

Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church Las Vegas

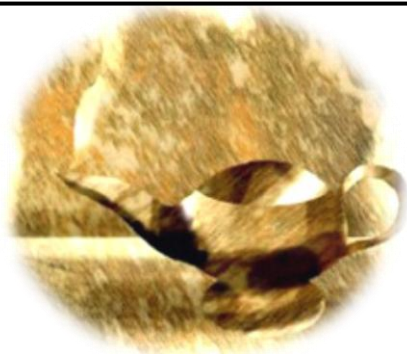
4th Sunday of the Glorious Resurrection

St. Sharbel
Pray for us!

May 2020



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Live Stream Holy MASS

Go to the St. Sharbel website
www.stsharbellsvegas.org

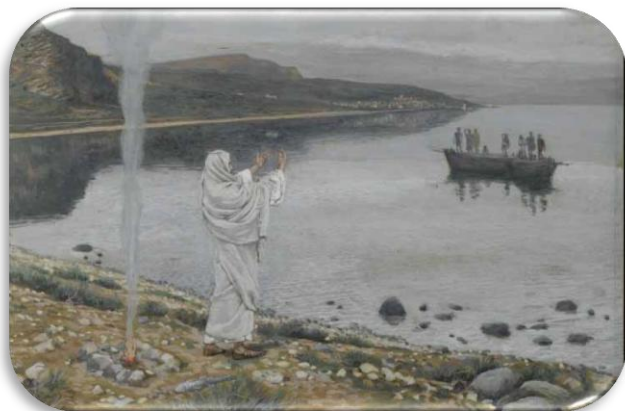
click on Facebook or YouTube

Every Sunday
10 am English/Arabic

To Keep a Lamp Burning we have
to Keep Putting Oil in it. M. Theresa

“And Jesus was standing on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. He took the bread and gave it to them, and the fish in the same way. This was the third time that Jesus appeared to His disciples after His Resurrection from the dead.” (John 21:4, 13-14)

Jesus' very first meeting and His Last meeting with His disciples takes place at the sea. On this last occasion, Peter and the others had gone fishing. They hadn't caught anything. When they approached the shore they saw a man waiting for them, He asked them for some fish. They told Him that they had caught nothing, He suggested they throw the net out once more. This time they caught 153 big fishes! They realized that the Man was Jesus.



4TH SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION

Afterwards Jesus said to them: “Come and have breakfast.” None of the disciples dared asked Him: “Who are You?” They knew it was the Lord. They knew Him after breaking the Bread with Him, and we know Jesus when we share at His banquet and eat His Body and Blood. Jesus always likes to surprise us, and the best surprise is His Resurrection and His apparition to His disciples. It is a sign of hope for a better future. Remember that Jesus is waiting for you, Jesus will come at a time you wouldn't expect Him, He will come through the poor and the needy, and the sick.

LET US PRAY:

Lord Jesus, open our eyes
to see You,
open our ears
to listen to You,
enlighten our minds
to realize Your wish
and recognize You, through our
brothers and sisters. Amen.

Fr. Nadim Abou Aeid

READING:

Hebrews

13:18-25

GOSPEL: _

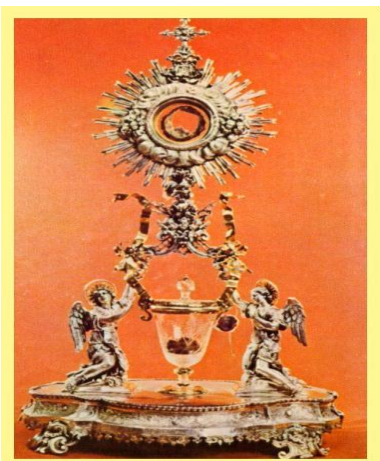
John 21:1-14

Eucharistic Miracle Lanciano, Italy 8th Century A.D.

Ancient Anxanum, the city of the Frentanese, has contained for over twelve centuries the first and greatest Eucharistic Miracle of the Catholic Church. This wondrous Event took place in the 8th century A.D. in the little Church of St. Legontian, as a divine response to a Basilian monk's doubt about Jesus' Real Presence in the Eucharist. During Holy Mass, after the two-fold Consecration, the host was changed into live Flesh and the wine was changed into live Blood, which coagulated into five globules, irregular and differing in shape and size. The Host-Flesh, as can be very distinctly observed today, has the same dimensions as the large host used today in the Latin church; it is light brown and appears rose-colored when lighted from the back. The Blood is coagulated and has an earthy color resembling the yellow of ochre. Various ecclesiastical investigation ("Recognitions") were conducted since 1574. In 1970-'71 and taken up again partly in 1981 there took place a scientific investigation by the most illustrious scientist Prof. Odoardo Linoli, eminent Professor in Anatomy and Pathological Histology and in Chemistry and Clinical Microscopy. He was assisted by Prof. Ruggero Bertelli of the University of Siena. The analyses were conducted with absolute and unquestionable scientific precision and they were documented with a series of microscopic photographs. These analyses sustained the following conclusions:



- The Flesh is real Flesh. The Blood is real Blood.
- The Flesh and the Blood belong to the human species.
- The Flesh consists of the muscular tissue of the heart.
- In the Flesh we see present in section: the myocardium, the endocardium, the vagus nerve and also the left ventricle of the heart for the large thickness of the myocardium.
- The Flesh is a "HEART" complete in its essential structure.
- The Flesh and the Blood have the same blood-type: AB (Blood-type identical to that which Prof. Baima Bollone uncovered in the Holy Shroud of Turin).
- In the Blood there were found proteins in the same normal proportions (percentage-wise) as are found in the sero-proteic make-up of the fresh normal blood.
- In the Blood there were also found these minerals: chlorides, phosphorus, magnesium, potassium, sodium and calcium.
- The preservation of the Flesh and of the Blood, which were left in their natural state for twelve centuries and exposed to the action of atmospheric and biological agents, remains an extraordinary phenomenon.



**"O Lord, we cannot go to the
pool of Siloe to which
you sent the blind man.
But we have the chalice of
Your Precious Blood,
filled with life and light.
The purer we are,
the more we receive."
- St. Ephraem**

OUR HOLY FATHER POPE FRANCIS PONDERES POST-PANDEMIC PLAN

While governments at all levels contemplate how to return to “normal” after the coronavirus pandemic, Pope Francis is preparing for its own resurrection from quarantine.

He offered thoughts on the topic in a reflection that appeared on April 17, 2020, on the website of the Spanish-language periodical *Vida Nueva*. In the reflection, the Holy Father draws comparisons between the experience of people today during the pandemic and the resurrection of Jesus.

“Rejoice” is the first word spoken by the Risen Lord, the Pope pointed out, as reported in the *Vatican News* analysis of the reflection. He recalled that it was the word Jesus used it to greet “Mary Magdalene and the other Mary after they had discovered that the tomb was empty.... He is the Risen One and wants to raise these women to new life, and with them, all of humanity”.

Inviting the disciples going to Emmaus to rejoice would have been provoking, Pope Francis continues, according to *Vatican News*. Our experience today, he reflects, is much like that of the first disciples. We, like them, “live surrounded by an atmosphere of pain and uncertainty...” and are asking “Who will roll away the stone?” (Mk 16:3). He describes the tombstone as one that “threatens to bury all hope” and enumerates the consequences so many are living: the elderly forced into complete isolation, families who can no longer put food on the table, frontliners who are “exhausted and overwhelmed”. It’s a “heaviness” he says, “that seems to have the last word”. It’s the women who did not allow the events of Christ’s Passion to paralyze them, Pope Francis said. In this reflection, he picks up where he began in his homily of the Easter vigil. “Out of love for the Master, and with their typical, irreplaceable and blessed feminine genius, they were able to confront life as it came”. While the Apostles first fled, denied Him, then hid out of fear, the women found ways to overcome every obstacle in their path. They did it by simply “being and accompanying”.

The comparison between the resurrection and the pandemic also surfaced in the Holy Father’s homily at Mass in Casa Santa Marta in the Vatican on April 13.

“God always begins with women, always,” Pope Francis asserted on the 13th. “They open ways. They don’t doubt: they know; they have seen Him; they have touched Him. They have also seen the empty sepulcher.

“It’s true that the disciples couldn’t believe it and said: ‘But these women, perhaps, are a little too imaginative’ . . . I don’t know; they had their doubts. However, they were sure and in the end, they pursued this path until today: Jesus is risen; He is alive among us (Cf. *Matthew* 28:9-10).”

The Holy Father in that homily continued by drawing a comparison to the decision the women made when confronted with the empty tomb and decisions coming in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. The women proclaimed the truth. Others — the guards — accepted money to keep silent.

“Today also, in face of the coming — let’s hope it’s soon — the coming end of this pandemic, there is the same option: either our bet will be for life, for the resurrection of the peoples, or it will be for the god money: to return to the sepulcher of hunger, of slavery, of wars, of the arms factories, of children without education . . . the sepulcher is there.”

In his April 17 reflection, the Pope praises the efforts of the many people caring for the sick during the pandemic.

Many today are “carrying perfume” and “bringing the anointing” of “co-responsibility”, Francis said. They are ministering to the Lord in their brothers and sisters. Some do this by not being a risk to others, others put their lives at risk. “Doctors, nurses, people stocking supermarket shelves, cleaners, caretakers, people who transport goods, public safety officials, volunteers, priests, women religious, grandparents, educations, and many others” have asked the same question the women asked: “Who will roll away the stone?” Yet, the Pope acknowledges, this has not kept them from “doing what they felt they could and were obliged to do”.

Quoting *Global Pandemic and Universal Brotherhood: Note on the Covid-19 emergency*, by the Pontifical Academy for Life, Pope Francis emphasizes that this pandemic needs to be treated with the “antibodies of solidarity”. “Each individual action”, he underlines, “is not an isolated one.” “For better or for worse” all of our actions affect others. Each person is a “protagonist” of history and can respond to the evils affecting millions worldwide. “It is not permissible that we write current and future history by turning our backs on the suffering of so many people”, he said.

In an interview earlier this week, Cardinal Peter Turkson, Prefect of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, outlined efforts the dicastery is taking in response to the pandemic and preparations for dealing with its aftermath.

“We have set up five working groups that are already at work. We have already had two working meetings with the Holy Father,” Cardinal Turkson explained. “We have created a command center, to coordinate the initiatives meant to be enacted during the crisis and those that concern preparing for tomorrow. Ours is a service in terms of action and thought. We need concrete action now, and we are doing it.

“We need to look beyond today, to chart the course for the difficult journey that awaits us. If we do not think about tomorrow, we will find ourselves unprepared once again. Taking action today and thinking about tomorrow are not alternatives...Our team has already begun to collaborate with the Secretariat of State, the Dicastery for Communications, Caritas Internationalis, the Pontifical Academies of Science and Life, the Office of Papal Charities, the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples and the Vatican Pharmacy. We have created a somewhat new mode of collaboration between our team and the various Dicasteries and offices of the Holy See: a task force mode. An agile collaboration that bears witness to the unity and the ability of the Church to react.”

MIDDLE EAST PATRIARCHS SPEAK OF FAITH, HOPE, DURING EASTER HOMILIES

Catholic patriarchs of the Middle East, in Easter messages from churches barren of the faithful due to the coronavirus, lamented the scourge of the pandemic while evoking the hope of the Resurrection.

Lebanese Cardinal Bechara Rai, Maronite patriarch, acknowledged that the COVID-19 threat had deprived the faithful of celebrating Easter in churches. Still, he said, Jesus wants people to be “a bright light in the darkness.”

“We pray for the recovery of all those infected and the protection of all citizens, as well as those who care for those afflicted with the virus, such as doctors, nurses and family members,” he said appealing to the Lebanese people to stay quarantined in order to prevent the spread of the virus.

On top of the pandemic, Lebanon is on the edge of economic collapse.

Rai urged the government to focus on social justice, to preserve the life savings of Lebanese and to recover what he called the state’s “looted” funds.

In Beirut, Syriac Catholic Patriarch Ignace Joseph III Younan reminded the faithful of the saving power of Jesus.

“Would that those who control the affairs of people in this world ... refrain from their selfishness and narrow interests and realize that their might, no matter how great, is so small in front of a virus that the naked eye cannot see, but has spread through the globe with a tremendous speed,” Younan said.

“We, by the power of Our Lord Jesus, who is victorious over death, will inevitably overcome it, and the life cycle will return to normal,” he said.

“Let us plead with him from the bottom of our hearts to give the whole world a recovery in spirit and body, so that we can live true peace,” he added.

While acknowledging the negative consequences of home quarantine, Patriarch Younan emphasized that “we can turn it into a blessing and a time of grace, strengthening the bonds of honor and the bonds of family cohesion and relations of brotherhood, friendship and love between us.”

From Damascus, Syria, Melkite Catholic Patriarch Joseph Absi stressed how faith and hope are needed “in these difficult days that we live in pain, in anxiety and fear.”

“We have seen countries that refrain from helping other countries in urgent need,” Patriarch Absi said. Yet, the Resurrection “invites us to see the other as a brother and friend” rather than as “an enemy or an opponent.”

He prayed that the whole world could overcome the pandemic “by joint and concerted action, with one heart and one determination, and in the work of universal love that knows no borders whatsoever.”

From Baghdad, Cardinal Louis Raphael Sako, Chaldean patriarch, said, “the coincidence of having Easter during the catastrophe of coronavirus might result in enlightening our insights, so we can rise from our stumble, stronger and more determined to bear the full responsibility for humankind and the whole world.”



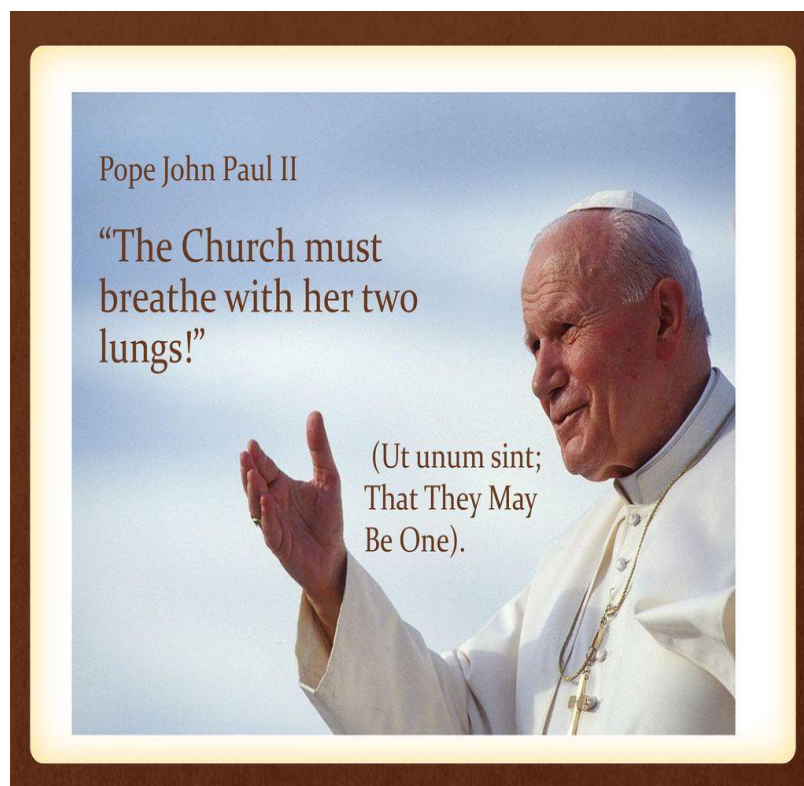
Syriac Catholic Patriarch Ignace Joseph III Younan celebrates Easter Mass April 12, 2020, at St. Ignatius Church in Beirut; the Mass was livestreamed because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Humanity, the Iraqi cardinal said, “needs an awakening for its rebirth.”

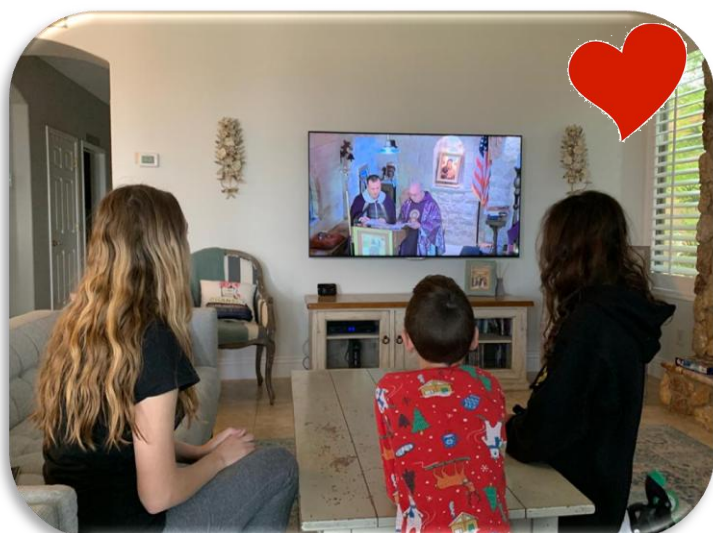
Pointing to the evils of the world, including corruption, greed, violence, murders, threats, displacement, divorce and abortion, Cardinal Sako noted how “we have distanced God from our world.”

“Hence, the Easter and coronavirus lesson is nothing more than an invitation for a full conversion to God ... as we prepare for a better future,” Sako said.

Political leaders must “correct their approaches and find the right solutions for respecting life in all its forms” and stop encouraging the production of deadly weapons, he said, adding, “Let us pray for the rebirth of humanity and the revival of our world.”



♥ St. Sharbel Live Stream ♥
Palm Sunday - Easter Sunday



MIRACLE OF ST. SHARBEL: HANNA TANNOUS EL ALAM

On June 6, 1950, Mrs. Habiba, spouse of Tannous Youssef El Alam from Bcharreh, Maronite, 45 year-old, and accompanied by her handicapped son Hanna, 20 year-old, appeared in front of us and declared the following:

“My son Hanna suffered from typhoid fever when he was nine months. As a result, he got paralyzed and deaf. He started walking as a turtle arousing pity. We were communicating with him using signs.

When we heard the news of the Blessed Charbel, I brought him, two weeks ago, to visit the tomb but he was not healed. When we came back home, he woke up at night, crawled and knocked on the door saying: “Take me to St. Charbel”. He explained to us that he saw St. Charbel who asked him to pray continuously.

Today, June 6, I brought him again to the monastery of St Maron in Annaya where we visited at first the tomb. My son was crawling and praying. I rubbed him with blessed water and oil. Around 3 o'clock, he stood up, he recovered the hearing sense and started to talk and dance with joy. He is now in front of you. He is healed as if he is born again. I attribute this healing to F. Charbel.

It is worth to mention that we put at home the picture of F. Charbel but we forgot to bring incense. In the evening, when my husband came back, he smelled the scent of incense. He asked me: “Did you burn incense?” I answered: “No”. “Father Charbel is warning us that we have to bring incense,” he said.

After reading this certificate to her, she signed it affixing her thumbprint. The witnesses: Georges Azar, Sarah Saker and Youssef Tanious.



Saint Charbel, Lebanon

*Without always
professing the three
evangelical
counsels publicly,
hermits "devote their
life to the praise of
God and salvation
of the world through
a stricter separation
from the world, the
silence of solitude
and assiduous
prayer and
penance."*

-- CCC 920

PRAYER TO OBTAIN GRACE FROM ST. SHARBEL

Lord, infinitely Saint and Glorified in Thy Saints, Who has inspired the Saint Monk and Hermit Charbel to live and die in the path of Jesus Christ, and gave him the strength to detach himself from the world in order to make triumph, in his hermitage, the monastic virtues: - We implore Thee to bestow upon us the grace to love Thee and serve Thee following his example. God Almighty, Who has manifested the power of the Saint Charbel's intercession, by the numerous miracles and favours, grant us the Grace (...) by his intercession. Amen

OUR LADY OF FATIMA

MAY 13

Between May 13 and October 13, 1917, three Portuguese children received apparitions of Our Lady at Cova da Iria, near Fatima, a city 110 miles north of Lisbon. (See February 20 entry for Blesseds Jacinta and Francisco Marto). Mary asked the children to pray the rosary for world peace, for the end of World War I, for sinners and for the conversion of Russia. The third visionary, Lucia dos Santos, became a Carmelite nun and died in 2005 at the age of 97. Mary gave the children three secrets. Since Francisco died in 1919 and Jacinta the following year, Lucia revealed the first secret in 1927, concerning devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The second secret was a vision of hell.

Pope John Paul II directed the Holy See's Secretary of State to reveal the third secret in 2000; it spoke of a "bishop in white" who was shot by a group of soldiers who fired bullets and arrows into him. Many people linked this to the assassination attempt against Blessed John Paul II in St. Peter's Square on May 13, 1981.

The feast of Our Lady of Fatima was approved by the local bishop in 1930; it was added to the Church's worldwide calendar in 2002.

The message of Fatima is simple: Pray. Unfortunately, some people—not Sister Lucia—have distorted these revelations, making them into an apocalyptic event for which they are now the only reliable interpreters.



"Are you suffering a great deal? Do not lose heart. I will never abandon you."

"My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge, and the path that leads you to God."

~Our Lady of Fatima, 1917

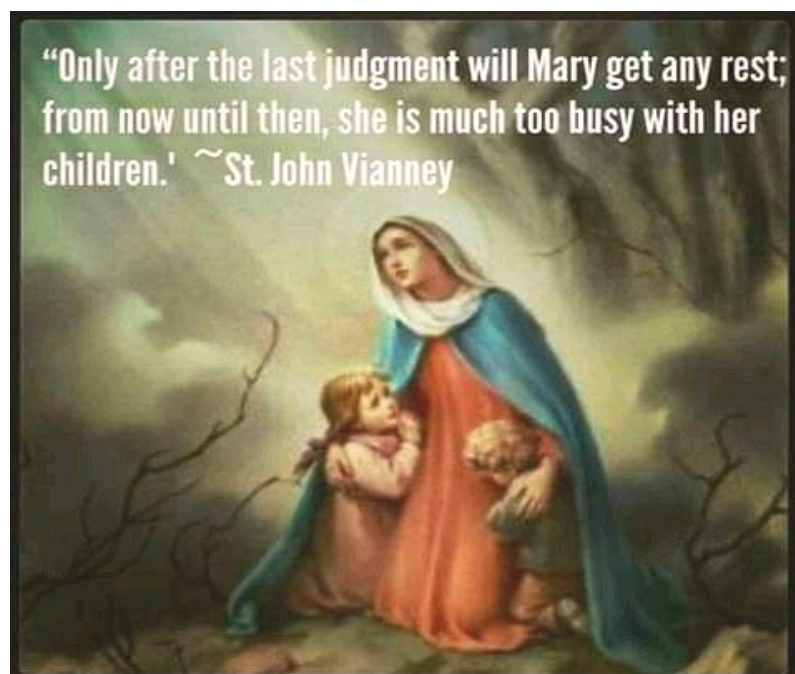
<http://facebook.com/KeepingItCatholic>

They have, for example, claimed that Mary's request that the world be consecrated to her has been ignored. Sister Lucia agreed that Pope John Paul II's public consecration in St. Peter's Square on March 25, 1984, fulfilled Mary's request. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith prepared a June 26, 2000 document explaining the "third secret" (available at www.vatican.va). Mary is perfectly honored when people generously imitate her response "Let it be done to me as you say" (Luke 1:38). Mary can never be seen as a rival to Jesus or to the Church's teaching authority, as exercised by the college of bishops united with the bishop of Rome.



Jacinta and Francisco Marto;
and Lucia de Jesus Santos

"Throughout history there have been supernatural apparitions and signs which go to the heart of human events and which, to the surprise of believers and non-believers alike, play their part in the unfolding of history. These manifestations can never contradict the content of faith and must, therefore, have their focus in the core of Christ's proclamation: the Father's love which leads men and women to conversion and bestows the grace required to abandon oneself to him with filial devotion. This too is the message of Fatima which, with its urgent call to conversion and penance, draws us to the heart of the Gospel" (*The Message of Fatima*, Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, June 26, 2000).



"Only after the last judgment will Mary get any rest; from now until then, she is much too busy with her children." ~St. John Vianney

May 5: FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LEBANON

Lebanon is a land of exceptional beauty and history. Situated on the east coast of the Mediterranean Sea, the Lebanon mountain range rises majestically from the sea to snow-capped mountain peaks that reach over 10,000 feet. Nestled in the mountains in the north are the famous Cedars of Lebanon, often referred to in the Bible, such as in the Books of Kings, Psalms, Song of Songs, and the Prophet Isaiah.

Jesus and **Mary** visited Lebanon during his public ministry.

Lebanon has a special devotion to the **Blessed Virgin Mary**, the Mother of Jesus, and she has become known there as Our Lady of Lebanon. For, while she was living, she visited there with her Son! There is a sanctuary in the south of Lebanon dedicated to the Virgin of **Mantara**, a place where Mary stayed awaiting her Son, when Jesus went to Tyre and Sidon. The Basilica of Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church is located in **Harissa**, a small town about thirty minutes north of Beirut, the capital city. The Blessed Virgin Mary was named the Queen of Lebanon by the Maronite Patriarch in 1908 upon completion of the Basilica. The Shrine was visited by Pope John Paul II in May of 1997 in his effort to support Eastern Catholicism and to evangelize the youth. Located between Jounieh on the coast and Bkerke, Harissa is surrounded by numerous churches and monasteries.

Jesus Christ was the first to evangelize the Gentiles when he visited Tyre and performed a miracle for the Syro-Phoenician woman's daughter, as noted in Matthew 15:21-28 and Mark 7:24-30. He then went by way of Sidon on to the Sea of Galilee (Mark 7:31). The Gospel of John 2:1-12 describes Jesus performing his first miracle, when he turned water into wine at the request of his mother Mary at the wedding feast of Cana in Galilee. The Cana southwest of Tyre in Lebanon today was located in the region of Galilee at the time of Jesus. The church historian Eusebius of Caesarea in 339 wrote that Cana of Galilee is the Cana south of Sidon. No one can say for sure in which of the towns named Cana the miracle of the wedding feast took place. But the fact that Jesus went down to Capernaum (John 2:12) suggests the wedding at Cana took place in Cana of Lebanon, for Cana of Palestine is south of Capernaum, and Jesus would have had to go up to Capernaum were it Cana of Palestine! There is a grotto in Qana, Lebanon with large stone water jars as well as a sculpture symbolic of Jesus and the Twelve Apostles.

*Mother of Jesus,
be my Mother
today*



Lebanon is the crossroads of the East and West. The Lebanese people are noted for their adaptability and hospitality. The population is both Christian and Muslim. Arabic, French, and English newspapers flourish in Beirut, as many Lebanese speak all three languages. The Lebanese people have migrated all over the world, reflecting their Phoenician heritage. The intellectual ties to the West are reflected in the presence of two major universities, the American University of Beirut, founded in 1866, and L'Université Saint Joseph, founded in 1870. Lebanon is the birthplace of Kahlil Gibran, the author of *The Prophet*, a book of poetry that has sold nearly ten million copies in twenty languages worldwide. The country is unique, for one can go skiing in the mountains in the morning, and swimming in the Mediterranean in the afternoon. All share in traditional Lebanese cuisine, which represents the classic Mediterranean diet. Famous for their health benefits, Lebanese prepared dishes such as grape leaves, kibbeh, tabooli, hummus, falafel, baba ghanouj, and baklava are enjoyed the world over!

March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation of Our Lady, has become a National Holiday in Lebanon, as the Virgin Mary, who is revered by Christians and Muslims alike, provides unity among Lebanese of every faith.

The Eastern Catholic **Maronite** Church of Lebanon originated from St. Maron, a monk in the fourth century who left Antioch for the Orontes River to lead an ascetic life. He soon had many followers that adopted his monastic life. Following the death of St. Maron in 410, his disciples built a monastery in his memory and formed the nucleus of the Maronite Church. The martyrdom of 350 monks, for remaining true to Rome and the Council of Chalcedon (451), led the Maronites to seek refuge in the mountains of Lebanon. The Crusader Raymond of Toulouse discovered the Maronites near the **Cedars of Lebanon** on his way to Jerusalem in 1099. The Maronites, because of their monastic origin, have been able to withstand intense pressure and persecution to preserve their Church and maintain the Christian culture of Lebanon - right to the present day. The Patriarch of the Maronite Church resides in Bkerke, near Harissa, leading his worldwide flock of over three million faithful, in countries such as Lebanon, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Mexico, and the United States. The Maronite liturgy still celebrates the Mass in **Aramaic**, the language of Jesus.

Jesus Christ commissioned his Apostles to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). St. Paul stayed a week in Tyre after his return from his third missionary journey (Acts 21:2-3), and also stopped in Sidon on his fourth missionary trip to Rome (Acts 27:3). The land was still known as Phoenicia at the time Jesus Christ lived.



*Our Lady of Lebanon, please
pray for peace, peace in our
hearts,
peace in our family,
peace in our land,
and peace throughout
the world.*

FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

Patriarch Youssif Tyan was born in Beirut and belonged to a prominent Maronite family, who sent him to Rome at an early age where he was educated in the Maronite College and ordained priest in 1784. In the year 1786 he was consecrated bishop of Damascus, and in 1788 he became Patriarchal Vicar. April 28th 1796 he became Patriarch Youssif Tyan. When in 1799 Napoleon Bonaparte besieged Akka, being now Patriarch he asked the Prince of Lebanon Bashir II to rally to Napoleon with his Lebanese soldiers. Bachir did not respond, but Patriarch Tyan urged the Maronites to volunteer for the French forces. The Patriarch also sent ammunition and supplies to the French army. But despite this help Napoleon failed to capture Akka. The Patriarch decided to abdicate and sent a letter to the Roman See to this effect on 3rd October 1807. On June 8th 1809, Bishop Yuhanna El-Helou succeeded him. Patriarch Tyan then retired in the hermitage of Saint Ephrem in Dar'un, Kesrawan. A few years later he moved to a newly established Seminary college of St. John Marun in Kefar-Hay Batrun, where he taught theology. Patriarch Tyan lived and died in the odour of sanctity. After his retirement from the Patriarchate, he practically lived a hermit's existence, dedicating himself to prayer, meditation, asceticism and the contemplative life. He died on February 20th, 1820 at the Patriarchal Seat of Qannubeen. His body was found to be still incorrupt a hundred years after his death.

YOUSSEF TAYAN **(1796-1808)**



Dr. Philip A. Salem began specialty training in cancer medicine at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York in 1968, after which he joined M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. Recently, St. Luke's announced the Philip A. Salem, M.D. Chair in Cancer Research.

During the period of 1971 to 1986, Dr. Salem directed the cancer program at the American University of Beirut while maintaining academic ties with M.D. Anderson Cancer Center and spending sabbatical years there. In January 1987, he returned to M.D. Anderson Cancer Center and in 1990 was promoted to Head of Research Committee, Professor of Cancer Medicine and Research. Since September 1991, he has been Director of the Cancer Research Program at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital.

Dr. Salem is widely published for several national and international cancer medicine publications. He served on the editorial board of Anti-Cancer Drugs, an international journal on anti-cancer agents. He also served on the editorial board of Annals of Oncology, the official journal of the European Society for Medical Oncology. In addition, he is a member of many nationally and internationally recognized cancer societies, including the World Health Organization Expert Committee on Cancer, the American Association of Clinical Oncology, and the American Association for Cancer Research.

Dr. Salem was recently selected as one of **America's top doctors** in the premier edition of America's Top Doctors, a national guide to outstanding medical specialists throughout the United States. Fewer than one percent of physicians in the United States have been recognized by inclusion in this national Castle Connolly Guide.



FAMOUS **LEBANESE:** **DR.** **PHILIP A.** **SALEM**

He was awarded the **Ellis Island Medal of Honor** by the **National Ethnic Coalition Organization (NECO)** for "exceptional humanitarian efforts, and outstanding contributions to America".

He also received the **Medal of Freedom** award from the United States Congress, which is "the highest honor the Republican members of the U.S. Senate can bestow." This was given to him for his contributions to science and medicine.



FILIPINO COMMUNITY NEWS



WHY POPES JOHN XXIII, JOHN PAUL II ARE DEAR TO FILIPINOS

The country has a lot of reasons to celebrate the canonization of John XXIII and John Paul II, as they established connections with Filipinos

MANILA, Philippines – The Philippines celebrates with the whole world as the Vatican declares popes John XXIII and John Paul II as saints on Sunday, April 27.

The twin canonization is seen by Vatican watchers as an attempt to breach a traditional left-right divide in the Church.

As the Vatican welcomes pilgrims from all over the world to witness the ceremony, relics and images are being shown in the Philippines for those who couldn't make it to the Vatican.

The country has a lot of reasons to celebrate the canonization of the two popes because they established a connection with Filipinos.

Pope John XXIII

The Pontificio Collegio Filippino, which serves as residence of priests studying in Rome, was established in 1961 under his watch. He blessed both the cornerstones for the building in 1959, and the constructed edifice in 1961.

During the inauguration of the building, the pope said: "These buildings destined for the formation of your students of sacred sciences will be like channels by which the catholic life will be promoted among you and the bond by which the Philippines, a nation so very dear to us, will more intensely be linked with the supreme magisterium of the Church."

Antipolo Bishop Gabriel Reyes recalled him saying "many rivers and plenty of rains will not extinguish my love for the Philippine Islands [and] for the Filipino people."

The pope installed the very first Filipino cardinal, Rufino Cardinal Santos, in 1960. It was Santos who proposed establishing the Pontificio Collegio Filippino, which the pope approved. Santos served as cardinal until his death in 1973.

Among the dioceses created in the country under his watch are the Dioceses of Imus and Malolos in 1961, and the Dioceses of Nueva Ecija and Tarlac in 1963.

In 1959, the pope sent a message to the Pax Romana Assembly, a gathering of Catholic intellectuals, which happened in Manila in 1959. The letter, which was written in Spanish, stated: "We, through this message, not only give you our greetings and our warmest wishes for the success of this meeting and our living breath, but also express the deep joy of knowing that your common meetings are held for the first time in Asia."



Former Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos & First Lady Imelda Marcos w/ St. Pope John Paul II in 1981



Former Philippine President Corazon Aquino w/ St. Pope John Paul II on World Youth Day 1995

Former President Diosdado Macapagal welcomes St. Pope John XXIII in their visit to the Vatican 1962

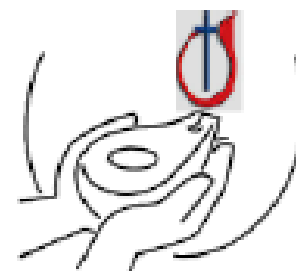


Pope John Paul II

The pope visited the country twice during his term in the Holy See: first in 1981 to beatify Lorenzo Ruiz, and second in 1995, to celebrate World Youth Day. In 1973, 5 years before becoming a pope, he actually paid a brief stopover in the country. Then an unknown archbishop, he just took a cab from the airport to Baclaran where he celebrated mass. He was fascinated by the Filipinos' Marian devotion. He wanted to return to the country, but never had the chance to. He wanted to attend the World Meeting of Families in Manila in 2003, but was prevented by his deteriorating health due to Parkinson's disease. During the fall of the Marcos regime in February 1986, president Ferdinand Marcos received a letter from the pope, who was asking for a peaceful resolution of the crisis. He welcomed Corazon Aquino during her visit to the Vatican in 1988. The pope appointed 2 Filipino cardinals (Ricardo Vidal in 1985, and Jose Tomas Sanchez in 1991), and approved the establishment of various dioceses in the country.



**To Keep a Lamp Burning we have
to Keep Putting Oil in it. M. Theresa**



April 6, 2020

Dear St. Sharbel Family

In these trying times, we pray for your safety and good health. As you know, many individuals, businesses, and organizations have been suffering from the economic impact of the corona-virus pandemic.

Our beloved Church has been hit especially hard, since our congregation has been unable to attend Church Services for some time now.

We know how devoted you are to our Church, as a place of prayer and worship and a center of Our life in Jesus name, and would greatly appreciate your help in these difficult times.

If you can spare any donations we would be most grateful. We want to ensure that your Church will be able to serve your spiritual needs, as the heart of the Our community and a place to turn to in difficult times.

If you wish to contribute, kindly fill out the attached AUTO PAY form and on the 5th of every month, we could withdraw the amount you indicate on there from your checking account. If you could afford at least \$2 or more a day to cover our monthly expenses and to cover for Live Stream cost of \$10,000 for equipment and installation.

We prefer auto pay to insure income to the Church, the only thing you would need to do is fill out the attached form (Please write legible) and email it to us. If you already contribute and would like to increase your amount please let us know. Church email is stsharbel.lv@gmail.com

I would like to wish you Blessings, Protection and God's favor in the Passion week and Easter season. Remember that you are always in my prayers daily.

SEE YOU SOON! Live Stream on Facebook "St Sharbel Catholic Church" or You Tube [youtube.com/channel/UCMTONUYwmuSWgdh8szajbGA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMTONUYwmuSWgdh8szajbGA)

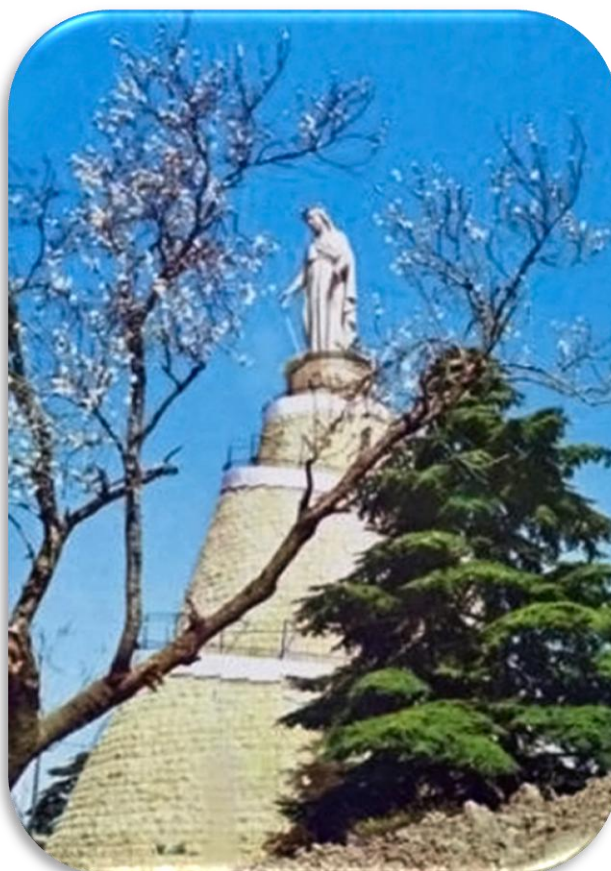
Yours in Christ
Pastor Nadim Abou Zeid

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

WEEKEND

**LIVE
STREAM
Sunday 10
am May 3**

*+Wadih Hanache



PRAY FOR THE SICK

DAILY 8AM

MONDAY May 4

Healing of the Sick

TUESDAY May 5

Unborn Babies

WEDNESDAY May 6

Doctors & Nurses

THURSDAY May 7

+Victor Greger (3 yrs)

FRIDAY May 8

+Louis Silva

*Personal Injury
Law Firm*

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Trial Attorney*

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ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

BODY + BLOOD + SOUL + DIVINITY

My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the
Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all
things, and I desire to
receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this
moment receive You
sacramentally, come at least
spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You
were already there and
unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be
separated from You.

*O my God, my only hope, I have placed all my trust in You,
and I know I shall not be disappointed. (Diary, 317)*



**The Most
Blessed Sacrament**