



# SAINT SHARBEL PARISH

WEEKLY BULLETIN #2023-236  
July 2, 2023

## 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)

**Pastor:** Rev. Robert Youssef Farah

**Subdeacon:** Claude Shiver

**Sunday Liturgy:** 11:00 AM

**Saturday Liturgy:** 5:00 PM

**Wednesday & Friday Liturgy:** 6:30 PM

**Thursday Liturgy & Adoration:** 6:30 PM



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Please remember your Church 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.

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# READINGS

## July/2023

<b>July 2</b>	<b>6th Sunday of Pentecost</b>	
	<b>Epistle</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
	1 Cor 12:12-13, 27-30	Mt 10:16-25
<b>July 9</b>	<b>7th Sunday of Pentecost</b>	
	<b>Epistle</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
	2 Cor 3:1-6	Lk 10:1-7



		<b>* LITURGY INTENTIONS *</b>		<b>FROM</b>
<b>Remember your loved ones with Mass Intentions</b>				

July 2	11:00 AM	Dunia Masri Nahas	By: Nada Nahas Taylor
July 9	11:00 AM	Available	
July 16	11:00 AM	Karimeh Kfoury Ishak	By: Doumit Y Ishak

# HOSPITALITY - COFFEE HOUR / 2023

July 2	Nada Nahas Taylor
July 9	Shirin Maayah
July 16	Doumit Y Ishak



*To sponsor a coffee hour pls contact Gloria Salim-Brown: 919.345.3483, [gsalim@aol.com](mailto:gsalim@aol.com).  
 Donation for coffee hour is appreciated*

## PARISH OFFERING

June 25, 2023



Weekly offering	\$1,258.00
Donation	\$100.00
Coffee Hour	\$43.00
Second Collection	\$172.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,573.00</b>

*Thank You for your generosity and  
 your support*

## Important Messages

### Daily Readings

Monday: Acts 12:1-11; Mt 15:1-9  
 Tuesday: Acts 12:12-24; Mt 15:10-20  
 Wednesday: Acts 13:1-12; Mt 15:21-28  
 Thursday: Acts 13:13-25; Mt 16:1-4  
 Friday: Acts 13:26-39; Mt 16:5-12  
 Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Jn 3:31-36



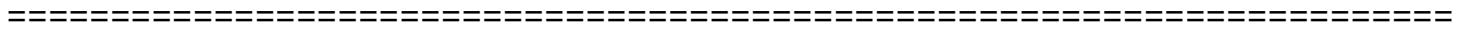
## **THE SANCTUARY LAMP**

Is a vigil light burning 24/7 and kept near the Blessed Sacrament. The light indicates the unfathomable mystery of the Eucharistic presence of Jesus. It reminds us of the reverence due to the Sacrament. The burning light is a pious custom as a way of prolonging our adoration and prayer to honor His presence.

## **Thank You for Supporting Your Church**

You may do so in various ways:

- By Mail at: 600 Mount Vernon Church Rd., Raleigh NC 27614
- Via our website [www.saintshatbelchurch.org](http://www.saintshatbelchurch.org) by clicking on Donate
- Direct Deposit to First Citizens Bank : Routing #: 053100300, Acc # 000861430571



## **Upcoming Second Collection**

- Sept. 10: Catholic University of America and Maronite Seminary
- Oct. 22: World Mission Sunday
- Nov. 5: Maronite Patriarchal Charities

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS - 2023**

- July 4: 4th of July Celebration @ 6:00 PM
- July 3-6: Clergy Retreat
- July 6-9: NAM 58th National Convention at Providence, RI

## Sixth Sunday of Pentecost

Qurbono P. 425; Creed P. 748; Anaphora of St. John p. 815

### The Commissioning of the Apostles; Matthew (10:16-25)

We celebrate this Sunday the event of the commissioning of the twelve apostles, after Jesus had called them to be eye witnesses and close to him. He handed over to them the same authority he himself had received from the Father. He sent them well equipped with his love and encouragement, and committed them to the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in order to secure the success of their mission.

Jesus sent his apostles in an official and celebratory fashion: "I am sending you." He warned them about persecution by the Jewish courts and the pagan kings and governors. At the same time he afforded them sustenance and help through the Holy Spirit whom he will send to them. They will not be facing persecution alone, but the Holy Spirit will be by their side as the one who will defend, encourage, console and teach them.

We learned last week that Jesus commanded the apostles to go first and save the lost sheep of Israel, who actually live in Galilee, and not to go to the Gentiles territories nor enter any Samaritan city. Yet in the same chapter, St. Matthew shows Jesus foretelling persecution and trial that will go far beyond Galilee and the local territories. This may seem contradictory, but Matthew collected the commands of Jesus before and after. **Before**, as the "Jesus of Galilee" he sent them on their first expedition. And **After** his resurrection He commissioned them as "the Risen Jesus."

The Jewish thought had a dual look at life which divided time into two ages: (a) the present age which was bad; and (b) the age to come, which would be the golden age of God. In between there was the Day of the Lord, which would be a time of desolation, chaos, fear, destruction, and judgment. This terrible period would turn children against parents and fathers would hand their children over to death, ...! It would split the dearest bonds on earth and the world will be destroyed. The Jews were very familiar with these trying times, and so were Jesus and the Apostles, because these terrors and divisions were recorded in their Books.

To fully understand the meaning of an open relationship, a direct answer, or an honest opinion, in the long run Christianity is the answer. The world offers us sweet talks and impressive promises for success, advancement and fulfillment of ambitions. Mishaps and pitfalls are never mentioned. That is where the disaster lies. There is nothing hidden, closed, foiled or deceiving about Jesus and his mission. When he called the apostles, he prepared them for hardship, persecution and death. Although that was a bold and tough approach, honesty paid off in the end. This is what is so impressive and unique about Christianity. Jesus is saying to all of us that if we want to be true Christians we must be prepared for the worst because persecution and hardships in life are imminent. It is not the beginning but the end that counts. It is not this world we seek, but the next. This is why Christianity is always at odd with the contemporary world.

"No pupil outranks his teacher, no slave his master" teaches us that in no way we can be in a better disposition than our Lord and God. It is clear from the last few verses of today's gospel that we should not expect to have an easy ride. There will be many bumps along the way and we must accept them. If he suffered and sacrificed, if he was mocked and smitten, we are not better or higher than him, and therefore, we must undergo the same. If we are called to fame and recognition, if we are invited to share in his glory, we are also invited to undergo the same hardship he endured. This is heroism at its best, this is true Christianity.