



SAINT SHARBEL PARISH

WEEKLY BULLETIN #2023-255
December 17, 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

website: www.saintsharbelchurch.org

Pastor: Rev. Robert Youssef Farah

Sunday Liturgy: 11:00 AM

Saturday Liturgy: 5:00 PM

Wednesday & Friday Liturgy: 6:30 PM

Thursday 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

December/2023

December 17	Revelation to Joseph	
	Epistle	Gospel
	Eph 3:1-13	Mt 1:18-25
December 24	Genealogy Sunday	
	Epistle	Gospel
	Rom 1:1-12	Mt 1:1-17



*** LITURGY INTENTIONS * FROM**

Remember your loved ones with Mass Intentions

Dec. 17	11:00 AM	All Parishioners	By: The Priest
Dec. 24	11:00 AM	All Parishioners	By: The Priest
Dec.25	Midnight 11:00 AM	All Parishioners	By: The Priest

HOSPITALITY - COFFEE HOUR /2023

December 17	Kanefeh: Fundraising
December 24	Dolly & Bassam Matar
December 25	Yule Log



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

PARISH OFFERING	
December 10, 2023	
<i>Weekly offering</i>	<i>\$1,039.00</i>
Total Income	\$1,039.00



Important Messages

Daily Readings

Monday: Rom 10:14-21; Jn 7:1-10
 Tuesday: Rom 11:1-12; Jn 7:11-18
 Wednesday: Rom 11:13-24; Jn 7:25-30
 Thursday: Rom 11:25-36; Jn 7:31-36
 Friday: Rom 12:1-8; Jn 7:37-44
 Saturday: Rom 12:9-21; Jn 7:45-53

Thank You for your generosity and your support



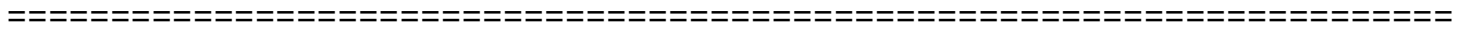
THE SANCTUARY LAMP

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 by clicking on Donate
- Direct Deposit to First Citizens Bank : Routing #: 053100300, Acc # 000861430571



Upcoming Second Collection

December 25: Pastor's Collection

January 28: United States Catholic Bishops' Worldwide Charities

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS - 2023

- | | |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Dec. 16: | 23rd Annual Christmas Dinner and Reverse Drawing Raffle |
| Dec. 25: | The Glorious Birth of Our Lord (Holy Day of Obligation) |
| Dec. 26: | Felicitations to the Virgin Mary |
| Jan. 1: | The Circumcision of Jesus (Holy Day of Obligation) |
| Jan. 6: | Feast of the Glorious Epiphany (Holy Day of Obligation) |

Revelation to Joseph

Qurbano P. 57; Creed P. 748; Anaphora of St. James p. 794

Joseph..., be not afraid to take Mary as your wife (Matthew 1:18-25)

An angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and told him, "Joseph, Son of David, be not afraid to take Mary as your wife, the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit."

This Sunday takes us back to the Mystery of the Virgin who is expecting the incarnate Son of God through the power of the Holy Spirit. God revealed this Mystery to Joseph her spouse and gave him the responsibility to foster her child so that God's promise is fulfilled in the prophesy of Isaiah about the Virgin Mother and in the prophesy of Nathan about the coming of the Messiah through the lineage of King David.

Joseph is a just and righteous man in the eyes of the Church. Even though Mary was with child, he listened to the word of the Angel and protected Mary and the unborn child by making her his wife. Outwardly he appeared patient and kind. But he was in a state of total and complete confusion about what he should do. He felt peer pressure, and his human pride and male ego were surely bruised. However, he accepted God's Plan, and obeyed the Angel's command. That is why it was credited to him to being a JUST AND RIGHTEOUS figure. Thus, he put the words of the Angel into action.

He was a carpenter and practical man; a man of detail to insure quality work; a prudent man, knowing that he must work within the limits of the wood or poor workmanship or wasted materials were the results. These qualities made him a good carpenter. In the quiet trust that Joseph exhibits, he realized that he himself was a piece of wood in the hands of God, the Loving Artist, who carved him to do as the angel commanded.

Is it possible in the midst of this fear-provoking world to live in the house of love and listen to the questions raised by the Lord of Love? Or are we so accustomed to living in fear that we have become deaf to the voice that says, "Do not be afraid"? This reassuring voice, which repeats over and over again: "Do not be afraid, have no fear" is the voice we most need to hear. This voice was heard by Zechariah when Gabriel, the Angel of the Lord, appeared to him in the temple and told him that his wife, Elizabeth, would bear him a son. This voice was heard by Mary when the same Angel entered her house in Nazareth and announced that she would conceive, bear a child and name him Jesus. This voice was also heard by the women who saw that the stone was rolled away. "Do not be afraid, do not be afraid, do not be afraid." The voice uttering these words sounds all through history as the voice of God's holy messengers, be they angels or saints. It is the voice that announces a whole new way of being in the house of love, the house of the Lord.

A Special prayer to St. Joseph

"Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interest and desires. Oh, St. Joseph assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your divine Son all spiritual blessings, so that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving to the most loving of Fathers. Oh St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you, and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask Him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, Patron of departed souls - Pray for me."