

20 October 2022

Saint Paul of the Cross, priest

Dear Friends,

Next Friday and Saturday, October 28th and 29th, we have a very blessed opportunity to welcome the relics of Saint Sharbel (1828-1898) to Mary, Queen of Peace! Known as the “Holy Hermit of Lebanon”, Saint Sharbel was a Maronite monk and priest well known for thousands of miraculous healings both during his lifetime and since his death. Fr. Tony Sharbel Karam (like Saint Sharbel, a priest of the Maronite Rite) will be accompanying the relics. During the visit, we’ll have two special liturgies, as well as a talk from Fr. Tony Sharbel about the life of Saint Sharbel, opportunities for individual veneration of the relics, Anointing of the Sick, and a reception in the Marian Social Hall. You can see the full schedule at this link: [Saint Sharbel at MQP](#)

The first special liturgy, on Friday, October 28th, at 7:00 p.m., will be the celebration of a Generational Healing Mass. Every Mass is healing, but in this Mass we’ll pray in particular—through the intercession of Saint Sharbel—for healing in our families. You can learn more about how to prepare for a Generational Healing Mass at this link: [Preparation of Family Tree](#) You are invited to bring your family tree to the Mass. We’ll place them at the altar, and then following Mass all the family trees will be burned, as a sign of the prayers for our families rising up to God.

The second, on Saturday, October 29th, at 9:00 a.m., will be the celebration of Mass according to the Maronite Rite (also called Maronite Divine Liturgy). The Maronite Rite is one of several rites in the Catholic Church. At MQP we celebrate the Roman Rite, but there are other rites from around the world that are also in communion with the Catholic Church. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states (paragraph 1203):

*The liturgical traditions or rites presently in use in the Church are the Latin (principally the **Roman** rite, but also the rites of certain local churches, such as the Ambrosian rite, or those of certain religious orders) and the Byzantine, Alexandrian or Coptic, Syriac, Armenian, **Maronite** and Chaldean rites.*

Here are links to a couple of good articles that explain why there are different rites in the Catholic Church: [Why So Many Rites in the Church](#) and [The Rites of the Catholic Church](#)

I thank several parishioners who’ve been helpful in planning all the aspects and details of this blessed visit! And I encourage everyone to begin praying the nine-day Novena to Saint Sharbel today: [Saint Sharbel Novena](#)

Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us!

Saint Sharbel, Holy Hermit of Lebanon, pray for us!

Fr. Chad Green

