

Visiting Relics—Catholics usually have to travel to Europe to venerate major relics, but Colorado Catholics have a chance to venerate the bone relics of St Sharbel closer to home. St Sharbel was born Youssef Antoun Makhlouf in 1828 in the mountains of northern Lebanon. He was a Maronite monk and mystic and died on Christmas eve, 1898, at the age of 70. One of the most dramatic of his attributed miracles is a light that began emanating from his tomb soon after he was buried. He was canonized by Pope Paul VI on October 9, 1977. His relics will be presented at St Rafka Maronite Catholic Church at 2301 Wadsworth Boulevard from December 8 to December 10. Please call them for more info. 720.833.0354.



Just a note—In the case of physician-assisted suicide: Barbiturates do not assure a peaceful death. Barbiturates are the most common substances used for assisted suicide in Oregon and Washington. Overdoses of barbiturates are known to cause distress and have associated issues:

- extreme gasping and muscle spasms
- while losing consciousness, a person can vomit and then inhale the emesis
- panic, feelings of terror and assaultive behavior from the drug-induced confusion
- failure of drugs to induce unconsciousness
- a number of days elapsing before death occurs or death does not occur

Christmas schedule—

Thursday-December 24
4:00pm—Mass with Children’s Choir

9:30pm—Caroling
10:00pm—Mass

Friday-December 25
9:00am—Mass

Friday – January 1, 2016
9:00am—Mass

Congratulations to the Altar and Rosary Society Christmas Cash Bonanza Winners!—

- \$500—Deb Peterson
- \$100—Aaron Holst
- \$50—Rena Clark

MONDAY, MONDAY—we are looking for more people to help out with our Monday communion service. If you have Monday mornings free, we would like to add you to our crew of folks who help with our Monday services. What you have to do is all written out. It is not hard and it is a great way to help the community in their prayer life. It starts at 8:30am and ends at 8:50am.

The Year of Mercy—Pope Francis would like to encourage all Catholics to assist in bringing a brighter awareness of the Acts of Mercy, corporal and spiritual, in the year of mercy. So here is a list of those Acts or Works of Mercy:

Corporal Works of Mercy

- 1) Feed the Hungry
- 2) Give drink to the Thirsty
- 3) Clothe the Naked
- 4) Shelter the Homeless
- 5) Visit the Sick
- 6) Visit the Imprisoned
- 7) Bury the Dead

Spiritual Works of Mercy

- 1) Instruct the Ignorant
- 2) Counsel the Doubtful
- 3) Admonish Sinners
- 4) Bear Wrongs patiently
- 5) Forgive Offences willingly
- 6) Comfort the Afflicted
- 7) Pray for the Living and the Dead

Feed the Hungry—how do I do that? Well, turn your thought from thinking globally to thinking locally. When was the last time you dropped off a canned good item for our food basket for Community Ministry Food Bank? It is really easy. If your grocery store has a BOGO (buy one, get one free), don't worry that you can't use two of one item. Get both, and bring the extra unneeded item to the food basket in the back of the church—easy and on your way. You're going to the grocery store and you're going to church! God bless.

Denver Health is a regional level one hospital with a wide array of patients from every stripe. What most of them have in common is that they are Catholic. Oddly enough, only Saint Rose of Lima provides volunteers to bring Holy Eucharist to these patients. We are in need of more of these kind visitors to bring communion to patients. Training is given and a background check is required. The parish will pay for your green “volunteer” tunic. Thank you for considering this worthwhile work of mercy. Talk with Fr Jerry and he will put you in touch with the people to speak with.

Sunday-December 20—after the 11:30am Mass we will need a little help changing the church environment from Advent to Christmas. This job will only take about 30 minutes. Make plans to be with us at this time to prepare for the joy of Christmas.

Advent retreat for men considering a vocation to the priesthood—Sunday, December 20—10am to 5pm, at St John Vianney Seminary. Register online at www.DenverSeminary.org