



SAINT SHARBEL PARISH

WEEKLY BULLETIN #2024-271

April 7, 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

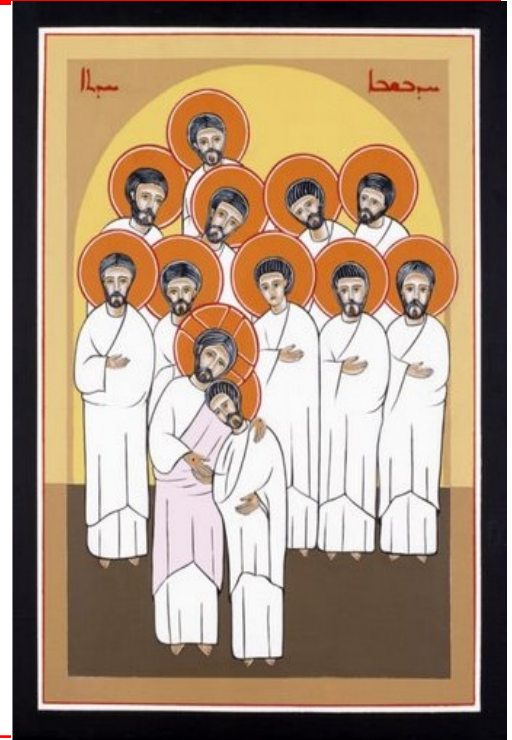
Sunday Liturgy: 11:00 AM

Saturday Liturgy: 5:00 PM

Wednesday & Friday Liturgy: 6:30 PM

Thursday: Eucharistic Adoration: 6:30 PM

المسيحُ قامَ حَقًّا قامَ



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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

April 2024

April 7	New Sunday (Divine Mercy Sunday)	
	Epistle	Gospel
	2 Cor 5:11-21	Jn 20:26-31
April 14	3rd Sunday of the Resurrection	
	Epistle	Gospel
	2 Tim 2:8-13	Lk 24: 13-35



*** LITURGY INTENTIONS * FROM**

Remember your loved ones with Mass Intentions



April 7	11:00 AM	All our Youths	By: The Priest
April 14	11:00 AM	Available	
April 21	11:00 AM	Awad Elia Lebbos	By: Amanda Wenzel

HOSPITALITY - COFFEE HOUR / 2023

April 7	Eya & Mike Najm
April 14	Nathalie & Jack Daoud
April 21	Sarah & Fadi Abboodi



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

PARISH OFFERING	
March 31, 2024	
<i>Weekly offering</i>	\$4,041.00
<i>Second Collection</i>	\$273.00
Total Income	\$4,314.00



Important Messages

Daily Readings

Monday: 1 Pet 1:1-9; Jn 20:1-10
 Tuesday: 1 Pet 1:10-16; Jn 20:11-18
 Wednesday: 1 Pet 1:17-21; Mt 28:11-15
 Thursday: 1 Pet 1:22-25; Mt 28:16-20
 Friday: 1 Pet 2:1-10 Jn 2:13-25
 Saturday: 1 Pet 2:11-17; Mt 22:41-46

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

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Upcoming Second Collection

- April 21: Catholic Home Missions Appeal
- May 5: National Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS - 2023

- April 7: Divine Mercy Sunday
- May 5: Feast of Our Lady of Lebanon
- May 9: The Ascension of Our Lord (Holy Day of Obligation)
- May 12: Mother's Day
- May 19: Pentecost Sunday

New Sunday (Divine Mercy Sunday)

Qurbano P. 386; Creed P. 748; Anaphora of St. Peter p. 774

المسيحُ قامَ حَقًّا قامَ

CHRIST IS RISEN

The New Sunday, The Sunday of Thomas (John 20:26-31)

This Sunday reminds us of the apparition of the risen and living Jesus to his disciples and to Thomas, that is why it is called: “The Sunday of Thomas.” After Jesus’ continual apparitions to his disciples, the profundity of the event of the Resurrection and the complete mystery of Jesus, have become, in reality, a new awakening to them and to the Church, that is why it is also called: “The New Sunday.” It is the “Eighth Day,” the beginning of a New Week and a New stage in the life of the apostles and the believing Church who have a New Faith in the living Jesus who is risen from the dead.

This apparition of Jesus to Thomas is uniquely attributed to St. John. It is tightly and securely linked to the appearance of the other disciples before him. The evangelist stresses the truth and reality of the apparition—the One who is present today in the midst of his disciples is the same Jesus who died on Friday, whose hands and feet were nailed to the cross, and whose side was pierced by a lance. Therefore, there is no chance left to doubt the reality of the risen and living Jesus who is present among them. Thomas moved from extreme doubt to extreme belief saying: “My Lord and My God!” Jesus is his Lord, because by his resurrection he conquered death, and he reigns forever on the right hand of the Father. Jesus is his God, because he is of the same essence of God the Father—true God from true God! This encounter, immediately following his resurrection and glorification, during which Thomas touched him, was necessary for Jesus and for his disciples. But after that, hearing a simple testimony was enough for the disciples to believe in him and for him to receive their praise. The Christian faith which is based on a testimony, and not on eye witness, does not take anything away from the firm faith of the apostles themselves.

Two virtues are attributed to Thomas: *First*, upon seeing Jesus, Thomas proclaimed: “My Lord and My God!” and that was basically it for Thomas. All his doubt disappeared and his belief in the Lord was so strong and accompanied him for the rest of his life. He was not airing his doubts just for the sake of being different or for being difficult; he doubted in order to become sure. And finally, when he did, his surrender to certainty was complete once and for all. *Second*, Thomas absolutely refused to say that he did believe what he did not understand, or vice versa. There is an uncompromising honesty about him. He would never still in his doubts by pretending that they did not exist. Thomas wanted to be sure and he was quite right.

The New Sunday definitely puts an end to the old way of looking at the Lord. He is no longer revealed in the flesh as the disciples had experienced Him during His life, nor in glory as Thomas just did. From here on, He is revealed in Spirit, through faith and intimate experience. His word is crystal clear resounding not only for Thomas, but also for all ages and generations: “You became a believer because you saw Me, blest are they who have not seen and have believed.” We become a new creation with Thomas on this New Sunday. With Thomas today all faithful become new believers, thus, this Sunday’s Title “New Sunday.” Let us not blame St. Thomas for we fall into the same trap over and over again. At times we are stubborn, other times we are weak in faith, still other times we falter and despair. In our spiritual life we constantly sway back and forth between faith and doubt and doubt and faith, strength and weakness and vice versa. Let us Today become new, true believers once and for all just like St. Thomas on this New Sunday.