



## 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

**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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# READINGS

July 2024

## July 7 8th Sunday of Pentecost

Epistle

Rom 8:1-11

Gospel

Mt 12:14-21



## July 14 9th Sunday of Pentecost

Epistle

2 Cor 5:20-6:10

Gospel

Lk 4:14-21



\* L I T U R G Y I N T E N T I O N S \*

FROM

Remember your loved ones with Mass Intentions

July 7	11:00 AM	Our Youths	By: The Priest
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July 14	11:00 AM	Available	
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July 21	11:00 AM	All Parishioners	By: The Priest
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## HOSPITALITY - COFFEE HOUR / 2024

July 7	Rita & John Jajo
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July 14	Amale & Habib Lawandos
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July 21	Covered Dish
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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 30, 2024



Weekly offering	\$1,823.00
Coffee Hour	\$40.00
Donation	\$1,000.00
Second Collection	\$314.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$3,177.00</b>

Thank You for your generosity and  
your support

## Important Messages

### Daily Readings

Monday: Acts 15:36-16:10; Lk 11:1-4

Tuesday: Acts 16:11-23; Lk 11:5-8

Wednesday: Acts 16:25-34; Lk 11:9-13

Thursday: Acts 17:1-12; Lk 11:14-23

Friday: Acts 17:16-34; Lk 11:24-26

Saturday: Acts 18:1-11; Lk 11:27-32



## 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

- September 8: Catholic University of America and Maronite Seminary
- October 20: World Mission Sunday
- November 3: Maronite Patriarchal Charities

## UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS - 2024

- |              |                             |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| July 20:     | St. Elias the Prophet       |
| July 21:     | St. Sharbel Celebration     |
| July 23:     | Actual feast of St. Sharbel |
| Sept. 21-22: | Taste of Lebanon Festival   |

## **Eighth Sunday of Pentecost**

**Qurbano P. 425; Creed P. 748; Anaphora of St. Mark p. 835**

### **The Spirituality of the Apostle (Matthew 12:14-21)**

The gospel this Sunday concentrates on the spirituality of the apostle. It is only in the gospel of Saint Matthew that we see this quote from the prophesy of Isaiah (Is 42: 1-4). It is a precise description of Jesus himself for his kindness, mercy and humility. Jesus, who is walking in truth to triumph, who is abundantly filled with the Holy Spirit, and with the power of God, is the hope of his people and of all nations.

As the Pharisees' hatred to Jesus was growing for no reason whatsoever, he did not respond with hatred, he did not rage a violent protest, and he never opposed them claiming that he has a great following of the people. Instead, he preferred to distance himself from them as he continued his mission, working in humility and meekness with his apostles. The main purpose of today's gospel is not to emphasize the Apostle, the one who was sent, or to show his fame and glory, but rather to stress the fact that the Apostle is to accomplish his mission. Jesus' evasion of the problem was neither fear, abandonment, or hiding. Because when the hour comes, he himself will go to Jerusalem and willingly he will hand himself over to death. The gospel that Jesus is preaching is not just a mere topic for discussion. But rather, it is a proclamation of the Good News. It is a happy announcement for the weak and the sinners; it is a word which brings life to those who have lost hope. Jesus does all of these things in the Spirit of God. It is impossible for the sinner to return from his sins except through the Spirit of God. It is not possible for the paralyzed to cure himself, but the Spirit of God cures him. The person who dies in despair, has no hope in life unless he receives the life-giving spirit who will raise him from death!

This, in fact, is the Spirituality of the Apostle. His mission is a divine act that no difficulties in this life, be they internal or external, can hinder it. The reason being is that because his strength is from the Spirit of God and his armor is God's Graciousness, Word and Power.

Jesus came to bring justice to all nations. Justice at the time of Jesus was defined as: "Giving to God and to man that which is their due." Jesus showed men how to live in such a way that both God and man receive their proper place in our lives. Jesus did not come to the world to engage into street fights or brawl with anyone. We know about the strength and serenity of the one who wants to conquer by love and not by strife or conflicts.

Isaiah prophesied that "a bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he shall not quench." The bruised reed which is not able to stand erect on its own, the wick which is dim and weak, these are referring to the shaky and weak situation of humanity. A man's witness may be shaky, the light of his life may be but a single little flicker. Jesus did not come to discourage it but to strengthen it. He did not come to treat the weak with contempt, but with understanding. He did not come to extinguish our dimming light, but to nurse it back and make it a stronger light to shine upon other. Finally, the Gentiles will place their hopes on him. His invitation was not just to one nation but to all men so that every human being may know God, share in his plan of salvation and accept his love.

Adopting the spirituality and the likeness of Jesus, through meekness, kindness and humility, the Apostle who is sent on a special mission will attain justice and will triumph in the end like the Lord himself did.