

Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

1804 SE 16th Ave., Portland, OR 97214

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www.stsharbel.org



February 14, 2021

Miracle of Cana in Galilee



Next Sunday

Cleansing of the Leper

Rom 6:12-23 (Freedom from Sin/Life of God)

Mk 1:35-43 (Jesus Leaves Capernaum/The Cleansing of a Leper)

Your Gifts To God

Offering Report for Jan 31st - Feb 6th

Online.....\$417.00

Collection.....\$3,766.00

Weekly Total.....\$4,183.00

YTD Total.....\$12,188.00

YTD Goal.....\$11,076.00

YTD Difference.....\$1,112.00

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, February 14th, 10:30am

+Joseph & Vivian Semaan and Family

Monday, February 15th

Joel Graham

Tuesday, February 16th

Available

Wednesday, February 17th

Stephanie Graham

Thursday, February 18th

Elaina Graham

Friday, February 19th

Available

Saturday, February 20th

Available

Sunday, February 21st

+Samir Sawan

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, February 14th

Available

Sunday, February 21st

Redmond Family

ASH MONDAY

February 15, 2021



There will not be a sign up for the masses, but there will be two mass options. You are also welcome to attend mass at a local parish.

Mass Times:

12:00pm

7:00pm

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

Ex Officio

+Deacon Tony

+Deacon Wadih

+Finance
Committee

YOUTH GROUP

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: Saturday, February 13, 2021

Watch for invitation in your inbox

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

Sunday, February 14, 2021, 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.



" I am the Lady of the Rosary. Continue always to pray the Rosary every day" ~Our Lady of Fatima



JOIN US AS WE PRAY THE

ROSARY

EVERY 2ND MONDAY OF THE MONTH
AT 8PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME

FOR THE INTENTIONS OF GOOD HEALTH,
PEACE, & STABILITY FOR OUR WORLD

FEBRUARY 8

LED BY BISHOP GREGORY MANSOUR

MARCH 8

LED BY CHORBISHOP MICHAEL THOMAS

APRIL 12

LED BY BISHOP ELIAS ZAIDAN

LOOKING AHEAD ■ **MAY 10**



ZOOM LINK

MEETING ID: 883 4965 1080

PASSCODE: rosary

<https://tinyurl.com/OFSLROSARY>

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

This Sunday we prepare to enter into the Season of Lent with the recalling of our Lord Jesus Christ's first miracle – when He turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana. Each Sunday in Lent commemorates a different miracle of Christ in which He shows us that He is God Who has come amongst us to save us, and each miracle tells us more of Who He is. This Sunday of the Miracle of Cana is no different.

The image of the wedding banquet appears throughout the Gospel because it is so powerful – it is a scene of delight and enjoyment, and those who are excluded certainly feel the sting of being left out. The wedding banquet serves as a great allegory or image for the spiritual life. Perhaps this is why Christ chose a wedding banquet as the place of His first miracle. The King of Kings and Lord of Lords accepted an invitation to a wedding of a man who was either too poor or negligent to buy enough wine for his own party. This is a bit like the state of humanity – we have many shortcomings and, yet in spite of them, our God Jesus Christ became man to be amongst us and save us, even when our trouble is our own cause. Likewise, the groom runs out of wine and Jesus, proving that He has power over all things, takes ordinary water and turns it into choice wine, demonstrating that He is truly the Lord Who created water:

Invited to the wedding feast was the Son of God Who desired to invite the whole feast to come with Him. Because of this He command the waters and they became wine – He showed in Galilee how much change He produces in the world.

(Trans. from Evening Prayer of the Sunday of the Miracle at Cana)

At this first miracle, Christ showed Who He is by His command of all things – He is the Creator of All. But He did not lower Himself to attend this wedding to shame the groom or strike fear into those who witness His power, but to both invite those in need to Him and help when called upon. Though He attended as a guest, He is “the [true] Groom Who invites the ages to His wedding banquet” in heaven.

As He Himself said, Jesus Christ “did not come to judge the world, but to save the world” (John 12:47). In His generosity, our Lord turns the ordinary water of life into the enjoyment of wine even in our situations of lacking. But we must admit that we are lacking in ourselves and turn to Him, otherwise our water will remain ordinary, flavorless water! This is what Lent, and any fasting period, calls us to do – to empty ourselves of our ideas of self-sufficiency and turn to Christ for His mercy and compassion. Fasting denies those things of our immediate desires so that we may focus on those things of Christ. As our Lenten prayers say:

Fasting is an armor which Jesus gave to all fasters; servants of the King, take this breastplate of war for fasting resembles a competition in which man stands until the moment he seizes the crown from the contest.

From the view of the world, fasting is silly because we are depriving ourselves of food inasmuch as we want. But this is filling ourselves with ordinary water when we have choice wine with which Christ can supply us! What seems like lacking to others is an armor and a crown Christ has given us to focus on the divine. The fruit of fasting is not our own strength in denying ourselves food for many hours but precisely because in our weakness we realize that we are but ordinary water and we are awaiting Christ at His banquet to make us a great wine – all we must do is ask Him:

O Guest Who marveled guests with His wonders, made known to the diners the power of His Lordship, and rejoice and gladdened by His wedding gift, changing water into good wine by His command, now change us, Lord, from sinners into penitents, from offenders into pleasing persons, and from unprofitable men into diligent glorifiers to give thanks to You, and to Your Father, and to Your Holy Spirit, now and at all times, forever. Amen.



Gibran N Zogbi

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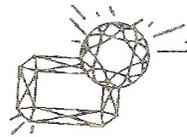
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