



SAINT SHARBEL PARISH

WEEKLY BULLETIN #2023-259
January 14, 2024

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: Eucharistic 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.



Support St Sharbel Mission by shopping at AmazonSmile.

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READINGS

January 2024

January 14

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Epistle

Gospel

2 Cor 4:5-15

Jn 1:35-42



January 21

Sunday of the Priests

Epistle

Gospel

1 Tim 4:6-16

Lk 12:42-48

*** LITURGY INTENTIONS ***

FROM



Remember your loved ones with Mass Intentions

Jan. 14

11:00 AM

Joseph Saba

By: The Family

Jan. 21

11:00 AM

Fadel Faddoul Suleiman: 40-Day

By: The Faddoul Family

Jan. 28

11:00 AM

Remember Me In Your Kingdom

By: The Priest

HOSPITALITY - COFFEE HOUR / 2023

January 14

The Saba Family

January 21

The Faddoul family

January 28

Patti & Salah Karam



To sponsor a coffee hour pls contact Gloria Salim-Brown: 919.345.3483, gsalim@aol.com.

Donation for coffee hour is appreciated

PARISH OFFERING

January 7, 2024



Weekly offering

\$1,437.00

Donation

\$1,600.00

Total Income

\$3,037.00

Thank You for your generosity and your support

Important Messages

Daily Readings

Monday: 2 Cor 1:1-11; Jn 1:43-51

Tuesday: 2 Cor 1:12-24; Lk 5:1-11

Wednesday: 2 Cor 2:1-11; Mt 4:18-25

Thursday: 2 Cor 2:12-17; Mt 9:9-13

Friday: 2 Cor 12:17-13:4; Mt 9:35-38

Saturday: 2 Cor 13:5-13; Mt 10:1-6



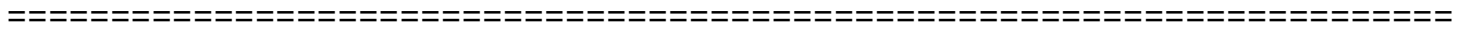
THE SANCTUARY LAMP

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

- January 28: United States Catholic Bishops' Worldwide Charities
- February 12-March 28: Eparchial Charities Appeal
- March 28: Holy Land Collection

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS - 2023

- Feb. 4: Pastoral Council Meeting
- Feb. 6: Ladies Guild Meeting
- Feb. 9: Feast of St. Maron (Holy Day of Obligation)
- Feb. 12: Ash Monday

Second Sunday After Epiphany

Qurbano P. 107; Creed P. 748; Anaphora of St. John p. 815

The Mystery of Jesus is Revealed to the Apostles (John 1:35-42)

For the four evangelists, the call of the first disciples and the twelve apostles is a very important event in the public life of Jesus and his salvific mission. But the Evangelist John gives it a unique and distinct significance noting that the first disciples of Jesus were the disciples of John the Baptist. As such, he would have directly prepared for the coming of Jesus, not only by testimony and baptism, but by calling his own disciples to follow Jesus: "He is to increase, while I have to decrease."

The testimony of John the Baptist in front of his disciples is a call inviting them to follow Jesus. It is a personal experience to follow Jesus, no one tastes it except the one who follows Jesus to where he lives. Thus, he lives with Jesus, he hears Jesus and Jesus reveals his mystery to him. In turn, he goes out to witness to Jesus and attracts to him new faithful and disciples. That is why the call of Andrew and John remains the perfect example of the Christian calling. When they came to Jesus he asked them: "What are you looking for?" they said to him: "Rabbi, which means teacher, where are you staying?" Jesus invited them and they spent that night with him. The next day Andrew went to his brother Simon and told him: "We have found the Messiah" and brought him to Jesus who told him: "You are Simon the son of Jonah; you will be called Cephas, which means Peter."

The continuation of the gospel shows Jesus on his way to Galilee where he called Philip who in turn went and told Nathanael "We have found the one about whom Moses wrote in the law, and also the Prophets." Jesus recognized Nathanael as a true Israelite. Nathanael, who first exclaimed: "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" immediately professed out loud: "Rabbi, you are the Son of God, you are the King of Israel."

Nathanael in the gospel of John is Bartholomew in the Synoptic gospels. Nathanael / Bartholomew was certainly one of the Twelve. Nazareth was mentioned because it was the town with which Jesus first associated His public life. It was never mentioned in the Old Testament. Not one Old Testament prophecy had connected the Messiah with Nazareth. It is said of Nathanael as "a true Israelite." The contemporary popular etymology of the name Israel was "one who sees God." Only those who will have more intimate association with Jesus will be granted "Much greater things." Nathanael, a true Israelite in whom there is no guile, will be granted the exclusive gift of seeing "the sky opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

The introduction, the testimonial, and the acceptance of discipleship are poignant in the gospel of John. After meeting Jesus, Peter was immediately recognized as the son of Jonah and was given a new name. Even though Nathanael was still at a distance, he was recognized as true Israelite and swiftly acknowledged Jesus as Rabbi, the Son of God and the King of Israel. Jesus has been introduced and his mystery has been revealed to us. Before we make any move, he has already recognized us just as he recognized Peter, Nathanael and the rest of humanity. Our task is to become his disciples bringing people to him to be saved. It is up to us to respond to the call, to testify and to become his disciples. The best way to know Jesus is not just through stories, books or movies. We must come to live with him, abide by his word and have a personal relationship with him. It is then that we come to appreciate his salvific mission. It is then that we become emboldened to bring to him new faithful and disciples to continue his salvific mission until the end of time.