

Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church Las Vegas

**4th Sunday after
the Holy Cross**

**St. Sharbel
Pray for us!**

October 2019



Index Page

Church Events	1
13 th Sunday of Pentecost	2
News from the Middle East	3
Our Holy Father News	4
Beautiful Faces & Places	5
Festival Flyer	6
Festival News	7
Birth of our Mother Mary	8
Community Life Announcements	9
Filipino News	10
Advertisements	11
Holy Mass Intentions	12

⁴⁵Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? ⁴⁶Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.

Matthew 24:45

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Our Services HOLY MASSES

DAILY: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. English

SATURDAY VIGIL: 4:30 p.m. English

SUNDAY: 9:30 a.m. English

& 11:30 AM Arabic/Aramaic/English

1st Sunday : 4:30pm

Rosario y la Misa en Español

2nd Sunday: 4:30 pm

Rosary & Tagalog Mass

Sunday Catechism @ 8 am

(Classes are Sept – May)

1st SUNDAY 9:30 a.m. & 11:30am

Youth Mass



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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE HOLY CROSS

The Faithful Servant

READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

GOSPEL: Matthew 24:45-51

Our Gospel passage taken from Matthew tells how “bosses” must behave or else...

The passage has two characters: the “good servant” who knows how to care for those who we put under their care. There is also the “bad servant” who mistreats other employees and forsakes their duties. The story goes on to tell of the justice and punishment held out for these two servants. What we will reflect on is an extended version of how the other servants behave.

Let's do a time warp and fly from Israel in 30 AD to Australia in the year 2005. We are working in an office with 30 people, each sitting at their computer monitor, clicking the mouse away...

We've just received news that our boss is on long service leave for 6 weeks and they've replaced him with Ms. Jones, a 45-year old female colleague. She had been pretty ordinary from what you know having worked on an assignment with her. So how would you make her feel in her new position?

Some will suck up; others will want to test her ability; other patiently will wait for her downfall; others grumble that they should have given the position; others can't believe it's a woman; perhaps a few think she's soft and so they play the system; there may be others who will think she's a good choice and encourage her along; others half-heartedly will support her; while others couldn't care less. The following quote might suggest the wisest way we should behave to others of different position:

To your friend / loyalty
To you enemy /forgiveness
To you work /dedication
To a child /a good example
To your parents /gratitude & devotion
To your life partner / love & faithfulness



When Jesus tells a story, He leaves it open to interpretation. The good and the bad servants are only leading us into our lives. We are called then to reflect on how do we behave in authority and how do we behave towards others in authority. We can make or break others. Do we allow others to grow in their calling from God? Are we treating God's workers as God would want us to? **Rev. Fr. Nadim Abou Zeid**

MIRACLE OF SAINT SHARBEL

This happened in Marseille. "this is the work of St Sharbel" says the doctor.....

Alice Gabrielle Abass, native of 1959, married Maroun Semaan touma is from beit melat in the akkar, Lebanon. She is a mother of two children and lives in Marseille (France) you can join her at 0033442444525

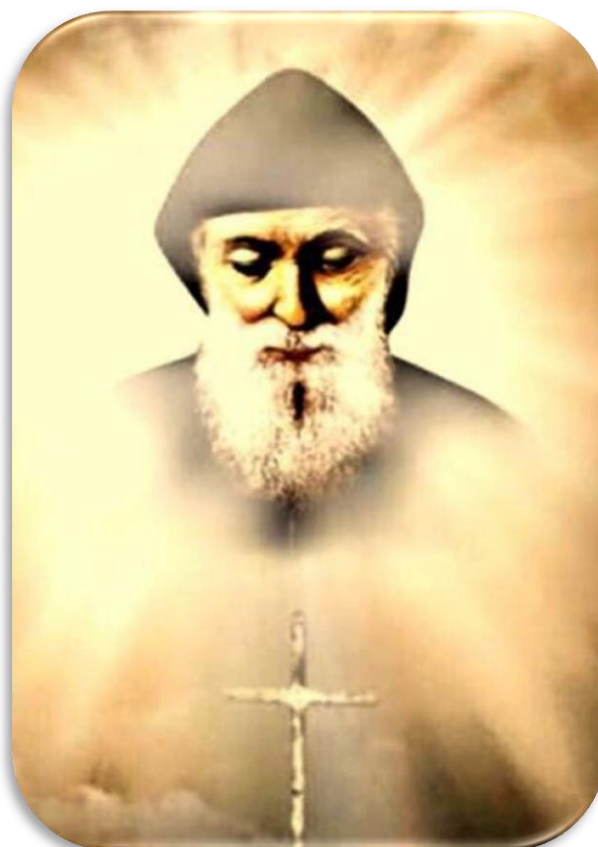
Due to violent belly pain, Alice was admitted to the hospital center of martigues. Analysis and exams + x-rays reveal the presence of a cancer tumor on the womb. His doctor recommends a quick intervention with womb removal. This surgery was very difficult, unfortunately was not successful and Alice suffered from pain more unbearable than before. Post-operating exams can detect a serious medical error: by operating Alice from the womb the surgeon would have sanctioned the urinary routes. Alice has to be surgery again. This second intervention is set on 6 September 2019.

During a phone interview with Simon Touma, a parent who lives in Lebanon, the latter evokes st charbel and advise Alice to pray and coat her belly with blessed oil by keeping faith and hope. Alice is performing quickly with great fervor and confidence. It even goes further and swallows small grains of land and incense that usually accompany the bottle of oil delivered by the convent of annaya to pilgrims.

Vivid pain prevents him from finding his sleep. Alice has the feeling of surgery without anesthesia. She's suffering terrible. Then it's like the calm that suddenly takes over the storm. His pains fade. She regroup, rises from bed and finds out that everything has come into order and something big just happened.

A week later, when she tells her doctor, Dr. F. Alain, what has just happened with her and that he has the scheduled exams, he reveals that she is completely healed but he cannot explain this healing medical. "" this is the work of st charbel " He said.

In order to testify to her recognition and to thank st charbel for her intercession, Alice goes to annaya and records this beautiful grace on August 6, 2019 by submitting her medical reports.



OUR HOLY FATHER POPE FRANCIS STRESSES 'WITNESS' IN OPENING OF EXTRAORDINARY MISSIONARY MONTH

Pope Francis on October 1, 2019, launched the Extraordinary Missionary Month with the theme: "Baptized and sent: the Church of Christ on mission in the world".

The Holy Father marked the occasion by presiding over the liturgical prayer of Vespers in memory of Saint Teresa of the Child Jesus, patroness of the Missions, in the Vatican Basilica.

In his homily for the service, the Holy Father stressed what he called the "keyword" for being a mission: Witness.

"But how does one set about being a missionary? By living as witnesses: bearing witness by our lives that we have come to know Jesus," Pope Francis said.

"Witness is the keyword: a word with the same root as the word 'martyr'. The martyrs are the primary witnesses of faith: not by their words but by their lives. They know that faith is not propaganda or proselytism: it is a respectful gift of one's life... Let us ask ourselves this month: how good a witness am I?"

Pope Francis cited the examples of three renowned missionaries:

Saint Therese of the Child Jesus shows us the way: she made prayer the fuel for missionary activity in the world.

Saint Francis Xavier, perhaps, after Saint Paul, the greatest missionary of all time.

Venerable Pauline Jaricot, a laborer who supported the missions by her daily work: with the offerings that she made from her wages, she helped lay the foundations of the Pontifical Missionary Societies.

"We are accompanied by a religious woman, a priest, and a laywoman," Francis stressed. "They remind us that no one is excluded from the Church's mission."

Following is the Pope's Full Homily provided by the Vatican

In the parable we have heard, the Lord appears as a man who, before leaving on a journey, *calls* his servants and entrusts his property to them (cf. *Mt 25:14*). God has entrusted us with his greatest treasures: our own lives and the lives of others. He has entrusted any number of different gifts to each of us. These gifts, these talents, are not something to be stored in a safe, but a true vocation: the Lord calls us to make our talents bear fruit, with boldness and creativity. God will not ask us if we jealously preserved our life and faith, but instead whether we stepped forward and took risks, even losing face. This extraordinary Missionary Month should jolt us and motivate us to be *active in doing good*. Not notaries of faith and guardians of grace, but missionaries.

But how does one set about being a missionary? By living as witnesses: bearing witness by our lives that we have come to know Jesus. Witness is the keyword: a word with the same root as the word "martyr". The martyrs are the primary witnesses of faith: not by their words but by their lives. They know that faith is not propaganda or proselytism: it is a respectful gift of one's life. They live by spreading peace and joy, by loving everyone, even their enemies, out of love for Jesus. Can we, who have discovered that we are children of the heavenly Father, keep silent about the joy of being loved, the certainty of being ever precious in God's eyes? That is a message that so many people are waiting to hear. And it is our responsibility. Let us ask ourselves this month: how good a witness am I?

At the end of the parable, the Lord describes the enterprising servant as "good and trustworthy", and the fearful servant as "wicked and lazy" (cf. vv. 21.23.26). Why is God so harsh with the servant who was afraid? What evil did he do? His evil was *not having done good*; he sinned by *omission*. This could be the sin of an entire life, for we have been given life not to bury it, but to make something of it; not to keep it for ourselves, but to give it away. Whoever stands with Jesus knows that we keep what we give away; we possess what we give to others. The secret for possessing life is to give it away. To live by omission is to deny our vocation: *omission* is the opposite of *mission*.



We sin by omission, that is, against mission, whenever, rather than spreading joy, we think of ourselves as victims, or think that no one loves us or understands us. We sin against mission when we yield to resignation: "I can't do this: I'm not up to it". How can that be? God has given you talents, yet you think yourself so poor that you cannot enrich a single person? We sin against mission when we complain and keep saying that everything is going from bad to worse, in the world and in the Church. We sin against mission when we become slaves to the fears that immobilize us when we let ourselves be paralyzed by thinking that "things will never change". We sin against mission when we live life as a burden and not as a gift when we put ourselves and our concerns at the center and not our brothers and sisters who are waiting to be loved.

"God loves a cheerful giver" (2 *Cor 9:7*). He loves the Church on the go. If it is not on the go, it is not Church. A Church on the go, a missionary Church is a Church that does not waste time lamenting things that go wrong, the loss of faithful, the values of the time now in the past. A Church that does not seek safe oasis to dwell in peace, but longs to be *salt of the earth and a leaven in the world*. For she knows that this is her strength, that of Jesus himself: not social or institutional relevance, but humble and gratuitous love.

Today we begin the Missionary Month of October in the company of three "servants" who bore much fruit. Saint Therese of the Child Jesus shows us the way: she made prayer the fuel for missionary activity in the world. This is also the Month of the Rosary: how much are we praying for the spread of the Gospel and our conversion from omission to mission? Then there is Saint Francis Xavier, perhaps, after Saint Paul, the greatest missionary of all time. He too gives us a jolt: can we emerge from our shell and renounce our comforts for the sake of the Gospel? Finally is the Venerable Pauline Jaricot, a laborer who supported the missions by her daily work: with the offerings that she made from her wages, she helped lay the foundations of the Pontifical Missionary Societies. Do we make a daily gift in order to overcome the separation between the Gospel and life? Please, let us not live a "sacristy" faith.

We are accompanied by a religious woman, a priest, and a laywoman. They remind us that no one is excluded from the Church's mission. Yes, in this month the Lord is also calling you, because you, fathers and mothers of families; you, young people who dream great things; you, who work in a factory, a store, a bank or a restaurant; you who are unemployed; you are in a hospital bed... The Lord is asking you to be a gift wherever you are, and just as you are, with everyone around you. He is asking you not simply to go through life, but to give life; not to complain about life, but to share in the tears of all who suffer. Courage! The Lord expects great things from you. He is also expecting some of you to have the courage to set out and to go wherever dignity and hope are most lacking, *ad gentes*, where all too many people still live without the joy of the Gospel. The Lord will not leave you alone in bearing witness; you will discover that the Holy Spirit has gone before you and prepared the way for you. Courage, brothers and sisters! Courage, Mother Church! Rediscover your fruitfulness in the joy of mission!

ELECTION OF ARCHBISHOP OF BEIRUT AND TWO BISHOPS OF PATRIARCHAL CURIA

The Synod of Bishops of the Maronite Patriarchal Church has elected as archbishop of Beirut, Bishop **Paul Abdel Sater**, currently bishop of the Patriarchal Curia.

The Synod of Bishops of the Maronite Patriarchal Church has elected as bishops of the Patriarchal Curia, the Rev. Antoine Aoukar, O.A.M., and the Rev. Peter Karam, to which the Holy Father has given his assent, and has assigned them the titular sees of Ptolomais in Phoenicia of the Maronites, and Arcena in Phoenicia of the Maronites.

Bishop-elect **Antoine Aoukar**, O.A.M., was born in 1964 in Mreiji, Beirut, Lebanon, gave his religious vows in 1995, and was ordained a priest in 1996. He holds a licentiate in mathematics from the Lebanese University, a licentiate in theology and another in biblical theology from the Institute Catholic of Lyon, and a doctorate in biblical studies from the Holy Spirit University of Kaslik.

Since ordination, he has held a number of pastoral and academic roles, including: professor of sacred scripture in various universities, parish priest, chaplain of the Foi et Lumière Community, and superior of the Monastery of Mar Chaya. He is currently vicar general of his order.



Bishop-elect, **Peter Karam**, was born in 1959, in Beirut, Lebanon, and was ordained a priest in 1988. After studying at the Maronite Seminary in Washington, U.S.A., he obtained a licentiate from the Catholic University of America and a doctorate in philosophy from the Ludwig-Maximilians Universität in München, Germany.

Since ordination, he has served in a number of roles, including head of the Maronite Mission of Saint Joseph in Seattle, Washington; parish priest in Cleveland, Ohio; Director of the Office for the Protection of Minors, Director of Ongoing Formation of the Clergy, member of the college of consultors, and syncellus for the clergy.

PATRIARCH ELIAS BOUTROS HOWAYEK

On 6 July 2019, Pope Francis declared the 72nd Patriarch of the Maronite Church, Elias Boutros Howayek, *Venerable*. This brings the patriarch, who was instrumental in the creation of the modern state of Lebanon, one step closer to sainthood. According to Vatican News, Pope Francis authorized the Congregation for the Causes of Saints to promulgate the decree of venerable on “the heroic virtues of the Lebanese Servant of God Elias [Howayek], Patriarch of Antioch of the Maronites, Founder of the Congregation of the Maronite Sisters of the Holy Family. He was born in Helta, Lebanon on 4 December 1843 and died in Bkerké, Lebanon on 24 December 1931.”

Elias Howayek was the oldest of seven children. His father, Tadros, was the village priest and was known as Father Boutros. His mother, Ghorra Tannous Howayek, was a saintly woman of immovable faith, known for her exemplary charity and piety. The family lived in poverty but enjoyed a life of love and fear of the Lord. At an early age, Elias developed a dedication to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, which only grew and deepened as he matured to manhood. His calling to the priesthood eventually led him to Rome where he was ordained on June 5, 1870 and received his doctorate in theology. He returned to Lebanon and served as the Patriarch’s personal secretary until December 1889, when he was ordained bishop and titular archbishop of ‘Araka, as well as Patriarchal Vicar. Finally, on January 7, 1899, he was elected Patriarch of Antioch and the East.

Patriarch Howayek had many remarkable virtues including his love and service to the poor of Lebanon and his passion for the godly building of families which led him to establish the missionary Congregation of the Maronite Sisters of the Holy Family in 1895. This was one year after he had been in Rome reestablishing the Pontifical Maronite College. His zeal led him across Europe and the Middle East, building Maronite Churches and establishing Lebanese communities. Elias firmly believed that the education of young girls was the foundation of strong, faithful families and he charged the Maronite Sisters of the Holy Family with this solemn objective:

“God, Great and Most High, founded this dear Congregation in His providence and mercy,

nurturing it and protecting it up till now...and [He] will protect and bless it till the end of time....

He also led the Church through the terrible persecutions under Ottoman rule and became the symbol of hope for Maronites as his priests and religious fed and cared for the thousands of hungry, homeless and impoverished Lebanese during World War I. After the war ended, a defiant Patriarch Howayek successfully advocated and lobbied European powers to keep Lebanon distinct and separate as its own nation, preserving its unique culture, and most importantly, the preservation of a Christian identity.

Patriarch Howayek continued living a Christ-like life of heroic virtue until his death, fittingly, on Christmas Eve, 1931. Later, upon the request of the Maronite Sisters of the Holy Family, his successor Patriarch Antoun Arida, authorized the transfer of the Patriarch’s body to the crypt of the congregation’s headquarters in Ebrine, on May 12th, 1936. Since that day, the crypt became a shrine for pilgrimage and prayer.

For Venerable Patriarch Howayek, the remaining step before beatification — when we may call him “Blessed Elias Howayek” — is the approval of a miracle. Such a supernatural event would be evidence of the intercessory power of the Venerable Servant of God and, thus, of his union after death with the Triune God. The Church conducts painstaking tribunals, both scientific and theological. While the scientific and medical commission rules that the cure is without natural explanation, the theological commission must rule whether the cure was a miracle in the strict sense, that is, by its nature *can only be attributed to* God. Ultimately, another such miracle is required following beatification as evidence for the final canonization of the Patriarch as “saint”.

God is raising up holy men and women for the sanctification of His Church in Lebanon. The Maronite Church can, not only survive, but grow and prosper in the world and in Lebanon especially — only if it heeds His call and imitates His righteous saints.

Beautiful Faces & Places



Congratulation Jude & Samira Nassar on their son Gabriel's Baptism



*St. Sharbel Kids with
Father Nadim*



*Congratulation John & Danielle Suzuki
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GODLY RESPONSES TO THE 12 MOST ASKED RUDE, AWKWARD, AND EMBARRASSING QUESTIONS

Like it or not, the chances are good that when you are in a social situation, you will most likely get asked a few embarrassing questions that come off as a bit rude or insensitive. Sometimes you can plan on it. **Every year you can be prepared that right in the middle of Thanksgiving dinner Uncle Jerry will undoubtedly ask if you've found a job yet and Aunt Sally will quickly follow-up with "Are you still single?"**

Other times it might catch you off guard. The clerk at the grocery store takes the opportunity to loudly count your children and make sure that they are all yours or a colleague feels the need to ask how much you paid for your brand new car.

Article continues after advertisement:

No matter the situation, these types of questions can cause us to feel uncomfortable and leave us scrambling for an answer. Though there are a few people who are just flat-out rude when they probe us for answers, the majority of people are just trying to make small talk. Most likely, they don't even realize that they have hit a nerve in us with their questions. **Because of this, we need to show them grace even though we may not feel like it.**

It can help to have a response ready for the most embarrassing questions. Being prepared will prevent you from scrambling to find an answer or lashing out with a rude response in return. We've come up with a few responses to some of the most commonly asked questions. The responses might sound a bit trite, but remember, you don't owe anyone an explanation for your actions. A simple answer will do. And, a simple answer that directs them towards God is even better!

Advertisement:

If you're having trouble actually believing in the responses we've provided and trusting in God with your future, say a prayer that your heart will follow your words. If you choose to respond in this way, offer it up as a prayer. These words have the power to both transform your heart and evangelize to those who are doing the asking.

How are you still single?!

Response: *I'm trusting in God and waiting for His plan to unfold.*

Have you found a job yet?

Response: *I'm searching for a career that will allow me to use all my talents to glorify God. I want to be sure of the right fit before I commit.*

When are you two going to start a family?

Response: *It's all in God's hands.*

I bet that was expensive! How much did you pay for that?

Response: *God has blessed me with many gifts and I'm beyond grateful for all that I have.*

When is the baby due?

Response: *We haven't been blessed with a child at this time, but we're always open to what God has in store.*

Have you given any thought to becoming a priest/nun/religious?

Response: *I'm open to hearing God's call for my life.*

What do you do at home all day?

Response: *I place my trust in God and ask Him to lead me.*

How much money do you make?

Response: *God provides just enough to meet my needs.*

How come you still live with your parents?

Response: *I'm blessed to be able to spend this time of my life with those I love.*

Are you tired/sick? You look like it!

Response: *I've been working hard for the glory of God.*

Are they all yours? You know what causes that, right?

Response: *Yes, my hands are full of blessings and I wouldn't want it any other way!*

What kind of a Catholic are you?

Response: *A practicing one...I practice being more like Jesus every day.*

Community Life

- 1 **MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING:** This Tuesday @ 6PM - we will have the Rosary & prayer for the Festival Team. All are welcome.
- 2 **GOD OUR FATHER DEVOTIONS:** This Sunday, October 6th after the 9:30 Mass in the Chapel. All are welcome.
- 3 **MONTHLY SPANISH MASS:** This Sunday, October 6 at 5:00 PM & Rosary at 4:30 PM.
- 4 **MONTHLY TAGALOG MASS:** Has been moved to Sunday, October 20th at 5:00 PM & Rosary at 4:30 PM due to the Festival.



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@STSHARBELYOUTHLASVEGAS
(Ages 10 – 20) Gathering 1st Friday at 6 pm

POPE FRANCIS HAS FORMALLY APPROVED THE CANONIZATION, ALONG WITH FOUR OTHERS

Blessed John Henry Newman will be canonized on Sunday, October 13, the Vatican has announced.

At a Consistory of cardinals on Monday, Pope Francis formally approved Newman's canonization along with that of Sister Mariam Theresia of India, founder of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Family, and three others.

In February, the Pope signed a decree recognizing a second miracle attributed to Blessed John Henry Newman, the inexplicable healing of a woman with a "life-threatening pregnancy".

Blessed John Henry Newman was one of the most prominent converts to Catholicism from Anglicanism of the 19th century.

He was already an esteemed Anglican theologian when he founded the Oxford Movement to return the Church of England to its Catholic roots, before himself converting to the Catholic faith.

He was renowned as a brilliant thinker and was made a cardinal by Pope Leo XIII.

He died in Birmingham in 1890, aged 89, after founding the Birmingham Oratory.



FILIPINO NEWS

OUR HOLY FATHER POPE FRANCIS NAMES FILIPINO ARCHBISHOP AUZA AS NUNCIO TO SPAIN

Pope Francis has appointed Filipino Archbishop Bernardito Auza on Tuesday the new Apostolic Nuncio to Spain and Andorra.

The papal envoy succeeds retired Italian Archbishop Renzo Fratini, who has been in the post since 2009.

Fratini turned 75 in July, the age at which canon law requires bishops to submit their resignation into the pope.

The appointment of Auza, who is fluent in Spanish language, was announced in Rome at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday.

Upon his appointment, the archbishop has been serving as the Holy See's Permanent Observer to the United Nations in New York, a post he held since 2014.

It also came less than two years before the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the arrival of Christianity in the Philippines through the Spanish missionaries.

Bishop Ruperto Santos of Balanga said that it is "very significant and meaningful" that the new papal envoy to Spain will be a Filipino.

"On the forthcoming grace-filled event of 500 years of Christianization of our country, the Philippine Church gives her gift and gratitude in the person of Archbishop Auza," he said,

"God's graces and the Gospel our Spanish missionaries have sown in us are our fruits for Spain and for the whole world."



Archbishop Bernardito Auza, currently the Vatican's permanent observer to the UN, has been appointed as the new Apostolic Nuncio to Spain.

"It is indeed a call for us to celebrate with gratitude and with deep appreciation our 500 years of Christianization," Santos added.

A native of Talibon in Bohol province, Archbishop Auza was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Tagbilaran in 1985. He was incardinated to the then newly-formed Diocese of Talibon in 1986.

In 1990, he entered the diplomatic service of the Holy See. His first assignment was in Madagascar from 1990 to 1993 and was a member of the Permanent Mission of the Holy See to the U.N. before assuming his post in Haiti in 2008.

Archbishop Auza also served in the Secretariat of State in the Vatican, after his assignment to the Apostolic Nunciatures in Bulgaria and Albania.

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WEEKEND**HOLY MASS INTENTIONS**DAILY 8AM**Saturday 4:30pm Oct 5**

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Sunday 9:30am Oct 6

Priests & Clergy

Sunday 11:30 am

+Elias Naaman Naaman- 1wk

Sunday 4:30 pm Spanish

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PRAY
FOR THE SICK

MONDAY Oct 7

Healing of the Sick

TUESDAY Oct 8

+Louis Silva

WEDNESDAY Oct 9

Children & the Youth

THURSDAY Oct 10

Unborn Babies

FRIDAY Oct 11

Festival Team

WISDOM OF THE WEEK

*It is because of faith
that we exchange the
present
for the future.*



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El Grupo Guadalupano de la
Iglesia de San Charbel
Te invita a que asistas a la Misa
y El Rosario que se celebran el
primer domingo cada mes
comenzado,

DIA: Domingo 6 de October del 2019

HORA: Rosario 4:30pm Misa

DONDE: Iglesia Catolica de San Charbel
10325 Rancho Destino Rd,
Las Vegas, NV 89183

Despues de la Misa te invitamos a que nos
acompañes a una pequeña recepcion donde
compartiremos: café, postres, y bocadillos con
todos los asistentes.

Si tienes alguna duda communicate con:
Oficina de la Iglesia 702-616-6902

