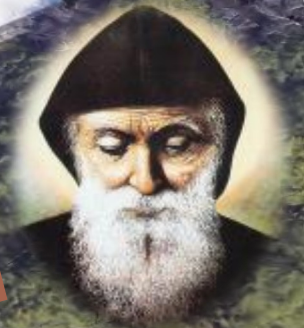


SAINT SHARBEL MISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN #2019-34
[August 25, 2019]

S

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PARISH SCHEDULE

SUNDAY LITURGY | at 11:00 AM

St. Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church

600 Mount Vernon Church Road
Raleigh, NC 27614

Tel: (919)917-7597

Email: abouna@saintsharbelchurch.org

website: www.saintsharbelchurch.org

Administrator: Rev. Robert Youssef Farah

Subdeacon: Claude Shiver

Sunday Liturgy: 11:00 AM



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Please remember our Mission by maintaining your donation through our Online Service by visiting our Website and clicking on the following link:

<http://saintsharbelchurch.org/donate/>

Your weekly donation will maintain our mission in her journey and keep our doors open.

Thank you in advance for your generosity

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READINGS

August-September/ 2019

August 25	12th Sunday of Pentecost	
	Epistle	Gospel
	Eph 3:1-13	Mt 15:21-28
September 1	13th Sunday of Pentecost	
	Epistle	Gospel
	1Cor 3:1-11	Lk 8:1-15



DATE	TIME	* LITURGY INTENTIONS *	FROM
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Remember your loved ones with Mass Intentions

Aug 25	11:00 AM	Personal Intentions	
Sept. 1	11:00 AM	Personal Intentions	
Sept. 8	11:00 AM	Personal Intentions	

HOSPITALITY - COFFEE HOUR / 2019

Aug 25	St. Sharbel Ladies Auxiliary
Sept. 1	Available
Sept. 8	Available



*To sponsor a coffee hour pls. contact Mrs. Anna Franca Abi-Aad
Tel:(954) 806-9909 Or Email: abetriz@yahoo.com /Donation for coffee hour is appreciated*



PARISH OFFERING

August 18, 2019

<i>Weekly offering</i>	<i>\$878.00</i>
<i>Assumption Day Offering</i>	<i>\$286.00</i>
<i>Donation</i>	<i>\$1,600.00</i>
<i>Coffee Hour</i>	<i>\$117.00</i>
<i>Total Income</i>	<i>\$2,881.00</i>

Thank You for your generosity and your support

Important Messages

From the Spirituality of Pope Francis
We have observed that, in society and the world in which we live, selfishness has increased more than love for others, and that men of good will must work, each with his own strengths and expertise, to ensure that love for others increases until it is equal and possibly exceeds love for oneself.



The dream has come true. Celebrating our First Divine Liturgy in the new Church on Hosanna Sunday was very moving, a real Home Coming. Now, our Bishop Gregory Mansour will be officially dedicating it on October 13, 2019. Please join us.

May God bless all Donors

Taste of Lebanon at St. Sharbel

Join us with the whole family this Saturday the 24th, for fun, music, dance, and delicious food from Noon until 8:00 PM.

Spread the word to your friends and neighbors and come spend the day with us at our new Church.

Sunday School for Religious Education

At 10:00 AM on Sunday September 15, our Religious Education will start for the year 2019-2020. I cannot stress enough on the importance of the Catechesis for our children, the future of our Church. Please register your kids with Marsha Shiver .

We are happy to announce that registration is now ready and open for our 2019 MYA National Conference in San Antonio, TX.

Please use the link and form to register for this year's MYA Conference.

<https://www.maroniteyoungadults.org/nationalconferenceregistration>

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS - 2019

August 24	Noon-8:00 PM	Taste of Lebanon at St. Sharbel
September 28	Noon– 7:00 PM	Golf Tournament
October 12	6:00 - 10:30 PM	Dinner Banquet with Bishop Gregory Mansour
October 13	11:00 AM	Dedication of Our Church
December 14	6:00 - 11:00 PM	Christmas Party

The Faith of the Canaanite Woman (Matthew 15:21-28)

Today's Gospel emphasizes the fruits of the evangelical mission to the Gentiles through her absolute profession of faith in Jesus. The Lord granted her wishes because of her great faith, cured her daughter immediately, and told her what he never told anyone else: "Great is your faith! Let it be done to you as you wish."

Shifting his mission from the Jewish territories to the neighboring districts of Tyr and Sidon Jesus is inviting all nations to the Kingdom. Three attempts engaged Jesus in the case of the Canaanite woman, but he ignored them. The first was when she came to Jesus pleading to drive out the demon from her possessed daughter. The second was when his disciples urged him to grant her wish and send her away so that she would stop being a nuisance to them. He ignored it saying: "My mission is only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." The third was when he sternly told her: "It is not right to take the food of the sons and daughters and throw to the dogs." To call someone a dog was a deadly and contemptuous insult. The only way one can understand the threefold refusal of Jesus is to see it in the light of the following perspectives: (a) testing of the Canaanite woman's faith; (b) pointing out that salvation first should come to the Jews, then to the rest of the world; (c) telling his disciples to go and preach the Gospel to the entire pagan world after his death and resurrection; and (d) inviting the Gentiles and the pagan world to share in the salvific Eucharistic Banquet.

This Canaanite woman whose daughter was grievously afflicted heard of the wonderful things Jesus is doing in transforming peoples lives, so she followed him and his disciples. Deep inside, he was moved with pity and compassion for this woman, but he did not show his emotion publicly. Knowing that she is a Canaanite and a pagan who is looking for a miracle, puts him in a predicament. The Canaanites are the fiercest enemies of the Jews. Should he help her before helping his own people? Should he do that publicly in front of his disciples? The best way was to show everyone how much faith this non-Jewish woman had in Jesus.

Everyone realized that in spite of the fact that she was ignored, refused and insulted, she persisted in her unwavering faith and kept her trust in him. She did not take as insult what Jesus told her regarding the food of the Israelites being thrown to dogs. Instead, she responded respectfully: "Please, Lord, even the dogs eat the leavings that fall from their masters' tables." She was humble, courageous, smart and quick to respond, which proved to Jesus that she has all the qualification to earn his compassion, acceptance and willingness to make the miracle happen. Realizing that she has such a strong, unshakable and indomitable faith, he said to her: "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done to you as you wish." Jesus did not easily make such a statement to anyone. This Canaanite woman earned it through her strong faith and her wish was granted.

We relate to this gospel today by asking ourselves the following questions: Has the fruits of the mission to all nations reached me? Do I search for Jesus with determination and deep faith? Do I give up easily on Jesus? The Canaanite woman was ignored on three occasions, she was also insulted, but she never gave up. How often have I walked away from Jesus because what he asks me conflicts with my social way of life? How strong is my faith in him? How do I live my Christian commitment today, is it out of convenience or out of deep and strong conviction?