

Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church Las Vegas

Sunday of the Miracle of Cana in Galilee 2019



| <u>Index</u> | <u>Pg</u> |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Church Events | 1 |
| 1st Sunday of Lent | 2 |
| News from our Leader | 3 |
| Maronite News | 4 |
| Faces & Places | 5 |
| Community Life Announcements | 6 |
| Tribute to Bob Massi | 7 |
| Bishop George Message | 8 |
| Is it ok to Applaud at Mass? | 9 |
| Filipino News | 10 |
| Advertisements/Church Info | 11 |
| Holy Mass Intentions | 12 |

St. Sharbel Pray for us!



"Po Whatever He Tells You!"

> John 2:5

Our Services HOLY MASSES

DAILY: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. English

SATURDAY VIGIL: 4:30 p.m. English SUNDAY: 9:30 a.m. English

& 11:30 AM Arabic/Aramaic/English

1st Sunday : 4:30pm

Rosario y la Misa en Español

Sunday Catechism

(Classes are Sept – June)

1st SUNDAY 9:30 a.m. & 11:30am

Youth Mass

For confessions, baptism, engagements, weddings, blessings of your home or business, visiting the sick and the elderly, please contact our office 702 .616.-6902

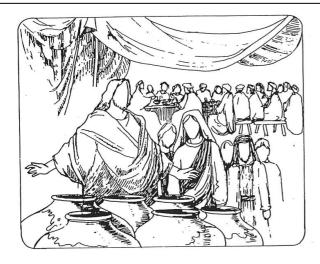
stsharbel.lv@gmail.com

Office hours
Mon – Fri 9:00 – 3:00

10325 RANCHO DESTINO RD. LAS VEGAS NV 89183 <u>PHONE</u>: 702-616-6902 FAX: 702-616-4032.

stsharbel.lv@gmail.com www.stsharbellasvegas.org

March 2019 Page 2



1ST SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT CANA SUNDAY

READING: Romans 14:14-23

> GOSPEL: John 2:1-11



Time to Repent

Mary said to the servants: "Do whatever He tells you." John 2:5

Our Maronite Church celebrates on the first Sunday of Lent – Cana Sunday. Jesus comes to the wedding and brings with Him His disciples to show hospitality and friendship.

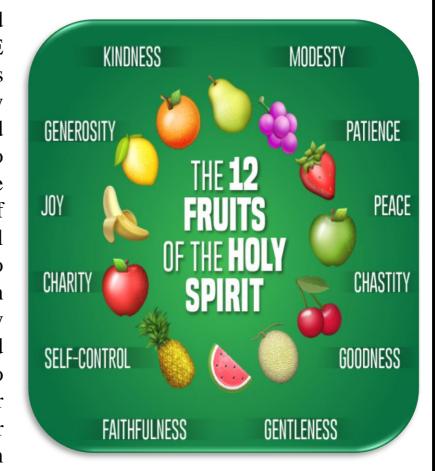
The wedding at Cana was perfect, not because of the friends or of the waiters, but because of the presence and help of Mary in that day when the Spirit spoke to her. She asked Jesus to help when she said: "They have no more wine". She trusted her Son, and she knew whatever she asked for Him she would receive, because He would never refuse His mother's request.

Let us prepare ourselves for Lent, for that final wedding feast between God and humanity. We are waiting for that hour to come. It is a sign of hope from Him which will be repeated during the Las Supper when He changes the wine into Blood and the bread into His Body.

LET US PRAY: Master, if You changed the water to wine at the wedding, You can change our lives, and now we rejoice in Your presence. Make us worthy to receive Your Body and Your Blood through the intercession of Your Blessed Mother. Amen. **Rev. Fr. Nadim Abou Zeid, MLM**

How to Become Fruit -Bearing Trees

Today's liturgy invites us to be humble, be concerned about correcting our defects and aiming at what really matters in life: to BECOME the sort of person God calls us to be. This means that we must be people who have fully assimilated the values of the Kingdom and constantly endeavor to be "disciples" who reproduce in ourselves, as close as possible, the traits of the Master. In a world full of superficiality, pretenses, and hypocrisy, – all forms of moral blindness - if we really want to help and guide those who are affected by such blindness, we must rid ourselves of the many specks or logs that impair our moral vision and may even blind us completely. The best way to help our brothers and sisters blinded by sin is for us to become morally sound "trees" that bear abundant fruits of an authentic Christian life. In this Eucharistic celebration let us implore the grace to do just that!



The Vatican announced Sunday that Pope Francis will publish in March a post-synodal exhortation on last October's synod on young people, faith, and vocational discernment.

The papal document, for which a title has not yet been announced, will be released March 25 during a papal trip to Loreto, Italy, the location of the Shrine of the Holy House of Loreto, where Pope Francis will present the document to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Loreto is a small town in north-eastern Italy, which since the end of the 13th century has been host to a building which tradition holds is the home where the Virgin Mary was born, raised, and greeted by the Angel Gabriel. The building is said to have been brought to Loreto by angels.

According to new norms promulgated last September to govern synods, the publication of a post-synodal papal document is not required to make a synod's conclusions authoritative, though such documents have traditionally followed synodal sessions.

According to the new norms, Francis could have chosen to consider the final document of the synod assembly, as part of the Church's ordinary magisterium if he gave it a particular level of papal approval.

OUR HOLY FATHER POPE FRANCIS TO PUBLISH DOCUMENT ON YOUTH SYNOD

Instead the Vatican has announced Francis will follow the Synod of Bishops on young people, held Oct. 3-28, 2018, with an apostolic exhortation.

The last post-synodal apostolic exhortation to be written was *Amoris laetitia*, which followed the 2014 and 2015 synods on the family.

The pope's day-trip March 25 will include a stop at the John Paul II youth center in a town near by Loreto and a visit to the Loreto Basilica, where he will celebrate Mass inside the Holy House.

After Mass, Francis will sign the post-synodal exhortation before greeting the local community of Capuchins and the sick and infirm. He will give a short speech and lead the Angelus before departing for Rome after lunch.

CANA SUNDAY (19 FEBRUARY) WEDDING AT CANA OF GALILEE (JN 2:1-12)



This first miracle of Our Lord, changing the water into wine at the marriage feast in Cana, is the theme of the Entrance Sunday into Lent. This event is depicted in this icon on two levels, with a symbolic decorative panel dividing them. The higher level represents the marriage feast, with Our Lord seated in honor on the left and his Mother positioned between Him and the Bridegroom and Bride. She is the Mediator and Intercessor on behalf of humanity and it is she who brings to the attention of Her Son the fact that the wine has run out. In the lower level, Christ is standing to the left of His Mother, who tells the servants to do whatever He commands them. They pour water into the water jugs which symbolize the vessels of human lives, filled with the new wine of Spirit. In the background, the wedding guests stand, observing and participating, and they represent the senses.

The central decorative panel depicts the Body and Blood of Christ, as the wedding feast is symbolic of the Holy Eucharist and a foretaste of the eternal Marriage Feast of the Lamb with His Holy Bride, the Church (Rv 19:7; 21:1).

OUR MARONITE PATRIARCH CARDINAL REJECTS CIVIL MARRIAGE

The head of the Maronite church Friday said he rejected the possibility of allowing civil marriage in Lebanon.

"I am Maronite, and to the Maronites I say that marriage is one of the seven sacraments of the Church and you must adhere to them," Maronite Patriarch Beshara Rai told reporters after meeting with President Michel Aoun at Baabda Palace.

The patriarch's comments are the latest in a string of officials taking public stances on civil marriage after Interior Minister Raya El Hassan recently expressed her support.

In an interview with Euronews last week, Hassan had said, "I personally prefer if there was a framework for civil marriage, and this is something that ... I will try to open room for a serious and deep discussion on."

"I know that this topic has a political and sectarian dimension to it, and I have to take this into consideration, but ... I will open this discussion with all religious figures."



Maronite
Patriarch
Beshara Rai
during a mass to
mark Assumption
Day,
on Aug. 15, 2018

Rai said if civil marriage became law, then it would be mandatory for all.

"We are not against civil marriage completely, but show us one law in Lebanon or in the world that is optional. Laws are binding," Rai added.

He also rebutted claims that religious figures opposed civil marriage because it would deprive them of money and power. "This is shameful to say."

Civil marriage's constitutionality in Lebanon was established in 2013, and half a dozen such marriages were approved by then-Interior Minister Marwan Charbel before Nouhad Machnouk took over the post and ceased the practice in 2014. However, no law exists establishing the right to civil marriage as an option for Lebanese people.

ASHES, DAILY FASTING: EASTERN CATHOLICS FOCUS ON GOD DURING LENT

At the Monastery of St. Francis of Assisi in Bayada, north of Beirut, faithful gathered for Ash Monday Mass in the chapel Feb. 12, 2018.

In the Maronite Catholic Church, ashes are distributed on Monday, two days ahead of the Latin rite's traditional Ash Wednesday distribution. This allows Catholics to observe 40 days of Lent, but also celebrate two church feasts for which fasting is not required: the feast of St. Joseph and the feast of the Annunciation.

"To change our character, it is difficult, but we ask God for the grace to be able to fast," Melkite Father Nidal Abourjaily said in his homily before distributing ashes.

"Fasting will help us to grow closer to God as we unite our sufferings with him, and this is the most important thing," said Nidal, a Franciscan Capuchin and superior of the monastery.

Typically, in Lebanon, Catholics follow the recommendations of their respective rites regarding their fast for Lent. The Maronite Church, for example, asks for fasting daily from midnight until 12 noon, and abstinence from meat and dairy products for those in good health. Sundays are not considered days of fast or abstinence. "All fast, in some way," Nidal told *Catholic News Service* of the faithful - a blending from Catholic rites, including Maronite and Melkite as well as some Roman Catholic - who attend St. Francis. Berthe Obeid, a Melkite Catholic, told *CNS* she fasts until noon and sometimes until 3 p.m.

"I like chocolate and nuts, so I try to stop eating those as well," said Obeid.

"It's not so difficult when I know I am doing this for the Lord.

I want to do something to please him, to be near him, so he gives me more strength to do it. Lent is a time to draw closer to God, to leave the things that can pull us away from him," she explained.

"Looking back over the years, I can see now how I'm growing in my faith because of Lent," Obeid added.

During Lent, Myrna Chaker, a Maronite Catholic, will be fasting each day until noon and will abstain from dairy and meat.

"I also try as much as possible to give up the things I really like," Chaker said, noting that she likes crispy foods such as crackers and toasted bread. "And definitely sweets. I love chocolate."



A man prays after receiving ashes during Mass Feb. 12 at Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Church in Washington. In the Maronite Catholic Church, ashes are distributed on Monday, two days ahead of the Latin rite's traditional Ash Wednesday distribution.

Beautiful Faces & Places



Congratulations to Maria & Alexander Flores De Jesus on their daughter's baptism.



Congratulations to Carlo & Jamie Corabo On their Son's Baptism





The refusal to take sides on great moral issues is itself a decision. It is a silent acquiescence to evil.

The tragedy of our time is that those who still believe in honesty lack fire and conviction, while those who believe in dishonesty are full of passionate conviction.

Archbishep Fullon Sheen



Book your Agenda: ST. SHARBEL Community Life

- 1. Monthly Spanish Mass: Sunday, March 3 at 5:00 PM & Rosary at 4:30 PM.
- **2.**Tuesday Divine Mercy Seminar @ 5:30 PM Begins with Devotion to Mother of Perpetual Help, At 6 PM Rosary & Chaplet, followed by Praise & Teaching All are welcome.
- 3. **Raffle tickets** Last Supper & other prizes for \$5 ticket (drawing Easter Sunday).
- 4. Silver St. Sharbel Face: large \$60. Limited Supply.



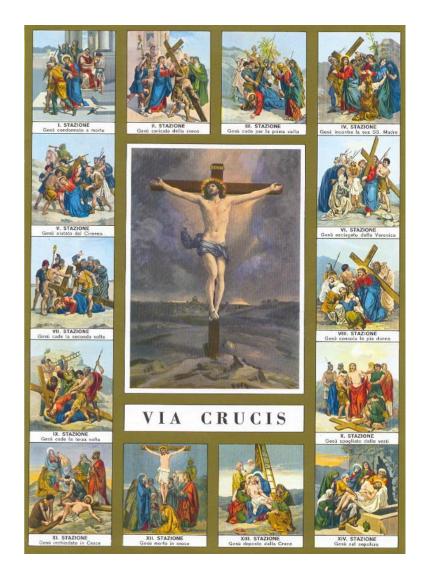


ASH MONDAY

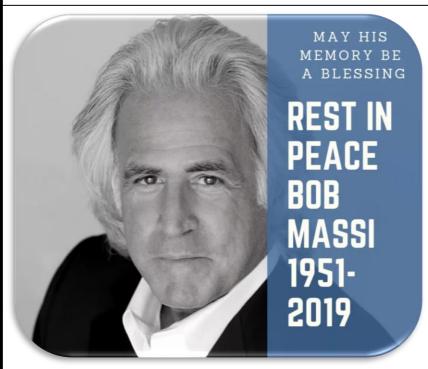
March 4 @ 8 am & 6 pm

ASH WEDNESDAY

March 6 @ 8 am & 6 pm



Station of the Cross begins on Friday 3/8 6 pm Arabic & 7 pm English March 2019 Page 7





Late Victoria & James Massi.
Their Sons Albert, Jimmy & Bob Massi





Robert Massi Attorney at Law

A TRIBUTE TO BOB MASSI

TO THOSE I LOVE

IF I SHOULD LEAVE YOU, WHOM I LOVE
TO GO ALIONG THE QUIET WAY,
PLEASE GRIEVE NOT,
AND PLEASE DO NOT SPEAK OF ME
WITH TEARS AND SADNESS
BUT LAUGH AND TALK
LIKE WE DID WHEN WE
WERE TOGETHER,
YOU KNOW I'M STILL WITH YOU!

I WOULD JOIN YOU, OH, HOW I WOULD
LOVE TO JOIN YOU IF I COULD FIND A WAY;
BUT WOULD NOT TEARS AND GRIEF BE BARRIERS?
AND WHEN YOU HEAR A SONG OR SEE SOMETHING
THAT I REALLY LIKED IN LIFE,
DO NOT LET THE THOUGHT OF ME BE SAD,
FOR I AM LOVING YOU AS I ALWAYS HAVE...
YOU WERE SO GOOD TO ME,
THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS
I STILL WANT TO SAY TO YOU,
SO MANY THINGS I WANT TO DO WITH YOU;
BUT WE ARE GIVEN JUST SO MUCH TIME.
KNOW THAT I DID NOT FEAR DEATH,
IT WAS THE THOUGHT OF LEAVING YHOU
THAT I FOUND HARD TO ACCEPT.

THIS MUCH, HOWEVER, I DO BELIEVE...
THAT I AM LOVING YOU AND LIVING WITH YOU
BECAUSE YOU ALLOWED ME
TO BECOME PART OF YOUR LIFE.
YOU WILL ALWAYS HAVE A SPECIAL PART OF ME
THAT EVEN DEATH CANNOT TAKE FROM YOU.

WE CANNOT SEE BEYOND...

BUT THIS I HAVE COME

TO BELIEVE AND KNOW...

I LOVE YOU SO MUCH...

'TWAS HEAVEN HERE WITH YOU.



Robert G. Massi Attorney At Law

PERSONAL INJURY • BUSINESS LAW • REAL ESTATE LAW WILLS • TRUSTS & PROBATE • LEGAL CONSULTATIONS

2510 WIGWAM PARKWAY, STE 206 | HENDERSON NV 89074 PHONE: 702.870.1100 FAX: 702.870.0196 ROBERT@MASSIANDMASSI.COM

Keeping the Legacy of Our Father Dominic & Robert Massi



Dear Friends in Christ,

At this time, S.B. 165 is being heard before the Nevada State Senate.



In a word, the bill allows a person over 18 years of age to request from a doctor a prescription to end his or her life, following a diagnosis of terminal illness and accompanied by the opinion of two physicians stating that the person has less than six months to live.

This legislation designed to end the life of a patient is being billed as "medical treatment."

Most people in our society, regardless of their faith background, realize that prevailing on doctors to prescribe lethal medications is in direct conflict to a doctor's duty to "do no harm" and to treat the ill and vulnerable to the best of their ability.

In other venues where assisted suicide has been legalized, the case for assisted suicide has been expanded to include depression, mental illness, non-lethal illness and the financial burden of medical treatment. The poor are particularly vulnerable to the prospects of this reality.

Today, doctors have at their disposal incredible medical remedies and technology to address and alleviate pain and suffering associated with the dying process. By contrast, assisted suicide proposes to painlessly and easily end the suffering leading up to death, a final resolution which in itself denies ethical options for end of life treatment.

The purpose of palliative care is to provide as much comfort as possible to enable patients to face their transition from life to death.

In spite of the fact that palliative care is widely available, assisted suicide is being proposed as a means to painlessly and easily end the suffering leading up to death, a proposition that is ripe for abuse and can lead to negative consequences for the most vulnerable of our communities.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has stated, "Respect for life does not demand that attempts to prolong life by using artificial treatments that are ineffective or unduly burdensome. Nor does it mean that we should deprave suffering patients of needed medications out of a misplaced or exaggerated fear that they may have the side effect of shortening life." Effective palliative care allows the patient to devote time to the unfinished business of life, to arrive at a sense of peace with God, loved ones and with his or herself.

There are few experiences more difficult than watching a family member or friend undergo the pain associated with the dying process. Questions of pain and suffering, soaring medical expenses, a desire to maintain control and dignity and the sincere desire not to be a burden on our family presents real, difficult and challenging concerns.

Legalizing suicide is not a solution. In the face of these challenges, we should support and accompany our loved ones with genuine compassion, not with the false compassion of assisted suicide.

Therefore, I express in the strongest possible terms opposition to S.B. 165 which proposes to legalize assisted suicide in the State of Nevada. I urge you to go to the legislative website and to register your opposition at https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/Opinions/80th2019/. Enter "SB165" in the box and click on "against." You will be asked for your name and address to verify your district. Or, call your legislator 775.684.1400 and voice your concern.

Asking God's abundant blessings upon each of you, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ

Most Reverend George Leo Thomas, Ph.D. Bishop for the Diocese of Las Vegas

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Diocese of Las Vegas 336 Cathedral Way Las Vegas, NV 89109

Phone: 702-735-5200 Fax: 702-735-8941

Let Your voice be heard on legislative issues On the Internet Go To www.leg.state.nv.us/App/Opinions/80th2019/

Select a bill number / Select AGAINST/Enter your Address

IS IT OKAY TO APPLAUD AT MASS? HERE'S WHAT POPES HAVE SAID ABOUT IT

Has this happened at your parish?

Oftentimes, we see or hear about people applauding others during or at the end of Mass.

Whether it be for the priest after a homily, for a cantor, or even for the choir after the liturgy has concluded. Is this really okay?

Recently, YouTube star Lizzie Reezay brought the point to light:



Her tweet reads, "THIS PAST SUNDAY a ton of people at my parish applauded for the cantor and pianist once mass ended. It made me SO uncomfortable and this helps me understand why."

Below her tweet, she reposted a quote by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (before he was Pope Benedict XVI).

Here's what he said about applauding at Mass:

"Wherever applause breaks out in the liturgy because of some human achievement, it is a sure sign that the essence of liturgy has totally disappeared and been replaced by a kind of religious entertainment. Such attraction fades quickly – it cannot compete in the market of leisure pursuits, incorporating as it increasingly does various forms of religious titillation. (The Spirit of the Liturgy)

"Is it appropriate to applaud for the choir after Mass? Is this an approved practice?"

Fr. Vincent Serpa said, "Absolutely not. It's most inappropriate and it's the responsibility of the pastor to make sure that the congregation understands this. **The choir is not singing as a matter of entertaining anybody. They're singing to worship God**. We don't clap for prayer. We pray."

He continues, "Again, that is not an option. If we were someplace else it would be a different matte.r But Liturgy is liturgy. It's the worship of God, and it need to be done in an appropriate way as the Church sees fit. It's good that they appreciate the choir, but they can thank them outside. **Applause is not appropriate at that time.**"

Fr. Vincent adds, "There are times when that's called for, as in the ordination ceremony when you are asked to give the response to the worthiness of the candidate for ordination. But this isn't that. This is something else. You don't clap at the end of Mass because you had a good time. That's not what it's about."



Pope Saint John XXIII also said as people waited for him to arrive to a church outside of Rome, "I am very glad to have come here. But if I must express a wish, it is that in church you not shout out, that you not clap your hands, and that you not greet even the Pope, because 'templum Dei, templum Dei.' ('The temple of God is the temple of God.')

In a very powerful quote, **Pope Saint Pius X said**, "It is not fitting that the servant should be applauded in his Master's house."

What do you think? Is it reverent to clap at Mass?



FILIPINO NEWS

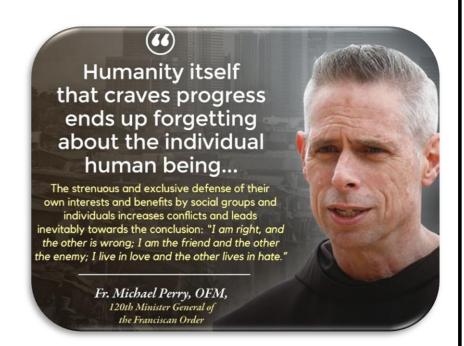
OFM MINISTER GENERAL ARRIVES IN THE PHILIPPINES FOR A FIVE-DAY VISIT

Br. Michael Anthony Perry, OFM, minister general (general superior) is here in the Philippines for a five-day visit bringing the message of St. Francis of Assisi whom he represent.

Perry is the 120th Minister General of this eight century old congregation which traces its roots from St. Francis, a humble friar from Assisi to whom the current pope chose as the inspiration for his pontificate.

Perry arrived in the Philippines on February 15 after meeting all the Franciscan superiors in Asia for the first time as the minister general in Bangkok, Thailand.

One of the primary purpose for his visit is to meet the young friars (under 10 years as a Franciscan religious) from different parts of Asia who are here now in the Philippines for a gathering. Also part of his visit would be to meet some mission directors who will be meeting for the first OFM Asian Mission Congress in Tagaytay.



YOUTH CROSS, ST. JOHN PAUL II RELIC EMBARK ON PILGRIMAGE

The National Youth Cross is making its way across the Philippines for the second time along with the relic of Saint John Paul II, CBCP News reported January 13, 2019.

It left Manila on that day and through the rest of the year until November 20 will be displayed in different parishes across the country.

The pilgrimage is one of the highlights for the Year of the Youth, which is part of nine-year preparation for the 500 years of Christianity in the Philippines that will be celebrated in 2021.

Dozens of people turned out for the send-off Mass in Manila presided over by Fr. Conegundo Garganta of the Episcopal Commission on Youth (ECY).

"We encourage all people to receive these important symbols of faith and open their hearts to the Lord," said Garganta in his homily.

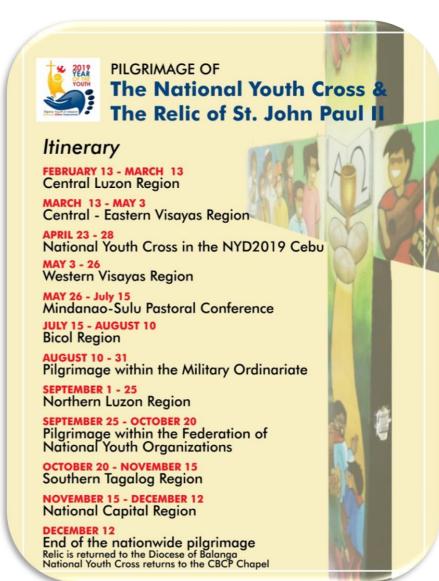
The first cross ever created for the Philippine Catholic youth ministry, it embarked on its first nationwide pilgrimage during the 25th anniversary of ECY in 2011.

The relic is a piece of cloth stained with the blood of Pope John Paul II, who is regarded as a saint for young people, and kept by the Diocese of Balanga.

Garganta said the pilgrimage also endeavors to be a meaningful moment to gather entire Church communities and pray with and for young people.

"We are invited to respond in Jesus' call for all us to be saints and share the works of Christ to bring the Good News to all," he added.

The ECY urged diocesan youth ministries to let the pilgrimage "reach and transform more young souls" especially those in the "peripheries".





ST SHARBEL MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH LAS VEGAS



DIVINE MERCY SEMINAR 2019

| | TUESDAYS 6pm | TOPIC | SPEAKER |
|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | March 5 | Introduction (St. Faustina) | Tet Saldi |
| 2 | March 12 | ABBA Father Return to Our Merciful Father | Fr. Nadim Abou Zeid |
| 3 | March 19 | JESUS CHRIST Ocean of Divine Love | Fr. Mugagga Lule St. Anne |
| 4 | March 26 | THE HOLY SPIRIT Receiving God's Mercy | Fr. Nadim Abou Zeid |
| 5 | April 2 | MOTHER OF MERCY Vessel of God's Mercy | Fr. Milan Kasperek Our Lady of Wisdom |
| 6 | April 9 | RECONCILIATION Coming Home to God's mercy | Fr. Nick Assi |
| 7 | April 23 | THE HOLY EUCHARIST Feast of God's Mercy & Love | Fr. Ricardito Salditos |
| 8 | SUNDAY April 28 Feast of Divine Mercy Mass 9:30am | Saint Faustina Blessing with the Authentic Relics | Fr. Nick Assi |
| 9 | Tuesday April 30 | CONCLUSION & FELLOWSHIP | Group Leaders |

Rev. Father Nadim Abou Zeid. Pastor

10325 Rancho Destino Rd. Las Vegas, NV 89183

Phone: 702-616-6902 stsharbel.lv@gmail.com www.stsharbellasvegas.org

Worship & Fellowship

Tuesday

6-7 pm
Rosary &
Praise &
Worship
English.
7-8 pm
Healing with
Oil, Bible
Study,
Fellowship

Wednesday

10 a.m. Rosary In <u>Arabic</u>

1st Wednesday
Young @
Heart Potluck
following
the Rosary

Eucharistic Adoration

DAILY from 7 AM to 6 PM

Sign up (White Application Form) for ½ an hour

with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration

Daily 7am-6pm

Prayer Daily at 3pm

Joanna Pollard (702) 278-6549



Green Valley Motors

Let our Family help Your Family get around!

John Hanash 702-580-7893

3170 E. Sunset Rd Las Vegas, NV 89120

greenvalleymotorslv@gmail.com
Website: gvmcars.com

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

WEEKEND

DAILY 8AM

Saturday 4:30pm *Mar 2*

+Tagumpay, Lydia & Arnold Nagano

Sunday 9:30am *Mar 3*Conversion of Sinners

Sunday 11:30 am *Michael Hayek Sr.

Sunday 4:30 pm Spanish

Inmigrantes y Refugiados de todo el Mundo



PRAY FOR THE SICK

MONDAY Mar 4

Conversion of Sinners

TUESDAY Mar 5

Healing: Irene Family

WEDNESDAY Mar 6

Unity of Christians

THURSDAY Mar 7

Priests & Clergy

FRIDAY Mar 8

Unborn Babies

El Grupo Guadalupano de la Iglesia de San Charbel
Te invita a que asistas a la Misa y El Rosario que se celebran el primer domingo cada mes comenzado,

DIA: Domingo 3 de Marzo del 2019

HORA: Rosario 4:30pm Misa

DONDE: Iglesia Catolica de San Charbel 10325 Rancho Destino Rd, Las Vegas, NV 89183

Despues de la Misa te invitamos a que nos acompañes a una pequeña recepcion donde compartiremos: café, postres, y bocadillos con todos los asistentes.

Si tienes alguna duda communicate con: Oficina de la Iglesia 702-616-6902

