



Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

1804 SE 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214

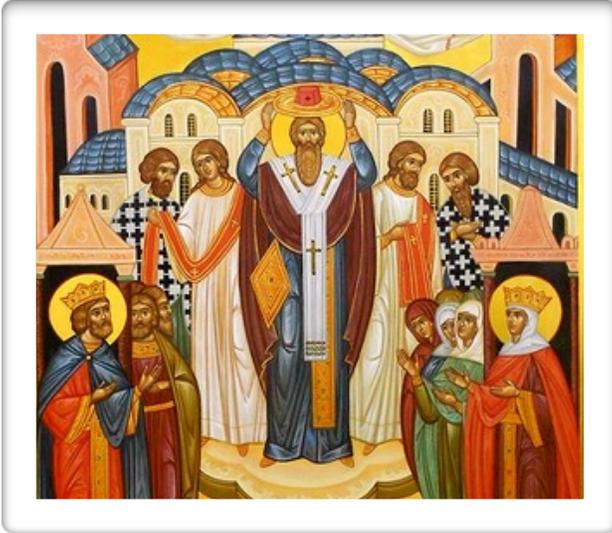
503.231.3853

stsharbelpdx@gmail.com

www.stsharbel.org

November 1, 2020

Consecration of the Church



Next Sunday

Renewal of the Church

Heb 9:11-15 (Sacrifice of Jesus)

Jn 10:22-42 (Feast of the Dedication)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for Oct 18th -24th

Online.....	\$1,150.00
Collection.....	\$1,380.00
Weekly Total.....	\$2,530.00

YTD Total.....\$73,157.76

YTD Goal.....\$77,532.00

YTD Difference.....**-\$4,374.24**

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, November 1st

10:30am Mercy Bordas

12:00pm+Youssed Antoun Semaan & Family

Monday, November 2nd

+Linda Ghosson and Family

Tuesday, November 3rd

+Catherine Hohann

Wednesday, November 4th

+Bishop Camille Zaidan

Thursday, November 5th

+Assad Zaidan

Friday, November 6th

Available

Saturday, November 7th

Available

Sunday, November 8th

+Habib Moussa

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, November 1st

Available

Sunday, November 8th

Available

Parish / Community Events

Sunday, November 1st, 2020, 10:30am

Youtube Channel Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCi8CEQIEnX-VeERKBMqhKRA>

We'll be using this same link every week since it connects to St. Sharbel's Youtube Channel. Once there click on the appropriate date for mass.

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



YOUTH GROUP

Calling All Youth ages 13-18!!

The Cedars of Saint Sharbel is a "family" of young people who will meet in virtual meetings to discuss real life and how it relates to our faith in God and His tremendous love for humankind. We'll dig deep to answer some of life's greatest questions while developing friendships and having fun at the same time.

Next meeting will be on Saturday, November 14, at 1pm

Zoom invitation soon to come

Please email Gennifer Karam for questions or to sign up for the email list:
jmjkaram3@gmail.com

In-Person Mass Sign Ups

We are switching over to using Sign-Up Genius for our weekly in person sign ups. The system will allow you to access at any time and register or alter a reservation. It is able to update in real-time, where as I am not.

Here is the link in case you need to check or alter your reservation.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4EA9AF23A4FC1-inperson>

COVID MASS POLICIES

- You will need to come with a mask. Mask may be removed to receive Communion obviously. We don't have masks to give you so please bring one.
- I cannot give Communion outside of Mass – this means in your cars, on the sidewalk, etc. Communion for the homebound is suppressed also at this time.
- Sit only in spot marked on pews. Remain physically distant as you enter and exit the church through the basement entrance only.
- No lingering after Mass, you will need to leave directly.
- If your name is not of the sign up list the ushers cannot allow you to come in. We will need to be strict about this and apologize in advance for problems that might arise.
- I request you only use the downstairs entrance, below the main stairs, the other doors will be closed, this will help us to be able to clean commonly touched surfaces.
- We will not allow use of missals, or other books in the pews. Do your best with the responses.
- Only people who are members of the parish are eligible at this point to attend our limited Masses. If you have been coming regularly, and are not registered elsewhere but have not registered with us, now is the time to do this. Archbishop has asked that we keep people going to the parishes they are registered as a way to respect fair and equitable access to all.

Reflection

It is often heard “Why must I go to church if I can pray by myself at home?” In the Syriac tradition, we begin every Church year with the Feast of the Consecration of the Church. This feast celebrates God’s plan to make holy and bring all creation close to Him through the Church since Adam and Eve. God created all in His image out of His love, and He wills that all should have eternal life with Him. That eternal life with Him would be accessible, He established the Church as a way of keeping His Mysteries (known as sacraments in the West). These Mysteries are transmitted by His ordained priests. The Mysteries use common things, like water in baptism, combined with the holy rituals of the Church as a means of dispensing His mercy and grace to grant us eternal life and the forgiveness of sins. For this reason, we celebrate the Consecration of the Church because in God’s love, He has established for us a treasury of His mercy that we can regularly access through the priests, who have been entrusted the keys.

If one reads the Church Fathers, especially the Syriac Fathers, there is a common marriage image between the Church and Jesus as bride and groom. O You Rich Man Who came down to the feast of earthly men, awake my harp that I sing Your praise. At the banquet of the Church You wed her by baptism’s waters and made her Your adorned bride. (From Vespers for the Consecration of the Church)

God, Who is all-powerful and does not become any greater, is depicted as a rich man. In love alone, He has come down from heaven and wed His Church that He created for no reason other than wishing to raise us up out of our lowliness to Him. Where do the Syriac Fathers say the marriage of Christ and the Church took place? At His baptism in the Jordan River (Matt. 3:13-17). Though Jesus was not in need of baptism because He is without sin, He was baptized to show us that, just as creation began with water (Gen. 1:2) so does the new life He offers us in baptism. By Christ’s baptism, He wed the Church because it is by baptism that we enter the Church and become part of the Body of Christ (cf. Gal. 3:27). The world began in water, Jesus’ ministry began in the waters of baptism, as did the Church, and our life in the Jesus begins by the same waters of baptism.

The Church of Christ, which was wed to Him by His baptism, now continues to baptize. Those who are baptized are washed of their sins and join her in purity in devotion to Christ, the heavenly Groom. Can we pray apart from the Church? No, because Jesus has established the power of the Church and we join both the Church and His Body by baptism. When we pray, we pray as part of the Body of Christ, the Church. Of course, God hears us even if we are not physically at church, but it is when we are united with other members of the Church that we fulfill Christ’s saying, “Where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them” (Matt. 18:20). The greatest gathering is the Holy Offering (otherwise called Divine Liturgy or Mass) for Blessed is Christ Who wed you, O Church... and placed in you the holy altar for sins’ pardon. He broke, mixed and placed His body and blood before you for you to eat, drink, delight and glorify Him. (From Vespers of the Consecration of the Church)

At the Holy Offering, the priests, whom Christ has ordained to distribute His Mysteries, access the holy altar He has granted the Church. Upon the altar they offer bread and wine which become His Body and Blood, the Medicine of Life given for eternal life and the forgiveness of our sins. This is why we celebrate God’s establishment of the Church every year, and why we pray in community rather than only by ourselves.



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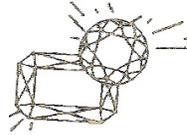
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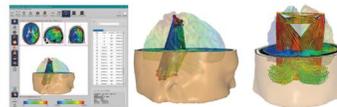
Nathan Hollenbeck

R.-EEG T.*, BCN**

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*Board Registered EEG Technologist
**Board Certified in Neurofeedback

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Parkinson's Neurofeedback Research Study

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