



Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church Las Vegas

14th Sunday of Pentecost

September 2025

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Pastor: Fr. Nadim Abou Zeid

Our Services

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

Tuesday @ 6 pm Rosario

Anointing of the Sick every 1st Tuesday

Reflection

This Sunday reminds us of the two sisters Martha and Mary who welcomed Jesus in their home.

Martha was so busy preparing the meal and anxiously doing so many household chores. But Mary sat at the feet of the Lord listening to His words.

St. Luke stresses the word of God, listening to it and finding true closeness to Jesus. "Mary has chosen the better part, and it will not be taken from her."

(Lk. 10:42) Martha and Mary in Luke's gospel does not specify any place or time because he reminds them of Jesus journey to Galilee and Jerusalem (Lk. 9:51-19:18) and finds them in John 11 with the same qualities. John gives Martha a unique role and repeats the same words of Peter: "You are the Messiah the Son of God!" (Mt 16:16).

"Martha, Martha" the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things but few things are needed--indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better..."
THE PLANTED TREES Luke 10:41-42

READINGS:

• **Deuteronomy 6:4-9**

• **1 Thessalonians 2:1-13**

GOSPEL:

† **Luke 10:38-42**



In the Gospel of John, the complete identity is expressed. But here Martha shows concern about serving and she wants her sister Mary to serve and help her, instead of sitting at the feet of the Lord listening to Him. That is why the answer of Jesus has a slight warning for her. "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things!" Luke stresses hearing the word of God, but this does not mean neglecting, serving and ignoring our brothers and sisters who are burdened from work. Work and contemplation must compliment and complete each other like in the parable of the Good Samaritan which comes before this event.

Our Church needs both Martha and Mary, people to serve and pray but the word of God comes first. Serving is a reflection of our prayer. We cannot do one without the other and we cannot take the extreme of Martha and Mary. The Lord calls us to avoid extremes, and the key word is balance.

Let us ponder: Are you still too busy with daily life to slow down? Think about what you should be doing! Sit in a quiet place and allow the Lord to speak to you. Listen!

Let Us Pray:

Lord help, we are our brother's keeper, You entrusted us with the responsibility of taking care of one another. We are called to stand united as one human family. Amen

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OUR HOLY FATHER POPE LEO XIV EXPRESSES SORROW OVER SHOOTING AT CATHOLIC SCHOOL IN MINNEAPOLIS

Pope Leo XIV expresses profound sorrow over the murder of two children and the injuring of 17 others at the Annunciation Catholic church and school complex in the US city of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Pope Leo XIV has expressed his profound sorrow upon learning of the loss of life and injuries following the shooting that took place at Annunciation Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in the US.

In a telegram sent to Archbishop Bernard Hebda of Minneapolis, the Pope expressed his "heartfelt condolences and the assurance of spiritual closeness to all those affected by this terrible tragedy, especially the families now grieving the loss of a child."

Prayers for the victims, wounded and those assisting.

The telegram, signed by Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Secretary of State, says the Pope commends "the souls of the deceased children to the love of Almighty God" and "prays for the wounded as well as the first responders, medical personnel and clergy who are caring for them and their loved ones.

As a "pledge of peace, fortitude and consolation in the Lord Jesus," Pope Leo imparted his Apostolic Blessing upon "the Annunciation Catholic School Community, the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis and the people of the greater twin cities metropolitan area."

More on the shooting

A man opened fire on worshippers gathered at the Annunciation Catholic Church in Minneapolis, the largest city of the state of Minnesota in the United States.

The attack occurred at 8:30 in the morning local time during a back-to-school Mass. The complex also houses a school attended by children from preschool to middle school.

Only several hours after the shooting did police report that at least two children, aged 8 and 10, were killed, and another 17 were injured, including 14 children, with seven in serious condition. The shooter is believed to have committed suicide after opening fire through the windows where children were attending Mass inside the chapel of the school complex.

The motive behind the attack that took place remains unknown.



Shooting at Annunciation Church in Minneapolis, USA

Prayers for all affected

Archbishop William Lori, vice-president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, issued a statement, saying, "As a Church, we are following the tragic news from Annunciation School in Minneapolis with heartbreaking sadness. Whenever one part of the Body of Christ is wounded, we feel the pain as if it were our very own children. Let us all beg the Lord for the protection and healing of the entire Annunciation family."

Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, in a post on X, said, "I've been briefed on a shooting at Annunciation Catholic School and will continue to provide updates as we get more information. The BCA and State Patrol are on scene. I'm praying for our kids and teachers whose first week of school was marred by this horrific act of violence."

Speaking on Truth Social media, US President Donald Trump said, "I have been fully briefed on the tragic shooting in Minneapolis, Minnesota...the FBI quickly responded, and they are on the scene. The White House will continue to monitor this terrible situation. Please join me in praying for everyone involved!"

In the 12 hours preceding the shooting at Annunciation School in southwest Minneapolis, there had been 12 other shootings in the city, resulting in eight people injured and three killed, according to the local police department. "The level of gun violence in the city in recent hours is deeply disturbing," the department commented.

Archbishop Hebda: "Our Lady, Queen of Sorrows, pray for us"

Archbishop Bernard Hebda of Minneapolis released a statement on Wednesday afternoon expressing his profound gratitude "for the many promises of prayers that have been coming in from the Holy Father, Pope Leo, and from so many from all around the globe, all praying for the families of Annunciation Parish and School and for all who were impacted by this morning's senseless violence." He asked for the continued prayers of all of the priests and faithful the Archdiocese, and all men and women of good will, so that "the healing that only God can bring will be poured out on all those who were present at this morning's Mass and particularly for the affected families who are only now beginning to comprehend the trauma they sustained. We lift up the souls of those who lost their lives to our loving God through the intercession of Our Lady, Queen of Peace."

The Archbishop added that, "My heart is broken as I think about students, teachers, clergy and parishioners and the horror they witnessed in a Church, a place where we should feel safe. That today's tragedy occurred only a day after the tragic shooting near Christo Rey High School increases the sadness about the pain and anger that is present in our communities. We need an end to gun violence. Our community is rightfully outraged at such horrific acts of violence perpetrated against the vulnerable and innocent. While we need to commit to working toward preventing the recurrence of such tragedies, we also need to remind ourselves that we have a God of peace and of love, and that it is His love that we will need most as we strive to embrace those who are hurting so deeply... Our Lady, Queen of Sorrows, pray for us."

OUR HOLY FATHER POPE LEO XIV COULD VISIT LEBANON BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR, PATRIARCH SAYS

Pope Leo XIV could visit Lebanon before the end of the year, the leader of the country's Maronite Catholics said Tuesday. In an interview with the Saudi-based television station Al Arabiya, Cardinal Bechara Boutros Raï, patriarch of the Maronite Catholic Church, said Pope Leo XIV "will come to visit Lebanon sometime between now and December," adding that he was not sure when the trip would be.

"The visit will happen after a decision from the Vatican about when it will take place, so until now it's not yet determined. But preparations for the visit are underway, though the exact timing is still unknown, waiting for the Vatican to announce it," Raï said.

The Vatican has not yet announced any official international trips for the new pontiff, but speculation has swirled for months about where his first journeys abroad may take him. According to veteran Middle East expert and EWTN News contributor Alberto Fernández, the expected visit will likely be connected to a papal trip to Nicaea — located in modern-day İznik in northwestern Turkey — to mark the 1,700th anniversary of the First Ecumenical Council. The most likely date is **Nov. 30, St. Andrew's Day**, when a Catholic delegation traditionally visits Turkey.

Reports have also suggested that Pope Leo XIV could add other stops to a Turkey visit. The **National Catholic Register**, CNA's sister news partner, reported last month that a papal visit to Algeria — following in the footsteps of St. Augustine, who was bishop of Hippo in what is now Annaba — was among itineraries under consideration. Lebanon has now emerged as another possible destination.

A papal trip to Lebanon was long discussed under Pope Francis, but the **country's political and economic crises complicated planning**. Francis publicly expressed his desire to visit Lebanon during an in-flight press conference returning from Iraq in March 2021. A few months later, Vatican officials said a visit would **depend on the formation of a government**.



Lebanese Cardinal Béchara Boutros Raï, the head of the Maronite Catholic Church, gives a homily during the Synod on Synodality on Oct. 9, 2023

In April 2022, then-President Michel Aoun **announced** that Francis would travel to Lebanon that June, but the trip never materialized. Lebanon was also floated as a potential meeting place between Francis and Russian Orthodox Patriarch Kirill after the start of the Ukraine war, an encounter that never happened.

Lebanon endured a prolonged political vacuum after Aoun's term ended in October 2022. The country remained without a head of state until **Joseph Aoun was elected president** on Jan. 9, 2025.

The last papal visit to Lebanon was in September 2012, when Pope Benedict XVI visited Beirut and other parts of the country. Since then, Lebanon has been battered by the Syrian civil war, which brought in more than 1.5 million refugees, a financial collapse that saw the Lebanese pound lose 97% of its value against the U.S. dollar since 2019, and the devastating Beirut port explosion in 2020. Electricity outages left citizens with power for only hours a day during the worst of the crisis.

Tensions also remain high along Lebanon's southern border. During the Gaza war, **Israeli airstrikes hit Beirut's** southern suburbs in September and October 2024. Hassan Nasrallah, the secretary-general of Hezbollah, was assassinated in an Israeli airstrike in Beirut on Sept. 27, 2024, heightening fears of a broader conflict with Hezbollah.

Lebanon's population of nearly 6 million is about 68% Muslim, divided between Sunnis and Shiites, and about 28% Christian, most of whom are Maronite Catholics, according to 2020 statistics from the Pew Research Center.

While the Vatican has not responded to a request for comment on Raï's remarks, speculation continues about where Pope Leo XIV may travel in coming years. Spanish Catholics have expressed hope that Leo could visit Barcelona, Spain, next year for the completion of the Sagrada Família. Trips to Peru and the United States have also been discussed for 2026 — a year that will mark the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States.

Birth of our Blessed Mother Mary (September 8)

**Lord God,
the day of our salvation dawned
when the Blessed Virgin
gave birth to your Son.
As we celebrate her nativity
grant us your grace and your peace.
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.**

The Church has celebrated Mary's birth since at least the sixth century. A September birth was chosen because the Eastern Church begins its Church year with September. The September 8 date helped determine the date for the feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8 (nine months earlier). Scripture does not give an account of Mary's birth. However, the apocryphal *Protoevangelium of James* fills in the gap. This work has no historical value, but it does reflect the development of Christian piety. According to this account, Anna and Joachim are infertile but pray for a child. They receive the promise of a child that will advance God's plan of salvation for the world. Such a story (like many biblical counterparts) stresses the special presence of God in Mary's life from the beginning.

St. Augustine connects Mary's birth with Jesus' saving work. He tells the earth to rejoice and shine forth in the light of her birth. "She is the flower of the field from whom bloomed the precious lily of the valley. Through her birth the nature inherited from our first parents is changed." The opening prayer at Mass speaks of the birth of Mary's Son as the dawn of our salvation and asks for an increase of peace.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BLESSED MOTHER MARY!

ALAN AMES CALL TO PRAYER

Dear Friends in Christ,

Let us all pray fervently for peace in the middle east as the drums of war sound loudly. Once again governments and leaders seem intent on drawing their nations and people into conflict using the same rhetoric as before. Let us pray that the mistakes of history that have cost so many lives are not foolishly repeated and that no more blood is shed. Remember that as followers of Christ, The Prince of Peace, we are meant to be on the side of peace and are called to oppose war through our words, actions and prayers. Please join me in praying that all hearts become hearts of peace and that the darkness of war is defeated.

God loves us all
ALAN AMES

PRAY FOR PEACE

Alan Ames was born in London in 1953. In his youth, he was a member of a motorcycle-gang, he went along a path full of violence and alcohol. After his marriage, he moved to Australia with his family.



The turning point of his life happened in 1993 when Alan saw his past life displayed before him and experienced how his sins and wrong ways had hurt God. He saw how Jesus offered him forgiveness from the cross. After some struggles, Alan accepted the forgiveness offered by Jesus. The Lord helped Alan to come back to the sacraments and to the Church and changed Alan's hatred and pain into love. Later, God called Alan to be one of His witnesses, sent to carry God's love into the world. Alan has brought hope and blessing to hundreds of thousands of people – the hope and blessing which he himself draws from his sacramental relationship of love with the Trinitarian God.

23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C

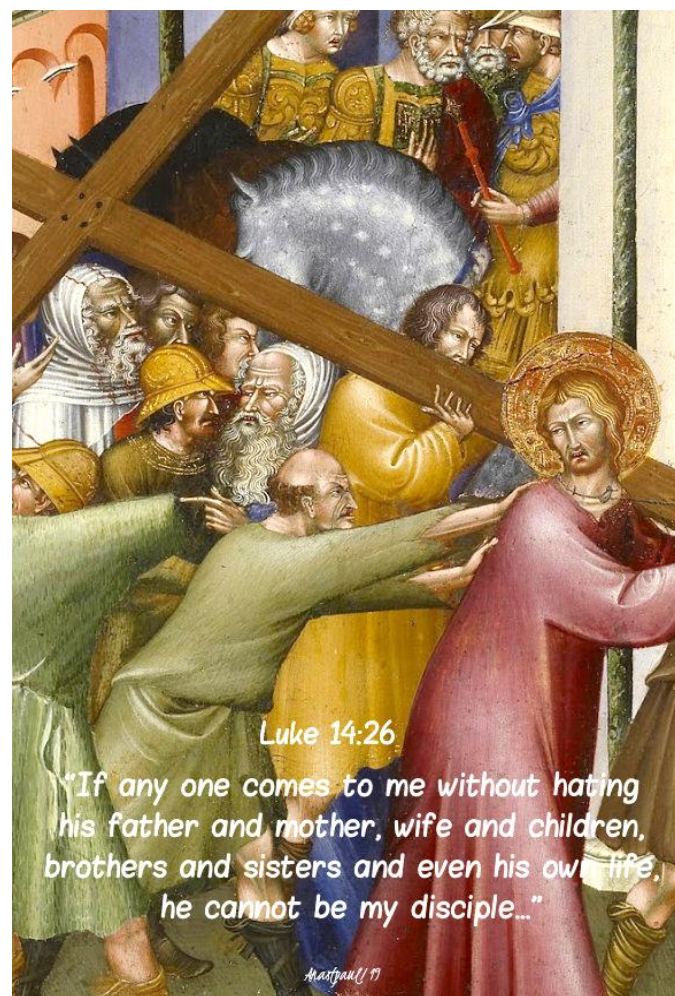
BORN FREE

Today's readings are heartwarming, particularly the story of Onesimus. He was a slave, but he was called, through the ministry of St Paul, to the glorious liberty of the children of God. Paul, ever the free man despite his imprisonment, exhorted Philemon to do the right thing and recognize the freedom to which, not only Onesimus, but all of us, are called to, by God's will and love! We are born free! This is God's flawless and irrefutable design for us all.

Let this Sunday Eucharistic celebration, be not only a reminder, but a recognition on our part, along with a deep commitment, for us all to go on growing in freedom . . . to be free to love and to obey God's commands, cost what might.

It is not easy to love. That is why to love "the Jesus way" requires plenty of moral strength and a long apprenticeship. But this is the only way to be a real disciple of the Lord, for it is only through such a strong love that the Kingdom of God flourishes and we can attain authentic interior freedom.

Today, let us ask for the grace to love Jesus above all, both in words and deeds. On this first Sunday of September, let us remember that this is "*National Catechetical Month*." Let us offer this Eucharist for all those involved in the catechetical ministry and their recipients.



Why go to Communion?

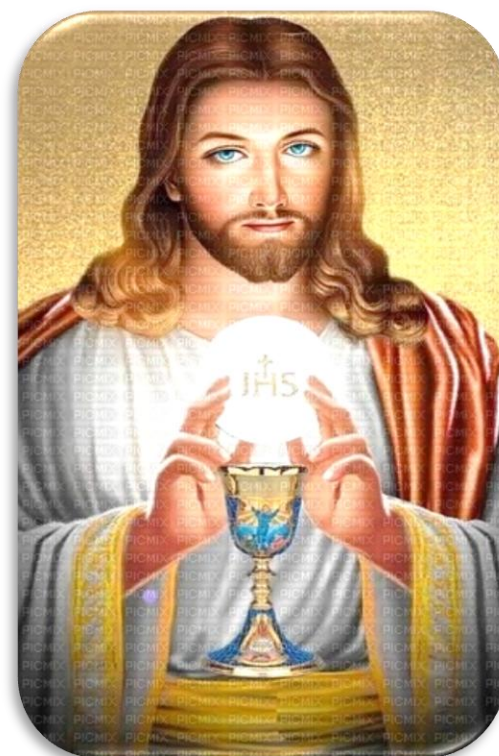
"Whoever does not eat My flesh will not have eternal life", Jesus told us.

So, it's important to receive Communion as often as possible. As Pope Francis explained in his apostolic exhortation on holiness, to have the strength to resist the devil's temptations, we need to feed on the Holy Eucharist – the body, blood, soul and divinity of Jesus. Just as food nourishes our body, our physical life, the Eucharist nourishes our soul, our spiritual life. What would we say if we only ate once a week, once a month, or only once a year? Would that be enough to live on? Well, it's the same with the Eucharist. We need to take Communion often, so as not to die spiritually, ensuring we are in a state of grace at the moment of Communion by means of the sacrament of /confession. For those of us with faith, Jesus' request - to eat His body and blood – is not shocking but rather comforting making us thankful to God for such a great gift.

The Eucharist is the greatest proof of God's infinite love. There is no greater mystery, no greater miracle on earth than this. The Catechism of the Catholic Church speaks of the Eucharist as "the source and summit of the whole Christian life" and "summary and sum of our faith."

The Eucharistic presence of Christ begins at the moment of consecration and endures as long as the Eucharistic species subsist. Christ is present whole and entire in each of the species, and whole and entire in each of their parts, in such a way that the breaking of the bread does not divide Christ.

Jesus' greatest desire is to unite Himself with us, the most intimate way possible: to give Himself as food, so that He can dwell within us. Receiving Christ in the Eucharist merges our being with that of Christ, St. Cyril of Alexandria likened this phenomenon to "melted wax blending with the rest of the wax."



LATEST MIRACLE OF SAINT SHARBEL: 'I COULDN'T BELIEVE WHAT I WAS SEEING': MIRACLE OF THE OIL OF ST. CHARBEL IN NAPLES CHURCH

St. Ferdinand Church, located in the historic heart of Naples, Italy, was the scene of an event that many are already calling miraculous, attributed to the intercession of **St. Charbel**, a Lebanese hermit, devotion to whom has transcended borders. On July 24, in the context of his liturgical memorial, Monsignor Pasquale Silvestri, parish priest at the Neapolitan church, celebrated a Mass in honor of the saint attended by more than 500 people, many of them ill.

At the end of the Eucharist, the priest proceeded to anoint the faithful who approached the altar with blessed oil — sent especially for the occasion by the Maronite Curia in Rome. It was then that something unexpected happened.

'I couldn't believe what I was seeing'

"I didn't imagine there would be so many people, so there came a time when the jar was almost empty, and I was afraid I wouldn't be able to satisfy everyone," the priest explained in a letter published July 27 and addressed to Father Elias Hamhoury, former postulator of the cause for canonization of St. Charbel.

However, he managed to anoint each sick person until the jar was empty. "When I finished," he added, "I closed the jar and put it back in its case. But when I put it back in the safe, I realized it was full again. I couldn't believe what I was seeing."

When contacted by ACI Prensa, CNA's Spanish-language news partner, Silvestri confirmed the events: "I was very surprised, because the jar was empty. In fact, I was afraid because there wouldn't be enough to anoint everyone, and I turned the jar upside down several times" to get the last few drops.

Upon realizing that the vessel was indeed full again and that it "weighed more than before," the priest approached the altar to tell the faithful what had happened: "Everyone applauded when they saw it."

"I'm not a miracle worker, absolutely not, but in this case, there was a production of matter; this is a very serious thing," he emphasized. Given what happened, he assured he acted in accordance with canon law: "When one learns of a miracle, it must be communicated to the saint's postulator."



The jar that was miraculously refilled after the priest had anointed the heads of 500 faithful.

The aroma of the cedars of Lebanon

The next day, July 25, a group of Lebanese pilgrims arrived at the church. "They asked me if they could smell the oil, and when they did, they assured me it gave off the aroma of the cedars of Lebanon," one of the symbols of St. Charbel's homeland. "The oil is fragrant, something that seems impossible," the Neapolitan priest pointed out.

St. Charbel, whose original name was Youssef Antoun, was born May 8, 1828, in Beqaa-Kafra, a village near the famous "Cedars of God," one of the last natural reserves of these 1,000-year-old trees that in ancient times covered much of the Lebanese mountains.

"The bottle is safely stored away and at the disposal of the authorities, in case anyone wants to come and inquire and study the contents," Silvestri added.

The beginning of a deep devotion

The priest told ACI Prensa that his devotion to the saint began almost by chance. "I didn't know him; I heard about him recently, and I really liked his story. So, I put up a picture in my church out of devotion," he explained.

Although he assured that he has never "believed in dreams," he shared — still amazed — a personal anecdote: "When I put up this picture, one night I dreamed that St. Charbel was looking at me and was laughing. This really struck me because the photo of St. Charbel is always that of a very serious man, but he was smiling at me."

Since that providential episode, he decided to dedicate the Masses on the last Friday of June and July to the Lebanese saint.

Healing from serious illnesses

It was on July 24, a few hours before the "miracle" of the oil, when a young woman from the parish, about 20 years old, approached him. "She told me that that morning she had been cured of a breast tumor thanks to St. Charbel. It was completely clear, and the doctors thought it would be impossible."

"That happened on the morning of the 24th, and in the afternoon an impressive number of people came to Mass. We weren't prepared; in fact, we ran out of sacred hosts. And then what happened," he recalled.

Since then, he said, many faithful have shared testimonies of physical or spiritual healing after participating in the Mass. "I've received about five or six similar accounts, and I've asked them to write them all down."

The priest emphasized that "miracles are recounted in the Gospel and in the word of God." For Silvestri, what happened in his church "is a confirmation of what we already know."

A bridge between East and West

St. Charbel is known for obtaining miracles from God not only for Catholics but also for Muslims and followers of other religions. The Catholic Church has recorded and investigated thousands of miracles attributed to his intercession.

In fact, even during his lifetime, he enjoyed a notable reputation for miraculous healings among those who came to him for help.

The Lebanese saint, a priest and hermit monk of the Maronite rite, has become a spiritual bridge between East and West. He died on Dec. 24, 1898. He was beatified by Pope Paul VI on Dec. 5, 1965, and canonized by the same pontiff on Oct. 9, 1977.

ACI Prensa contacted the Italian Bishops' Conference to learn its position on the matter but did not receive a response by the time of publication.

Eucharistic Adoration

- Do you want peace & quiet?
- Do you want to have a date?
- Do you want to be loved?
- Sign up for a date with Jesus!

Then Eucharistic Adoration is for You!

Eucharistic Adoration is a privilege and gift to us here at St. Sharbel from **7 AM – 6 PM DAILY**

- Sign up forms are available on the table in the Adoration Chapel
- Check the hours that are available on the picture frame on the table or in the white binder
- If you have already sign up, it is your responsibility to make sure you show up or call someone to cover your hour. Names and telephone numbers are in the white binder.

Questions: Contact the Parish Office or Mylynn Lim at 702 769-2382



NUESTRO NOTICIAS DE LA COMUNIDAD ESPAÑOLA

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 7 de Setiembre del 2025

HORA: Rosario 4:30 pm Misa 5 pm

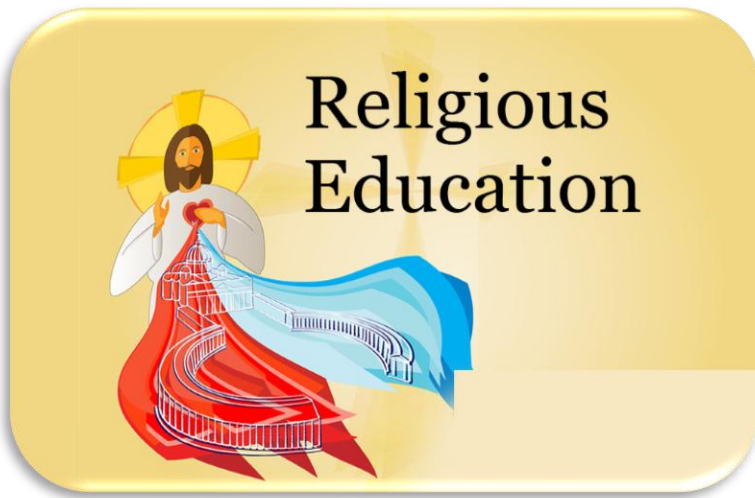
**DONDE: Iglesia Catolica de San Charbel
10325 Rancho Destino Rd,
Las Vegas, NV 89183**

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



Ruega por nosotros



- Continuing religious education classes for ages 12-17 will begin on Sunday, September 14th from 10:15 am – 11:15 am
- The class requires a \$50 donation.
- The book fee is \$25
- Register with the Church office Monday – Friday 9 am – 3 pm before the starting date.

St. Sharbel Church Black Nazarene Statue



We are bringing back the grace and blessing of our Black Nazarene “Poon Jesus Nazareno”, a House-to-House visit to be with you and your family for seven (7) days, Sunday to Sunday. A Novena prayer for your family's petition is available when you pick up the Black Nazarene Statue at St. Sharbel Church, after our Holy Mass on Sunday at 9:30 am. And, for courtesy, please return our Black Nazarene Statue the next Sunday before the 9:30 am Holy Mass, so it will be available for the next family on schedule. Your kind donation (Love Offering) to our Poon Jesus Nazareno intention will be greatly appreciated.

For registration and scheduling, please call the following members of the Black Nazarene Group to assist you:

Teresa Lacape 702-524-1086

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.

SETS. JOAQUIM & ANNE: PARENTS OF OUR BLESSED MOTHER-GRANDPARENTS OF OUR LORD JESUS (ROMAN: July 6; MARONITE: September 9)

Saints Joachim (sometimes spelled "Joaquin," pronounced "wal-keem") and Anne, are the parents of the Virgin Mary. There are no mentions of them in the Bible or Gospels, what we know comes from Catholic legend and the Gospel of James, which is an unsanctioned, apocryphal writing from the second century AD. There are about 150 copies of the ancient manuscript which often have different titles, but tell the same story, that Mary was promised to Joachim and Anne by an angel, was consecrated to God, and she remained a virgin all her life.

Naturally, there is plenty of room for scholarly debate about these saints. We have no true primary sources that prove they even existed, but certainly we can agree that Mary had parents. Likewise, we can agree that.

Mary had good, faithful parents who raised her with a love and devotion to God like none other except Jesus Christ Himself.

Joachim and Anne serve as role models for parents, and both deserve to be honored and emulated for their devotion to God and Our Lady Mary, the Mother of God. The Gospel of James

The Gospel of James, an apocryphal text from the second century, provides the most detailed account of Joachim and Anne's lives. While not included in the canonical scriptures, this gospel offers a narrative that has deeply influenced Christian tradition and iconography.



Anne: The Graceful Mother

Anne, whose name means "Grace," was a devout woman who longed for a child. According to the Gospel of James, an angel appeared to her with the joyous news that she would conceive a daughter who would be spoken of throughout the world. This daughter was Mary, who would become the mother of Jesus.

Anne's story is one of faith and divine intervention. Her veneration began in the early centuries of the Church and gained significant popularity during the Middle Ages. By the 6th century, a church in Constantinople was dedicated in her honor, highlighting her importance in Christian history.

Joachim: The Pious Father

Joachim, Anne's husband, is also revered for his piety and dedication. He is often depicted in Christian art teaching the young Mary to read the Scriptures, symbolizing his role in nurturing her spiritual and religious education. Joachim's veneration started around the same time as Anne's, with both saints being honored from the 6th century onward.

Their Legacy and Veneration

The legacy of Saints Joachim and Anne is evident in the numerous churches and icons dedicated to them throughout the Christian world. Their story emphasizes the virtues of faith, patience, and devotion to God's will. The veneration of these saints serves as a reminder of the sacred lineage of Jesus Christ and the divine plan that unfolded through ordinary yet faithful individuals.

Their feast day, celebrated on July 26, invites the faithful to reflect on the significant role of family and upbringing in nurturing faith. Joachim and Anne's example continues to inspire believers to trust in God's promises and to honor the sacred responsibilities of parenthood.

Saints Joachim and Anne, though known primarily through an apocryphal text, have left an indelible mark on Christian tradition. Their story of faith and divine blessing resonates with believers, reminding them of the importance of trust in God and the sacredness of family. As the parents of the Virgin Mary, they occupy a revered place in the hearts of the faithful, their legacy enduring through centuries of veneration and devotion.

**October 10, 11 & 12
2025**



17th Annual



**Donation of
Soda cans**



**Be a Sponsor and help us
achieve our goal. Please
pick up a sponsorship
form in front of the Church.
Estimate Festival expense
is \$104,000 for this year.**



**Buy a Raffle
Ticket only
300 Printed
Grand Prize
\$5,000**





www.lebaneseamericanfestival.com

Michael Garofano's
South Point



Friday Oct. 10 @ 4 pm – 11 pm

Saturday Oct. 11 @ 4 pm – 11 pm

Sunday Oct. 12 @ 1 pm – 9 pm

- ❖ *Lebanese Cuisine*
- ❖ *Live Music & DJ*
- ❖ *Variety of Vendors*
- ❖ *Kids Zone*
- ❖ *Free Parking*

5 Weeks to go!



Admission \$10

Kids Under 9 Free

RAFFLE

*\$10,000 In Cash Prizes
Drawing Sun. Oct. 12*



**St. Sharbel Maronite
Catholic Church**

**10325 Rancho Destino Rd., Las Vegas, NV
89183 Tel: 702-616-6902**

WEEKEND

Sat. 4:30 pm Sept 6

*Norina Q. Usison
Anniv. Ezell & Dolly Hardman

Sun. 9:30 am Sept 7

+Gloria Brennan
*Yenny Susanto
*+Christian Monsanto

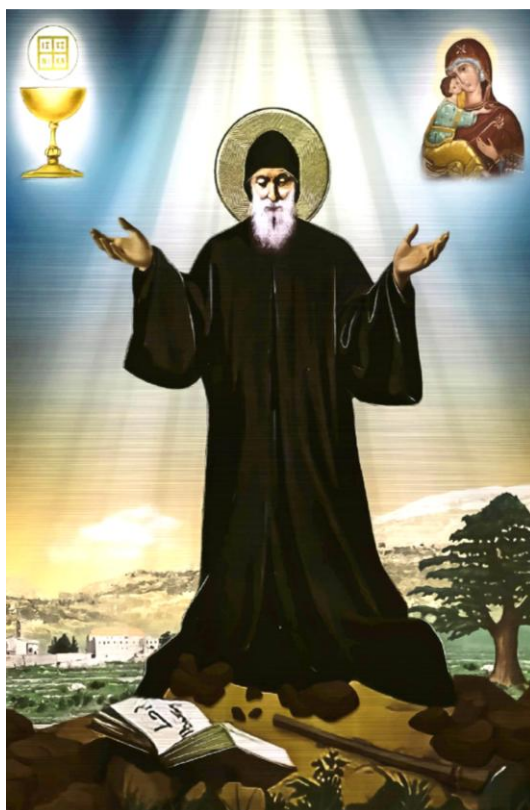
Sun. 11:30 am

+Marcelle & Joseph Chamoun
+Francois Hanash

Sun. Spanish Mass 4:30pm

Todos los servidores de nuestra
parroquia comunitaria de San
Sharbel nuestra comunidad
hispana

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS



Pray for Us

DAILY 8AM

MONDAY Sept 8

*Blessed Mother Mary
Salas Family
Charito Salas
+*Christian Vilchis

TUESDAY Sept 9

Unborn Babies

WEDNESDAY Sept 10

Healing of the Sick

THURSDAY Sept 11

Victims of the 9/11
+Mary H. Murphy

FRIDAY Sept 12

Faithful Departed

**SAINT SHARBEL COMMUNITY
LIFE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. TUESDAY: 5:30 p.m. Rosary in the Chapel.

2. SECOND COLLECTION: Sunday September 7th
for Catholic University

3. GOD OUR FATHER DEVOTION: Sunday
September 7th following the 9:30 am Mass.

4. MONTHLY SPANISH MASS: Sunday,
September 7th at 5 PM & Rosary at 4:30 PM

**5. SPONSOR A FOOD ITEM FOR THE
FESTIVAL:** Please pick up a copy of the
list of food items in the main church.
This will help reduce our expenses.

6. FESTIVAL RAFFLE TICKETS: are
available at the Gift Shop. They cost
\$100 each and there are only 300 copies
printed. Total prizes \$10,000

7. SODA ONLY: Please donate cases of
16 oz. bottled water and can soda for
our annual festival.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

August 30 & 31

*Weekend Masses Collection	\$4,269
*General	\$2,276
*Building Fund	\$3,683
*Helping Hand	\$270

Weekly Church

Estimate

Expenses \$ 10,558



**Repair & replace 3 air
conditions total cost \$8,694**