



Our Lady of Lebanon

Maronite Catholic Church

950 North Grace Street, Lombard, IL 60148

Tel: 630-932-9640 / Fax: 630-932-9463

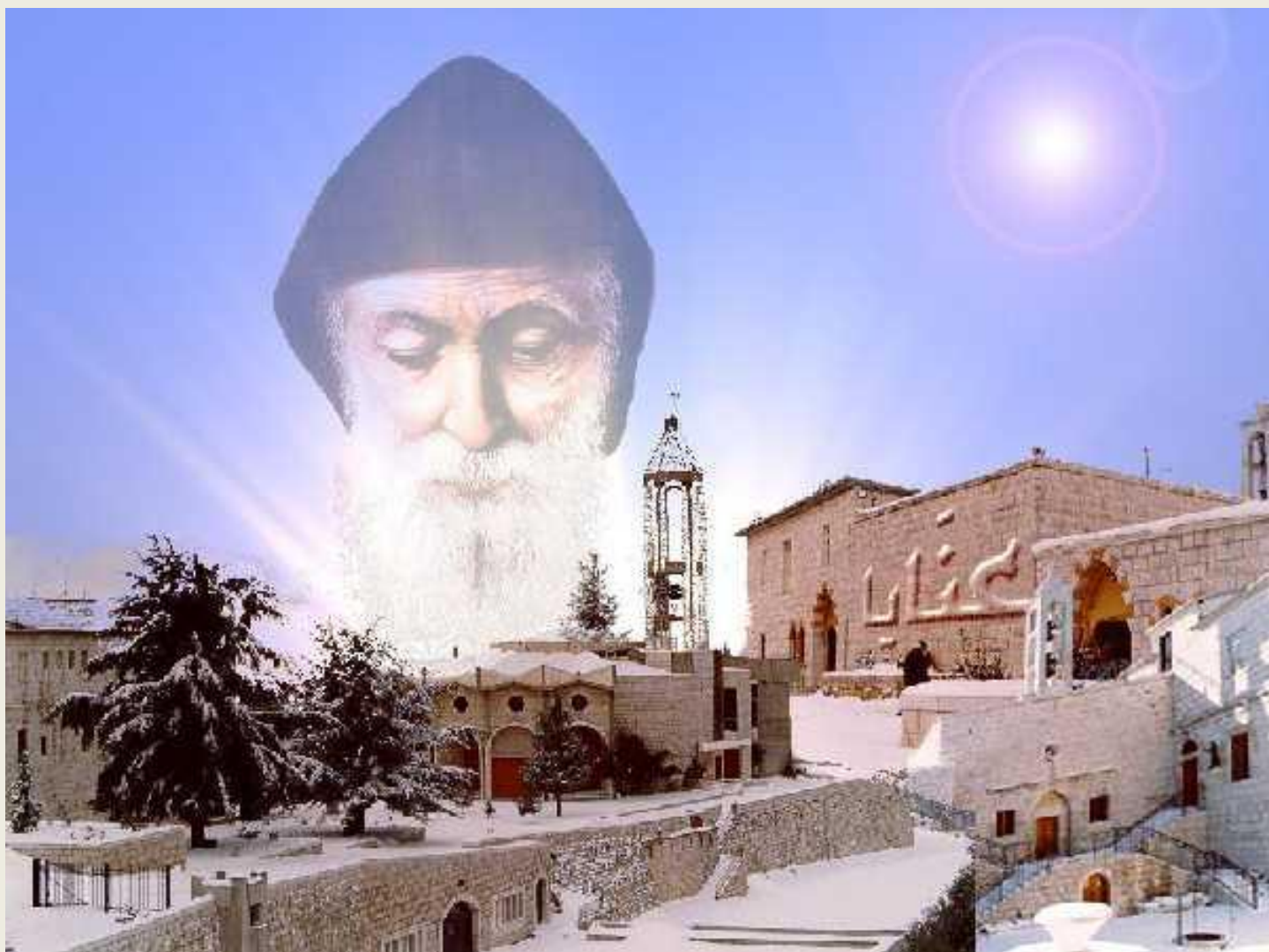
Rev. Fr. Pierre El Khoury Cell: 713-972-2990

www.ollchicago.org

Eleventh Sunday of Pentecost Season

Feast of Saint Sharbel Makhlouf

July 24, 2016



From the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans 8:28-39

Brothers and Sisters,

We know that all things work for the good of those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those he predestined he also called; and those he called he also justified; and those he justified he also glorified.

What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us. Who will condemn? It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised, who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword? As it is written:

"For your sake we are being slain all the day; we are looked upon as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Praise be to God always!

From the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew 13:36-43

The disciples approached Jesus and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field."

He said in reply,

"He who sows good seed is the Son of Man,
The field is the world,
The good seed the children of the kingdom.
The weeds are the children of the evil one,
And the enemy who sows them is the devil.
The harvest is the end of the age,
And the harvesters are angels.

Just as weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all who cause others to sin and all evildoers. They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.

Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.

Whoever has ears ought to hear.

This is The Truth, Peace be with you.

Saint Sharbel Makhlouf

Saints are holy people who lived extraordinary lives. Each saint the Church honors responded to God's invitation to use his or her unique gifts. God calls each one of us to be a saint.

Although this saint never traveled far from the Lebanese village of Beka-Kafra, where he was born, his influence has spread widely.

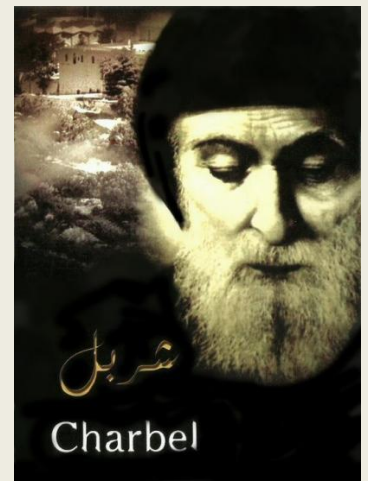
Joseph Maklouf was raised by an uncle because his father died when Joseph was only three. At the age of 23, Joseph joined the Monastery of St. Maron at Annaya, Lebanon, and took the name Sharbel in honor of a second-century martyr. He professed his final vows in 1853 and was ordained six years later.

Following the example of the fifth-century St. Maron, Sharbel lived as a hermit from 1875 until his death. His reputation for holiness prompted people to seek him to receive a blessing and to be remembered in his prayers. He followed a strict fast and was very devoted to the Blessed Sacrament. When his superiors occasionally asked him to administer the sacraments to nearby villages, Sharbel did so gladly.

He died in the late afternoon on Christmas Eve. Christians and non-Christians soon made his tomb a place of pilgrimage and of cures. Pope Paul VI beatified him in 1965 and canonized him 12 years later.

Like all the saints, Sharbel points us to God and invites us to cooperate generously with God's grace, no matter what our situation in life may be. As our prayer life becomes deeper and more honest, we become more ready to make that generous response.

When Sharbel was canonized in 1977, **Bishop Francis Zayek**, head the U.S. Diocese of St. Maron, wrote a pamphlet entitled "A New Star of the East." Bishop Zayek wrote: "St. Sharbel is called the second St. Anthony of the Desert, the Perfume of Lebanon, the first Confessor of the East to be raised to the Altars according to the actual procedure of the Catholic Church, the honor of our Aramaic Antiochian Church, and the model of spiritual values and renewal. Sharbel is like a Cedar of Lebanon standing in eternal prayer, on top of a mountain."



REMEMBER IT

For I am convinced that Neither death, nor life, ... nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:38-39

Deacon's Corner

When do we take the time to actually communicate with one another the old fashioned way, just talk to each other?

What direction do we take and what means of information do we look for to make the correct decisions in our own "spiritual" journey? How young people get information to live b? All information is available with the touch of our fingertips: "I saw it on the internet, so it must be true!" This is not something I abide by and I hope you don't either.

I am sure that you all heard about a new Pokémon App that just came out a week or so ago, is being used an average of 46 minutes a day by everyone who has downloaded it since its inception. To me, that is unbelievable from the perspective that we seem to have our values going in the wrong direction.

Although I will say that it seems that everywhere you go, everyone seems to be immersed in their I Phone or droid whether texting, calling, Facebooking, twitter, and the list goes on and on. When do we take the time to actually communicate with one another the old fashioned way, just talk to each other!

What if there was an app to put us in touch with Jesus? The problem I see is that too many spend way too much time with sharing your lives on Facebook, twitter, etc., etc. and not enough time giving God, our Father, His due time. Remember that "it is by the love of God" that we are able to have each day. And when our journey is complete here on earth, I promise you joy and happiness if you dedicate adequate time to God, our Father, each and every day.

Material wealth is something that can come and go in our lives. But the inheritance we can receive by trusting and abiding in the Lord is unchanging and can never be depleted.

Mass Intentions for Next Sunday July 31, 2016

09:30 Mass & 11:30 Mass:

**Lucille and Victor Wertz - Tammer and Mary Caleel
& Maria Louise Caleel (Req. by Anette Caleel)**

Mass Celebration



Feast of Saint Sharbel: P. 718
Anaphora of Saint Peter: P. 774

Sunday Readings



Reading: Romans 8:28-39
Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:36-43

Mass Intentions



09:30 AM

Joseph Shaker, SR (*Birthday Remembrance*)
& Marion Haddad (*Req. by the Shaker Family*)

11:30 AM

6 Month Memorial: Michael Kassis (*Req. by The Kassis Family*)
1 year Memorial: Maroun Kutani (*Req. by Elie and Ferial Massoud*)

Schedules	9:30 A.M. Mass	11:30 A.M. Mass
Altar Servers	Joseph and George Estephan Andres Ballines, Leila Nehra	Youssif and Reem Hattar, Estifan Azzo, Cassandra Chahoud, Ramez Sayegh
Readers	Joe Shaker, Jr.	Cathy Awad (English) Issam Awad (Arabic)
Ushers	Nabil Zahra Frank Kermend	Ed Kneip, Nakhoul Nehra, George Zakhem, Sami Tabet,

Announcements

✳ FEAST OF OUR LADY

On August 14, Our Lady of Lebanon church will celebrate the feast of the Assumption of Virgin Mary into Heaven. (No 9:30 Mass)

10:00 Am: Rosary and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

11:30 AM: Mass and Procession

12:30: Luncheon

✳ LEBANESE FESTIVAL

The Lebanese Festival - September 9 -10, 2016 - is our major Parish Event and volunteers are needed and are welcome on all committees. If you are interested in getting involved please contact **Rima Antoon** (630-881-7536), **Jackie Tamer** (773-882-7105) or the Parish Office (630-932-9640). Your support through monetary donations, volunteering your time, spreading the word and festival attendance will contribute to the greater good of Our Lady of Lebanon Church.

✳ DABKE GROUP

Children (8-12 years old) and youth (13-17 years old) who would like to participate in the Dabke Group and perform during the Lebanese Festival, may contact the church office or Mrs. Julie Akouri (630-276-8064). Practices will be held on Fridays at 7 p.m.

Let us remember

And pray for our Beloved Ones who died during the month of July

✠ Marion Haddad	✠ Adele Malouf	✠ Mabel Nasser	✠ Mary Danno
✠ Marie Conway	✠ Effie Abdo	✠ Wanda Flach	✠ Rose James
✠ George Tamer	✠ Peter E. Haddad	✠ Youssef Abboud	✠ Katherine Garvin

COLLECTION

Sunday July 17, 2016: \$ 2,025.00

*"It's not how much we give
But how much love we put into giving."*

(Mother Theresa)