SAINT SHARBEL MARONITE
CATHOLIC CHURCH

31601 SCHOENHERR ROAD
WARREN, MICHIGAN 48088-1977

Email: stsharbelwarren@aol.com
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Church Office: (586) 826-9688
Church Fax: (586) 826-3521

PASTOR
Chorbishop Alfred Badawi

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Dianne Bartolomeo

WEEKEND LITURGIES
Saturday: 4:00 PM
Sunday: 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION AND PRAYERS
1st Saturday: 3:00 PM

ROSARY
2nd Wednesday at 12 Noon in Chapel

ST. SHARBEL FAMILY PRAYERS
22nd Day of Every Month: 6:30 PM
Liturgy at 7 PM [except on Saturday/Sunday]

"When the Lord gives a mission, He always has us enter into a process, a process of purification, a process of discernment, a process of obedience, a process of prayer." - Pope Francis

Let us Remember in Prayer our Faithful Departed, especially ...
Mr. & Mrs Donald Joseph, Mrs. Anna Joseph, Ferdinand and Delores Grobbel, John Bolus, Joe and Marge Bolus, Bill & Frances Crooks, Joan Oszust, Elizabeth Thomas, Mary Joseph Joler, Shamoon Odisho Yousif, Theresa Hazkial, John Solomon, Backus and Catherine Habib, Sassine and Mary Habib, Rudolph and Clara Niemic, Jacqueline Hebeca, Joseph Yasso, Antoine Feghali, Yvette Hakim, Edmund, Rebecca and David Bossko, Joseph & Rose Barker, Lorraine Magyar, Dawn Magyar, Theresa Tatum, Janek Filipowicz, Genevieve Briere. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

CONFESSION: Available anytime upon request and one-half hour prior to Weekend Liturgies.

BAPTISM & CHRISMATION: You must be a registered and active member of this parish. Please inform the Church Office when your child is born. Arrangements should be made with the Church three (3) weeks in advance of the date you desire to have your child Baptized and Chrismated. Godparents must be baptized, at least age 14 and must provide a letter of “Good Standing” from their lawful pastor. If you have any questions, please make an appointment.

MARRIAGE: You must be a registered member of this parish and fulfilling your financial obligations to the parish. Allow a minimum of six months for all necessary preparations including pre-marriage sessions. The Code of Canons for the Oriental Churches (CCEO) makes this time frame an absolute necessity. Exceptions will be made only for extreme, valid reasons; the couple to be married should themselves contact the church prior to making any other arrangements.

SICK CALLS: Please notify the Parish Office or one of the priests as soon as possible if a family member is in the hospital or nursing home. Please also notify us if any family member is a shut-in.

NEW PARISHIONERS WELCOME! Register in the Church Office during regular hours or in the Sacristy following Weekend Liturgies.
ASH MONDAY
Monday, February 16th is Ash Monday, a day of total fast and abstinence. Holy Mass will be offered at 9:00 AM, 12 NOON and at 7:00 PM, and ashes will be blessed at the three (3) Masses.

LENTEN REGULATIONS
Abstinence from meat and meat products is observed on Ash Monday and all Fridays of Great Lent. Abstinence is binding on everyone over the age of fourteen years. Fasting is binding on everyone between the ages of eighteen and sixty years. Those unable to fast due to ill health must perform other penances and works of charity; like regularly attending daily Mass, Stations/Benediction of the Cross and making charitable donations. Weddings are not celebrated during Lent.

LENTEN DEVOTIONS
On the Fridays of Great Lent, the daily Mass will be celebrated at 6:30 PM, followed by the Stations/Benediction of the Cross.

A GREAT LENTEN MEAL... will be held every Friday of Lent from 5:00 pm till 6:15 PM and from 8 PM till 9:30 PM. Please join us and break bread with your follow family members, parishioners and friends.

READERS FOR:
Sat., February 14th 4:00 pm
John Cafagna
Sun., February 15th 9:30 am
Kimberly Ejbeh
Sun., February 15th 11:30 am
Joseph Sakr., Jr. - English
Pauline Saba - Arabic

GREAT SEASON OF LENT
FEASTS AND CELEBRATIONS
Lent begins this month, and it is devoted to the Passion of Our Lord. One form of observance is to pray before the Stations of the Cross in church and meditate on Jesus’ walk to Calvary.

February 9 - St. Maron Feast Day. Father of the Maronite Church faithfully cared for his flock despite being surrounded by pagans.

February 16 – Ash Monday. The first day of Lent. Ashes from the burnt palms of the previous Hosanna Sunday are blessed and placed on the forehead as a sign of penance. Lent is our chance to amend our ways and become “new” at Easter.

BRING YOUR 2014 PALMS
Please bring with you to Church this weekend and next weekend your blessed palms from 2014. We will use these for the Ashes to be distributed on Ash Monday, February 16, 2015. Thank you!

COLLECTION
February 1, 2015 - $5,070.00
May God bless you in return for your generosity and support of your parish!
WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

I Am With You
Psalm 90

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES
HEALING MASS
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11th
11 AM Holy Rosary and Healing Prayers
12 PM Noon Liturgy
St. Sharbel Catholic Church
Holy Water from Lourdes and Holy Oil from St. Sharbel available.

Praying as we experience illness and as we care for the Sick

“I turn in a special way to the sick and all those who provide them with assistance and care. The Church recognizes in you, the sick, a special presence of the suffering Christ.” - Pope Francis

Message for World Day of the Sick
CELEBRATING MARRIAGE

Come Join our Celebration of World Marriage Weekend
Saturday, February 14th at 4 PM Liturgy
and
Sunday, February 15th [Cana Sunday]
9:30 AM and 11:30 AM Liturgies

Celebrating couples who have been married 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, etc. and those celebrating 50 or more years this year. Refreshments will be served after Mass in the Gathering Room. Everyone is welcome to attend to congratulate these Special Anniversary couples after Mass. Please fill out the form below. Return it to the Church Office or email: stsharbelwarren@aol.com. FORM IS DUE BY TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10th.

NAMES:_____________________________________________________________________
(First and Last Name of Both Husband and Wife)

PHONE #___________________________________________________________________

NUMBER OF YEARS MARRIED_____________ # ATTENDING______________________

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Akl Abiragi
Elizabeth Abraham
Sadie Abraham
Jeanette Aesy
Lou Albert
Zina Bassil
Benjamin Benjamin
Dominic Bologna
Mary Bringer
Paul Burch
Amira Butrise
Baby Jaxon Carlson
Lawanda Davey
Nemo Dawood
Delores Eggen
Alice Fay Elias
Paul Elias
Samira El Khoury
Natalie Epstein
Patricia Farrar
Joseph Ferrante
Terry Francis
Anna Elias Gleason
Gerald Grazadzinski
Ilene Grobbel
Sylvia Grobbel
John Grazadzinski

George Hanna
Youssef Issa Hattar
Don Herbert
Newborn John Hopper III
Georgette Kaddo
Jacob Hirmz
Joseph Jacob
Barbara John
Edward & Suham John
Louis Jolet
Jason, Joseph & Jeffrey,
Randa & Ashton
Najat Kalil
Lena Kanan
Marlene Khames
Michael Kosinski
Antowan Kriam
Michael Kriam
Janice Kroll
Agnes Langschied
Al Latouf
Teresa Logan
Matt Lomasney
Mary Ann Lucas
Raphael Malkoun
Aldo Marchesi
Silvio Marchesi

Saher Marry
Joe Mattar
Maureen McKernan
Tony Michael
Brian Miller
Peter Moffett Jr.
Elizabeth Moore
Anne Nader
Rose Nader
Genevieve Nicholas
Tony Nofar
Dolores Pustelny
Sonia Ragland
John Rubel
Lorraine Rubel
Salwan and Son, Sam
Hlyam Salim
Jamila Shina
Silvana
Theresa Simon
Christine Najor Smith
Emily Toma
Victoria Toma
Deborah Tosolt
Tringali Family
Laura Turkaly
Daniel Warren
Jad Yacoub
UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

February 7  First Saturday Devotion 3 PM Church
February 8  St. Maron Feast Day Celebration After Masses
February 9  Holy Day of Obligation - Feast of St. Maron
February 11  Healing Mass 12 PM Noon - World Day of The Sick - Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes
February 13-15  MYO Retreat
February 15  LAS Meeting 10:30 am
February 15  Men’s Club Meeting 10:30 am
February 16  Ash Monday - Lent Begins
February 22  Prayers of Family of St. Sharbel following 11:30 AM Mass

March 14  St. Sharbel Church Lenten Retreat

LITURGICALLY SPEAKING

SUNDAY OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Cross over before it’s too late.

One of the concepts I find quite interesting in today’s Gospel is that of those who did not choose to live according to the will of the Father are aware of those who did. The one that lived in comfort cannot quench his thirst, while the one sick and hungry is forever in the embrace of love and comfort. They are close enough to see each other, but they exist experiencing the opposite. The rich man failed to ensure eternal peace and consolation.

One of the theological understandings in Syriac and Maronite theology regarding the after-life is that all go to the same place before the general resurrection that happens at the end of the world as we know it. God did not create an evil place, but we are capable of creating a place for ourselves of complete misery. Hell is seeing everything that was rejected, those things that provide inner and lasting peace, and being aware of everything that caused misery, for ourselves and for others.

Jesus spent His life teaching us how to make the right choices. Only through the power of God can we move from death to life. Through the Church’s teaching of the Biblical message, we discover that the Sacrament of Baptism robes us in His glory, and by receiving the Body and Blood of Christ, in the Eucharist, we are provided the graces necessary to live this life in holiness and receive our eternal reward - that which awaits us! As the Maronite Hymn indicates: “the saving cross is our bridge across, and the Body and Blood protects us from the flames.” I am sure there is more than one person wishing they could send a warning, “Heed the prophets, Heed the One Who came back from the dead.” In the world and our culture there are serious and grave errors taking control, the error that to not practice the faith has no bearing on our eternal destiny. When we take off the incorruptible and protective robe of Christ, we are not on the road of salvation. We are now corruptible and in grave jeopardy. The gates are opened to us, but we are not walking toward them.

The Scriptures and the Church provide the guide, but only the guided will enter. Jesus said, “I am the WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIFE. No one comes to the Father [the kingdom of heaven] but through Me.” If the unguided, the unenlightened, the self-guided, and self-planners attempt to enter on their own accord, then the crucifixion of the Son of God was unnecessary. When the Eucharist is no longer their Bread of Life come down from heaven, they are losing the protective fragrance of Christ. Each day, each week, each month, each year, we are either moving closer to sitting next to Lazarus, or the one who wishes he could send a warning to his five brothers.

Today's Gospel is a warning: a very serious warning. Lent will soon be here. Lent provides us the time and opportunity to take a serious look at ours lives, our relationship with God and others, and the choices we make. Now is the time to do the crossing. Now is the time to do everything possible to make sure our life journey is crossing to the side of consolation, to the side of Christ. Lent is a time filled with special graces for us to receive and act on to draw closer to Christ in our journey of life. May we follow the WAY, Jesus Christ, this Lent and all the days of our life.

PASTOR’S CORNER

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Sharbel Community,

As of 1PM Friday, January 30, 2015 we officially closed on the sale of St. Sharbel property. Although this is a bittersweet moment in the history of our Church, I would like us to focus on maintaining a positive view for what we have just accomplished. First and foremost we have been able to sell the property for $3,180,000.00 dollars. This is a blessing considering the present state of the economy. Secondly, we were facing major costly repairs [the roof, parking lot, furnaces, sewers, plumbing, etc.] if we had kept this property. Finally, as we have stated in the past, the cost of maintaining the complex has increased over the years while the property value has decreased.

At this time, let us keep our focus on the future of the community of Saint Sharbel Church and going forward, creating a beautiful, energy efficient complex that we can be proud of well into the future. Our founding members have laid a solid, beautiful and strong foundation for us to build upon. We are taking these pillars of faith with us to our future spiritual home.

As we continue to search for a temporary location, we will do everything possible to keep our Liturgies and our Religious Education Classes from being disrupted. Presently, we have three solid possibilities we are considering for the permanent location of our church with the blessing of our Bishop. These are in the area between 18 Mile Road and Hall Road, between Hayes and Garfield. These locations can provide for our needs, while providing the best property at the best cost.

My deepest gratitude and appreciation is extended to each and every one of you for your prayerful support and encouraging words. I especially want to thank the Most Rev. Elias Zaidan, our Bishop, for his guidance, and to our Pastoral Advisory Board members, and chairman, Mr. Paul Fayad.

As your Pastor, I call upon each of you to continue to pray in earnest and together as a family, united in purpose. Our Holy Father Pope Francis expresses our calling perfectly:

“When the Lord gives us a Mission, He always has us enter into a Process, A process of Purification, A process of Discernment, A process of Obedience, A process of Prayer.”

~Pope Francis

May this be our theme as we approach the Great Season of Lent and begin this important mission, and throughout the transition to our new home.

Through the intercession of Saint Sharbel, may God bless you all.

I remain,
Faithfully yours in Christ,
Chorbishop Alfred Badawi

2015 ANNUAL BISHOP’S APPEAL

Annual Appeal takes place during Lent. This year the Eparchial Appeal will be sent directly to all parishioners from the Bishop. You will be receiving a letter for Bishop Elias along with a prayer booklet and instructions on how to make your contribution. As always, your generosity is greatly appreciated.

2014 Eparchial Assessments $14,000.00
2014 Eparchial Appeal $12,900.00
2014 Property Insurance “Catholic Mutual Group $27,000.00
2014 Clergy Health Insurance and Retirement $19,800.00
2014 Fuel Collections from the congregation amounted to $3,464
Gas payments amounted to $17,500
Electric payments amounted to $16,620