



# SAINT SHARBEL PARISH

WEEKLY BULLETIN #2023-245  
October 1, 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

## September-October/2023

**October 1**      **3rd Sunday after Holy Cross (Holy Rosary Sunday)**

**Epistle**

Phil 3:17-4:1

**Gospel**

Mt 24:23-31



**October 8**      **4th Sunday after Holy Cross**

**Epistle**

1 Thes 5:1-11

**Gospel**

Mt 24:45-51

**\* LITURGY INTENTIONS \* FROM**



**Remember your loved ones with Mass Intentions**

	TIME		
Oct. 1	11:00 AM	Personal Intentions	
Oct. 8	11:00 AM	Available	
Oct. 15	11:00 AM	Available	

### HOSPITALITY - COFFEE HOUR / 2023

October 1	Meghan Ishak
October 8	Faiqa & Joseph Mimarbashi
October 15	Available



*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

September 24, 2023



Weekly offering	\$1,203.00
Coffee Hour	\$18.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,221.00</b>

*Thank You for your generosity and your support*

### Important Messages

#### Daily Readings

Monday: Rev 7:9-17; Mt 24:32-44  
 Tuesday: Rev 10:1-11; Lk 6:20-26  
 Wednesday: Rev 11:1-12; Lk 5:33-39  
 Thursday: Rev 12:1-12; Lk 21:34-38  
 Friday: Rev 13:1-18; Jn 5:17-23  
 Saturday: Rev 14:1-13; Jn 5:24-30



## **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

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## **Upcoming Second Collection**

- Oct. 22: World Mission Sunday
- Nov. 5: Maronite Patriarchal Charities
- Dec. 25: Pastor's Collection

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

- Oct. 8: Order of St. Sharbel Sunday
- Oct. 24: Knights of Columbus Exemplification Ceremony
- Dec. 3: Saint Barbara
- Dec.10: Children Christmas Party
- Dec. 16: 23rd Annual Christmas Dinner
- Dec. 16: Reverse Drawing Raffle

## Third Sunday after Holy Cross

### Holy Rosary Sunday

Qurbano P. 454; Creed P. 748; Anaphora of St. John Chrysostom p. 876

#### (Matthew 24:23-31)

This Sunday's Gospel is the continuation of the theme of last Sunday. It announces the signs of the coming of our Lord, narrated by St. Matthew in the final sermon of Jesus about the last things, before his passion, death, resurrection, second coming and his eternal presence in the Church. Jesus will establish his new kingdom on the ruins of this passing earthly kingdom! This is our true Christian faith concerning the Second Coming of the Lord.

Jesus warns his disciples about those who try to mislead the people of God. He emphasizes that his coming will not happen in an obscure way, but rather, it would be as clear as the lightning that flashes in the skies whereby it would be impossible for the naked eye to miss it. His coming would be as visible as the carcass to the vultures! The last paragraph has a prophetic description and talks about Jesus' coming into the world in a wondrous fashion, which is not detailed historically and realistically. This is an expression about the importance of God's plan of salvation, as if he is turning this universe to nothing, in order to recreate it as a newer and a better world!

As for the sign of the Son of Man, the Fathers of the Church saw in it the CROSS. Better yet, they saw in it Christ himself who was crucified, who truly died, and who rose from the dead in triumph and went into his glory! The last and final look at the complete salvific plan is not common among the Jewish thoughts that were contemporary to Jesus, such as the community of Qumran, which limits salvation only to one specific group of the people of God.

Jesus was concerned about 2 dangers that would threaten the church: (a) False leaders and (b) discouragement:

(a) There would be the danger of those leaders who would spread false teaching propagating their own version of the truth rather than presenting and witnessing to the truth that was taught by Jesus. These false leaders were looking for fame, personal gain, and notoriety, making people believe in them rather than in Jesus Christ. The teaching of such false leaders is bent on individualistic attitude and self-glorification which would inevitably bring about confusion and division among people.

(b) There would be the danger of discouragement as a result of chaos and lawlessness. Because of such situation many people will be discouraged and their love for God will grow cold. A true Christian is known by believing in God and in his Son Jesus Christ no matter what the circumstances are. Anything less would be an insult to God for not trusting enough in him to save us.

The great consolation for us is that Christ's coming at the end of time assures us of two great facts: (a) is the ultimate triumph of Christ. He who was the mockery of men and was crucified and died, will one day be the Lord of all. The king of kings, the supreme judge and the ruler of the universe, sitting at the right hand of God the Father. (b) History is not ending with the final battle between good and evil. Many believe that history is headed toward a global and unending chaos. Many so-called prophets would speculate about how the world might end, selling their own version, which may be misleading. According to the gospel, the Second Coming of Christ will be the greatest event of all of history, toward which the entire universe is heading. It is not to destroy us but it is the eternal and final rule of God who will send his angels in order to gather his chosen ones from the four corners of the universe and to protect them. This is a consolation to those who believe. The choice is ours to be or not to be saved, and that is to believe in his gospel.