

## 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>

# April 21, 2024

Jesus Appears to the Disciples at Sea



**Next Sunday** Jesus Delivers the Office of Shepherd to Peter

> Eph 2:1-10 (Generosity of God's Plan) Jn 21:15-19 (Jesus and Peter)

### Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for April 7th - 13th

Online	\$1,253.00
Collection	\$557.00
Weekly Total	\$1,810.00

YTD Total	\$21,710.65
YTD Goal	\$34,620.00

YTD Difference......**\$12,909.35** 

### **Liturgy Intentions**

Sunday, April 21st, 11:00am Available Monday, April 22nd Available Tuesday, April 23rd Available Wednesday, April 24th Available Thursday, April 25th Available Friday, April 26th Available Saturday, April 27th Available Sunday, April 28th 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, April 21st Redmond Family Sunday, April 28th Available

### 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



### UPDATE FROM ABOUNA - NEW PRIEST ANNOUNCEMENT

#### Friends,

His excellency, Bishop Elias Zaidan has made priest assignments public this week. Fr. Peter Zogbi will be returning to St. Sharbel's as its pastor effective June 1, 2024. I will be assigned to Catholic Healthcare for the near future and will remain in Portland as of now. It has been my great honor to serve as your Pastor these last nine years. I am proud of what we did together — namely, we survived the harsh challenges of COVID, renovated the church including an elevator and refresh inside, and more importantly we have maintained and grown the investments that parish has in our Merrill Lynch account. During my time I married, buried, baptized so many, and I felt the love and encouragement you provided. I was handed a **graced** parish, the first one in the world to bear the name St. Sharbel by then Abouna Jonathan Decker. I hope when I am judged by the bishop and later by the Lord, I will hear the words we all hope to hear ("good and faithful servant...") and not the other one we dread hearing! (That was a joke). I look forward to being with you at the Hafli. Please come, if nothing else to see me attempt to dabke and to bid you all farewell.

#### In Christ, Your servant, Abouna Chris



FALAFEL LUNCH — After MASS — Sunday, April 21st!

Parish Programs

#### Wanted ONE Holy Hour per Week!



Contact Nadia Redmond 503-671-0440 -or-

Email: <u>n.redmond@comcast.net</u> More info at: <u>https://sevensistersapostolate.org/</u>

# 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** 10:30入M



Cedars of St. Sharbel Youth Catechesis Ages 12-17 To sign up, contact Gennifer Karam <u>imkaram3@gmail.com</u>

### 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: APRIL 21st — Continued Discussion 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, <u>n.redmond@comcast.net</u>

Please continue to pray for our parish and ministries.



"Friends, haven't you any fish?" said Christ to His disciples, appearing to them for the third time after His Resurrection. When they answered 'no' Christ instructed them, like when He first met them (Matt. 4), to cast their nets again. To their amazement the disciples pulled in a catch full to the seams of the net –153 fish to be exact. If that seems like an oddly specific number, it is meant to be. In the ancient world it was believed that there were exactly 153 species of fish, so by Christ's command Peter caught every fish in the sea. When Christ first called Peter He said, "I shall make you fishers of men" (Matt. 4:19) and many believed salvation was limited to the People of Israel. But here Christ emphasizes, in His mercy, the Apostles are to "go and make disciples of all nations" (Matt. 28:19).

One of the common themes of the writing of the Syriac Father Aphrahat, who was possibly previously a Jew himself, is the idea of the peoples becoming the People. To Israel God promised "I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God" (Ex. 6:7) and established with them through Moses His covenant for their protection and deliverance. He established the Law to teach the People obedience and proper worship. But God loves all mankind as His creation made in His image, and so the People were established as an example and foreshadowing of the peoples who would later be called when He would come Himself. Previously, it was by the human womb that one became part of the saved People – being born of a Jewish woman made one part of Israel. But Christ came to grant salvation to all those who seek Him, and so He commanded the Apostles to make disciples of all nations by "baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matt. 28:19). One is born into the true Israel by the womb of baptism, which is what Christ means when He tells Nicodemus he must be born again by Spirit and water (John 3). In the waters of baptism one buries their old self – sin is put to death – and what rises out of the tomb of the womb of waters with the resurrected Christ is a new man, the Christian. Christ first established Israel as an example for following His commands, but sent His Apostles out to make all peoples His People and ensure that in love and worship of Him they come to eternal life and forgiveness of sins.

So great is the love of our God that although we have sinned He calls us all to Himself, not simply to serve but to rejoice with Him. But one people is not sufficient, nor one hundred, but He desires that every people on earth should share in His eternal life and holiness. He has called us, His disciples, to participate in His mercy by going out into the world and bringing people to the womb of new life, baptism, that they may participate in His Resurrection. His Resurrection has delivered us from the sting of death and sin, freeing us, though we have sinned. With great joy, let us go out and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, bringing others to the true faith. The Lord has given us the command to cast our nets – to courageously invite a friend or coworker to church on Sunday or knock on our neighbor's door and visit with them. If we have gratitude and joy for the gift we have unworthily received let us freely share it with others as Christ has freely given it to us. Let us eagerly spread the Gospel of the Resurrection for love of Christ and fellow man so that on the last day when we stand before the throne of God with all our deeds before us and we are asked, "Friends, haven't you any fish?" we may respond, "Yes, all 153!"

-Article Credit St. Rafka Parish

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nisreen.mouammar@gmail.com