

Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

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stsharbelpdx@gmail.com

www.stsharbel.org



March 25, 2018

Hosanna Sunday



Next Sunday

Sunday of the Glorious Resurrection

1Cor 15:12-26 (Results of Denial/Christ the Firstfruits)

Mk 16:1-8 (The Resurrection of Jesus)

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, March 25th, 10:30 am

+Tom Selliken

Monday, March 26th

Available

Tuesday, March 27th

Available

Wednesday, March 28th

Available

Thursday, March 29th

Available

Friday, March 30th

Available

Saturday, March 31st

Intentions of Parishioners of St. Sharbel

Sunday, April 1st

Available

Adoration/Exposition every Sunday at 9:30 am before the morning Liturgy.

Confession every Sunday at 9:45 am before the morning Liturgy.

Also join us to pray the Rosary on Sundays at 10:00 am before the Liturgy begins.

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for March 11th - 17th

Online.....\$420.00

Collection.....\$880.00

Weekly Total.....\$1,300.00

YTD Total.....\$18,066.43

YTD Goal.....\$20,306.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$2,239.57**

Altar Sponsorship

Sunday, March 25th

Redmond Family

Sunday, April 1st

Available

Events

NOTE FROM ABOUNA...

“Blessings to you all — Please feel free to bring olive branches or palms to bless and process with on Shanini (Sunday). Also, check out the cover of the Sentinel! We got top billing.”

-Abouna Chris

Parish Council

+Bruce Ashford
(Treasurer)

Charlie Ashou

Gus Bekahi

Nick El Hajj

Agopos Ghossein

Adib Karam

+Claude Karam

Anne Marentette
(Secretary)

Doug Raab

+Thaddeus Rask

Nadia Redmond

Mitch Siekmann

Laif Waldron

Ex Officio
+Deacon Tony
+Deacon Wadih

Please make your gift to the Annual Appeal through your local parish. You may make it in a special envelope noted “Bishop’s Appeal”, or by noting it on your check. You may also make your donation online at www.eparchy.org.

Other Maronite Institutions Serving You



The Eparchy publishes a monthly magazine, the Maronite Voice, which contains spiritual readings and news from parishes across the country. If you do not receive it by mail, you can read it online or via the Eparchy’s app!

Website and App

Like the rest of the world, the Eparchy is going increasingly digital! The Eparchy’s website is www.eparchy.org, and there is an app for the iPhone and Android. Both contain lots of interesting information.

The Order of Saint Sharbel is an association dedicated to supporting seminarians and retired priests, financially and spiritually. See www.orderstsharbel.org for details.



The National Apostolate of Maronites (NAM) is a lay apostolate that supports the Church and works closely with the Eparchy and Bishop. See www.namnews.org.

If you are receiving this publication by mail, enclosed you will find a special booklet of Maronite prayers dedicated to the Blessed Mother. Use this in honor of the Blessed Mother, and it will help bring you peace and mercy. If you did not receive a booklet, ask your parish priest and he will gladly give you one.



Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles

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EPARCHY OF OUR LADY OF LEBANON OF LOS ANGELES 2018 LENTEN APPEAL



We’ve Come a Long Way in 24 Years

When the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon was founded in 1994 by Pope Saint John Paul II, it contained 26 parishes, was served by 30 priests and had 4 seminarians. Today, the Eparchy has 44 parishes and missions, over 50 priests and 10 seminarians.

Still, the Eparchy has a long way to go to fulfill its mission. What is the mission of the Eparchy? It comes from Jesus Christ himself: “Feed my sheep” – that means “Serve all of the Maronite Catholic faithful so that each one has personal relationship with Jesus.” And “Go and teach all nations” – that means “Bring the Gospel message to everyone!”

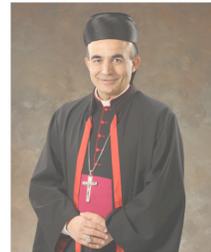
There are 34 states in the Eparchy. In 15 states, there is not a single Maronite parish or mission. There are an estimated 1 million Maronites in the Eparchy who do not belong to a Maronite parish simply because there is no parish nearby. Many communities are asking Bishop A. Elias Zaidan to send a priest and start a parish to serve the Maronites – places such as Albuquerque, Omaha, Lansing, Seattle, Green Bay, San Jose and others. In the 19 states where there is a Maronite presence, some people have to drive over two hours each way to attend a Maronite Liturgy on Sundays. That’s too far.



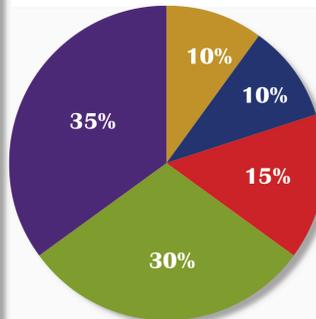
The Need to do More

Bishop Zaidan is committed to extending the Eparchy’s services to all Maronites throughout the Eparchy, so that they and their children have the opportunity to be raised in the faith of their ancestors. Under his leadership, the Eparchy is moving swiftly to address these needs. New missions have been opened or staffed by priests in places like Milwaukee (WI), El Paso (TX) and Riverside (CA). The Eparchy now has 10 seminarians who are receiving the finest education at seminaries and universities such as Catholic University of America. And many of the Eparchy’s priests are making heroic efforts to travel to serve Maronites in far-flung areas and build parishes.

But we need to do more. And to do more, we need your help.



The pie chart below shows how your gifts for this year’s Annual Appeal will be allocated.



Each year, the Eparchy makes an appeal during Lent for the most critical needs of the Eparchy. For 2018, these needs are:

Seminarians and Retired Priests

A man must undergo a rigorous education and formation program for at least five years to become a priest. During this time he is called a “seminarian”. The Eparchy needs seminarians to ensure that there will be enough priests in the future. The Eparchy currently has 10 seminarians. Two of them are deacons and two will be subdeacons soon. The average cost of educating and supporting a seminarian is \$400,000 per year (\$400,000 in total this year).

At the other end of the spectrum, the Eparchy has four retired priests who faithfully served for over 150 years (on a collective basis) in parishes. These priests receive a modest pension each month and supplemental health insurance. The total cost of this is \$111,000 in 2018. 35% of this year’s Annual Appeal proceeds will go to assist the needs of Seminarians and Retired Priests.



Missions and Small Parishes.

Opening new parishes is essential to the survival of the Maronite Church in America. The Eparchy has sent priests to new areas to gather Maronites and minister to them, such as Milwaukee, Riverside and El Paso. These new missions need support for basic expenses such as insurance, utilities and the priest’s living costs, in their early days to grow. 30% of this year’s Annual Appeal proceeds will go to support Missions and Small Parishes.



Ministries

The Eparchy has multiple ministries to better serve Maronites which need to grow because they do not reach as many people as they should. Among these ministries are: Religious Education, Youth Ministry, New Evangelization, and Family and Sanctity of Life. The Eparchy wants to increase the size and scope of its ministries so that they reach more people in more places throughout the Eparchy. 15% of this year’s Annual Appeal proceeds will go to assist the Eparchy’s Ministries.



Charity to Others

Just as you are generous to the Eparchy, the Eparchy generously supports those in need here in the United States, and abroad in places like Lebanon and Syria. Many worthy causes are helped with this assistance. 10% of this year’s Annual Appeal proceeds will go to charity.



National Maronite Shrine

The National Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon located in North Jackson, Ohio, was founded over 50 years ago to invoke Our Lady’s protection over all Maronites in the United States. The Shrine is a place of pilgrimage for all Maronites and is open 365 days a year. 10% of this year’s Annual Appeal proceeds will go to assist the National Shrine.



NAM'S SPRING RAFFLE

It's that time again for NAM's annual Spring Raffle — See attached flyer.

Contact Nadia Redmond at email: n.redmond@comcast.net or call: 503-671-0440 if you are interested in purchasing a ticket for yourself or as a group. We are only given 2 tickets to sell out of 420 tickets that are sent to all the Maronite Parishes. Deadline is March 25th.


National Apostolate of Maronites
Presents

The 26th Annual Spring Raffle - 2018
Only 420 Tickets are printed
Donation: \$100 per ticket

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

Cash Prizes

1st \$10000

2nd \$3000

3rd \$2000

4th \$1500

5th \$1000

This year's drawing will be held at St. Maron in Torrington, Connecticut on April 22nd, 2018

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.



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“Be Not Afraid”

The Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW) invites you to their Biennial Convention on April 21, 2018 at The Sanctuary of Our Sorrowful Mother (The Grotto), Portland, Oregon. The cost for the day is \$40, which includes lunch. The theme of the event is “Be Not Afraid.” After a brief business meeting there will be a panel “You are not Alone.” Archbishop Alexander K. Sample will preside at a noon Mass followed by lunch and Woman of Achievement. The afternoon panels are “Walking in Hope” and “Journeys to Ministry”.

For more information call Sue Anker
503-252-2574 or Barb Francescon
971-386-2144

Altar Sponsorship

We are in need of families or individuals to sponsor the altar. Sponsorship helps with altar bread, communion wine, candles for the celebration of the Holy Offering of the Mass. Your gift will be acknowledged on the website calendar and published in the bulletin. Here are a few points:

- Contact Ann Marentette to schedule **Altar Sponsorships**. Her email is : abmarentette@gmail.com
- Your gift is a love offering, with the minimum gift being \$30. (Somewhere between \$50-60 is my guess about the breakeven point for us,) Again, there is no set amount, everyone has different means, so offer what you will.
- You can make your offering on the website, or you can put a check in collection plate, just note on the check or envelope what it is for (Altar Support).
- The big Sundays are Easter and Christmas, but also Mother's Day, and Feast Days (i.e., St Sharbel Feast, Epiphany, Holy Cross, Immaculate Conception, etc). Those are available on **first come first served basis**. Obviously we spend more on flowers those days, so you could bear that in mind in considering your offering for that week's sponsorship.
- If you want to actually have a florist do the flowers for a big weekend, work with Ann to coordinate that.
- Just like Mass Intentions, there might be weeks where no one signs up. I would be ideal for people to sign up for every Sunday, but we are inviting you to take the initiative to sign up.

CAMPAIGN PLANNING STUDY

You may be aware that we are conducting a comprehensive survey of the entire diocese. The purpose of the survey is to help gauge support for the following projects that constitute our diocese master plan:

- Establishing new Maronite parishes throughout the Eparchy
- Funds to provide for the education of seminarians
- Caring for our retired priests
- Enhancing Eparchy ministries by expanding Youth Ministry and creating a Pro-Family Ministry
- Establishing a permanent Eparchy Communications office
- Creating a family catechesis program to provide religious education to Maronites of all ages
- Enhancing Maronite liturgical life through training for choirs and better translation of liturgical materials into English

Bishop A. Elias Zaidan would like to thank everyone who has already participated in the study. Your thoughts are extremely valuable to him during this planning process. If you have not yet responded to a survey, you are encouraged to do so. Your input will help the diocese make an informed decision regarding the long-range plans for the Eparchy.

We hope to have all surveys completed by April 18, 2018 You may return your survey to the office or place it in the offertory basket at any of the Masses.

You may also complete the survey online by going to steiergroup.com/survey, clicking on Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles and entering the password: **Lebanon**.

Holy Week Schedule:

<p>March 25 <i>Palm Sunday</i></p>	<p>Hosanna Sunday (Shaneenee) – 10:30 a.m. Procession to follow with the distribution of Palms. <i>Confessions will be heard before Mass only</i> <i>**Breakfast and EggHunt after Mass.**</i></p>
<p>March 28 <i>Wednesday</i></p>	<p>Rite of the Lamp, (Mass/ Qurbono) – 7 p.m. <i>Confessions will be heard before/after the Holy Mysteries.</i></p>
<p>March 29 <i>Holy Thursday</i></p>	<p>Institution of the Eucharist- Mass/ Qurbono – 7 p.m. Washing of the Apostles Feet <i>Confessions will be heard before/after the Holy Mysteries.</i></p>
<p>March 30 <i>Great Friday</i></p>	<p>Signing of the Chalice – Pre-Sanctified Liturgy – 10:30 a.m. <i>Confessions available before or after <u>by request</u></i></p> <p>Burial Procession (Zeeyeh) – No Eucharist– 7 p.m. Commemoration of the Burial of our Lord. <i>No Confessions available in the evening</i></p>
<p>March 31 <i>Saturday of Holy Week</i></p>	<p>Morning Service: 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Rite of Forgiveness (General Absolution) <i>No individual Confessions available</i></p> <p>Night Vigil of Easter: Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord (Mass/ Quorbono)– 9:00 p.m. Followed by Rite of Peace and Procession. <i>No individual Confessions available</i></p>
<p>April 1 <i>Easter Sunday</i></p>	<p>Sunday of the Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord – 10:30 am No Procession, Mass only.</p>

Reflection

Entry Into Jerusalem

Jn 12:12-22

When you hear the word “cherub,” or its plural “cherubim,” the first thing you might think of is a chubby baby-faced angel with glimmering eyes and feathery wings, perhaps carrying a bow. In reality our Lord revealed to the prophet Ezekiel that the cherubim, who carry His throne in heaven, are angels each surrounded by fire, covered with eyes and having four-faces – of an ox, a human, a lion and an eagle. Isaiah also tells us that surrounding the cherubim, who carry the throne, are the legions that serve God, the seraphim, which are angels of burning fire and lightning with six thrashing wings, crying out, “Holy, holy, holy...” If imagining these angels in real life sounds more frightening than the chubby, popularly depicted cherub it makes sense why when an angel appears to a person in Scripture, such as Mary, the first thing he says is, “Do not be afraid!” Now if these angels sound powerful and amazing how much more is their Lord Jesus Christ Who commands their innumerable armies?

“Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey’s colt,” wrote John in today’s Gospel reading. The same Lord Who Ezekiel saw carried by the dreadful cherubim today enters Jerusalem on a donkey, a lowly, smelly creature, and, instead of fiery seraphim, is praised with shouts of “Hosanna!” from the mouths of children. But why would the mighty Lord, Who has no superior, lower Himself so low? He traded splendor for humility and strength for weakness that He might come close to humanity. Just as in His birth, which we celebrated at Christmas, He had no need or obligation to become man. But He saw those made in His image, humanity, decaying in sin and in His love for mankind wished to free us from our affliction. He could have very well come in all His might and glory – as He said at His crucifixion when His enemies challenged Him, “Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and He will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels?” But in His infinite love for us the Great One became small so as to allow us to freely choose Him without duress. He knew He was entering Jerusalem on the Sunday of Hosannas, Palm Sunday, only to be murdered at the end of the week, and He washed the feet of all His Apostles at the Last Supper knowing that Judas would yet betray Him. But in God’s mercy He would rather give opportunity to all rather than seek retribution against offenders.

So the Divine Physician, having made Himself lowly, came into Jerusalem to work the greatest act of healing after the few we celebrated this Lent that represent the far greater number of His ministry. As our traditional diaconal proclamation on this Sunday said:

On this holy day let Adam, the Ancient One and Father of All Generations whose body grew old in sin by the food of the fruit that begot death, rejoice. Today it [i.e. his body] was raised upon the colt of a donkey while united with divinity. Behold, He [i.e. Jesus] is placed upon the altar and distributed by the hands of priests!

Adam poisoned himself with sin and death by the fruit he ate in the Garden of Eden but Christ our God lowered Himself to become human, without change to His divinity, so as to join humanity with His divinity. Though He appears lowly to the naked eye seated upon a donkey today, He has uplifted all of humanity to the heights of heaven by joining humanity and divinity in His Body. He chose to replace the food, which killed Adam, with His own Body and Blood that grants us the remission of sin and life eternal. The offering of His Body and Blood is what He has come to offer as a final sacrifice in Jerusalem upon the altar of the cross, which we are given at every Divine Liturgy. Let us not be afraid but rejoice with Adam this day and all the days of our lives for the King of Kings has entered His holy Zion, the Church, and has promised, “Never again will an oppressor overrun my people, for now I am keeping watch” (Zec. 9:8).



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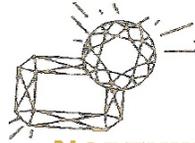
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