



They devoted themselves to the teaching
of the apostles and to the communal life,
to the breaking of the bread
and to the prayers.

ACTS 2:42

Issue 26 | September 2024

Peace of Christ



*Family of Saint
Sharbel USA*

May God Be Your Strength!

The Family of Saint Sharbel USA
gladly presents its 26th Newsletter.
We are thankful and glad to be
walking with you, and we ask for your
prayers as our community of faith
continues to grow! **Please spread the
word; we would love to have you all
join us.**

- CLICK HERE TO ACCESS OUR NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE -

Contemplation Corner

The month of the Rosary

By Deacon George Geagea



Praying the Rosary is more than simply repeating prayers. It is a path to deeper union with Christ, as we reflect on His life, death, and resurrection. The Rosary's mysteries—joyful, luminous, sorrowful, and glorious—help center our thoughts and allow us to meditate on the key events of salvation history. In doing so, the Rosary not only refreshes the mind but also renews the spirit, providing peace, clarity, and strength to live out our faith more fully.

[Click here](#) to read the full reflection.

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

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 times listed below!

Masses in Honor of St. Sharbel:

St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church, Phoenix, Arizona

St. Sharbel Maronite Catholic Mission of Stockton, California

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

St. Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church, Clinton Township, Michigan

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

St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church, Astoria, New York

NEW! Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Church, Norman, Oklahoma

St. Sharbel Spiritual Life Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

St. Sharbel Mission, El Paso, 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

Recent News

The Seventh Anniversary of the Dedication of Saint Sharbel's Shrine, September 2024



On Saturday, September 28th, 2024, the Family of Saint Sharbel, USA, celebrated the seventh anniversary of the dedication of Saint Sharbel's Shrine

at the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes (Emmitsburg, MD).



Click [HERE](#) for video, photos and more details.

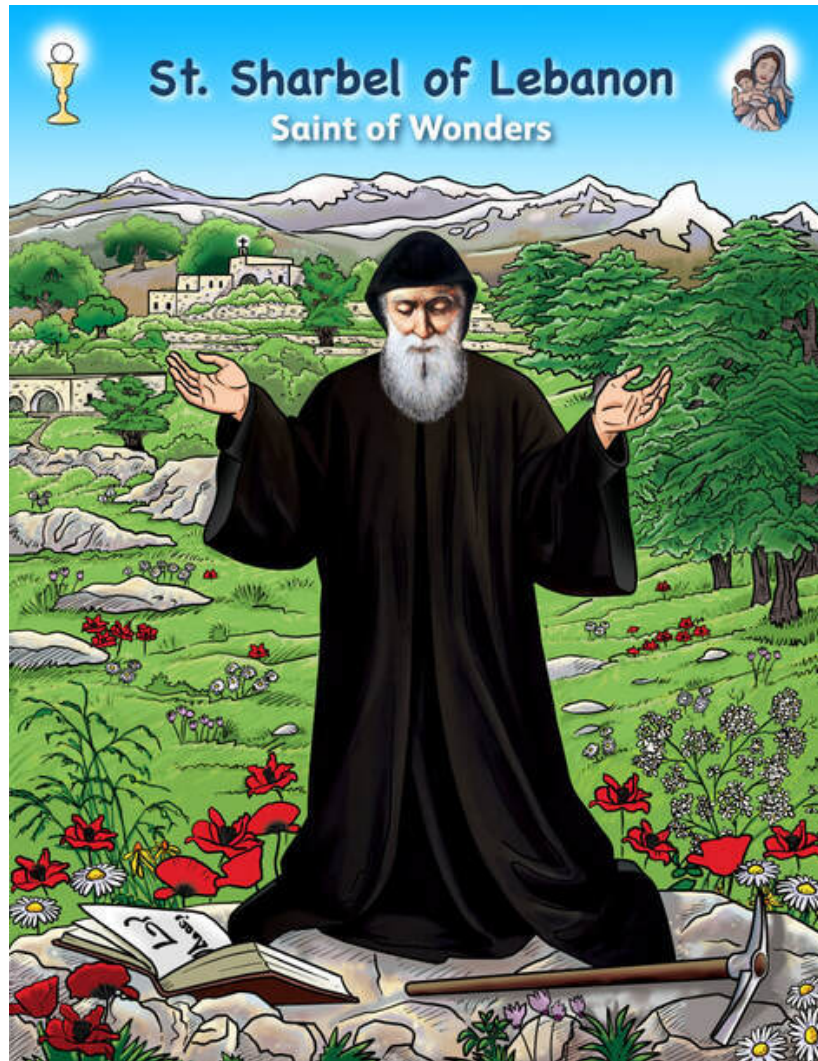
Brooklyn Man Overcomes Cancer Twice - Currents News

“I wouldn’t be here if it wasn’t for St. Sharbel...”

At 14 months old, Christopher Safi was diagnosed with neuroblastoma, a rare pediatric cancer, followed by a cancerous tumor at age four. After multiple surgeries, he credits St. Sharbel for his survival. Now cancer-free at 21, Safi serves at his church and founded Little Golden Light, a nonprofit supporting pediatric cancer patients and their families.

[Read Christopher's Story](#)

St. Sharbel Illustrated Book - Available in Arabic and English!



St. Sharbel of Lebanon: Saint of Wonders is one of the Family of Saint Sharbel's latest projects! **Available in English and Arabic*, this illustrated book recounts the life of Saint Sharbel in context, beginning with a brief history of the Maronite Church and the Lebanese Maronite Order and ending with the legacy left behind by Christ's work in this Saint, including the formation of the Family of Saint Sharbel. Click the links below to learn more or purchase this book in your preferred language!*

[Order Online - Arabic](#)

[Order Online - English](#)

Saint Spotlight

St. Shallita (Artemius)



Icon of St. Shallita (St. Artemius) from Maronite Blogger

Feast Day: October 20

St. Shallita, who is also known as Artemius, was born in the fourth century AD. He achieved high rank in the Roman army and was eventually given responsibility for the Roman troops who were stationed in Egypt. He remained a faithful Christian despite the danger of losing his position and even his life. He was summoned before the emperor in Antioch for having destroyed the temples and idols of the pagan gods, and it is said that his body was taken to Constantinople by Arista, who was a deaconess of the church in Antioch.

Shallita is held in great veneration by the Greek Church under the name of Artemius, and many churches and monasteries in Lebanon have been named in his honor. He is also considered the patron of animals! May the prayers of St. Shallita be with us.

The biography above was adapted from the Maronite synaxarion's account of St. Shallita's life. [Click here](#) to read the original text!

Reading Nook

The Dignity of a Human Person: A Catholic Doctrine

by Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan



Image sourced from the Diocese of Sacramento, California

"God loves you." "You have worth." "You matter." In US Catholic churches, October is Respect Life month, and messages like these are implicitly or explicitly at the center of many parish discussions and activities. Though we may (appropriately) place a special emphasis on highlighting the applicability of these truths to the most vulnerable, these statements are equally true of every person, including you, not because of anything you have or haven't done but because of who you are in relation to God: a being, soul and body, He made from love, with love, **to love and be loved**. This is the foundation of the Church's doctrine on **the dignity of the human person**, which is at the heart of our call to respect and treasure every human life, including our own, and is the reason why the Church unceasingly calls for the love and protection of all people from womb to tomb. The article below is a cardinal's timely and engaging reflection on this deeply important topic!

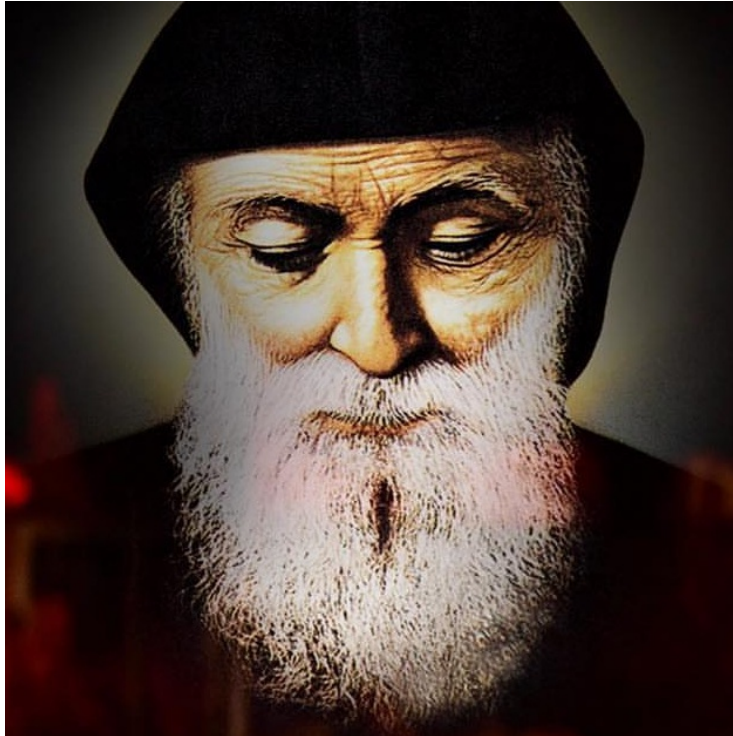
"In July 2002, I led a group of about three hundred young people from the Archdiocese of St. Louis, where I was then serving as auxiliary bishop, to Toronto for World Youth Day. These events originated twenty-five years ago with the genius of Blessed John Paul II, who, every two or three years, would invite young people from all over the planet to join him for five days of prayer, catechesis, faith sharing, and friendship at different locations throughout the globe...

...On the third day, at the close of our final catechesis, I asked my group if anyone wanted to speak publicly about if or how this World Youth Day had transformed his or her life. After a pause of a few seconds, a young woman in the back corner stood up and approached one of the two available microphones. She began: "Yes! This event has not only changed my life. It has saved my life!"...

[Read More Here](#)

Articles and More

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 the intercession of St. Sharbel. 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 the author's permission.

[Healing Testimony for the Young Girl Kristel David Oudo](#)

[Healing Testimony of Aline Raymond Al-Anissi](#)

[Healing Testimony for Antoine Anis Al-Dfouni](#)

[Healing Testimony for Young Charbel Jihad Kassouf](#)

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 the image above (copied from the FORMED online streaming platform) to be directed to Catholic Commentary on The Chosen with Drs. Michael Barber and Scott Hefelfinger!

The Family of Saint Sharbel offers you a FREE subscription to FORMED, an online Catholic platform that contains thousands of resources for spiritual growth!

This Month's Highlighted FORMED Resource:

In recent years, the television series, *The Chosen*, has become an increasingly popular and influential means of illustrating the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the public sphere. Since the show was created with some artistic license and without a denomination in mind, however, it can be helpful to learn more about it from a Catholic perspective when seeking to understand the Scriptures. This in mind, we would like to highlight Dr. Scott Hefelfinger and Dr. Michael Barber's video series, ***Catholic Commentary on The Chosen***, *this month!* *In this series, two professors from the Augustine Institute offer thoughts based on their studies and prayer lives on each episode of The Chosen.* Skip to one that left you wondering or watch them all!

Click the button link below to access a menu of episodes!

Watch Here

To view this resource and many others, sign up for FORMED **FOR FREE** by following these simple steps:

- (1) **Go to:** <https://formed.org/signup>
- (2) **Enter:** Family of Saint Sharbel
- (3) **Enter** your name and email address and you're in!

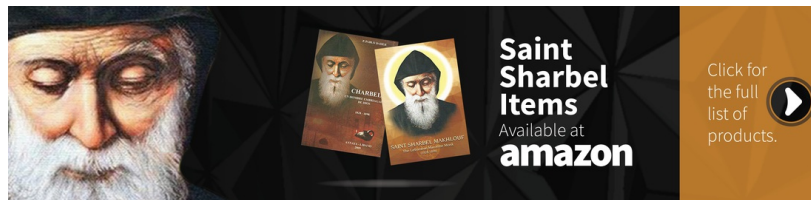
Below are the links to FORMED on social media:

Instagram: [formedcatholic](#)

Facebook: [FORMEDCatholic](#)

YouTube: [Augustine Institute](#)

Family of Saint Sharbel Shops



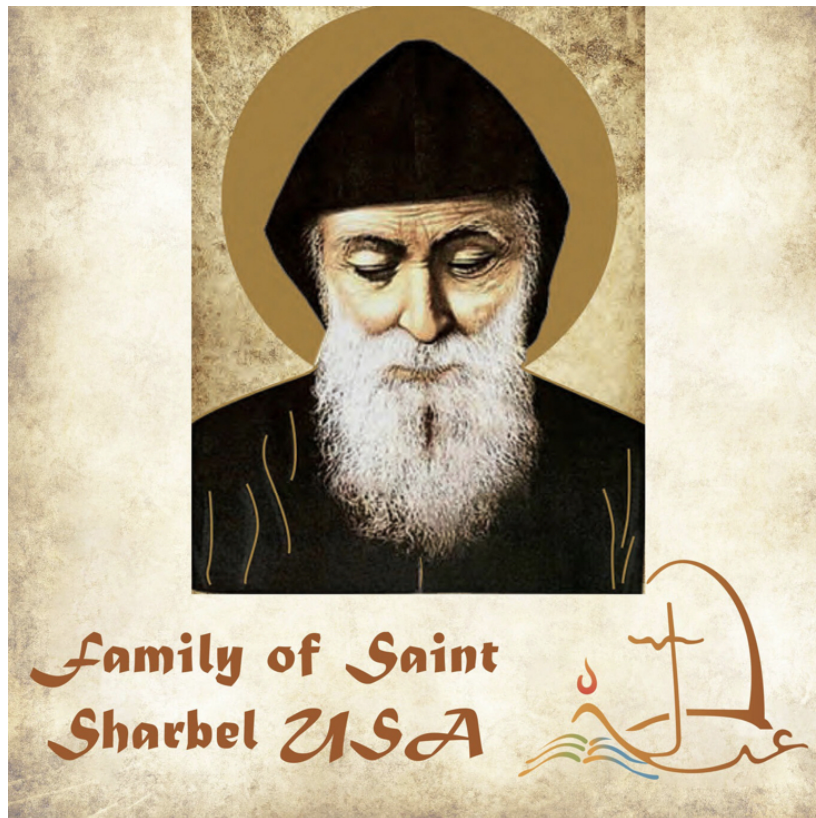
Click this image to view our Amazon shop!

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 buttons below to explore!

Amazon

Shopify

Family of Saint Sharbel Podcast



<https://www.familyofsaintsharbel.org/podcast>

The Family of Saint Sharbel (FSS) Podcast is now available in English and Arabic! Episodes currently include talks on the Maronite Divine Liturgy, Syriac Spirituality, the Silence of God, and more. Listen at the link below or through your podcast app of preference, and please feel free to share!

[Listen Now](#)

Zoom Prayer Gathering - Arabic



[Click Here to Learn More!](#)

Questions or Comments?

Email communications@familyofsaintsharbel.org to let us know!

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



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