



# SAINT SHARBEL PARISH

WEEKLY BULLETIN #2024-294  
October 13, 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](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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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

# September—October 2024



<b>October 13</b>	<b>5th Sunday of the Holy Cross</b>	
	<b>Epistle</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
	Phil 2:12-18	Mt 25:1-13
<b>October 20</b>	<b>6th Sunday after Holy Cross</b>	
	<b>Epistle</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
	Gal 6:1-10	Mt 25:14-30



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

Oct. 13	11:00 AM	Joseph George	By: Gloria Salim-Brown
Oct.20	11:00 AM	Available	
Oct. 27	11:00 AM	Available	

## HOSPITALITY - COFFEE HOUR / 2024

Oct. 13	Janane & Elie Abou-Rjeileh
Oct. 20	Nathalie & Jack Daoud
Oct. 27	Yolla & Imad Harb



*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

**October 6, 2024**



Weekly offering	\$1,032.00
Candle Intentions	\$69.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,101.00</b>

*Thank You for your generosity and your support*

### Important Messages

#### Daily Readings

Monday: 1 Cor 1:1-9; Lk 16:1-12  
 Tuesday: 1 Cor 1:10-17; Lk 18:1-8  
 Wednesday: 1 Cor 1:26-31; Lk 19:11-28  
 Thursday: 1 Cor 3:10-23; Mk 4:21-25  
 Friday: 1 Cor 4:1-13; Mk 4:26-29  
 Saturday: 1 Cor 4:14-21; Mt 22:1-14



## **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**

- October 20: World Mission Sunday
- November 3: Maronite Patriarchal Charities

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS - 2024**

- October 13: Order of St. Sharbel Sunday
- December 1: Ste Barbara Trunk or Treat
- December 7: MYO One Day Retreat
- December 14: Christmas Dinner
- December 22: Children Christmas Party

## **Fifth Sunday after Holy Cross**

**Qurbano P. 606; Creed P. 748; Anaphora of The Twelve Apostles p. 754**

### **(Matthew 25:1-13)**

The parable of the ten virgins is only described by St. Matthew. It emphasizes vigilance and preparation, waiting for the Lord, no matter how long he delays his coming! Jesus is the bridegroom, the faithful who are awaiting the Lord's coming are the virgins, the oil of the lamps is the acquired wisdom, the good deeds and the acceptance to do the will of God, so that the faithful may have a share in the kingdom of Christ. The Scripture readings of the following week are a selection for the various parables of Jesus about his mysteries, the mystery of his kingdom, and the kingdom of heaven.

Preparedness and constant vigilance explain the whole meaning of this parable. It makes us aware of the reality that certain things cannot be obtained at the last minutes. As straight as it can be, it hits us with the reality, that neither at the last minute nor at any other time in our life, can we use the deeds of others to our credit. Either we have earned and acquired these deeds through our way of life, or we have not. Waiting for someone to bail us out at the end is the greatest misconception: (a) we cannot be sure that anyone will be willing to assist us; (b) we do not know whether anyone is capable of helping us; and (c) they may be occupied taking care of their own. Thus, the lesson of this powerful parable is preparedness and vigilance. This gospel splits down the middle and clarifies the two categories of which mankind is made: industriousness and laziness. Have we ever asked ourselves to which of these we do belong!

There are plenty of examples and parables in the scriptures teaching and warning us to be vigilant. Do we pay attention to such teaching? Do we check if we are on the right track? Have we acquired what it takes to run the race? Our approach to life puts things in the right perspective! A concrete example may help us understand this analogy. Not having studied for three full years, can a law student acquire all the material of the subject matter he needs in one day, before he takes the Bar examination? Can a medical student, in one night, learn six years worth of specialization, to successfully operate on a patient with a life threatening situation? The answer is absolutely not. From these two simple examples we can deduce that acquiring skills and knowledge require years of preparation, attentiveness and vigilance.

How easy it is for us to fall into the trap of being so sure of ourselves! How often do we say: "O, I will take care of this matter later?" Life is so appealing, distracting and attractive. We easily follow the things that lead us to destruction, always forgetting about the most important matter in life, and that is to save our soul. The greatest point of this parable is that it teaches us that there are certain things which cannot be borrowed. The foolish virgins could not borrow oil the minute the groom arrived. We cannot purchase or borrow a relationship with God. It must be a lifelong relationship, personal and individual. Some things in life can be borrowed and returned. Some other things can be borrowed but can never be returned. But there are things that can never be borrowed or returned, that is an impossibility. These we must have acquired and earned for ourselves, for they cannot be readily or freely given, purchased or borrowed. The moral is get ready. Be prepared. Do not wait, start now. You cannot, at the last minute, claim what is not yours, or acquire what you have not worked for.

***Lord, grant me wisdom to do what is necessary to prepare myself properly for the day of your coming.***