

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 11 | June 2023

Peace of Christ!



*Family of Saint
Sharbel USA*

Blessings Dear Friends!

The Family of Saint Sharbel USA presents its latest Newsletter, to highlight past and future events, our liturgical and spiritual content, and noteworthy projects. We are happy to have you on board! **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

A Heart Like No Other | By Fr. Joe Daccache, Ed.D.



O Holy Spirit,
giver of all gifts,
enlighten our spirits
and fill our hearts.

Maronite Liturgy



<https://www.familyofsaintcharbel.org/spiritual-designs/o-holy-spirit-enlighten-our-spirits-and-fill-our-hearts>

The Sacred Heart of Jesus is not just a physical organ, but a spiritual reality that expresses the core of Christ's person, personality, words, deeds, and mission. This is indeed what the Catechism of the Catholic Church points out when it quotes Pope Pius XII's encyclical *Haurietis Aquas* (1956) through these words: "The Sacred Heart of Jesus, pierced by our sins and for our salvation, 'is quite rightly considered the chief sign and symbol of that... love with which the divine Redeemer continually loves the eternal Father and all human beings' without exception" (No.478)

It is this Heart that loved us so much that he humbly "emptied himself taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness" (Phil 2,7). It is this Heart that loved us so much that he meekly "went to the Jordan River to be baptized by John" in order to "fulfill all righteousness" (Mt 3, 13). It is this great Heart that loved us so much that he ultimately "laid down his life" for us, his friends, on the cross (Jn 15,13). It is this Heart that loved us so much that, once pierced, he became the "original source" of our life and our love (blood and water), a fountain of Mercy from which "flows the love of God" that pours into our lives (Benedict XVI, *Deus Caritas, 7*). It is this same Heart that continues to love us in the Eucharist, where he offers himself as our food and drink. It is this same Heart of Jesus that invites us to enter into a personal relationship with him, to know him, to trust him, to follow him, to learn from him, and to imitate him...so we could "find rest for our souls" (Mt 11:29). Henceforth, his "joy may be in [us] and [our] joy may be complete" (Jn 15:11) because after all, as Pope Francis affirms in *Evangelii Gaudium*: "Our Christian joy drinks of the wellspring of his [Jesus'] brimming heart" (5).

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, I adore you, I love you, and I consecrate myself to you. I offer you my heart still so hard and impenitent. Deign to wound it and bind it with the sweet bonds of your love, so my daily mantra (sacred prayer continuously repeated) would be "Jesus, meek and humble of heart, make my heart like unto Thine." I ask this, because Your heart, O Jesus, is like no other. Amen.

We thank Father Joe Deccache, Ed.D., pastor of St. Sharbel Maronite Catholic Mission of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for sharing this beautiful reflection with us.

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

Celebration of the Feast of Saint Sharbel



<https://www.nsgrotto.org/events.html>

The National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes is hosting a celebration for the feast of Saint Sharbel on **Saturday, July 29, 2023**. The schedule is as follows:

Adoration & Confession: 10:45 AM-11:45 AM

Mass: 12:00 noon in honor of St. Sharbel with the Procession, Veneration, and Blessing with the relic of St. Sharbel to immediately follow Mass

Talk about St. Sharbel: 1:45 PM

Talk to be given by Mr. Raymond Nader, founder, and president of The Family of St. Sharbel USA

View the National Shrine's website [HERE](#) for more event info.

Saint Sharbel Events in the USA

July 23, 2023 is the Feast of Saint Sharbel and there is an explosion of joyous celebrations all over the United States and the world. Find a celebration near you and explore the links below:

St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church, Astoria, New York

St. Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church, Clinton Township, Michigan

St. Sharbel Mission of Milwaukee, Wisconsin

St. Agnes Catholic Church, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Our Lady of Victory Maronite Catholic Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

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

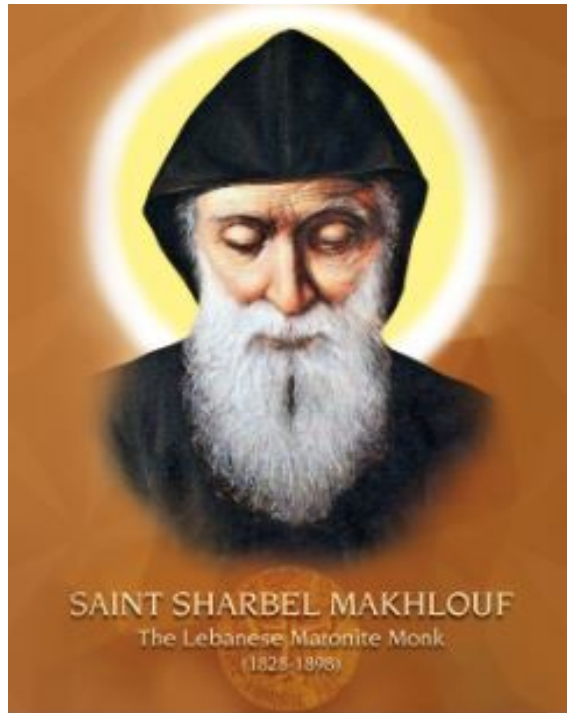
St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church, Phoenix, Arizona

St. Sharbel Maronite Catholic Mission of Stockton, California

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

Saint Spotlight

Saint Sharbel, the Lebanese Maronite Monk



Biography of Saint Sharbel | FSS Website

Feast Day: Third Sunday of July

Saint Sharbel Makhlof was born in Bekaa Kafra on May 8, 1828. Bekaa Kafra is a small mountain village, the highest in Lebanon and the Middle East, 5118 feet (1560 meters) above sea level, in the region of Bsharri (North Lebanon). In its vicinity are the ancient Cedars of Lebanon, called by the Lebanese, “the Cedars of the Lord.”

Bekaa Kafra overlooks the valley of Qadeesha, where Sharbel had two uncles living as monks in the monastery of Saint Anthony of Kozhayah. They were a source of inspiration and models for him.

(Text adapted from the familyofsaintsharbel.org website)

For more on the life of Saint Sharbel, click [HERE](#).

Saint Sharbel, Pray for Us!

Editor's Pick: Explore FORMED

Evangelizing Through Art w/ Elizabeth Zelasko | Chris Stefanick Show



<https://watch.formed.org/stefanick>

The Family of Saint Sharbel offers a FREE subscription to FORMED, a Catholic online platform with thousands of resources for spiritual growth. The Chris Stefanick Show is the most recent addition to the Augustine Institute's robust and innovative programming, which aims to help Catholics understand, live, and share their faith. Watch Chris interview his sister, Elizabeth Zelasko, about her journey and process creating iconography and sacred objects of veneration. Watch the episode [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:

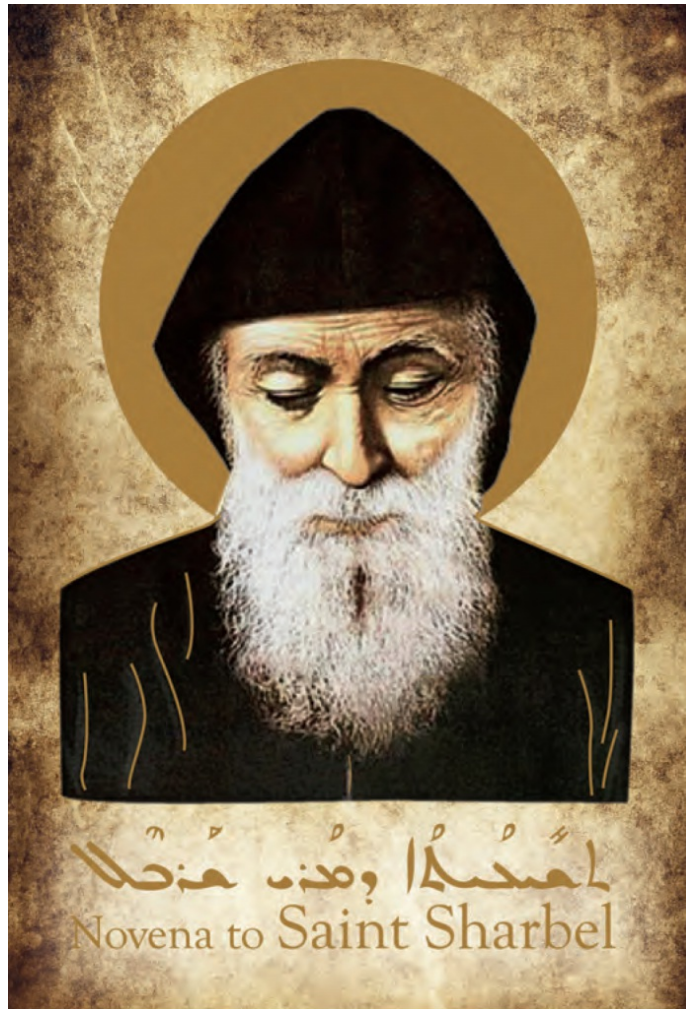
Instagram: [formedcatholic](#)

Facebook: [FORMEDCatholic](#)

YouTube: [Augustine Institute](#)

Reading Nook

[Novena to Saint Sharbel](#)



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

Title: *Novena to Saint Sharbel*

Abstract: The *Novena to Saint Sharbel* has **Day One** through **Day Nine** as you pray through the intercession of Saint Sharbel.

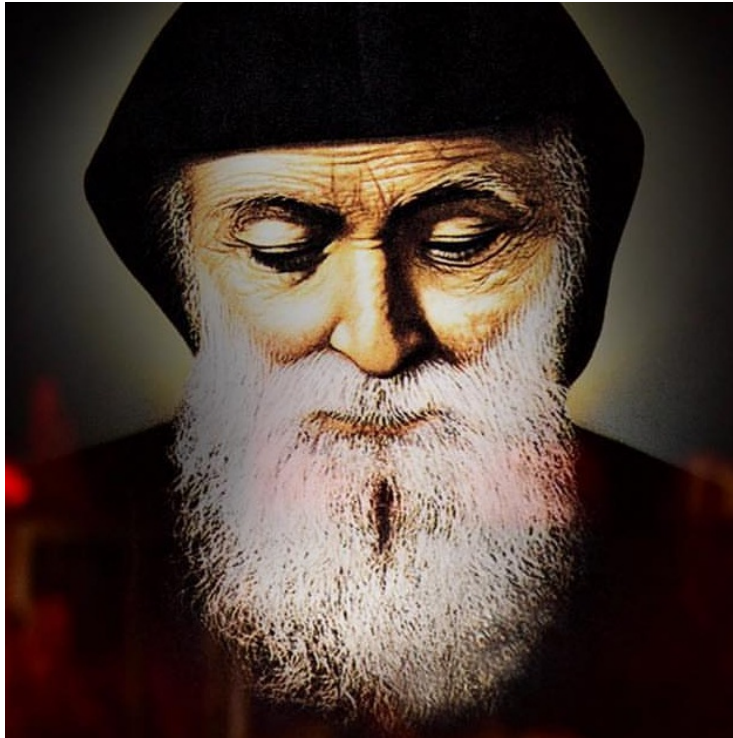
Language: English, Arabic

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

<https://family-of-saint-sharbel-usa.myshopify.com/>

Articles and More

Healing Testimony of Valeria Clement Abou Ghazala



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

“I had suffered from severe stomach pain ever since I was a child. In 2015, I entered Saint Louis Hospital in Jounieh for an endoscopy and to run medical tests. The results were I had Crohn’s disease.

I was treated for some time. However, no sooner I’d be released from the hospital than I would return to it again. I lost hope in my recovery process. I bore the pain long enough.

In May 2022, I decided to stop all medications and doctor’s visits. I started praying to Saint Sharbel, wearing his garb and the robe of the Virgin Mary...

At the end of May, I dreamt of Saint Sharbel. He was by my bedside. He placed his hand on my stomach. He was operating on me. I felt a burning sensation and I was shouting and calling his name; however, he continued his work. When I opened my eyes, I was surrounded by my family. They came in when they heard my screaming and crying out to Saint Sharbel.--

Read the full Testimonial [HERE](#).

Saint Sharbel Illustrated Book

Our illustrated book of Saint Sharbel is almost ready and you can preview its design and learn more about it [HERE](#)

Saint Sharbel Printed Novenas & Prayer Cards

Ever wondered how our Novenas and Prayer cards are printed?
Learn more [HERE](#)

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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