



SAINT SHARBEL PARISH

WEEKLY BULLETIN #2024-287

August 25, 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.

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READINGS

August-September 2024



August 25	15th Sunday of Pentecost	
	Epistle	Gospel
	1 Thes 1:1-10	Lk 7:36-50
September 1	16th Sunday of Pentecost	
	Epistle	Gospel
	Rom 8:18-27	Lk 18:9-14



*** LITURGY INTENTIONS * FROM**
Remember your loved ones with Mass Intentions

August 25	11:00 AM	Remember Me In Your Kingdom	By: The Priest
Sept. 1	11:00 AM	Available	
Sept. 8	11:00 AM	Available	

HOSPITALITY - COFFEE HOUR / 2024

August 25	Faeqa & Joseph Mimarbashi
Sept. 1	Ana & Hady Abi-Aad
Sept. 8	Ghada & Mounif Aoun



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

PARISH OFFERING

August 18, 2024



Weekly offering	\$1,416.00
Coffee Hour	\$56.00
Total Income	\$1,472.00

Thank You for your generosity and your support

Important Messages

Daily Readings

Monday: Jas 1:1-8; Lk 17:5-10
 Tuesday: Jas 1:9-18; Lk 17:11-19
 Wednesday: Jas 1:19-27; Lk 17:20-25
 Thursday: Jas 2:1-13; Lk 17:26-30
 Friday: Jas 2:14-26; Lk 17:31-37
 Saturday: Jas 3:1-12 Lk 18:1-8



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

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

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS - 2024

- September 21-22: Taste of Lebanon Festival
- December 14: Christmas Dinner

Fourteenth Sunday of Pentecost

Qurbono P. 492; Creed P. 748; Anaphora of St. Mark p. 835

Accepting the Word: The Repentance of the Sinful Woman (Luke 7:36-50)

This Sunday emphasizes the acceptance of the Word. It reminds us of the repentance of the sinful woman. St. Luke is the only evangelist who did not mention her name so that she may remain an example for every repentant sinner who loves so that his sins may be forgiven no matter how great or how many they are! The liturgical tradition called her “Mary” and referred to “Mary Magdeline.” St. Luke mentioned her for the first time in chapter 8, verse 2, among the women whom Jesus cured from evil spirits and diseases. These women spent their fortune in serving Jesus and his apostles, and accompanied them while they were preaching in the towns and villages, in Galilee, then they followed him to Jerusalem! Thus, this Sunday is an opportunity to rectify this error in both our Liturgical and public tradition!

The Pharisees appear in the Gospel of St. Luke as the friends of Jesus, because they invite him to eat with them. A woman who is known to be a sinner enters the house of Simon, the Pharisee, and began to wet the feet of Jesus with her tears, dry them with her hair, kiss them and poured on them expensive perfume. At this scene, the Pharisee was utterly outraged as to how Jesus, who is a prophet, accepts this well known sinner to touch him. However, Jesus knew what was in the mind of the Pharisee and what was in the heart of the sinful woman. First, Jesus answered with a parable and then clarified the meaning of what the sinful woman did—as if she acted in place of Simon, the owner of the house, and did a brilliant job in hosting Jesus! In the end, the Lord addressed himself to the woman, forgiving all her sins, emphasizing her faith and saying to her: “Go in Peace!”

Also, it is necessary to rectify the error that exists between this sinful woman and “Mary, the sister of Lazarus.” It was the sister of Lazarus who poured the bottle of perfume on the head of Jesus before his passion, as it is mentioned in each of the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and John. [The bottle of perfume, full of the aromatic nard, was the most expensive perfume that time].

Even though St. Luke did not mention how and where this sinful woman heard, accepted the Word of Jesus, and then repented, he emphasized the whole incident, in 15 verses, to make of her the archetype example of repentance and of accepting the forgiving, the cleansing and the sanctifying Word of the Lord Jesus!

Simon as a Pharisee did not despise Jesus, for he gave Jesus the title, Rabbi in Verse 40. It seems that Simon invited Jesus to impress his circle of friends by inviting a celebrity to his home. He believed that he himself is a good man in the sight of God and society. He was conscious of the fact that he is not in need of anything, and therefore, felt no love and received no forgiveness. Self sufficiency shuts the door between us and God. This sinful woman was not worried about what people around her would say. She knew full well that humanity condemns, but God loves and forgives. She was conscious of that great need for him and knew that he alone would solve her dilemma. Having put her faith in him and treated him with such courtesy and royal hospitality, she was overwhelmed with love and received forgiveness.

We read the Word of God in the Bible. We hear it preached from the pulpit. We encounter it in our everyday life. What is important is to act upon it, apply it to our daily life, and emulate the example of the sinful woman by showing Jesus our gratitude. It was her acceptance and her act of love and repentance that earned her his trust. We must do the same.