

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 13 | August 2023

Peace of Christ!



Peace and Gratitude, Dear Friends!

The Family of Saint Sharbel USA presents its latest Newsletter. We are happy to have you on board and ask for your prayers as our community of faith continues to grow!

Please spread the word among your family and friends; we would love to have you all join us.

[- CLICK HERE TO ACCESS OUR NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE -](#)

Contemplation Corner

**An Excerpt from the Homily of Saint Pope Paul VI on the
Canonization of Saint Sharbel (Sunday, October 9, 1977)**



<https://www.familyofsaintsharbel.org/spiritual-designs/the-cross-is-the-sign-of-gods-love-for-you>

"And indeed, who would not admire, in Charbel Makhlouf, the positive aspects that austerity, mortification, obedience, chastity, and solitude have made possible to a degree rarely achieved? Think of his sovereign freedom in the face of difficulties or passions of all kinds, the quality of his inner life, the elevation of his prayer, his spirit of adoration manifested in the heart of nature and especially in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, his filial tenderness for the Virgin, and all those wonders promised in the Beatitudes and fulfilled literally in our saint: gentleness, humility, mercy, peace, joy, participation, even in this life, in the healing and converting power of Christ. In short, austerity, in him, put him on the path to perfect serenity, true happiness; it left ample room for the Holy Spirit.

Moreover, it is impressive how the people of God did not mistake this. During Charbel Makhlouf's lifetime, his sanctity radiated, and his compatriots, Christians and non-Christians, venerated him, flocked to him as the physician of souls and bodies. And since his death, the light has shone even more above his tomb: how many people, in search of spiritual progress, or distant from God, or in distress, continue to be fascinated by this man of God, praying to him fervently" -- Read the full homily [HERE](#)

Please be assured of our prayers for you and if you enjoyed the above image, find more of our spiritual designs [HERE](#).

Saint Sharbel Events in the USA

Find an event near you and explore the links below:

St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church, Pheonix, Arizona

St. Sharbel Maronite Catholic Mission of Stockton, California

St. Agnes Catholic Church, Baton Rouge, Lousiana

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

St. Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church, Clinton Township, Michigan

St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church, Astoria, New York

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

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Cathedral, Brooklyn, New York

Our Lady of Victory Maronite Catholic Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

St. Sharbel Mission of Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Saint Spotlight

Saint Teresa of Kolkata



<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/34490/mother-teresas-canonization-portrait-%E2%80%93-and-what-the-artist-thought-of-her>

Feast Day: September 5

Saint Teresa of Kolkata, also known as Mother Teresa, is a universal symbol of God's merciful and preferential love for the poor and forgotten. Mother Teresa was born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu on August 26, 1910, in Skopje, Macedonia, the youngest of three children. She attended a youth group, run by a Jesuit priest at her parish, and her involvement opened her to the call of service as a missionary nun.

Confirmation of the calling came when the Vatican granted her permission to leave the Sisters of Loretto and fulfill her calling under the Archbishop of Calcutta. She started working in the slums, teaching poor children, and treating the sick in their homes.

She often said that the poorest of the poor were those who had no one to care for them and no one who knew them. She was also a fierce defender of the unborn, saying: "If you hear of some woman who does not want to keep her child and wants to have an abortion, try to persuade her to bring him to me. I will love that child, seeing in him the sign of God's love."

Mother Teresa died on September 5, 1997, and was beatified only six years

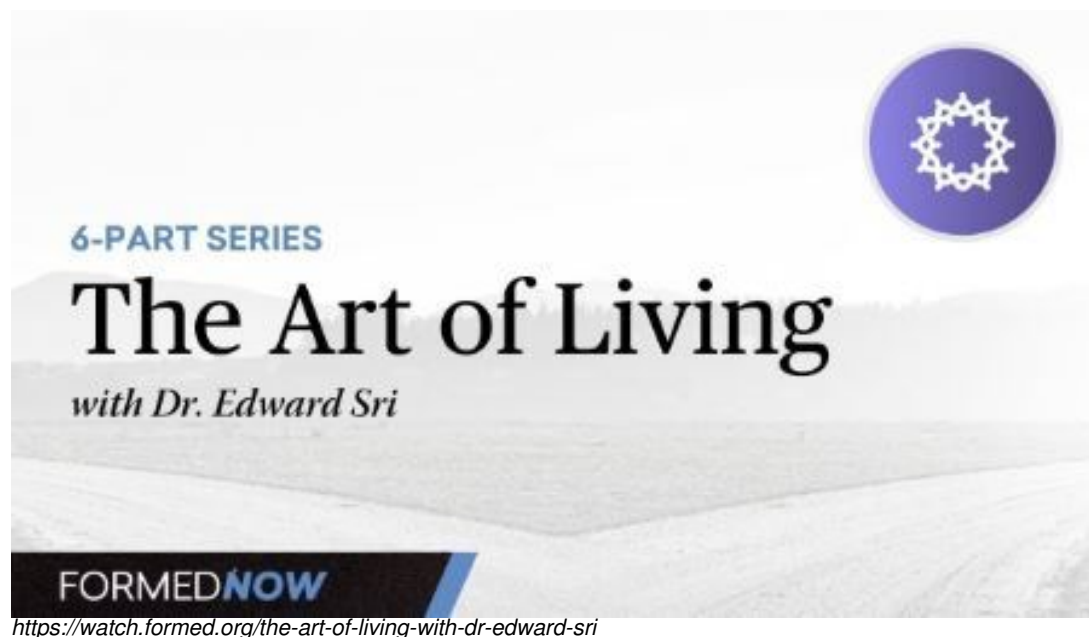
later, on October 19, 2003.

(Text adapted from the Catholic News Agency)

For more on the life of Mother Teresa, click **HERE**.

Saint Teresa of Kolkata, Pray for Us!

Editor's Pick: FORMED Resource



The Family of Saint Sharbel offers a **FREE** subscription to FORMED, a Catholic online platform with thousands of resources for spiritual growth. Dr. Ben Akers welcomes Dr. Edward Sri to discuss his new book, *The Art of Living: The Cardinal Virtues and the Freedom to Love*, and the virtues generally. In these episodes, viewers will learn what a virtue is, how to grow in them, and how our ability to love is dependent on our pursuit of a virtuous life. View the full series **HERE**.

Sign up to 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:

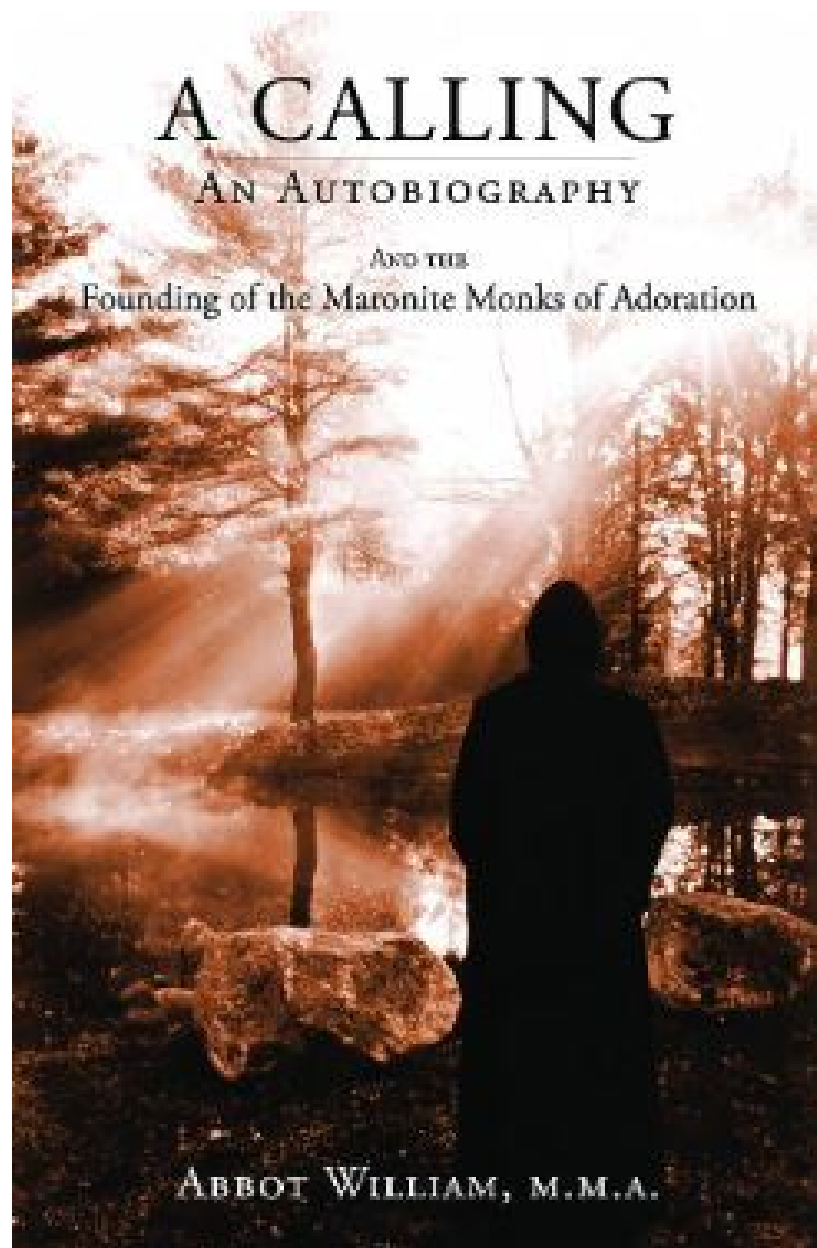
Instagram: [formedcatholic](#)

Facebook: [FORMEDCatholic](#)

YouTube: [Augustine Institute](#)

Reading Nook

A Calling: An Autobiography and the Founding of the Maronite Monks of Adoration



Title: *A Calling: An Autobiography and the Founding of the Maronite Monks of Adoration*

Author: Abbot William, MMA

Abstract: The monastic ideal of contemplation is very much alive today. Written by the late Abbot and founder of the Maronite monks in Petersham, MA, this is a spiritual testimony of the journey of finding peace with fidelity to the monastic idea of adoring the Lord.

Publisher: Leonine Publishers

Language: English

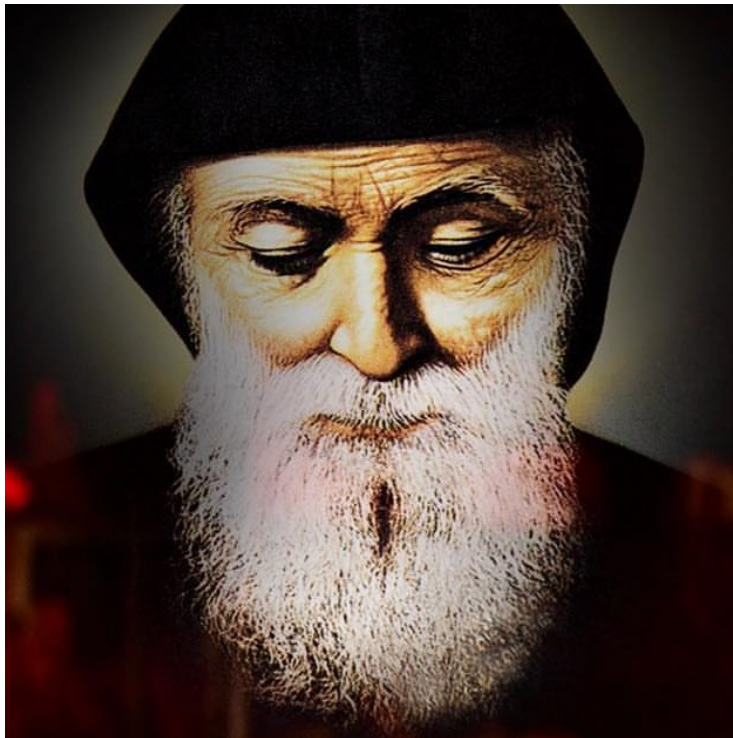
You can purchase this book using the following link(s):

[Amazon](#)

[Leonine Publisher](#)

Articles and More

Healing Testimony of George John Issa



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

Mr. George John Issa recounts his health based on his medical records.

"I, the undersigned, George John Issa, an employee and resident with my family in Indiana, USA, can attest that a year ago, I began experiencing pain in my right leg, which eventually rendered me unable to walk or work.

In 2022, I visited Saint Sharbel Sanctuary. I attended the Mass celebrated by Father Lewis Matar at the hermitage. Throughout the service, I kept Saint Sharbel's picture in my pocket. I began experiencing a sensation of pain and heat in my leg. I knelt in prayer and implored the saint to intercede on my behalf with the Lord Jesus Christ and to grant me the grace of healing. I sensed the pain ceased completely. In that moment, I was completely healed."--

Read the full Testimonial [HERE](#).

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

"Lebanon Report" Interview with Mr. Raymond Nader



<https://www.familyofsaintsharbel.org/our-news/lebanon-report-interview-with-mr-raymond-nader>

The "Lebanon Report" team conducted an interview with Mr. Raymond Nader, Founder and President of the Family of Saint Sharbel.

Here is an excerpt from the article: "There is today in Lebanon a man who "knows" Charbel very closely, who spent countless hours in silence in the tiny hermitage on the mountaintop in Annaya where Charbel lived out the last years of his life, and who then received an intimate experience of the divine that changed his life. His name is Raymond Nader."

Please click [HERE](#) for the full article and the transcript of the conversation

between Mr. Raymond Nader and "Lebanon Report", as featured in the August 3rd edition of Lebanon Report 2023, issue #7.

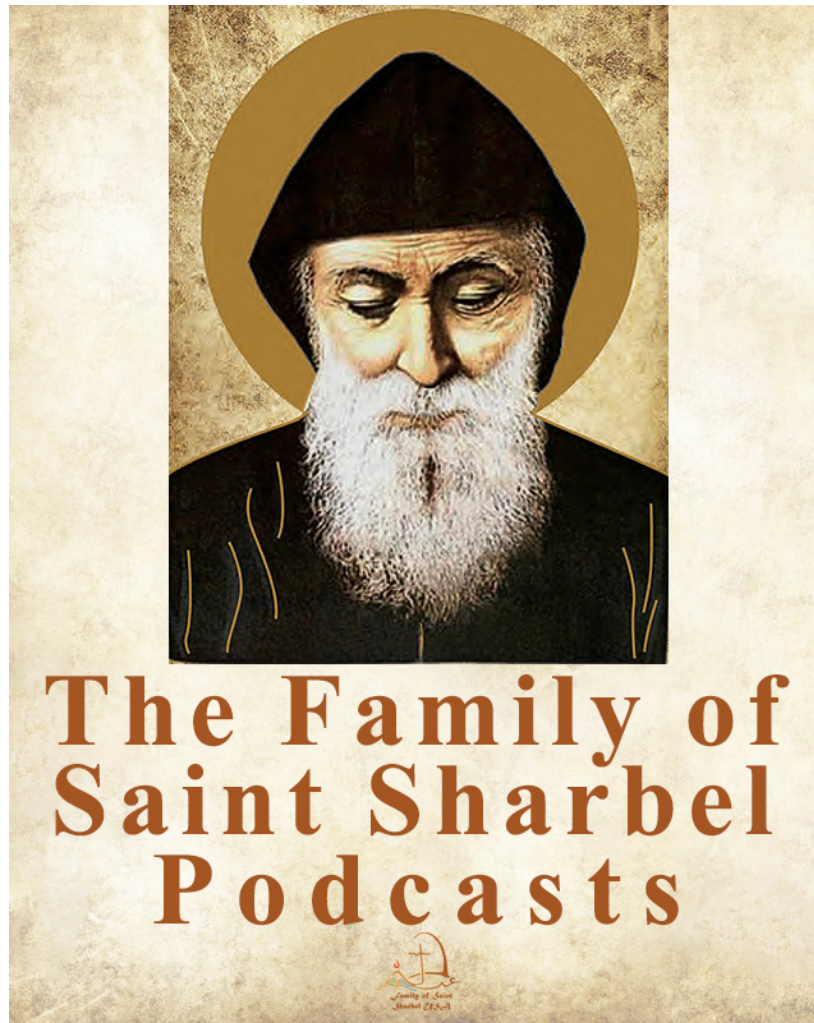
Astoria Church Becomes Place of Hope For Cancer Survivors



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2mF2vIRYt_E&t=2299s

St. Joseph's Church in Astoria shines as a beacon of hope for those bravely fighting cancer. Three inspiring shrines have been inaugurated (pictured above), honoring, Saint Sharbel, Saint Peregrine, and blessed Carlo Acutis. Watch this news report from Currents News for the full story: [HERE](#)

Our New Podcast Channels



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

Our new podcast channels, available in English and Arabic, are dedicated to enriching your spiritual journey with Catholic content, with a particular focus on the Maronite tradition. These channels bring you insightful talks and lectures that delve into various aspects of the Christian faith. Dive deep into the rich tapestry of Maronite spirituality as we guide you through the traditions, liturgical practices, and profound theological insights that define the Maronite Catholic tradition

Whether you're a lifelong Maronite, a Catholic seeking a deeper connection with your faith, or someone curious about Catholicism, our newly launched podcasts are for you.

Subscribe now to **The Family of Saint Sharbel USA English and Arabic Podcast Channels**. Find us on your preferred podcast platform, Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google Podcasts, and many others.

Our Weekly Zoom Prayer Meetings

Join us for our Arabic Prayer Gatherings!



Every Tuesday night at 8:00 PM (EST), the Family of Saint Sharbel from all over North America gets together to pray the Ramsho (evening liturgy of the hours) in Arabic. A priest will lead the celebration, cantors sing the hymns and lectors read Scripture passages. The priest then reads the Gospel of the day and gives a short homily. Following the prayers, the priest proceeds to give the scheduled teaching and engage in a Q&A session.

Email office@familyofsaintsharbel.org to become a part of this awesome prayer group that has been meeting every Tuesday since 2020!

Where to Find Us

- [Website](#)
- [Shrine](#)
- [YouTube.Healings](#)
- [YouTube.Family.Channel](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [Online.Shop](#)
- [Amazon.Store](#)
- [Spanish.Website](#)

- [Portuguese.Website](#)
- [Sanctuary.of.Saint.Charbel.in.Lebanon](#)

God Bless
The Family of Saint Sharbel USA



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