

Issue 46 | May 2026

May God Bless You!



**Family of Saint
Sharbel USA**

Find us online! Click this image to be
directed to our website in English.

*"Lord, I seek You alone; Lord, my love I
confess. You alone are my goal—you,
my true happiness." (Maronite Hymn)*

The Family of Saint Sharbel USA
wishes you a peaceful summer and
blessings throughout this Pentecost!
Scroll to read more about:

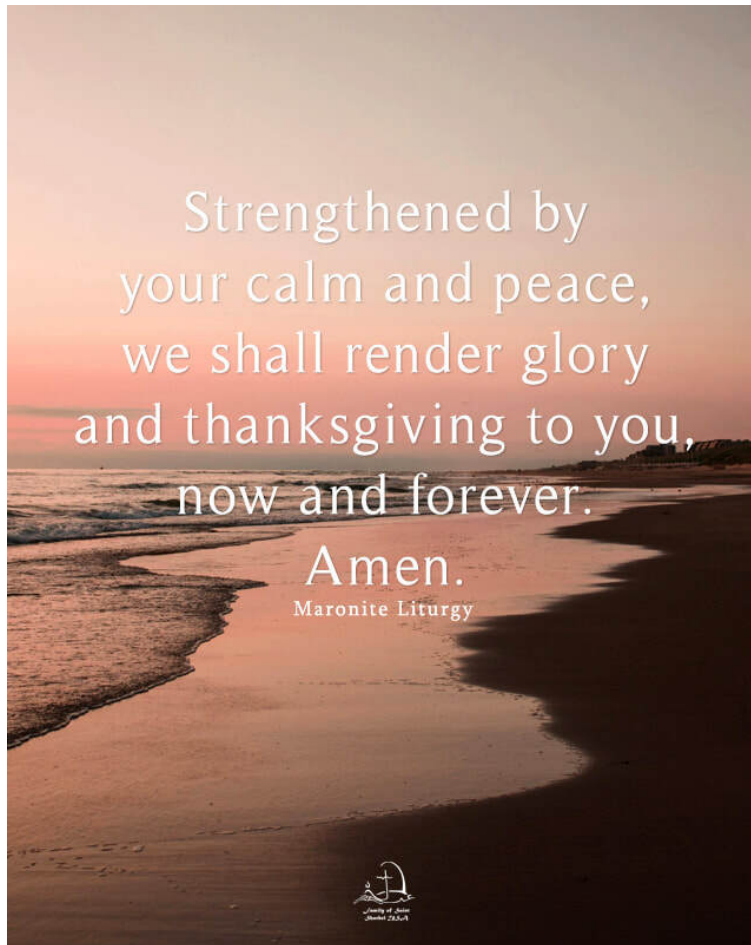
**A New Maronite Blessed
Raymond Nader's Visit to Poland
Leisure as a Way to Grow with God
and more!**

Please share this newsletter and **keep us in your prayers**—we are praying for you daily!

NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE

Contemplation Corner

Daily Prayer of Bl. Patriarch Howayek



Strengthened by
your calm and peace,
we shall render glory
and thanksgiving to you,
now and forever.

Amen.

Maronite Liturgy

"My God, let me live and die pleasing You. My Lord, be generous to me with the grace of your pleasure in me, for it is my only good, my only treasure, my pride, my life, my hope, my happiness, and my only desire. It is my everything. Guide me and lead me and enlighten my mind with the light of your boundless wisdom, for I depend entirely on your mercy and on nothing else. All I desire is your good pleasure and nothing more. Amen."

Source: Maronite Sisters of the Holy Family

Click here to view more of our spiritual designs.

“Family” Updates

Save the Date: Feast of St. Sharbel at the National Shrine Grotto



Shrine to St. Sharbel at the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes

Save the Date! The Family of Saint Sharbel USA plans to celebrate St. Sharbel's feast day at the **National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes** in Emmitsburg, MD on **Saturday, July 25th, 2026**. More details to come!

Celebrating St. Sharbel's Birthday

During the month of May, the Family of Saint Sharbel USA celebrated St. Sharbel's birthday (May 8th) with a **day of prayer at the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes (May 9th)** and a **luncheon at Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Church (OLOL)** in Washington, DC (May 17th)! The day at the Grotto included adoration and confession, Holy Mass, blessing with the holy oil and relic of St. Sharbel, and more. The luncheon at OLOL, which coincided with a visit from Bishop Lattaquieh Antoine Chbeir, provided an opportunity for many to recall St. Sharbel's witness while building community. **Click the button links below to learn more!**



Procession with St. Sharbel's Relic at the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes



Family of Saint Sharbel Table at the OLOL St. Sharbel Birthday Luncheon



Guests prepare to share a meal at the OLOL St. Sharbel Birthday Luncheon

St. Sharbel's Birthday - National Shrine Grotto

St. Sharbel's Birthday - Our Lady of Lebanon

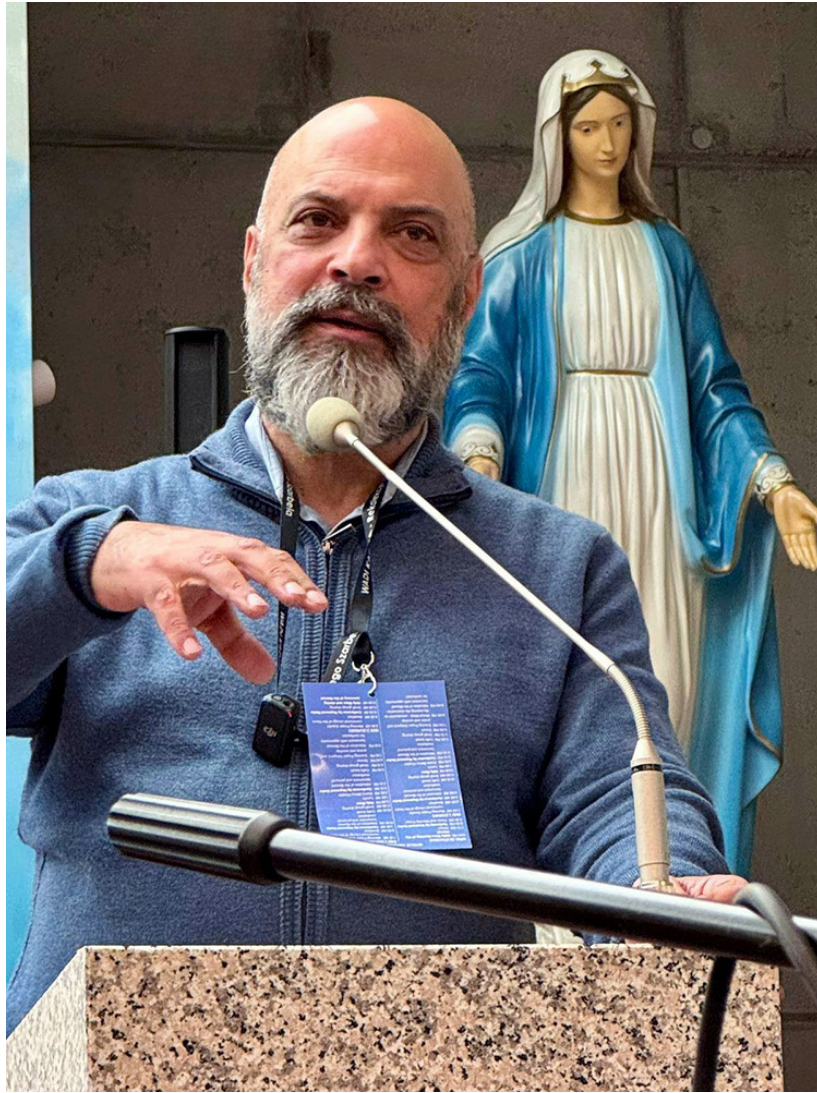
Blessing the Family of Saint Sharbel Home



On May 20th, Fr. George Sebaali, pastor of Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Church in Washington, DC, came to bless the Family of Saint Sharbel Home ("Home of Ayli") in northern Virginia! This "home" now provides our organization with office, prayer, and meeting space while serving as a tri-lingual religious library and bookstore. We now offer titles in English, Spanish, and Arabic to the public!



Raymond Nader Visits Poland



From April 27th - May 9th, 2026, Raymond Nader, President of the Family of Saint Sharbel, visited Poland as part of an ongoing effort to strengthen the spiritual bond between the Family of Saint Sharbel in Lebanon and its growing presence in Poland. Raymond's visit included parish encounters, spiritual talks, media interviews, Church meetings, and public conversations centered on the message of Saint Sharbel and the Family of Saint Sharbel's mission.

Click the button link below to learn more!

Raymond Nader's 2026 Visit to Poland

The Family of Saint Sharbel in the Philippines

From a small prayer group a decade ago to a growing mission in Manila

today, devotion to Saint Sharbel continues to flourish in the Philippines, now under the spiritual guidance of Fr. Hans Magdurulang. Through monthly Masses for the sick, blessings with Holy Oil, Fr. Hans' visit to Lebanon, and the welcome of Saint Sharbel's Pilgrim Relic in the Philippines, many Filipino faithful are gathering in prayer and entrusting their intentions to the Lord through Saint Sharbel's intercession.



Read more about the Family of Saint Sharbel Philippines [here](#).

Check the FSS-Philippines [website](#) and [Facebook page](#) for live streaming events, Masses, and updates.

You can also access the FSS Tagalog website [here](#).

The Family of Saint Sharbel Philippines is celebrating a monthly Mass for the sick on the 22nd of each month at Our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Manila. View their latest Mass (May 22nd, 2026) [here](#).

Saint Sharbel Devotions in the USA

Explore the links below to find an event near you.

Please email or call the parish, mission, or center to verify the dates and times listed below!

Masses followed by St. Sharbel Prayer Services:

Include blessing with and/or veneration of the relic and/or oil of Saint Sharbel

St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church, Phoenix, Arizona

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church, Washington, D.C.

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church, Miami, Florida

**National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes, Emmitsburg,
Maryland**

St. Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church, Clinton Township, Michigan

St. Maron Maronite Catholic Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota

St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church, Astoria, New York

NEW - St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church, Olean, New York

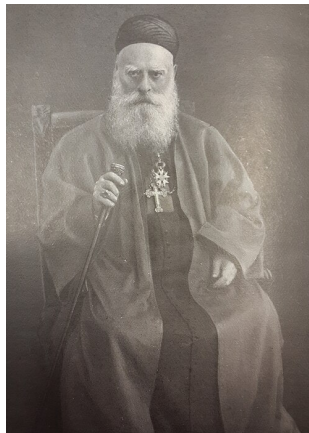
Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church, Norman, Oklahoma

St. Sharbel Spiritual Life Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

St. Sharbel Maronite Catholic Mission, El Paso, Texas

St. George Maronite Catholic Church, San Antonio, Texas

Community News



Patriarch Elias Howayek Declared Blessed

On **May 22nd, 2026**, Elias Howayek (1843 - 1931), the 72nd Maronite Patriarch and founder of the **Maronite Sisters of the Holy Family**, was declared blessed. Beatification is the third step in the Catholic Church's

canonization process, meaning that, upon official investigation, Patriarch Howayek was found to have lived a holy life and, as he was not martyred, a miracle attributed to his intercession has been confirmed. Patriarch Howayek is also among those whose body has remained incorrupt since his passing. **Click the button links below to learn more about Patriarch Howayek's life and beatification!**

Bl. Patriarch Howayek - Beatification

About Bl. Patriarch Howayek

Saint Spotlight

St. Leontius



Part of Modern-Day Tripoli, Lebanon

Feast Day: June 18th

"**St. Leontius** was born in the first century. He lived as a Christian soldier in Tripoli, Lebanon. He was reported to the local governor, Hadrian, who sent two of his special envoys, Hypatius and Theodulus, to bring Leontius before the governor. They met him but did not recognize him. They told him about their mission. Leontius brought them to his house and offered them is hospitality. Then he told them, 'I am Leontius whom you are looking for.' He praised them and convinced them to believe in Christ. He taught them Christian values and baptized them. The local pagans reported them to the governor who send his soldiers to arrest them. The

three were brought before the governor who ordered them to renounce their faith. The three vehemently refused. At this, the governor ordered them to be killed. Leontius was buried in Tripoli, Lebanon in the year 70."

St. Leontius, pray for us!

**Source: Maronite Synaxarion, translated by Kozhaya Akiki*

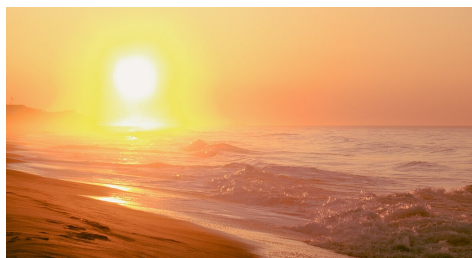
Other Notable Saints Celebrated This Month:

Servant of God Fr. Antonios Tarabay ("Abouna Antoun") - June 20th ([learn more here](#))

Blessed Yacoub Haddad - June 26th ([learn more here](#))

Sts. Peter & Paul - June 29th

Reading Nook



Source Linked

Leisure as a Way to Grow with God

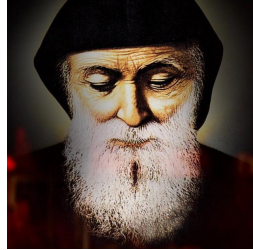
By **Bishop Michael Burbidge**

"Even in our fast-paced world, summer remains a season when we all may slow down, rest, and reflect on the hopes God has for us.

We each have plans and priorities that may easily be set aside as we grapple with the daily demands and responsibilities of our lives. It is natural to spend time reflecting on God's goodness and what he wants for us as we enjoy the change of pace that comes with summer. We all stand to benefit from a recovery of leisure, in this season and throughout the year..."

[Read More](#)

New Testimonials



Periodically, we receive stories from people around the globe who have experienced the work of God through St. Sharbel's intercession. We would like to share the most recent testimonies we've received with you below! Click on a title to read the full story; all posted testimonies have been shared with permission.

[Healing Testimony of Antoinette Joseph El-Asmar](#)

[Healing Testimony of Suleiman Hanna El-Khoury](#)

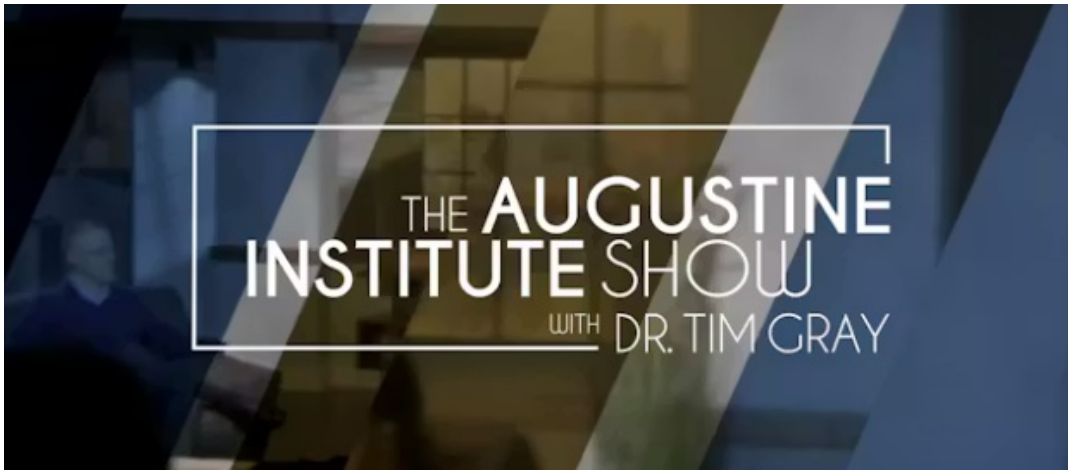
[Healing Testimony for Loris Boulos Saadeh](#)

[Healing Testimony of Anni Sarkis Kerdinian](#)

You can read more personal testimonials on our Testimonials page [HERE](#).

Disclaimer: All testimonials posted on the Family of Saint Sharbel's website are based solely on person-to-person accounts. Unlike Vatican-approved miracles, the claims within these testimonies have not been subjected to extensive scientific review.

Editor's Pick: FORMED Resource



Click to watch on FORMED!

The Family of Saint Sharbel offers its readers a FREE subscription to FORMED, an online Catholic platform containing thousands of resources for spiritual growth!

This Month's Highlighted FORMED Resource:

Keeping the upcoming Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul (Jun. 29th) in mind, we would like to highlight "**Spiritual Friendship**," an episode of the Augustine Institute show on FORMED, this month! This episode explores the meaning of friendship and its role in deepening our faith. Click the button link below to watch!

[Watch Here](#)

To access this resource and many others for free:

Go to: <https://formed.org/signup>

Enter: "Family of Saint Sharbel"

Enter your name and email address.

FORMED is also on social media!

Instagram: [formedcatholic](#)

Facebook: [FORMEDCatholic](#)

YouTube: [Augustine Institute](#)

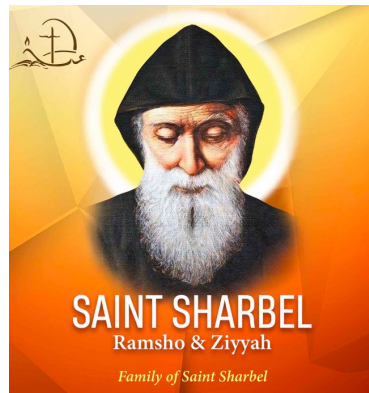
Find Us Online!



Family of Saint Sharbel on Social Media

The Family of Saint Sharbel USA is on **TikTok**, **Facebook**, and **Instagram**! Click the linked (brown) text to view our profiles. **Please like and share to help our Catholic content reach a broader audience!**

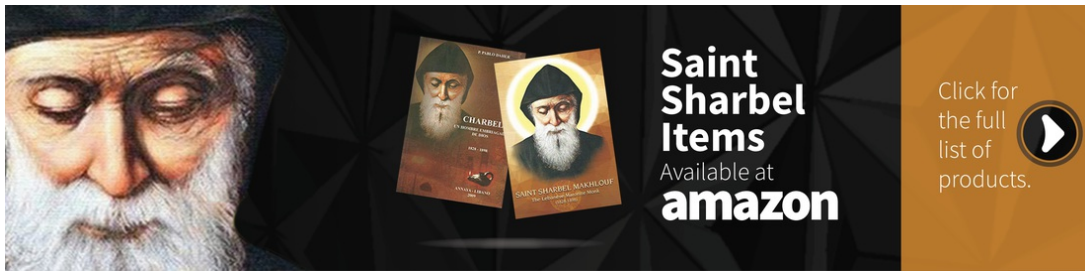
Family of Saint Sharbel on Apple Music, Spotify, and More!



Last year, the Family of Saint Sharbel published its **first musical production**, a sung Arabic rendition of St. Sharbel Ramsho & Ziyah hymns. This album is now available on **our podcast**, **Apple Music**, and **Spotify**! Click below or search "Family of Saint Sharbel" on your app of preference to listen.

[Listen Online](#)

Family of Saint Sharbel Shops



Click this image to view our Amazon shop!

The Family of Saint Sharbel is on **Amazon** and **Shopify**! On these two platforms, books, novenas, prayer cards, and sacramentals related to St. Sharbel and Catholic spirituality are available for order, including works created by the Family of Saint Sharbel. Click the linked text above to explore!

Family of Saint Sharbel YouTube & Podcasts



Image from the Family of St. Sharbel's Miracles and Healings channel. Click to view!

The Family of Saint Sharbel (FSS) is on YouTube and has published podcasts in English and Arabic! For more content including talks, testimonies, and event recordings, visit any of our three YouTube channels or listen to our podcast below.

St. Sharbel's Miracles & Healings - YouTube

Maronite Saints & Blesseds - YouTube

Family of Saint Sharbel USA - YouTube

[Aylet Mar Charbel - Arabic YouTube](#)

[La Familia de San Charbel - YouTube en Español](#)

[FSS Podcast](#)

Zoom Prayer Gathering - Arabic



[Click Here to Learn More!](#)

Other Useful Links

Our Website

St. Sharbel Shrine - Emmitsburg, MD

Sanctuary of St. Sharbel in Lebanon

Questions or Comments?

Email communications@familyofsaintsharbel.org to let us know!

**God Bless,
Family of Saint Sharbel USA**



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