his faith in calling out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Bartimaeus has nothing he can give Jesus other than his abandonment in sincere faith. Jesus, in turn, heals him for this very reason. The acts we perform, the alms we pay, the fasting we make during Lent are all pleasing to God – in fact, He asks that we do all this – but He does not need them, nothing we can give God can make Him greater or wealthier. Recognizing this, Bartimaeus calls to Him in love and faith, though it adds nothing to Jesus. Bartimaeus gives us, then, a great pattern for prayer. In fact, this is why the Eastern Christians have adopted a custom for many centuries of repeating to oneself throughout the day a slightly modified version of Bartimaeus's prayer, "Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner!" Though we could not offer God anything to make Him richer, He responds in generosity to our love and faith in Him. Once we have recognized we have made ourselves ill by the wounds of sin we can call upon God for His assistance. Without fail the Physician will always outdo our love in responding to our call.

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