



Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

1804 SE 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214

503.231.3853

stsharelpdx@gmail.com

www.stsharbel.org

April 22, 2018

Jesus Appears to the Disciples at the 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 8th - 14th

Online.....\$900.00

Collection.....\$962.00

Weekly Total.....\$1,862.00

YTD Total.....\$26,206.93

YTD Goal.....\$27,690.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$1,483.07**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, April 22nd, 10:30 am

+ Shirley Moffitt

Monday, April 23rd

+ Joseph Blanc

Tuesday, April 24th

+ Joseph Blanc

Wednesday, April 25th

+ Joseph Blanc

Thursday, April 26th

Available

Friday, April 27th

Available

Saturday, April 28th

Available

Sunday, April 29th

+ Darlene Meyers

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.

Altar Sponsorship

Sunday, April 22nd

Redmond Family

Sunday, April 29th

Available

Parish Events

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.

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

+Finance Committee



Please pray for our first communicants as they faithfully prepare to be fully initiated into the Catholic Church. On Sunday, April 29th, they will be participating in their First Holy Mystery of Penance (Confession). On the Feast of Our Lady of Lebanon (May Crowning), Sunday, May 6th, the communicants will receive Our Lord's Precious Body and Blood in their First Eucharist during the Divine Liturgy. I thank Nadia Redmond for her dedication and time to catechize the following first communicants:

Malak Alks Hamo
Milad Alks Hamo
Anthony Allam
Thaddeus Calko
Jude Gama
Joseph Massaad

-Abouna Christopher

join us
SATURDAY, MAY 12TH
for a *Mother's Day Hafli*
**FEATURING SUPER STAR
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Community Events

CAMPAIGN PLANNING STUDY THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who completed a planning study survey for the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles. Over the next few weeks, the Steier Group will prepare and share recommendations for Bishop A. Elias Zaidan as to whether the diocese should proceed with a capital campaign, along with its fundraising potential. Once Bishop Elias Zaidan reviews the report and decides how to proceed, he will communicate the results to all parishioners.

Looking for a natural and affirming way of family planning?

WHEN: May 3rd, 17th, and 31st

WHERE: NW Family Services
6200 SE King Rd.
Portland, OR 97222

INSTRUCTOR: Lauren Fuller

CONTACT: lfuller@nwfs.org



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HEALING OF OUR MOTHER WOUND RETREAT

Father Philip Scott, FJ

June 1-3, 2018

Our Lady Peace Retreat - Beaverton, OR

ROOMS

\$ 172 Single occupancy

\$ 344 Double occupancy

(there are only 5 double rooms, otherwise couples use a single room each)

COMMUTORS ~ \$ 112 for 6 meals (Friday evening thru Sunday lunch)

Deposit \$ 50 is due with registration and goes toward total payment. Remainder to be paid by May 15th, make payable to: Sister Mariam Sharbel Vianney

CALL or EMAIL for REGISTRATION FORM

Email: grace.an.mercy@gmail.com

Phone: [503-269-3736](tel:503-269-3736)

Reflection

Jesus Appears to the Disciples at the Sea

“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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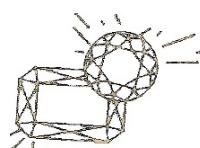
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