



Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church Las Vegas

16th Sunday of Pentecost 2021

September 2021

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The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Pastor: Fr. Nadim Abou Zeid

Our Services HOLY MASSES

DAILY: Monday–Friday 8:00 AM English

SATURDAY VIGIL:

4:30 PM English

SUNDAY: 9:30 AM English

& 11:30 AM Arabic/Aramaic/English

1st Sunday : 4:30 PM

Rosario y la Misa en Español

2nd Sunday: 4:30 PM

Tagalog Mass

1st SUNDAY /YOUTH MASS

9:30 AM & 11:30 AM

10325 RANCHO DESTINO RD,

LAS VEGAS NV 89183

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www.stsharbellsasvegas.org





SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

READING: Romans 8:18-27

GOSPEL: Luke 18:9-14

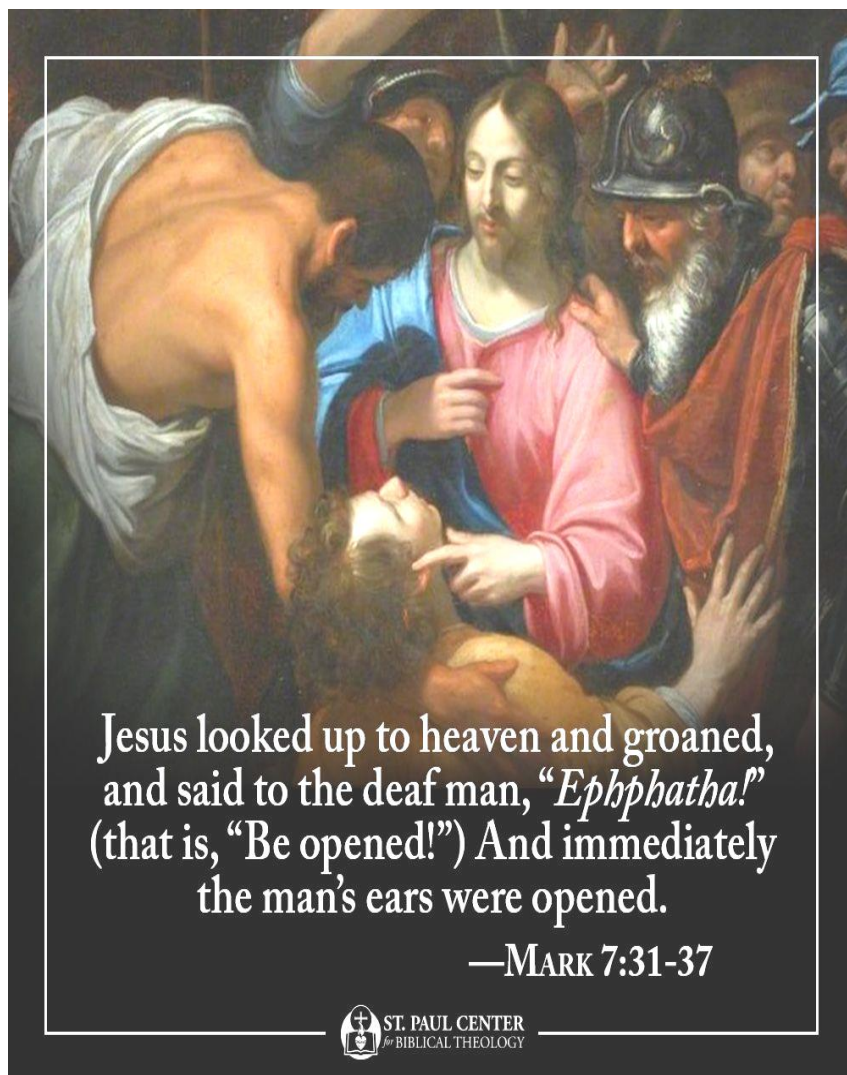
Scripture warns us that "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble" (James 4:6; Proverbs 3:34). Jesus paints a vivid story of two men at prayer. What's the point or lesson he wants us to learn? Luke gives us a hint: Jesus warns us about the danger of despising others. Contempt is more than being mean-minded. It springs from the assumption that one is qualified to sit in the seat of judgment and to ascertain who is good and just. Jesus' story caused offense for those who regarded "tax collectors" as unworthy of God's grace and favor. How could Jesus put down a "religious leader" and raise up a "public sinner"? Jesus' parable speaks about the nature of prayer and our relationship with God. It does this by contrasting two very different attitudes towards prayer. The Pharisee, who represented those who take pride in their religious practices, exalted himself at the expense of others.

Absorbed with his own sense of self-satisfaction and self-congratulation he mainly prayed with himself. His prayer consisted of prideful boasts of what he did and of disdain for those he despised. The Pharisee tried to justify himself; but only God can justify. The tax collector, who represented those despised by religious people, humbled himself before God and begged for mercy. His prayer was heard by God because he had remorse for his sins. He sought God with humility rather than with pride. This parable presents both an opportunity and a warning. Pride leads to illusion and self-deception. Humility helps us to see ourselves as we really are and it inclines us to God's grace and mercy. God dwells with the humble of heart who recognize their own sinfulness and who acknowledge God's mercy and saving grace. *I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and humble spirit* (Isaiah 57:15). God cannot hear us if we despise others. Do you humbly seek God's mercy and do you show mercy to others, especially those you find difficult to love and to forgive?

Jesus, the Compassionate Healer of the Deaf and Mute

Being unable to hear and speak is a crippling handicap. But even worse than physical deafness and dumbness are the spiritual "handicaps" – the inability or the unwillingness to hear God's Word and to respond to it, or the refusal to hear the pleas of our neighbor and respond to it with compassion and love.

Jesus was able to restore the gifts of hearing and speech to the deaf and mute man. He can also perform the even greater miracle of healing the spiritually deaf and mute among us. In this Eucharist, let us pray that we may approach Jesus with humility, faith, and the readiness to obey him, so that we will be able to hear God's Word clearly in our hearts. This will move us to respond to the call of our neighbors with generous readiness and proclaim His glory by words and deeds.



Jesus looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to the deaf man, "*Ephphatha!*" (that is, "Be opened!") And immediately the man's ears were opened.

—MARK 7:31-37

OUR HOLY FATHER POPE FRANCIS CALLS FOR PRAYER, FASTING FOR AFGHANISTAN

At the Angelus, Pope Francis calls Christians to show solidarity with the people of Afghanistan, especially women and children, the victims of violent attacks in recent days. "Let us continue to assist those in need", he says, "and pray that dialogue and solidarity may lead to peaceful and fraternal coexistence."

"I am following the situation in Afghanistan with great concern," Pope Francis said on Sunday, adding, "I share in the suffering of those who mourn for the people who lost their lives in the suicide attacks last Thursday, and of those who are seeking help and protection."

Almost two hundred people were killed in the suicide bombing at Kabul's airport last week, and thousands of people are still waiting desperately to flee to the country as the Taliban takes control of the war-torn nation.

The Holy Father commended the souls of those who were killed "to the mercy of Almighty God." At the same time, he thanked those who are working to help the "sorely tried population" of Afghanistan, especially women and children. "I ask everyone to continue to assist those in need," the Pope said, "and to pray that dialogue and solidarity may lead to the establishment of peaceful and fraternal coexistence, and offer hope for the future of the country."



Soldiers conducting operations to evacuate civilians from Kabul

Pope Francis insisted that "in historical moments like this we cannot remain indifferent," and for Christians it is a duty to respond. For this reason, he said, "I appeal to everyone to intensify prayer and practice fasting: prayer and fasting, prayer and penance. Now is the time to do it."

Adding emphasis to his appeal, he continued, "I'm serious: Intensify prayer and practice fasting, asking the Lord for mercy and forgiveness."

THE MIRACULOUS IMAGE OF OUR BLESSED MOTHER MARY & SAINT POPE JOHN PAUL II THE GREAT

We don't know why John Paul II wanted to hide this picture for years. The Vatican published this picture recently, for the first time. This picture was taken by one of his security guards just when the Pope was attacked and was falling down in his Pope mobile. You can see the pain in his face. Take a look at the above picture. You can see Mother Mary holding John Paul II in Her arms when he was shot in 1981. This happened on May 13, 1981. Pope John Paul II was shot as he arrived in St. Peter's Square to speak to the people who had gathered there. When he was shot, he was holding the rosary, which he always carried. When he recovered finally, the first thing the Pope asked for was his rosary. When he got it in his hands, he said that he felt Mother Mary directing the bullet's path through him. Surely, John Paul II was always in the habit of praying the rosary regularly. He had once said, "the best prayer I like is the Rosary". Joaquin Navarro Valls, who is one spokesman from The Vatican, said that they made a lot of studies for years of this incredible picture and of course about the quality of the developing of the picture because when it was developed nobody could see very well because the image was not clear. Finally, and after so many controls and by looking and checking by all the experts in photography (around the world), they decided that there were no tricks in it and today they give us this beautiful gift from our Mother of God. You can see the Mother of God holding John Paul II in her arms. It is beautiful. PLEASE READ WITH FAITH. This is an awesome prayer. Believe it and you shall be blessed. The problem with many of us is that we don't believe that God will open a window and pour out blessings that we won't have room to receive them.

I dare anyone to try God. He is true to His word. God does not lie and His promises are sure. My prayer for you today: The eyes beholding this message shall not behold evil, the hands that will send this message to others shall not labor in vain, the mouth saying Amen to this prayer shall laugh forever. Remain in God's love as you send this prayer to others on your list. Have a lovely journey of life! Trust in the Lord with all your heart and He will never fail you because ... He is AWESOME ! If you truly need a blessing, continue with this: Heavenly Father, most Gracious and Loving God, I pray to you that you abundantly bless my family, friends and me. I know that you recognize, that a family is more than just a mother, father, sister, brother, husband and wife, but all who believe and trust in you. Father, I send up a prayer request for blessings for not only the person who sent this to me, but for me and all that I have forwarded this message to. And that the power of joined prayer by those who believe and trust in you is more powerful than anything. I thank you in advance for your blessings. Father God, deliver the person reading this right now from debt and debt's burdens. Release Your Godly wisdom that I may be a good steward over all that You have given me, Father, for I know how wonderful and mighty You are and how if we just obey You and walk In Your word and have the faith of a mustard seed that You will pour out blessings.

I thank You now Lord for the recent blessings I have received and for the blessings yet to come because I know You are not done with me yet. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.



AFTER OUR MARONITE PATRIARCH CARDINAL BECHARA EL RAI PRESSURED, U.S. ADVOCATES EXPRESS SUPPORT

Advocates, political leaders and a Maronite Catholic bishop gathered on Zoom for a virtual seminar to express support for Lebanon's Maronite patriarch, who came under pressure after calling for the Lebanese army to take control of the southern part of Lebanon, where Hezbollah is engaging in skirmishes with Israel.

Cardinal Bechara Rai, Maronite patriarch, also said Aug. 8 that the Lebanese Armed Forces should enforce a 2006 U.N. Security Council resolution that requires the disarmament of all armed groups in Lebanon. He said Lebanon does not wish to be involved in military actions that elicit destructive Israeli responses.

Afterward, an image of the patriarch with a noose superimposed on his neck circulated on social media.

Cardinal Rai has "no political agenda," Maronite Bishop A. Elias Zaidan of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles told those on the Aug. 12 Zoom call, sponsored by In Defense of Christians, a Washington-based nonprofit advocating for the protection and preservation of Christians and Christianity in the Middle East.

The cardinal's remarks consistently are on behalf of the people of Lebanon, who are saying, "We want to eat. We want to survive," Bishop Zaidan said.

In Lebanon, Archbishop Paul Nabil Sayah, deputy for external relations for the Maronite Patriarchate, told Catholic News Service Aug. 13 that he had no knowledge of direct threats to Cardinal Rai.

He said the patriarchate would not "enter into polemics" with those who posted on social media "because we don't want to go that low."

Archbishop Sayah said he presumed the posts came from Hezbollah. The Shiite military group and political party backed by Iran has been labeled a terrorist group by the United States. It has come under scrutiny from Lebanon during the country's continued economic and political crisis.

"Anyone can post anything from anywhere," Archbishop Sayah said. "The chances are, if it's not Hezbollah, it's their own crowd. I don't know. They have not addressed themselves to us with a clear message."

He added that while Maronite leaders respected all people's opinions, "they should respect ours as well." "In Lebanon, we thought we had freedom of speech. Apparently for some people, they don't want Lebanon with freedoms. Well, that's not the Lebanon we want. Then, let them go and look for the place they want to live if that's the kind of life they want — a one-voice country. They'll find plenty of them (such countries) in the region, every one of them (countries), actually."

The archbishop also noted that Patriarch Rai "is carrying on with what he thinks ought to be said or done for Lebanon."



Supporters of Lebanese Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah gather in a convoy of motorcycles in the Lebanese village of Kfar Kila, near the border with Israel, May 25, 2021. Cardinal Bechara Rai, Maronite patriarch, has called for the Lebanese Armed Forces to enforce a 2006 U.N. Security Council resolution that says all armed groups in the country should be disarmed.

He is pursuing efforts to implement this active neutrality, and he is also working on convening an international conference for Lebanon. Those are two objectives he has proposed. We are trying internally and externally to promote those ideas. We keep trying."

Repeatedly, Cardinal Rai has called for an international conference on Lebanon, which has not had a government since shortly after the Aug. 4, 2020, Beirut port explosion. In his Mass for victims marking the explosion's anniversary — no government officials or politicians were invited — and in his Aug. 8 homily, Cardinal Rai took Lebanese leaders to task for their inaction.

"How will you convince the people that you are worthy to lead them toward salvation while every day you drag them into a new crisis?" the cardinal asked politicians in his Aug. 8 homily. "How will you convince the world that you are worthy of assistance while you do not care about the international conferences devoted to the relief of the Lebanese people and that are ready to save Lebanon?"

"You wrestle over ministries, but you wrestle over what you do not have because they belong to the people. Rather, look for ministers worthy of ministries, not ministries that secure your interests," he told them. "We call upon every official who feels that he has the authority to assume his responsibilities (to) form the government, save the country immediately, and carry out his duties toward his people and country."

Participants in the In Defense of Christians Zoom noted that while the cardinal has called for the Lebanese Armed Forces to disarm Hezbollah, the army — like the rest of the country — is in bad economic shape.

They played a clip of Congressional testimony by Mira Resnick, a State Department official who deals with regional security in the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs. She called the Lebanese Armed Forces the sole defender of Lebanese security and stability and noted that, without them, "Hezbollah fills the void."

IDC Executive Director Richard Ghazal called for more U.S. government support so the Lebanese army can have air, ground and intelligence superiority over Hezbollah. "Their stomachs are virtually empty" and they need a living wage, he said, asking how such a force could stand up to a well-financed terrorist organization.

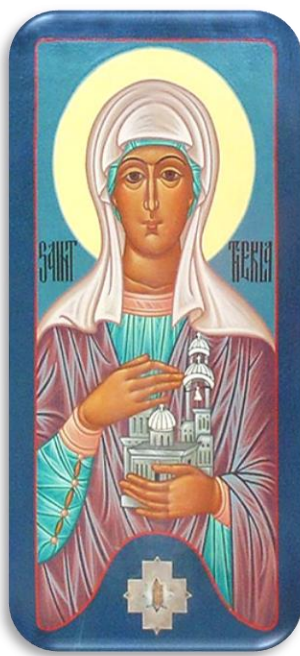
BELIEVE IN GOD!

A young man working in the army was constantly humiliated because he believed in God. One day the captain wanted to humiliate him before the troops. He called the young man and said: – Young man come here, take the key and go and park the Jeep in front. the young man replied: – I cannot drive! The captain said: – Well then ask for assistance of your God! Show us that He exist! ...The young man takes the key and walked to the vehicle and begins to pray..... He parks the jeep at the place PERFECTLY well as the captain wanted. The young man came out of the jeep and saw them all crying. They all said together: – We want to serve your God! The young soldier was astonished, and asked what was going on? The CAPTAIN crying opened the hood of the jeep by showing the young man that the car had no engine. Then the boy said: See? This is the God I serve, THE GOD OF IMPOSSIBLE, the God who gives life to what does not exist. You may think there are things still impossible BUT WITH GOD EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE. To the person reading this, I pray the Lord work A SUPER MIRACLE in your life today In Jesus Name I Pray..

A Prayer For Our Troops

Lord, we come before your throne of grace asking you to protect our troops. Strengthen them with your power and minister to their spirits.

"No weapon formed against them shall prosper." and
"My presence will go with you and I will give you rest"
May miracles abound them.

MARONITE SAINT OF THE MONTH:
SAINT TECHLA

According to ancient Syrian and Greek manuscripts, Saint Tekla was born into a prosperous pagan family in the Lycaonian city of Iconium (present-day Konya in south-central Turkey) in A.D. 16. When she was 18 years old and betrothed to a young man named Thamyris, Saint Paul the Apostle and Saint Barnabas arrived in Iconium from Antioch (Acts 14). Tekla's mother Theokleia prohibited her from joining the crowds which gathered to hear Paul preach. But Tekla found that if she sat near her bedroom window she could hear his every word. Tekla sat there for three days and three nights listening to Paul preach the word of God. She was particularly touched by his call to chastity. As it became apparent that Tekla was becoming interested in the new Faith, Theokleia and Thamyris went to the governor of the city and complained about Paul and his preaching. To pacify them and the other outraged citizens of Iconium, the governor had Paul imprisoned to await trial.

When Tekla learned of Paul's arrest she secretly went to the prison, and using her golden bracelets to bribe the guard, gained admittance to his cell. When she saw the Apostle she knelt before him and kissed the chains which bound his hands and feet. She remained there a long time listening to his message of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Being concerned at Tekla's prolonged absence, Theokleia and Thamyris asked her servant if she knew where she was. The servant said that Tekla had gone to visit an imprisoned stranger. Theokleia and Thamyris knew at once that she was with Paul. They decided to go again to the governor, this time demanding immediate judgement for the Apostle. After the governor chastened Paul for the disturbances he had caused in the city, he had him stoned and expelled from Iconium. The governor then admonished Tekla for her foolishness and commanded her to return home with her mother and fiancé. When Tekla announced that she had vowed to remain a virgin for the sake of Christ, her mother became enraged and asked the governor to threaten Tekla with severe punishment. The governor complied with this wish and ruled that Tekla was to be burned at the stake unless she renounced her faith in Christ.

When Tekla refused to renounce her Heavenly Bridegroom, she was taken to the arena for punishment. As she was tied to the stake she saw a vision of Jesus Christ which gave her strength to face the flames. The fire was lit, but as the flames came near Tekla a thunderstorm suddenly arose and a great torrent of rain and hail came down from heaven and extinguished the flames. Embarrassed because his plan had failed, the angry governor released Tekla but commanded that she must leave Iconium at once. Upon her release, Tekla went to the outskirts of the city where she rejoined Paul. She told him of her trial and miraculous escape from punishment and asked for baptism.

Paul refused to baptize Tekla, saying that this would be accomplished in God's own way and time. Paul and Tekla then departed from the region of Iconium and traveled to Antioch in Syria. As they were entering the city a young nobleman named Alexander saw Tekla. Being entranced by her beauty he rushed forward and tried to seduce her, but Tekla fought him off, thus disgracing him in front of his crowd of friends. Alexander went to the governor of Antioch and complained that this wandering girl had disgraced him, a nobleman, in public. He demanded that she be punished with death. The governor complied and ruled that Tekla would face the wild beasts in the arena. Tekla's only reply was that she be allowed to preserve her virginity unto death. Her wish was granted and she was given into the care of the noblewoman Tryphaena, a relative of Caesar, until the time of punishment.

When Tekla was taken to the arena, a lioness was set free to attack her. But to the astonishment of the crowd, the lioness approached the Saint and sat tamely at her feet. A bear was then released, but as it came close to Tekla the lioness rose up to defend her and killed the bear. A large lion was then released. The lioness again came to Tekla's defense killing the lion, but losing her own life also. Then all the cages were opened and a large number of wild animals charged at the defenseless Tekla. After crossing herself and praying for courage, the Saint noticed a large tank of water which was nearby, containing the aquatic animals. She climbed into the water, asking that she might be baptized by Christ as she did so. Seeing that the beasts were unable to harm Tekla, Alexander asked that the Saint be given over to him for punishment. He tied her to two large bulls in the hopes that they would pull her asunder. But when the bulls charged off in opposite directions, the ropes which held Tekla to them were miraculously loosened and she was spared. Seeing that no harm could be done to Tekla, the authorities released her. She went to the home of Tryphaena where she remained for eight days preaching the Good News of Jesus Christ and converting Tryphaena and her entire household. When she departed from Antioch, Tryphaena gave her a treasure in gold and precious jewels.

After she left Antioch, Tekla journeyed to Myra where she rejoined Paul. She informed him of all that had occurred, including her baptism and asked that she might be permitted to spend the remainder of her life as an ascetic. Paul gave her his blessing and she departed, leaving with Paul all the gold and jewels that Tryphaena had given her so that he might distribute them among the poor and needy.

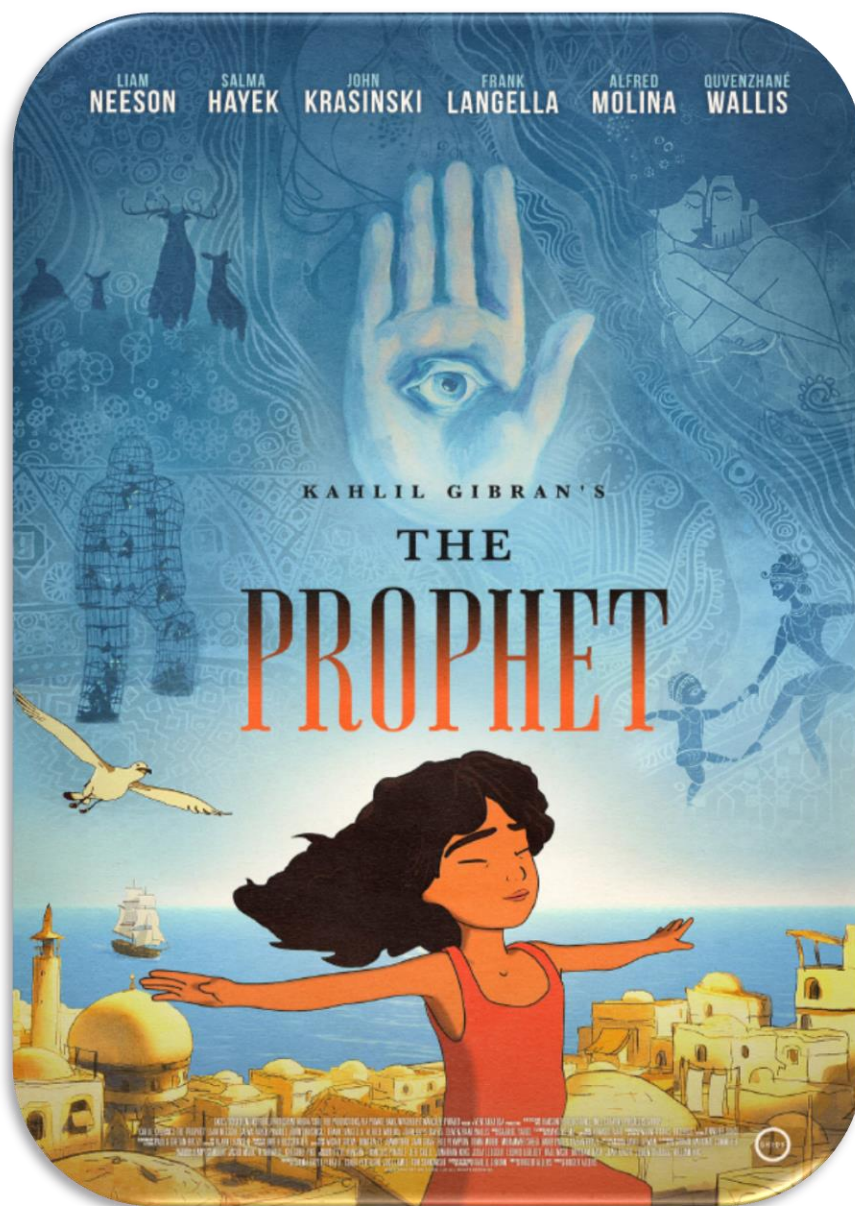
Tekla then traveled again to Syria where she went up into the mountains for a life of prayer and solitude. Many years later a young pagan found her praying in an isolated canyon and resolved to harass her and spoil her virginity. As he approached her and blocked her only exit to safety, she prayed that her Bridegroom would protect her as He had so many times in the past. At that moment the canyon wall was miraculously split allowing her to escape through a narrow crack in the rock.

Saint Tekla continued her life of asceticism and then peacefully fell asleep in Christ at the age of 90. Shortly after her death a community of virgins went to live in her mountain cell, building a small chapel to enshrine her body. This Convent of Saint Tekla still exists today near the village of Ma'loula, Syria. Because of her many sufferings for the Faith the Church counts her as a "Protomartyr". And because she converted so many people to Christianity she is also known as an "Equal-to-the-Apostles".

The Prophet, by celebrated Lebanese-American Maronite author Kahlil Gibran, is among the most popular volumes of poetry ever written, selling over 100 million copies in forty languages since its publication in 1923. Gibran's timeless verses have been given enchanting new form in this painterly cinematic adventure about freedom and the power of human expression.

This breathtaking animated feature, produced and spearheaded by Salma Hayek, was an official selection at Cannes and made its North American premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival. Written and directed by Roger Allers (*The Lion King*), the film intersperses Gibran's elegant poetry within stunning animated sequences by filmmakers Tomm Moore (*The Secret of Kells*, *Song of the Sea*), Bill Plympton (*Guide Dog*), Joan Gratz (*Mona Lisa Descending a Staircase*), Nina Paley (*Sita Sings the Blues*), and a host of award-winning animators from around the world. Set in a Mediterranean seaside village, Kamila (Salma Hayek) cleans house for exiled artist and poet Mustafa (Liam Neeson), but the more difficult job is keeping her free-spirited young daughter, Almitra (Quvenzhané Wallis), out of trouble.

The three embark on a journey meant to end with Mustafa's return home – but first they must evade the authorities who fear that the truth in his words will incite rebellion. Featuring music from Damien Rice, Glen Hansard, Gabriel Yared, and Yo-Yo Ma.



THE LEBANESE ACTRESS SALMA HAYEK'S NEW ANIMATED FILM 'THE PROPHET' BRINGS ALL RELIGIONS TOGETHER



BASED ON KAHLIL GIBRAN'S VOLUME OF POETRY, SALMA HAYEK'S FILM *THE PROPHET* CUTS ACROSS RELIGIOUS BOUNDARIES WITH VIEWS ON MARRIAGE, FREEDOM, LOVE, AND MORE. Salma Hayek's new animated film *The Prophet* which she both produced and to which she lent her vocal acting talents, has several messages that bring together all religions, the Huffington Post reports. *The Prophet* is based on the volume of poetry of the same name by Lebanese-American author Kahlil Gibran. The book has sold over 100 million copies since 1923. The film focuses on eight separate issues that cut across any religious boundaries including children, eating, drinking, freedom, marriage, work, love and death. "I think it's nice to remember that it was an Arab man who wrote a philosophy book that brings all religions together," said Hayek. In an era when religion plays an enormous role in the politics of the world, Gibran's original vision is refreshing. Religious discussion sits at the center of most debates of violence between countries and also has a hand in the gay rights movement which has gained momentum over the past year. Hayek believes that the film version can also have a positive effect on those who go to see it. "This is exactly the kind of thing we need to expose children to, a film that talks about finding your own voice, a film that talks about not jumping into judgment, a film that talks about tolerance."

BEAUTIFUL FACES & PLACES



Congratulations to Ala & Sewar Mashini on the baptism of their son Christian



Congratulations to Haisell & Ana Heredia on the baptism of their son Lorenzo



Happy 90th Birthday
Aunt Barbara Garcia
God Bless you

St. Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church



1 ticket for \$3
2 tickets for \$5

1st Prize – Silver Picture of Guadalupe
2nd Prize – Wall Rosary
3rd Prize – Picture

Drawing will be held on
Sunday September 26, 2021

MILAGROS DE SAN CHARBEL

Hola! Bendiciones para todos! siento no haber podido publicar ayer, realmente no se quien esta leyendo pero tengo la intención de publicar todos los días algo bonito, inspirador y que nos ayude un poco mas en este valle que recorremos todos los días! aportar un poquito! en especial en momentos donde los valles están sumamente oscuros y desolados, pero siempre la luz esta ahí esperándonos y los brazos del creador siempre están abiertos para acogernos.

En este día quería dejar la historia y la ayuda que nos dejo como legado un hombre ejemplar, quizás algunos lo hayan escuchado por sus milagros, me refiero a San Chárbel. En particular mi fe y devoción van siempre directas a Dios y Jesucristo pero creo que en esta tierra hay personas que logran caminar e imitar lo que Cristo hizo en la tierra y que son dignos de reconocer y siento que Dios en su infinita misericordia los acerca a nosotros para ayudarnos y regalarnos su amor.

San Chárbel es conocido como santo de las enfermedades catastróficas y su vida fue entregada a Dios en una directa comunión con él y fue bendecido.

Llegué a conocerlo buscando datos para enfrentar la enfermedad de un familiar muy querido y dentro de averiguaciones, búsqueda de internet y hablar con distintas personas llegué a este dato de este santo.



San Charbel Makhluf es un santo católico maronita libanés del siglo XIX que ha dejado atónitos a los sabios, porque de su cuerpo incorrupto salió líquido sangui-nolento que era inexplicable desde todo punto de vista científico. Si su cuerpo vivo tenía cinco litros de sangre y, después de muerto, exudaba un mínimo de un litro de líquido por año, lo que darían 67 litros en 67 años, ¿de dónde salía ese líquido misterioso con el que se producían milagros maravillosos? Después de muerto parecía un santo vivo, pues ni se le caía el pelo ni las

uñas y su cuerpo mantenía su flexibilidad natural. San Charbel vivió como un religioso de la Orden maronita (de san Marón) en el convento de Annaya durante 16 años y los últimos 23 años como ermitaño en una ermita cercana. Fue un hombre dado continuamente a la oración ante el Santísimo Sacramento. Vivía intensamente la misa de cada día y llevaba una vida de continua penitencia, trabajando en los campos del convento en silencio para ganarse el pan. Su vida fue: oración, penitencia y trabajo. Después de muerto, miles y miles de devotos llegan a visitar su tumba, donde Dios sigue haciendo milagros. San Charbel es un santo popular en el Líbano, pero es un santo de todos y para todos, pues es nuestro hermano que nos espera en el cielo y cuya vida nos estimula a vivir en la tierra de cara a la eternidad.



Global Lebanese Support Network Who We Are:

GLSN is a non-profit organization aiming at creating networks between individuals or companies in the motherland and the Lebanese Diaspora and their friends outside Lebanon.

Lebanon needs our help! We ask all of the diaspora to lend a hand and try to help in anyway possible. If you are a Lebanese-American business owner please consider hiring a Lebanese professional or outsourcing to a Lebanese company.

As an individual, you can also help by remotely hiring a teacher/tutor for your kids. Even a little help will make a difference.

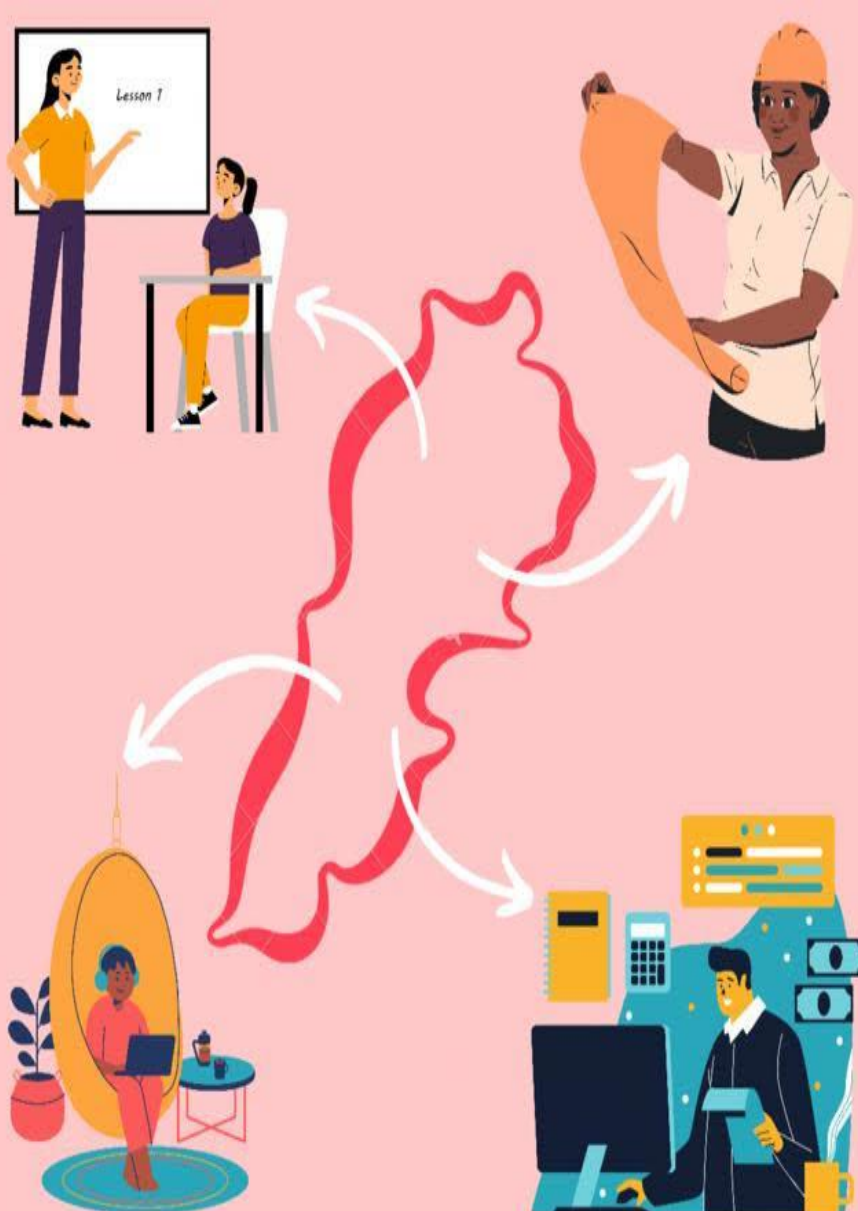
Please reach out if you want to join our efforts.

Email: glsn.lebanon@gmail.com

Facebook: [@globallebanesesupportnetwork](https://www.facebook.com/@globallebanesesupportnetwork)

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LinkedIn: [@global-lebanese-support-network](https://www.linkedin.com/company/global-lebanese-support-network)





Filipino News



THE PHILIPPINES: ARSENAL OF FAITH, DEPOSIT OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE EAST

The story of the Philippines is the story of the Church's "most successful missionary effort in Asia" (Bokenkotter, 2005). Like the proverbial grain of the mustard seed sown in fertile earth, the growth and development of the Church and the Philippines were the fruits of the labors of missionary friars, sustained by an indigenous clergy, and made vibrant by a faithful people. Jesuit historian Fr. John Schumacher writes: "Whether one is a believing Catholic or not, the development of the Filipino nation cannot be understood without a knowledge of the major, often decisive, role played by the Church in the Philippines." ~~the Spaniards and the Philippines~~ **with the Cross of Christ**

Catholicism came to the Philippines with the European discovery of the archipelago. The explorer Ferdinand Magellan set foot on the islands in 1521 and planted the cross on the island of Cebu, cradle of Christianity in the Philippines. There, he spearheaded the conversion of Rajah Humabon and his consort Harah Amihan, who took the baptismal names Carlos and Juana (after the Spanish king and queen mother). This happened within weeks of the offering of the first Mass in the islands by Fr. Pedro de Valderrama, chaplain of the voyage, on March 31, 1521. Magellan had named the islands the "Archipelago of St. Lazarus." On the day he first sighted land (March 16, 1521), it was a Saturday, the eve of Passion Sunday, when in the old Roman liturgy, the gospel was the resurrection of St. Lazarus. The name that stuck however was "Las Islas Filipinas" (the Philippine Islands), given by Ruy Lopez de Villalobos who headed one of the follow-up expeditions after the death of Magellan in the hands of the natives in the Battle of Mactan.

The evangelization of the Philippines began with the arrival of the conquistador Miguel Lopez de Legazpi in Cebu on April 27, 1565. The natives fled and burned their homes, but in one hut was recovered the image of the Santo Niño, the Child Jesus. It was Magellan's baptismal gift to Queen Juana, and today the object of the largest Christian devotion in the country. Legazpi called the first Spanish settlement the "City of the Most Holy Name of Jesus," the feast attached to the devotion to the Holy Child.

The Augustinian friars who came with Legazpi, led by Fray Andres de Urnadeta, built a church and convent in honor of the Santo Niño in Cebu. In 1571 they went with Legazpi as he conquered Manila and turned the then bustling Muslim settlement into the walled capital (*Intramuros*) of the new Spanish colony. For 13 years the Augustinians were alone in the missionary effort. The Franciscans arrived in 1578, followed by the Jesuits in 1581. The Dominican mission arrived in 1587. But the first Dominican to land on the islands was Fray Domingo de Salazar, who accompanied the Jesuits six years earlier and took possession of the newly established Diocese of Manila as first bishop. The See of Manila was a suffragan to Mexico until August 14, 1595 when it was elevated to an archdiocese, with the dioceses of Cebu, Nueva Segovia and Caceres (Naga) as suffragans.



The choice of Salazar as first bishop was propitious. Salazar was a disciple of Bartolome de las Casas, who defended the Amerindians from the abuses of the Spanish colonizers. Salazar was bent on doing the same in the Indies. The legitimacy of the conquest was a question that vexed the young colony, and was addressed precisely by the Synod of Manila convoked by Salazar in 1582. The Synod Fathers concluded that Spain must exercise political dominion over the Philippines to fulfill its primary duty of evangelization, as commissioned by the Pope. Salazar's synod, more importantly, condemned slavery and resolved to spread the Gospel using the native languages, a key decision that preserved the local tongues. As expected, Salazar encountered stiff opposition and had to go to Spain to personally plead for the rights of the natives before the royal court. Upon his death the struggle was continued by a fellow Dominican, Fray Miguel de Benavides, who pointed out that tributes had been collected unjustly from unbelievers. Spain must make restitution, he argued, and obtain a just title to the Philippine islands. This can be done only if the natives submit freely to the colonizers.

The Catholic king acceded. The victorious Benavides returned to the Philippines, now the bishop of Nueva Segovia, and himself oversaw the gatherings in which Filipinos voluntarily agreed to be the Spanish king's subjects. This was the reply of one Filipino to the question of ratification: "We answer that we want the king of Spain to be also our king and ruler because he has sent Spaniards to free us from the tyranny and domination of our own rulers, and also because he has sent us missionary fathers to help us against the Spaniards, ready to defend us against them."

Next month, **II. A Church established by missionary zeal**

Festival Welcome



Warmest welcome to all our friends, parishioners and guests who will be visiting our Festival on October 8-10.

We are thankful to God to allow us to share our premises and heritage with all people of Clark County and beyond.

As usual we are all called to extend our warm hospitality to our visitors.

You are all urged to be a part of this festival and to volunteer your time and talents where you are needed.

Together we can make it a successful festival for our Church.

The following are examples on how you can help the Church Festival by donating money toward expenses:

1. You can donate to offset the cost of preparation of FOOD SUPPLIES
2. You can donate for CHILDRENS'S GAMES
3. You can donate in support of the raffle by buying tickets.
4. You can donate for Entertainment expenses
5. You can donate toward the tents and permits
6. You can donate toward drinks
7. You can volunteer for the 3 days of the Festival



PLEASE DONATE

**CASES OF 16 OZ. BOTTLED WATER
& SODA CANS**

FESTIVAL RAFFLE
TICKETS

**\$100 each,
40 tickets left
total cash prizes
\$10,000**



2021

13TH ANNUAL

LEBANESE AMERICAN FESTIVAL

**FRIDAY, OCT 8 @ 4-11
SATURDAY, OCT 9 @ 2-11
SUNDAY, OCT 10 @ 12-8**

**FOOD • DRINKS • LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
KIDS RIDES • RAFFLE • VENDORS**



BENEFICIARY



**ST. SHARBEL CHURCH
10325 RANCHO DESTINO RD
LAS VEGAS, NV 89183**



\$5 ADMISSION

**FREE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 10,
MILITARY, VETERANS, AND POLICE**

LEBANESEAMERICANFESTIVAL.COM

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

WEEKEND

Saturday 4:30pm Sept 4

+Marceliano & Marisa Delim
+Edna Cabiles
+Ralph Silvestre
Delim & Ruiz Family

Sunday 9:30 am Sept 5

+Estela & Reinerio Berlamino
+Zenaida Mamites
+Fortunato Montaos

Sunday 11:30 am

+Michel Hanach (1wk)
+Nouhad Sabbague (1yr)

5 pm Misa en Español

La curación de los Enfermos



**PRAY
FOR THE SICK**

DAILY 8AM

MONDAY Sept 6

+Zenaida Mamites
+Fortunato Montaos

TUESDAY Sept 7

+Zenaida Mamites
+Fortunato Montaos

WEDNESDAY Sept 8

*Blessed Mother Mary
+Zenaida Mamites
+Fortunato Montaos

THURSDAY Sept 9

+Zenaida Mamites
+Fortunato Montaos

FRIDAY Sept 10

+Zenaida Mamites
+Fortunato Montaos

El Grupo Guadalupano

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

DIA: Domingo 5 de Septiembre

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



We need 1 Volunteer each
Sunday at 9:30 am to direct
cars to park:

- Monitor parking availability
- Direct people to empty space
- When full direct them to
School next door if gate is open