

*Issue 35 | June 2025*

## Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Have Mercy on Us



### Warm Greetings!

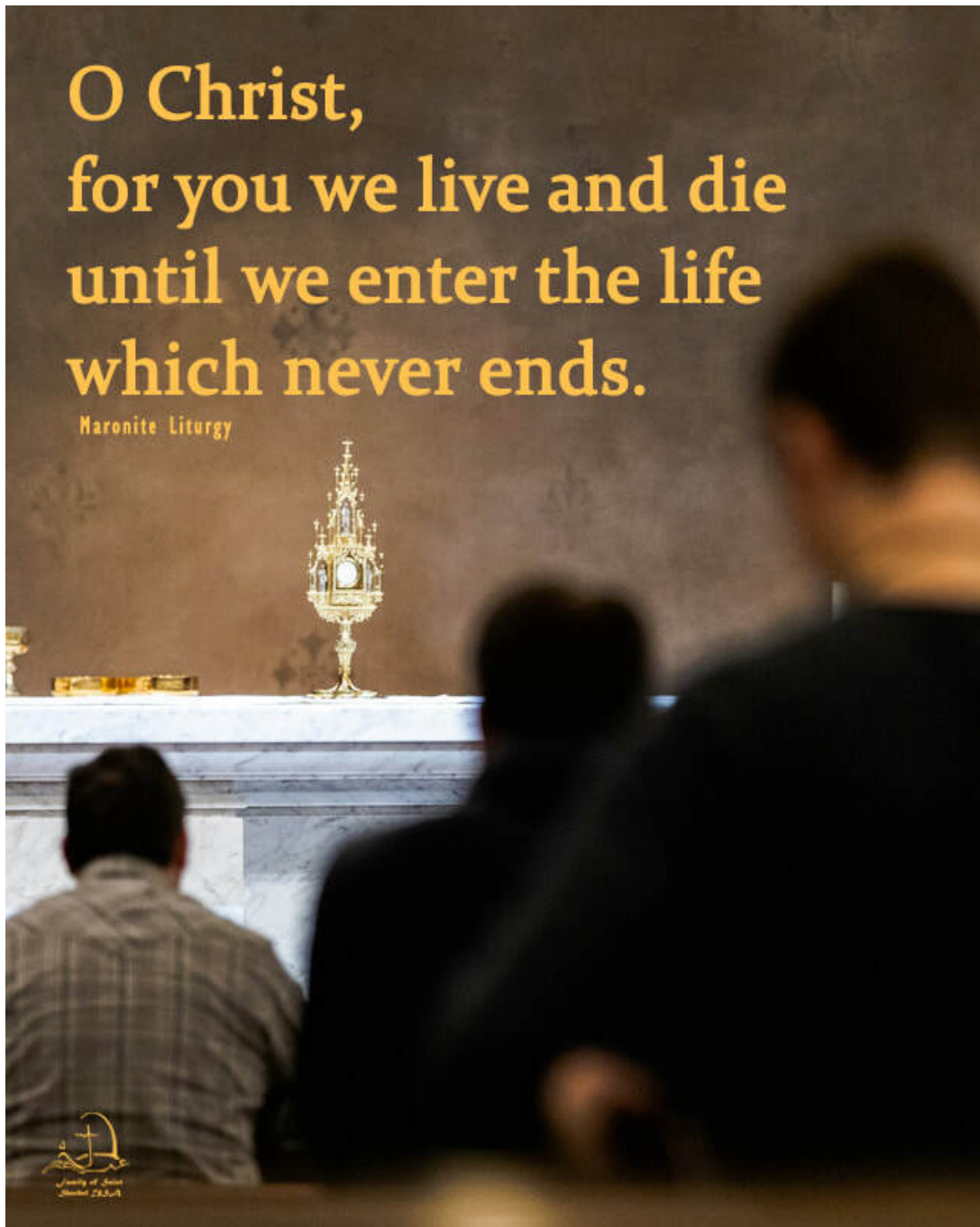
As we reflect on this June and enter July, the Family of Saint Sharbel USA is grateful to share its **35th newsletter** with you. **Please share this newsletter and keep us in your prayers**—we are praying for you daily!

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

## Contemplation Corner

### **Saint Sharbel's Way to Heaven**

By Fr. George El-Andary - Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Church, Lewisville, TX



“Youssef Antoun Makhlouf was born on May 8, 1828 in Bkaa Kafra, the highest village in Lebanon and in the Middle East, with altitude ranging from 1500 to 2700 meters. During the same year, the Monastery of Saint Maron was inaugurated at Annaya where, one day, it would open its doors to this child who would become Father Sharbel Makhlouf. Youssef’s father, Antoun Makhlouf, and his mother, Brigitta Chidiac, had five children, and Youssef was the youngest among them. His family was a devout family that fed themselves spiritually consistently through prayers, liturgy, and obeying God and thanking God at all times...”

[Click here](#) to read the full article!

[Click here](#) to view more of our spiritual designs.

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## Current & Coming Up

### Celebrate the Feast of St. Sharbel!



#### Celebrate the Feast of St. Sharbel!

The Family of Saint Sharbel USA invites you to celebrate the Feast of St. Sharbel Makhoul!

JULY 12TH

##### Where:

National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes  
16330 Grotto Road Emmitsburg, MD 21727  
Phone: 301-447-5318

##### Schedule:

Adoration & Confession: 10:45am - 11:45am  
Holy Mass: 12:00pm  
followed by a blessing with St. Sharbel's blessed oil and relic,  
concluding with the veneration of the relic.

**The feast of St. Sharbel takes place in July!** To celebrate, the Family of Saint Sharbel USA and the **National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes** invite you to join them on **Saturday, July 12th** for a day of prayer. See the flyer for details!

**Note:** The actual date of St. Sharbel's feast is the 3rd Sunday of July in the Maronite Church and July 24th in the Latin Rite.

**If you are a clergyman interested in participating in the Mass**, please contact the National Shrine Grotto (16330 Grotto Road Emmitsburg, MD 21727 | Phone: (301) 447-5318).

### Raymond Nader to Speak in Northern Virginia & Easton, PA

This July, our President, Mr. Raymond Nader, plans to talk about St. Sharbel at three

Catholic Churches in the US! All are welcome and encouraged to attend these events. Information is below!

**St. Sharbel Makhoul**

**Talks by Mr. Raymond Nader  
President of the Family of Saint Sharbel**

**Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church**  
55 S. Fourth St. Easton, PA 18042

**July 9th**  
6:00PM Evening Prayer (Ramsho)  
6:30PM **Talk for Young Adults**  
7:30PM Reception

**July 10th**  
9:00AM Divine Liturgy  
6:00PM **Talk (open to public)**  
7:30PM Adoration

**Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church**  
46639 Algonkian Parkway Potomac Falls, VA 20165

**July 13th**  
6:00 - 6:30PM Reception  
6:45 - 8:00PM Talk followed by Q&A

**St. Lawrence Catholic Church**  
6222 Franconia Road Alexandria, VA 22310

**July 21st**  
6:00 - 6:30PM Reception  
6:45 - 8:00PM Talk followed by Q&A

**In Easton, PA:**

**Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Church (July 9-10th)**

*On July 9th, the following events for **young adults** have been scheduled: Evening Prayer (6:00PM), Talk (6:30PM), and a Reception (7:30PM). On July 10th, the following events **open to all ages** have been scheduled: Divine Liturgy (9:00AM), Talk (6:00PM), and Adoration (7:30PM). All times are in EST.*

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**In Northern Virginia:**

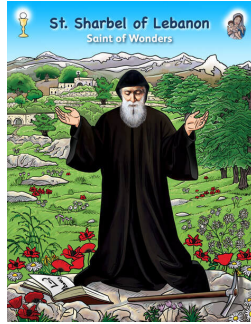
**Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church (Potomac Falls, VA - July 13th)**

**St. Lawrence Catholic Church (Alexandria, VA - July 21st)**

*There will be receptions with light refreshments from 6:00PM - 6:30PM EST followed by a talk with Q&A from 6:45PM - 8:00PM EST at both events!*

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## Leave Us a Review!



Have you read our illustrated book, *St. Sharbel of Lebanon: Saint of Wonders* (pictured)? If so, we would appreciate your honest feedback!

**Please click the button link below to leave a review.**

[Leave a Review!](#)

## A Call to Monthly Commitment



**As we approach the Feast of St. Sharbel (July), please consider supporting our mission!** Donations support every aspect of the Family of Saint Sharbel's operation from routine printing of materials (prayer cards, books, novenas) and shop and media upkeep to funding special projects and a small staff. In hopes of **increasing the stability of our organization's management**, we've created a fundraising campaign titled "A Call to Monthly Commitment" to help us reach \$20,000 in recurrent monthly donations. **We are more than halfway to our goal!** Click the button link below to

learn more or contribute - no amount is too small!

[Learn More | Donate](#)

## Saturday Morning Speaker Series

SAINT SHARBEL SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER  
**SATURDAY MORNING**  
Speaker Series

2025 SUMMER

General 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy  
Formal 11:00 AM Talk by Guest Speaker  
12:00 PM Light Lunch

No Charge  
Donations Accepted

APR 05		<b>PAULINE CALABRESE</b> Love & Responsibility: Examining an Ancient Sacrifice and the Family in a Modern World
MAY 03		<b>DR. PAUL KENGOR</b> The Stigmatists: Their Gifts, Their Revelations, Their Warnings
JUN 14		<b>BISHOP WILLIAM WALTERSHEID</b> The Holy Eucharist: The Beating Heart of the Church
JUL 05		<b>DR. GEORGE ISAJIW</b> Blessed Nicholas Konrad: Heroic Virtue in Modern Times
AUG 16		<b>BISHOP GREGORY MANSOUR</b> The Beauty of the Interior Life

The **St. Sharbel Spiritual Life Center** in Pittsburgh, PA has planned a summer speaker series for 2025! Take a look at the flyer below to view their schedule. Their next talk, "**Blessed Nicholas Konrad: Heroic Virtue in Modern Times**" by Dr. George Isajiw, has been scheduled to take place on **July 19th!** (To avoid confusion, please note that this date is a change!)

Can't attend in person? [Click here](#) to view recorded talks online!

[Center Homepage](#)

## Come and See! Maronite Servants of Christ the Light

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

MARONITESERVANTS.ORG

"THE HARVEST IS ABUNDANT BUT THE LABORERS ARE FEW; SO ASK THE MASTER OF THE HARVEST TO SEND OUT LABORERS FOR HIS HARVEST."  
— LUKE 10:2

*Image from the Maronite Servants of Christ the Light's website.*

The **Maronite Servants of Christ the Light** are religious sisters in Dartmouth, MA. They would like to invite **young adult women aged 18-39** to explore their order! The sisters have planned a few discernment events throughout 2025, including two “**Come and See**” retreats and two **Prayer & Supper evenings** at the convent to help young women get to know them and discern their vocation. They also offer guidance and community through a monthly vocational discernment group! Their next discernment events are a "Come and See" weekend at the convent from **September 5-7** and Prayer & Supper on **September 7th**. Click the button link below to learn more!

[Learn More](#)

### **Highlight: Maronite Monks of Adoration - Petersham, MA, USA**



*Maronite Monks of Adoration at prayer. As a cloistered community, they are set apart by the gate pictured.*

A handful of Maronite religious communities have formed in the United States, and they play a vital role in sharing the love of Christ among us. This month, we would like to highlight the **Maronite Monks of Adoration (MMA)** located in **Petersham, MA**.

**Origins:** The Maronite Monks of Adoration was founded in 1978 in the USA.

**Charism:** To live a life of prayer, both personal and liturgical, and silence in union with Jesus Christ. Essentially, to live a life of adoration hidden from the world.

**US Community:** Most Holy Trinity Monastery, located in Petersham, MA, is home to a cloistered contemplative community of monks whose charism is to live in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, characteristic of St. Sharbel and St. Nimatullah's spirituality.

To learn more, click the button link below to view their website!

## Saint Sharbel Events 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**

**St. Sharbel Maronite Catholic Mission of Stockton, California**

**Our Lady of Lebanon, Miami, Florida**

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

**St. Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church, Clinton Township, Michigan**

**St. Maron Maronite Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota**

**Our Lady Star of the East Maronite Catholic Church, Pleasantville, New Jersey**

**St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church, Astoria, New York**

**Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Church, Norman, Oklahoma**

**St. Sharbel Spiritual Life Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**

**St. Sharbel Mission, El Paso, Texas**

**St. George Maronite Church, San Antonio, Texas**

**St. Sharbel Mission of Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

### **Holy Hours in Honor of St. Sharbel:**

**Shrine Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Brooklyn, New York**

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## Recent News

### Raymond Nader Visits FSS in Croatia, Czech Republic, and Poland

From April 24th - May 15th, 2025, Mr. Raymond Nader, President of the Family of Saint Sharbel, and a delegation of Family officials traveled to visit Family of Saint Sharbel communities in Croatia, Czech Republic, and Poland. There, Mr. Nader and the delegation worked to strengthen ties between the Family in Lebanon and in each of these countries, participating in divine liturgies, retreats, and meetings together over the course of many days. Click the button link below to learn more!



*The Family of Saint Sharbel in Czech Republic.*



*The Family of Saint Sharbel in Croatia.*

[Learn More](#)

**Talk at St. Dominic's Church**



On June 7th, Fr. James Dominic Brent gave a talk titled “St. Charbel and Hope for the Holy Land” at St. Dominic Catholic Church in Washington, DC! Per one attendee, an important takeaway from Fr. Brent’s talk was that the life of St. Sharbel was a progression toward unity with the sacrificial lamb, as he was becoming a living sacrifice himself. By the end of his life, St. Sharbel would spend hours preparing for the Divine Liturgy and hours in prayerful thanksgiving following the sacrifice of the Mass. May this example of Christlike self-offering always inspire the hearts of the faithful, bringing hope to all places.

## MTV Lebanon: Restoring St. Sharbel’s Garments



Last month, MTV Lebanon aired a special report covering the restoration of Saint Sharbel’s garments in Annaya. This is worth noting as these garments are relics that can now be preserved for future generations. Click below to view the report with English subtitles!

[Watch Here](#)

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## Saint Spotlight

**St. Nohra**



**Feast Day:** July 22

**St. (Mar) Nohra**, also called St. Lucius, was said to have been born in Persia in the 3rd century AD. Following his parents' death, he spent his life traveling throughout modern-day Lebanon to preach the Gospel, help those practicing pagan religions to adopt Christianity, and encourage persecuted Christians to keep their faith. He was martyred in Smar Jbeil, Batroun, Lebanon for refusing to worship statues despite the governor's command to do so. His name, derived from Aramaic, means "light," and he, like St. Lucy in the West (Feast: Dec. 13), is a known patron of those who suffer from blindness, diseases of the eye or spiritual blindness. A monastery (Deir Mar Nohra in Qornet al-Hamra) and several churches throughout Lebanon now bear his name.

*St. Nohra, pray for us!*

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## Reading Nook

**US Bishop urges 'ardent prayer,' end to sectarian violence in Syria after church bombing**

By **Gina Christian**



Mar Elias church in Syria, June 2025 (© Patriarchato greco-ortodosso di Antiochia)

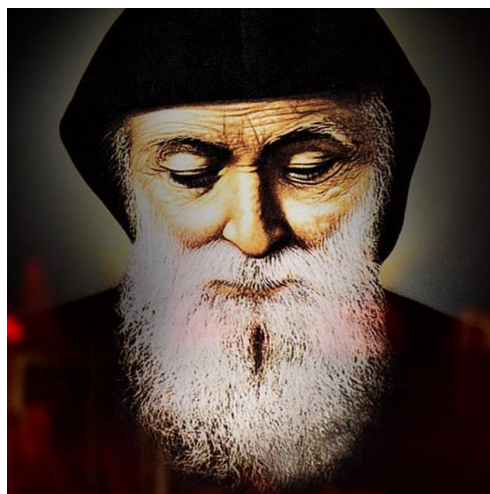
"A U.S. bishop is calling for "ardent prayer" and an end to sectarian violence in Syria, following a suicide bombing at a Damascus church June 22 that killed at least 25.

"Sectarian violence, of whatever religious or ideological type, if not stopped, will derail Syria's full integration into the community of nations," said **Bishop A. Elias Zaidan, who heads the Maronite Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles**, which is based in St. Louis.

The bishop shared his thoughts in a June 23 message, a day after a gunman opened fire and then detonated his explosive vest as some 350 attended a Sunday Divine Liturgy at St. Elias Greek Orthodox Church in the Dweil'a district of Damascus..."

[Read More Here](#)

## New Testimonials



<https://www.familyofsaintsharbel.org/testimonials.html>

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 for the child Jihad Korban**

**Healing Testimony of Hoda Antoine Chalhoub**

**Healing Testimony of Thérèse Youssef Khoury Fahd**

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.

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## Editor's Pick: FORMED Resource



*Click the image above (copied from the FORMED online streaming platform) to be directed to "The Mission of the Catechism," a podcast episode with Dr. Petroc Willey.*

**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:**

As, in the Maronite Church, we continue to celebrate the Season of Pentecost, we contemplate the mystery of Christ sending us, the Church, out into the world. In the spirit of this season, we invite you to listen to, "**The Mission of the Catechism with Dr. Petroc Willey**", a podcast on the Catechism of the Catholic Church's mission in the world, which is the Church's mission and, in turn, ours. Click the button link below to listen!

Listen Here

To access this resource and many others for free:

1. **Go to:**  
<https://formed.org/signup>
2. **Enter:**  
“Family of Saint Sharbel”
3. **Enter your name and email address.**

FORMED is also on social media!

\* *Instagram:* [formedcatholic](#)

\* *Facebook:* [FORMEDCatholic](#)

*YouTube:* [Augustine Institute](#)

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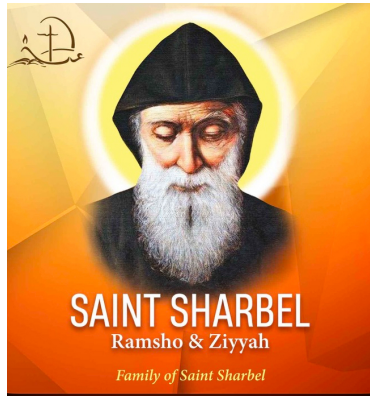
**Find Us Online!**



### **Family of Saint Sharbel on Social Media**

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

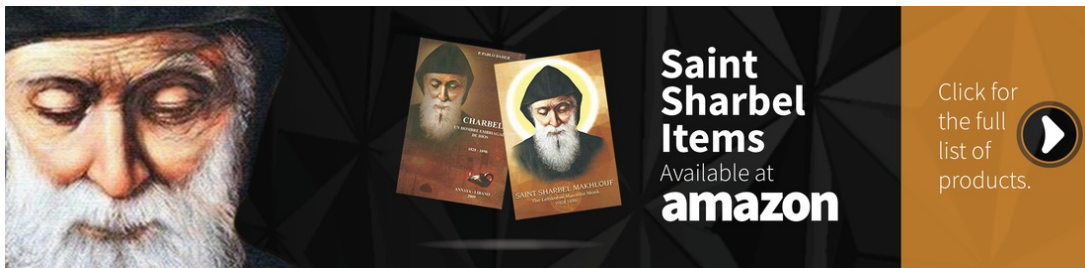
**Family of Saint Sharbel on Apple Music, Spotify, and More!**



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 YouTube \(Arabic Channel\)](#)

[FSS Podcast](#)

**Zoom Prayer Gathering - Arabic**



[Click Here to Learn More!](#)

## Other Useful Links

English Website

Spanish Website

Portuguese Website

Tagalog Website

St. Sharbel Shrine - Emmitsburg, MD

Sanctuary of St. Sharbel in Lebanon

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## Questions or Comments?

Email [communications@familyofsaintsharbel.org](mailto:communications@familyofsaintsharbel.org) to let us know!

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**God Bless,**

**Family of Saint Sharbel USA**



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