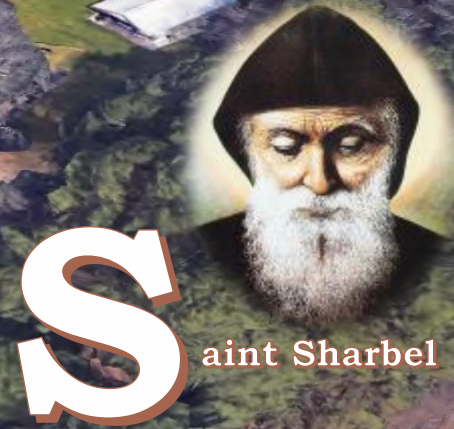


# SAINT SHARBEL MISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN #2019-35  
[September 1, 2019]



## 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

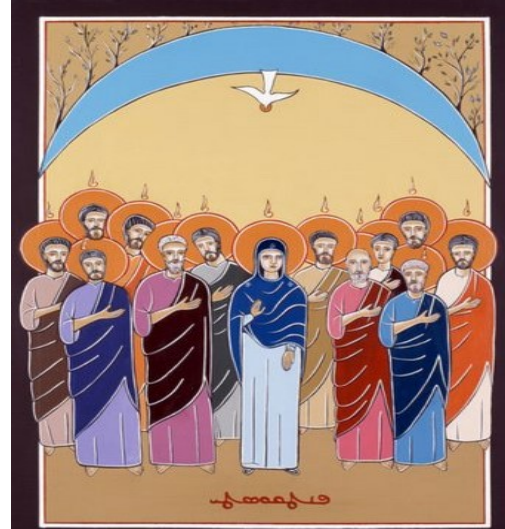
**Email:** [abouna@saintsharbelchurch.org](mailto:abouna@saintsharbelchurch.org)

**website:** [www.saintsharbelchurch.org](http://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

## September / 2019

<b>September 1</b>	<b>13th Sunday of Pentecost</b>	
	<b>Epistle</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
	1Cor 3:1-11	Lk 8:1-15
<b>September 8</b>	<b>Exaltation of the Holy Cross</b>	
	<b>Epistle</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
	1Cor 1:18-25	Jn 12:20-32



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

Sept. 1	11:00 AM	Festival Volunteers & Donors	Fr. Robert Y Farah
Sept. 8	11:00 AM	Personal Intentions	
Sept. 15	11:00 AM	Personal Intentions	

### HOSPITALITY - COFFEE HOUR / 2019

Sept. 1	St. Sharbel Ladies Auxiliary
Sept. 8	St. Sharbel Ladies Auxiliary
Sept. 15	St. Sharbel Ladies Auxiliary



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

### PARISH OFFERING

August 25, 2019



Weekly offering	\$677.00
Donation	\$100.00
Coffee Hour	\$30.00
Candle Intentions	\$33.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$840.00</b>

*Thank You for your generosity and your support*

### Important Messages

#### 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 .



**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 consecrating it on October 13, 2019. Please join us.**

**May God bless all Donors**

**Taste of Lebanon at St. Sharbel**

Words cannot express my gratitude to those who worked, donated and sponsored our festival which was a success. May the Lord continue to bless you as you support your spiritual home. A special thanks to Gloria Salim-Brown who chaired the event and organized it with extreme professionalism.

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Despite the rainy weather (7 out of 8 hours), we had a great success in both material and fellowship. Everyone had a great time, worked hard, and had the best fun.

Gross Income: \$9,343.00

Expenses : \$2,260.60

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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**

<b>September 28</b>	<b>Noon– 7:00 PM</b>	<b>Golf Tournament</b>
<b>October 12</b>	<b>6:00 - 10:30 PM</b>	<b>Dinner with Bishop Gregory Mansour</b>
<b>October 13</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Consecration of Our Church</b>
<b>December 14</b>	<b>6:00 - 11:00 PM</b>	<b>Christmas Party and Car Raffle</b>



## **The Parable of the Sower**

The proclamation of the Word is beautifully expressed in the parable of the sower. Jesus used parables as a tool to bring the mysteries of the kingdom to the common people without so much explanation. The parable of the sower is explained in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. Here the explanation of Jesus reflects the teaching of the early Church which used the "WORD" as a means to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel.

Saint Luke ties this parable to the nucleus of the first Christian Church whereby Jesus is touring the villages and towns announcing and preaching the kingdom of God with some women and the twelve apostles. The parables consists of four different types of lands and thus four types of people: the footpath, the rocky ground, the thorns and the fertile land. These parallel four different categories delineating the destiny of the Word of God being received by the people. Thus the destiny of the planted seeds: some were trampled under foot and consumed by the birds, some sprouted up but withered, some growing up with briars which stifled them, and some were productive. These four represent four categories of people who react differently upon hearing the Word. More than Matthew and Mark, in explaining the parable, Luke stressed the hearing of the WORD of God with a good intention and an open heart, accepting it, remaining faithful to it, and believing in it as the threshold to salvation. This is what appears to be a faithful disciple to the Apostle Paul.

(1) The footpaths, being treaded so much, become almost like hard clay and could not be easily penetrated. The seeds falling here are doomed because they would be trampled under foot and became food for the birds. This category represents people whose minds are shut. They do not hear the Word and they are not receptive to it. The Word of God has no chance to survive. (2) The Rocky ground does not have enough soil for the seeds to germinate. Not having a strong foundation, the seeds wither instantly because their roots cannot develop. This category represents the people who hear the Word of God and receive it gladly. However, they succumb to the first temptation or difficulty they face. Here again the Word of God is strained because the foundation is not conducive for it to grow and produce. (3) The thorny ground chokes the seeds that are about to produce. Seeds among the thorns develop roots. As they grow they get stifled by the hostile surroundings. This category represents the people who hear the word but their progress is hampered by being so busy caring for wealth, pleasures, entertainments whereby the Word has no place in their lives. Therefore, the Word of God does not grow so as to mature in their lives because they are overtaken by many worldly distractions. (4) The fertile ground is opened for the seeds where they get well nourished and become productive. This category represents those who hear the Word with an open mind. They accept it and bear fruits, some of them produce up to a hundred fold. They listen to the Word, they keep what they hear in their mind and heart, and acting upon it, they yield abundantly.

The questions we should ask ourselves are: Where are we if compared to the 4 categories? What type of land are we as we receive the Word of God? Are our ears, heart and mind hardened that God's Word would not be instilled in us? Is our soul dry that the Word does not germinate in our life? Are we busy accumulating wealth and preferring pleasures and entertainment and not having anytime for God? Are we doing anything to become a fertile land so as the Word of God can be planted in us and produce a hundred fold?