

## 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







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	December 2024		
December 15	Revelation to Joseph		
	Epistle	Gospel	
	Eph 3:1-13	Mt 1:18-25	ĵ
December 22	Genealogy Sunday		
	Epistle	Gospel	
	Rom 1:1-12	Mt 1:1-17	

Mas	S	*LITURGY INTENTIO		
Inter	itions	Remember your loved ones with Mass Intentions		
Dec. 15	11:00 AM	Available		
Dec. 22	11:00 AM	Available		
Dec. 25	Midnight & 11 AM	All Parishioners	By: The Priest	

# Dec. 15 Roche & David Haught Dec. 22 Marie, Nagy, & Andy Guorgui Dec. 25 Yule Log (Buche de Noel)

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

Donation for coffee hour is appreciated

PARISH OFFERING  December 8, 2024			
Weeкly offering	\$1,540.00		
Donations	\$2,500.00		
Coffee Hour	\$68.00		
Total Income	\$4,108.00		
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Thank You for your generosity and your support

## **Important Messages**

## **Daily Readings**

Monday: Rom 10:14-21; Jn 7:1-10

Tuesday: Rom 11:1-12; Jn 7:11-18

Wednesday: Rom 11:13-24; Jn 7:25-30

Thursday: Rom 11:25-36; Jn 7:31-36

Friday: Rom 12:1-8; Jn 7:37-44

Saturday: Rom 12:9-21; Jn 7:45-53



### 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**

December 25: Pastor's Collection

#### UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS - 2024

December 14: Christmas Dinner

December 16-24: Christmas Novena

December 22: Children Christmas Party

December 25: Christmas Midnight Liturgy

December 25: Christmas Day 11:00 AM Liturgy

# **Revelation to Joseph**

Qurbono P. 57; Creed P. 748; Anaphora of St. James p. 794

## Joseph..., be not afraid to take Mary as your wife (Matthew 1:18-25)

An angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and told him, "Joseph, Son of David, be not afraid to take Mary as your wife, the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit."

This Sunday takes us back to the Mystery of the Virgin who is expecting the incarnate Son of God through the power of the Holy Spirit. God revealed this Mystery to Joseph her spouse and gave him the responsibility to foster her child so that God's promise is fulfilled in the prophesy of Isaiah about the Virgin Mother and in the prophesy of Nathan about the coming of the Messiah through the lineage of King David.

Joseph is a just and righteous man in the eyes of the Church. Even though Mary was with child, he listened to the word of the Angel and protected Mary and the unborn child by making her his wife. Outwardly he appeared patient and kind. But he was in a state of total and complete confusion about what he should do. He felt peer pressure, and his human pride and male ego were surely bruised. However, he accepted God's Plan, and obeyed the Angel's command. That is why it was credited to him to being a JUST AND RIGHTEOUS figure. Thus, he put the words of the Angel into action.

He was a carpenter and practical man; a man of detail to insure quality work; a prudent man, knowing that he must work within the limits of the wood or poor workmanship or wasted materials were the results. These qualities made him a good carpenter. In the quiet trust that Joseph exhibits, he realized that he himself was a piece of wood in the hands of God, the Loving Artist, who carved him to do as the angel commanded.

Is it possible in the midst of this fear-provoking world to live in the house of love and listen to the questions raised by the Lord of Love? Or are we so accustomed to living in fear that we have become deaf to the voice that says, "Do not be afraid"? This reassuring voice, which repeats over and over again: "Do not be afraid, have no fear" is the voice we most need to hear. This voice was heard by Zechariah when Gabriel, the Angel of the Lord, appeared to him in the temple and told him that his wife, Elizabeth, would bear him a son. This voice was heard by Mary when the same Angel entered her house in Nazareth and announced that she would conceive, bear a child and name him Jesus. This voice was also heard by the women who saw that the stone was rolled away. "Do not be afraid, do not be afraid, do not be afraid." The voice uttering these words sounds all through history as the voice of God's holy messengers, be they angels or saints. It is the voice that announces a whole new way of being in the house of love, the house of the Lord.

#### A Special prayer to St. Joseph

"Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interest and desires. Oh, St. Joseph assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your divine Son all spiritual blessings, so that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving to the most loving of Fathers. Oh St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you, and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask Him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, Patron of departed souls - Pray for me."