

# 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)

## June 2, 2019

Week of the Resurrection/Ascension



### Next Sunday

*Pentecost Sunday: Descent of the Holy Spirit*

**Acts 2:1-21** (The Coming of the Spirit/Peter's Speech at Pentecost)

**Jn 14:15-20** (The Advocate)

## Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, June 2nd 10:30 am

*Private*

Monday, June 3rd

*Available*

Tuesday, June 4th

*Available*

Wednesday, June 5th

*Available*

Thursday, June 6th

*Available*

Friday, June 7th

*Available*

Saturday, June 8th

*Available*

Sunday, June 9th

*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 May 19th - 25th*

Online.....\$1,405.00

Collection.....\$1,336.00

Weekly Total.....\$2,741.00

YTD Total.....\$41,766.23

YTD Goal.....\$38,766.00

YTD Difference.....\$3,000.23

## Altar Sponsorship

Sunday, June 2nd

*Available*

Sunday, June 10th

*Available*

# Parish | Community Events



## 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

The 56<sup>th</sup> National Maronite Convention,  
sponsored by NAM presents Raffle 2019  
fundraiser.

**\*\*Winners Need Not Be Present\*\***

Drawing will take place at Grand Banquet,  
Saturday, June 29, 2019, Miami, Florida

**1 Raffle ticket = \$5**

**5 Raffle tickets = \$20**

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize** – 2 Round trip tickets USA to  
Beirut Valued at \$3000; donated by Middle  
East Airlines – Adib Kassis

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize** — \$1000 cash

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize** — \$500 cash

Contact Nadia Redmond at 503-671-0440  
or email: [n.redmond@comcast.net](mailto:n.redmond@comcast.net)  
to purchase a raffle ticket. Deadline to  
purchase a raffle ticket is **June 16, 2019**.

56th Annual Maronite Convention | June 26-30th, 2019  
Hosted by Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church | Sponsored by The National Apostolate of Maronites

## MIAMI BEACH

Click here for Registration  
LOEWS MIAMI BEACH HOTEL \$189\*  
per night plus tax  
\*Guest must be registered for the NAM Convention to receive the discounted hotel rate  
Hotel please call 888-879-0462  
Deadline is June 3rd, 2019

ENTERTAINMENT

THURSDAY NIGHT <b>Carla Ramia</b> (Lebanese Vocalist)	FRIDAY NIGHT <b>Amir Yazbeck</b> (Lebanese Singer)	FRIDAY NIGHT <b>Wassim Kattan</b> (Lebanese Singer)	SATURDAY NIGHT <b>Ghassan Saliba</b> (Lebanese Singer)
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EXCURSIONS and ACTIVITIES

Bayside Boat Tour	Private Miami Tour	Theology on Tap	Everglades Tour
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BBQ and Workshop Meet the Bishops Our Lady of Lebanon Pool and Beach Party

24-hour Eucharistic Adoration Thursday 12 PM through Friday 12 PM  
BUY YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS EARLY  
Two Round-Trip Ticket to Lebanon Cash Prices of \$1,000 & \$500 \$5 per ticket or \$20 for 5 tickets!  
SILENT AUCTION  
Jewelry, Trips, Electronics & so much more!

## Fatal Flaws: Legalizing Assisted Death

“Are laws allowing euthanasia and assisted suicide leading society down a dangerous path?”

[www.fatalflawsfilm.com](http://www.fatalflawsfilm.com)

Everyone is welcome to watch the documentary film: **Fatal Flaws: Legalizing Assisted Death**. Panel Discussion to follow featuring Dr. Charles Bentz and Dr. William Toffler.

Mark your Calendars:

**June 6, from 7:00- 9:00 PM in the Our Lady of the Lake Parish Hall.**

“Assisted suicide laws typically appear to limit eligibility to terminally ill patients who are expected to die within six months but don’t distinguish between persons who will die within six months with treatment and those who will die within six months without treatment. This means that patients with treatable diseases (like diabetes or chronic respiratory or cardiac disease) and patients with disabilities requiring ventilator support are all eligible for lethal drugs because they would die within six months without the treatment they would normally receive.” Secretary of Pro-life Activities, USCCB.org

# Reflection

## Week of the Resurrection/Ascension

*“Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.” (Acts 1:11)*

This past Thursday we celebrated the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ into heaven. The above are the words His disciples heard as they stared at the sky, pained at His departure. The Apostles, those called “Men of Galilee,” loved Christ and followed Him. They must have felt a great loss – they thought they lost Him at His death on the cross, yet He rose again and appeared to them. Now that He returned to them He left once again. But as the Apostles learned, Christ is always with us in leaving us His Spirit and uniting us to Himself in baptism. Still, just like the Apostles, we desire to see Christ face-to-face, even when we believe He is present in the Church, sacraments and our very persons.

The Apostles stared at the sky as Jesus left because they could not hide the desire natural to every human heart, which cannot be overcome once it is learned – the desire to be with the God Who loves us. This is why the Apostles would maintain the Jewish tradition of facing East while praying; but no longer were they facing the Temple, but awaiting the Second Coming of Christ. Of course, they did not literally believe His Coming had to come from the East, but the rising of the Sun is a most powerful image for the Second Coming. This is also why Divine Liturgies were historically celebrated in the morning.

For nearly two millennia, the Church has turned East to pray because she, just like the Apostles, await the great Second Coming. Every time we profess our faith in the Creed every liturgy, we say, “He will come in glory to judge the living and the dead.” Every time we gather to pray, we recall how we anticipate His Coming because Christ is the Lord Whom we love, and we wait

eagerly. Just like wedding guests waiting for the Groom to come (Matt. 25:6), we wait the day the angels announce Christ’s coming. The Second Coming, though it will include the judgment of all, is something we hope for rather than fear as Christians because it means the arrival of our beloved Lord. For those who despise Him, it will be their judgment. For those who love Him, it will be a long-awaited reunion.

It is still very much the Christian practice to stand facing East to pray because it reminds us every day, in every little prayer why we do everything that we do. Everything as a Christian should be for the Lord and done in the Lord. We have no life without Him and He Himself is love, as St. John tells us (1 John 4), so it is no surprise the Apostles were pained when they thought He left for ever. But we await the hope of the Resurrection for ourselves, and turn to the East eagerly expecting when He will come again to be with us in His love for mankind.

We give thanks to Him for His great Feast of the Ascension, which raises our minds to contemplate all His goodness towards us:

O God, You came to the world for our salvation in Your goodness, freed us from the error of Satan in Your mercifulness seated us with Yourself in heaven on the right hand of Your Sender. O Lord, may the minds and hearts of us, Your worshippers, be lifted up to You. May we lift up Your constant pure and holy praises, and offer to You glory and thanks, and to Your Father, and to Your living and Holy Spirit, now and at all times, forever. Amen.

(Trans. from the Syriac Maronite Morning Prayer for the Feast of the Ascension)



**Gibran N Zogbi**

Agent

2925 SE 73rd Avenue  
Hillsboro, OR, 97213  
Bus 503-649-9514 Fax 503-649-1612  
gibran.zogbi.qdmq@statefarm.com



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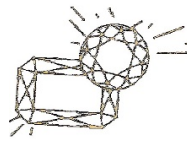
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