

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



July 21, 2019

The Mission of the 72 Disciples



Next Sunday

Genesis 18:20-32

Col 2:12-14

Lk 11:1-13

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, July 21st 10:30 am

+George Najjar

Monday, July 22nd

Available

Tuesday, July 23rd

+For All Living and Deceased Members
of the Saint Sharbel Parish Community

Wednesday, July 24th

Lalit

Thursday, July 25th

Available

Friday, July 26th

Not Available

Saturday, July 27th

Not Available

Sunday, July 28th

Not 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 July 7th - 14th

Online.....\$1,305.00

Collection.....\$1,243.00

Weekly Total.....\$2,548.00

YTD Total.....\$52,067.76

YTD Goal.....\$51,688.00

YTD Difference.....-\$379.76

Altar Sponsorship

Sunday, June 21st

Redmond Family

Sunday, July 28th

Not Available

Parish / Community Events

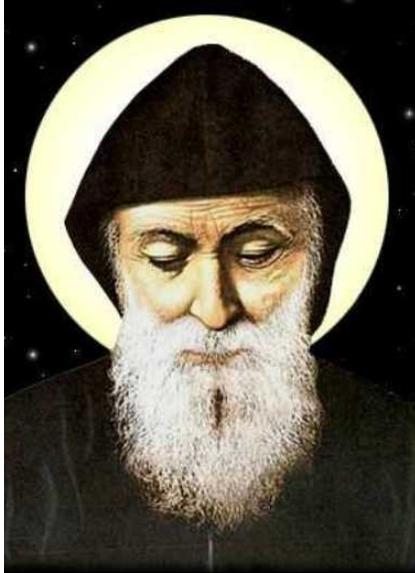
Parish Council

- +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 Feast of St. Sharbel will be celebrated this Sunday, July 21 at Mass.



St. Mary's 49th Annual Quilt & Craft Fair
SEPT 19, 20, & 21, 2019
THURSDAY-SATURDAY 10 AM - 4 PM
(3 DAYS ONLY)
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"Star of Bethlehem" Raffle Quilt Tickets:
\$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00



Picture sent to the Diocese in commemoration of the Silver Jubilee!

2019 SAINT SHARBEL LEBANESE FOOD FESTIVAL

COME ENJOY A BITE OF LEBANESE CULTURE!

Kids activities, games and fun for the whole family!



August 17th & 18th
Saturday 2pm–8pm
Sunday Noon–5pm

A SHOWCASE OF AUTHENTIC LEBANESE CUISINE & MUSIC

SERVING PLATES OR SANDWICHES

- Hummus
- Fattouch Salad
- Falafel
- Chicken/Lamb Shawarma
- Chicken Skewers
- Rice
- Manakish Zaatar (ground thyme with sesame seed)
- Middle Eastern Desserts

BEER & WINE GARDEN • VEGETARIAN & GLUTEN FREE OPTIONS



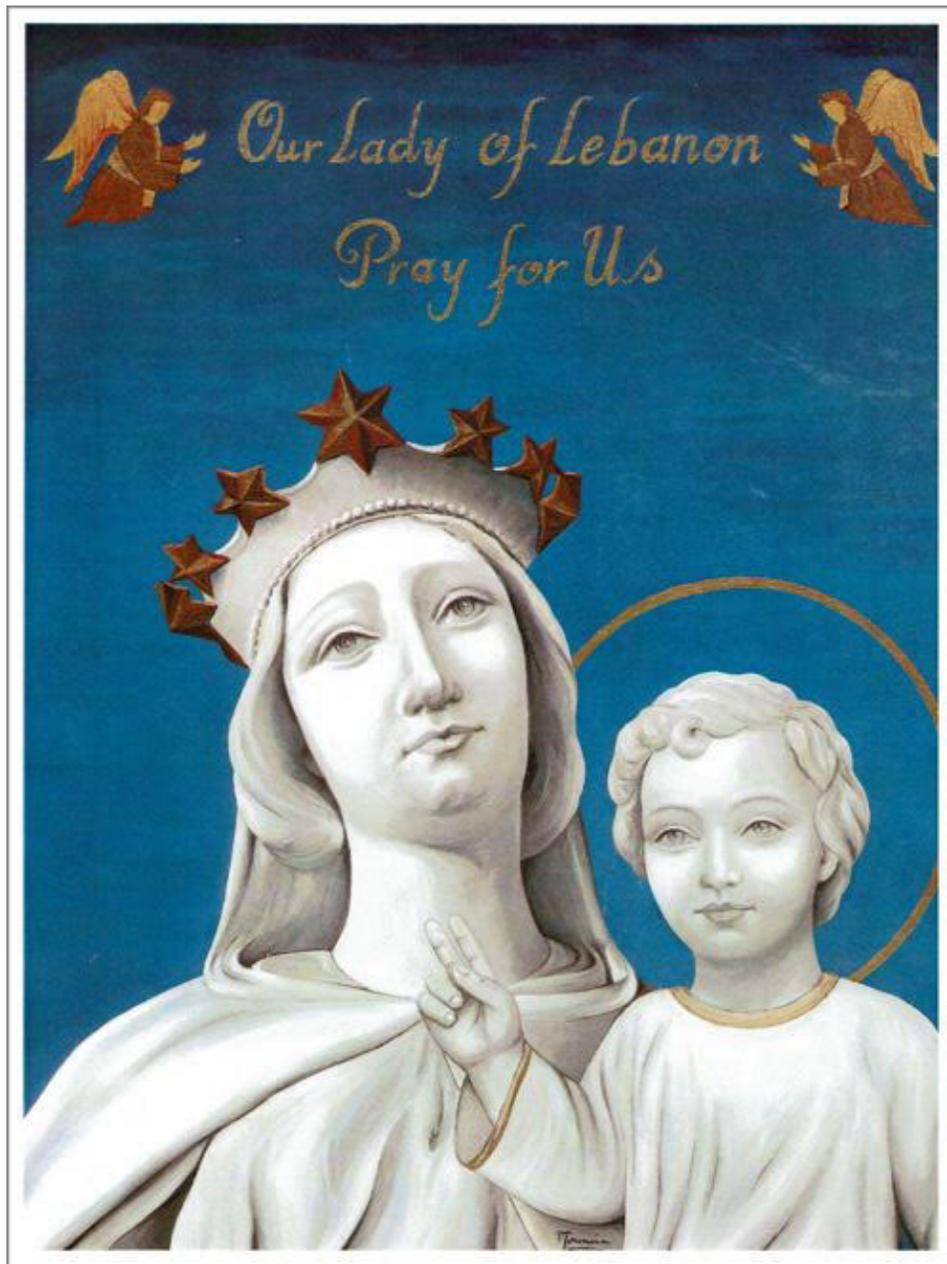
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Parishioners to Pray for the Eparchy

Pope John Paul II issued the papal bull *Omnium Catholicorum* on February 19, 1994 establishing a second Eparchy for the Maronite of the United States. The new Eparchy received the title of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles, and was carved out of the territory of the original Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn. It included some 34 States. The Eparchy has under the leadership of three capable and well loved bishops, has grown and prospered. St. Sharbel Maronite Parish is part of this great Eparchy.

At the annual clergy meeting Bishop Zaidan asked us all to pray for the Diocese in celebration of the 25th anniversary — it's Silver Jubilee. We will pray a prayer for the Eparchy together as a parish before the final blessing. Also, each week one family in the parish will take the icon that the Bishop has provided to us, to our individual homes and then pray as a family the prayers that accompany the icon. They will return the icon the next Sunday, and then the next week a different family will take the icon. There are beautiful booklets that come with the icon, and all are welcome to take one.

<https://eparchy.org/history/>
Ab./Fr. Christopher Fabre



Reflection

The Mission of the 72 Disciples

In addition to the inner circle of the Twelve, we are told today that he appointed another 72 and sent them two by two to the places he himself would be visiting. (Only Luke mentions this group.) That is a good description of our Christian role. We are supposed to go first to prepare the ground but then it is Jesus himself who comes to plant the seed of faith. Jesus then goes on to give an instruction to his disciples. We, too, should be listening to his words:

He first points out that the harvest is great and there are very few laborers, few who are willing to do the harvesting work with Jesus. The challenge was being thrown out to all his followers to find more people to join in the harvesting work. We have to be careful as we listen to these words not to exclude ourselves because we are middle-aged, or married, or already have a career. The words are addressed to all of us and call for some kind of response from every one of us. It is never too late to respond to the call.

Second, Jesus warns his followers that it may not be easy. "I am sending you out as lambs among wolves." In spite of the message of truth, love, compassion and justice that we bring, it does not mean that we will be received with open arms. On the contrary, we may meet with strong opposition and even persecution. Our message will be seen as threatening. It will be distorted and misunderstood.

The disciple is called on to travel light. Jesus himself "had nowhere to lay his head" and he only had the clothes he wore. So many of us are weighed down by the things we own. Some of us have to protect our property with the latest in security devices. In our search for prosperity and material security we have lost the more precious gift of freedom. They are not to stop to greet people in the sense of carrying on lengthy conversations. Their mission was urgent – there are few laborers for a potentially huge harvest.

They are to be bearers of peace. Peace, shalom, is much more than an absence of violence. It is a deep inner harmony with oneself, with others, with one's environment, with God. "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God." We could hardly bring a more precious gift to others than this inner peace. It is, in fact, the heart of our Christian message. Faith, hope and love are the keys to peace.

The evangelizer is, first, to stay in the first house that accepts him. He should not be going around looking for better accommodation. At the same time, he is to be provided with shelter and hospitality for "the laborer is worthy of his hire". This, it seems, was the way Jesus himself lived. And this was the overall ideal of the Christian community: a network of mutually supporting people sharing their resources with each other and with those in greater need than themselves.

Their work is primarily to heal the sick in the places they go to. 'Healing' should be taken in a wider sense of including body, feelings, mind and spirit. And 'healing' should also be seen not just as getting rid of a sickness but of making a person whole again. Bringing healing and wholeness into the lives of individuals and communities is of the essence of the Kingdom and at the heart of Jesus' work and that of his followers. The sign of that wholeness is inner peace. Today it is no different. And they are to say, "The kingdom of God has come near to you." This is not just a statement they are to throw out. It is the core of Jesus' message and an explanation of why people are experiencing healing and wholeness coming into their lives. This is the effect of the coming of the kingdom; this is what the coming of the kingdom means. God's power is penetrating their lives, transforming them and making them whole again. In short, the kingdom, the rule of God is intended to be both a present reality as well as a future hope.

Finally, if there is any place where they are not received, they are to leave it to its own fate. Even then those people are to know that the kingdom of God is near to them also. There is always the hope that the results of their very rejection of the kingdom will lead to a deeper awareness later on. But by rejecting the messengers of God they have opened themselves to a fate worse than that of Sodom, a city utterly destroyed because of its shameful lack of hospitality to divine visitors. But those hearing the message of Jesus are even more accountable for hearing the message of the Kingdom proclaimed to them and turning their back on it. Clearly, we cannot literally apply all of these points to our own work on behalf of the Gospel but we need to make the underlying principles and values **ours too**. It will require some reflection on our part both as individuals and as communities on how we should effectively share the Gospel with those around us and be the harvesters that are so badly needed.

Indeed, let us pray for vocations but let us remember that every single one of us is being called to work in the harvest field and not just some chosen souls who are totally unknown to us.



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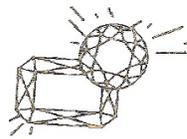
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