



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

March 14, 2021

Healing of the Paralytic



Next Sunday

Healing of the The Blind Man

2 Cor 10:1-7 (Accusation of Weakness)

Mk 10:46-52 (The Blind Bartimaeus)

Liturgy Intentions

Sunday, March 14th, 10:30am

Available

Monday, March 15th

Available

Tuesday, March 16th

Available

Wednesday, March 17th

Joel Graham

Thursday, March 18th

Available

Friday, March 19th

Available

Saturday, March 20th

+Ron Graham

Sunday, March 21st

+Rosette Kasaab

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 February 28th - March 6th

Online.....\$515.00

Collection.....\$0.00

Weekly Total.....\$515.00

YTD Total.....\$18,668.47

YTD Goal.....\$18,460.00

YTD Difference.....\$208.47

Altar Sponsorship

Sunday, March 14th

Available

Sunday, March 21st

Redmond Family

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

Ex Officio

+Deacon Tony

+Deacon Wadih

+Finance
Committee

SPRING FORWARD DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME SUNDAY MARCH 14th!



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: Saturday, March 13, 1pm on ZOOM

Watch for invitation in your inbox

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>

Sunday, March 14, 2021, 10:30am

Youtube Channel Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCi8CEQIEEnX-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.



*Virtual Meeting with
His Eminence and Beatitude
Patriarch Bechara
Cardinal Peter Rai*

THE EPARCHY OF OUR LADY OF
LEBANON OF LOS ANGELES

INVITES YOU TO A SPECIAL
GATHERING WITH OUR PATRIARCH

MARCH 27, 2021

8PM LEBANON TIME

10 AM PACIFIC

11 AM MOUNTAIN

12 PM CENTRAL

1PM EASTERN

VIA ZOOM
TO REGISTER VISIT OUR [PAGE](#)

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

Mk 2:1-12

“When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven” (Mark 2:5).

This Sunday we remember the fourth miraculous healing Jesus, the Divine Physician, that our Syriac tradition recounts during the course of Lent. In our Lord's love of humanity He heals a great number of people during His earthly life – those suffer seemingly endless afflictions find rest from their suffering in Christ. But Jesus's goodness is not limited to a simple bodily healing – we often see, such as in the healing this Sunday with the paralytic, that Jesus heals the individual from sins along with the bodily ailment. It might seem an odd pair at first to associate sin and physical illness; some assume God punishes people through such illnesses, but as Christ Himself said during one of His healings, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him” (John 9:3).

To make clearer to us invisible realities, Christ and the Church use what is visible. A common example of this is water, such as the prayer used in the traditional Maronite liturgy by the bishop as he washed his hands:

“Come, let us wash, cleanse and purify ourselves with this washing external to that which is inside that with a pure and pleasant heart we may cry out and say with King David the Prophet, ‘Intensely wash me from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sins.’”

We know from practical experience that water washes dirt away. In this ritual hand washing it is less important that it actually cleans one's hands and more so that this physical sign points to the deeper mystery that God is washing away sin. Christ, the God Who created both matter and spirit, uses the visible matter to reveal the invisible spirit. All this is to say that He healed the sicknesses of those who called to Him because He is good, but also to indicate a greater reality. He heals more than simply physical sickness, but the sicknesses no earthly physician can fix: sin.

Sin can seem like an abstract or unreal idea at times because we cannot see it. But Christ makes clear while physical sickness can kill the body that will eventually die, unattended spiritual illness can lead to an eternal spiritual death in hell. But Jesus does not desire the death of any sinner, that all should repent and live, as He demonstrated through His healings, for He loves us enough to die for us who are made in His image. As a hymn from this Sunday aptly says:

When our Savior, the Only-Begotten Son and God, came down, He showed the power of His authority in His image that had decayed. Through the medicine of His assistances, He illumined the earth which had darkened by idols. By His word He gave strength to the paralytic, and he stood and walked. The crowds who heard began to murmur and say, “Who can remit the sins of men but the one God?”

Christ chose to heal specifically those who no physician could help to demonstrate that He is the Divine Physician Who heals what no one else can heal. As we near the end of Lent, let us implore the Lord, as we do throughout the year, to heal us of the sin which He alone can lest we die of it. It is by His death and resurrection that He has killed death itself, which comes is the fruit of sin, and He wishes to grant His victory to us if we only ask Him:

O merciful Lord God, You forgave the paralytic his sin in secret and carried his bed which carried him upon his shoulder in public that by the carrying bed which was carried it may be made known that sin and impurity had been killed. O Lord, now forever kill the sin of us all, strengthen our limbs by Your power and empower our paralysis by Your mighty that wholly and purely we may give thanks and glorify You, and Your Father, and Your living and Holy Spirit, now and at all times, forever. Amen.

— Article Credit: St Rafka Parish

Please make your gift to the Lenten Appeal through your local parish. Place your gift in an envelope noted "Bishop's Appeal", or note "Bishop's Appeal" on your check. You may also make a gift online at www.eparchy.org.

Additional Ways to Help

Make a Bequest. A bequest is naming the Eparchy (or your parish) in your will. This can be for a specific amount of money, or a percentage of your estate. To do this, include this language in your will:

"I give and bequeath to the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles _____% of the residue of my estate [or: the sum of \$_____]."

Give from your IRA. Generally speaking, taxpayers who are age 70½ years old and older may give up to \$100,000 each year from their IRA to the Eparchy without paying the mandatory tax on IRA distributions. This is a significant benefit because taxes on an IRA are normally very high. The practical effect of this is that you can give more, tax free, from your IRA – and this makes it a very effective way to support the Church. Contact your broker or the Eparchy for more information about this.

Make the Eparchy a Beneficiary of Your Retirement Plan. Another way to help the Church is to name the Eparchy as the beneficiary of your retirement plan. This avoids estate taxes (which are often very high on retirement plans) – and can be tremendously helpful to the Church.

Make a Gift of Life Insurance. Naming the Eparchy as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy is a way to help the Church in the future while not impacting your income or lifestyle today. Ask your insurance agent or contact the Eparchy for more information about this.

"God loves a cheerful giver!" (2 Corinthians 9:7)



Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles

1021 S. 10th St.
St. Louis, MO 63104
314-231-1021

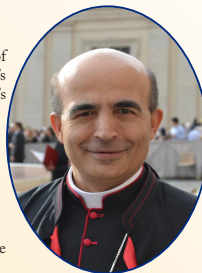
admin@eparchy.org www.eparchy.org

EPARCHY OF OUR LADY OF LEBANON OF LOS ANGELES

2021 Lenten Appeal

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I sincerely thank you for your support of the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles, especially in light of the challenges of the past year. The Eparchy's mission is to serve the People of God and proclaim the Gospel message in today's world. We can only continue to do this with your prayers and financial support.



The past year was filled with adversity, including the pandemic and difficulties at home and abroad. But we are a people of hope, and God helps us through all adversity to get to a brighter future.

Today, I would like to ask for your help with our Annual Lenten Appeal, to address the Eparchy's most important and immediate needs. The proceeds of the Lenten Appeal will contribute to three especially key areas:

- **Opening New Parishes and Missions:** There are many areas across the country where Maronite communities are unable to have Maronite services due to the lack of parishes and priests. Our goal is to strengthen existing parishes and build new missions so that our people can celebrate their faith and heritage.
- **Expanding Services:** In light of the economic and emotional hardships of the past year, it is more imperative than ever to offer our support to young people, families, and those with the greatest need.
- **Helping our brothers and sisters in Lebanon and the Middle East:** Lebanon has been especially affected after the Beirut explosion in August of 2020. Many people were displaced; and homes, hospitals, schools, and businesses suffered extreme damage. We need to give our support to our brothers and sisters as they go through these trying times.

Some people have asked about the Eparchy's long-term Capital Campaign – Vision for the Future, Mission for Today. Unfortunately, the Campaign was temporarily suspended due to the pandemic, but we hope to re-start it at an appropriate time in the future.

In the meantime, I ask for your help through this Annual Lenten Appeal with the important and immediate needs described more fully in this short brochure. Please review it and prayerfully consider how you may help, and please be generous.

May God bless you and keep you!

Gratefully yours in Christ,

+A.E. Zaidan

+A. Elias Zaidan

Bishop of the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles



1. Seminarians and Retired Priests

The Eparchy educates and prepares men (called "seminarians") for the priesthood, so that there will be enough priests to serve in our parishes and missions in the future. The Eparchy currently has 6 seminarians and 8 married men in formation. The average cost of educating and supporting a seminarian is \$45,000 per year (our seminarians cost \$471,000 last year). When a priest retires, he receives a modest pension from the Eparchy, along with basic health insurance coverage. The Eparchy now has seven retired priests who served for over 224 years in parishes. The total cost of supporting them is estimated to be \$210,000 in 2021. **35% of this year's Annual Appeal proceeds will support Seminarians and Retired Priests.**

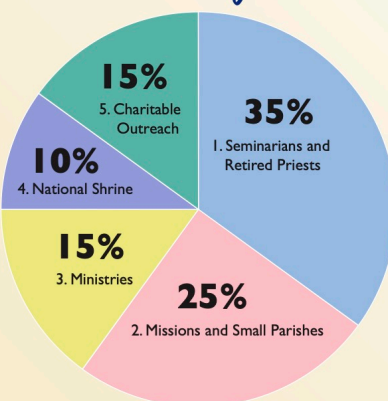


2. Missions and Small Parishes

The Eparchy consists of thirty-two [32] parishes and ten [10] missions with over 46,800 Catholics across 34 states of the Eparchy. Missions (new parishes) were opened in recent years in places like Milwaukee (WI), Riverside (CA) and Stockton (CA). Some missions and parishes are very small and need additional financial support with basic expenses such as insurance and utilities. It is a priority to strengthen our parishes and missions so that they may better serve the Maronite faithful. **25% of this year's Annual Appeal proceeds will support Missions and Small Parishes.**

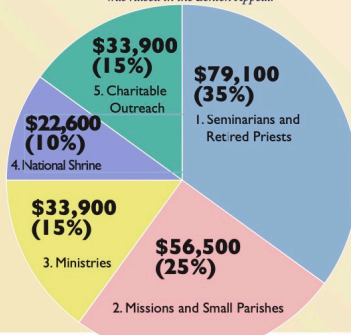


2021 Lenten Appeal Allocation of Funds



Report on 2020 Lenten Appeal Use of Funds (\$164,797)

*Due to the pandemic, the Eparchy was not able to raise the full Eparchial Appeal amount of \$226,000, so the Eparchy paid for the difference of \$61,203. The Eparchy has also paid more to each objective than was raised in the Lenten Appeal.



3. Ministries

The Eparchy maintains several ministries to serve Maronites, including Religious Education, Youth Ministry, Young Adults Ministry, Family Life Ministry, and Catholic Social Teaching. The Eparchy needs to increase the number and scope of its ministries to better serve the faithful in the Eparchy, especially when crises arise. **15% of this year's Annual Appeal proceeds will assist the Eparchy's Ministries.**



4. National Maronite Shrine

Our Lady of Lebanon National Shrine, located in North Jackson, Ohio, was founded over 50 years ago to invoke Our Lady's protection over all Maronites in the United States. It is a place of pilgrimage for the faithful 365 days a year. Due to the pandemic, the Shrine has experienced an increased need for support due to the restrictions on gatherings and pilgrimages. **10% of this year's Annual Appeal proceeds will assist the National Shrine.**



5. Charitable Outreach

As the Eparchy asks the faithful to be generous to it, the Eparchy strives to be generous to those in need. With your support, the Eparchy helps the less fortunate in the United States, and abroad in Lebanon and the Middle East. With your help, we are able to lend a helping hand to those suffering and in need. **15% of this year's Annual Appeal proceeds will go to charity, especially to help the needy in Lebanon.**



**Gibran N Zogbi**

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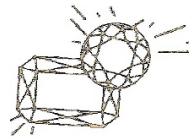
Beaverton Location
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Portland Location

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