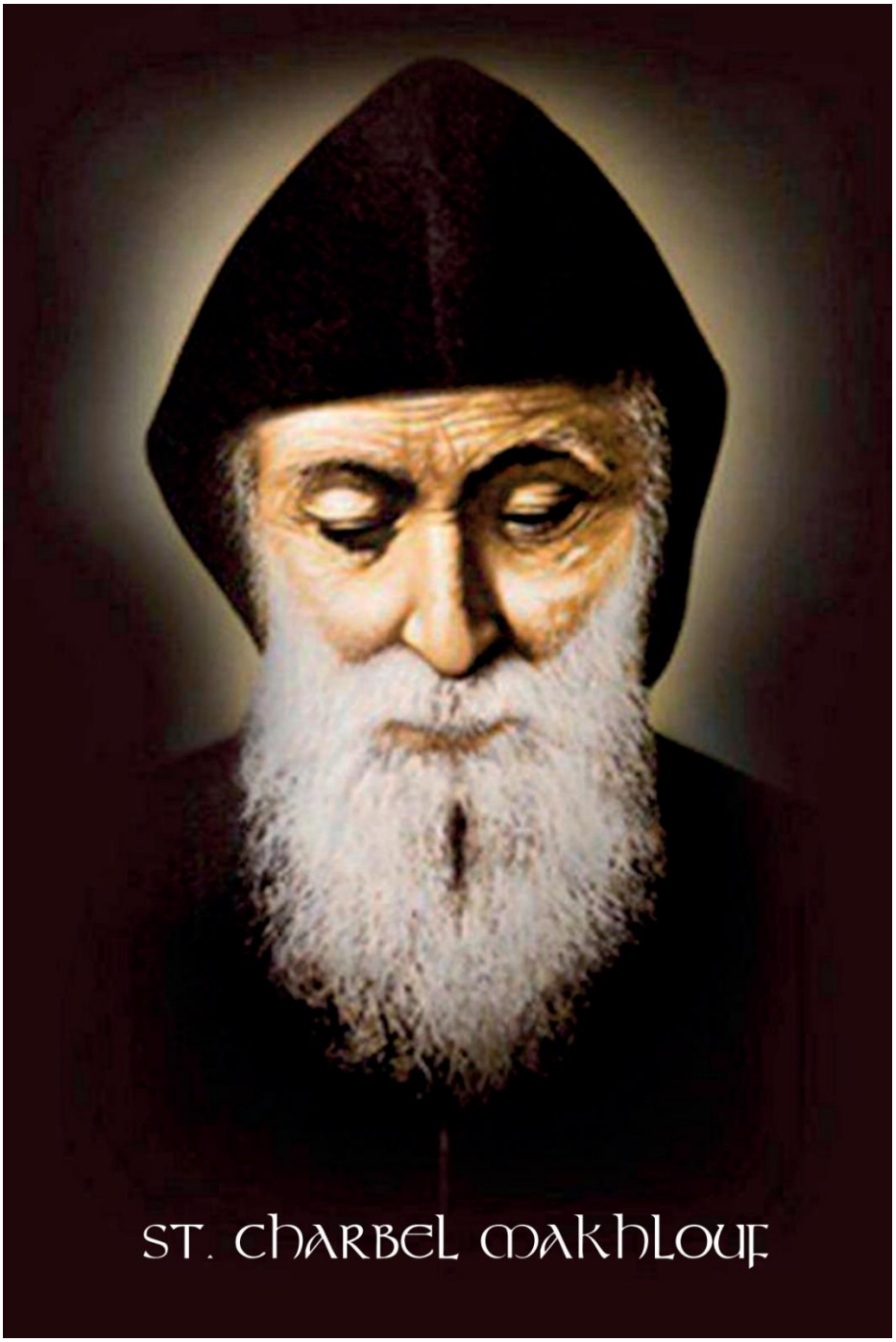


Saint Charbel Makhlouf - 1828-1898.
Feast day: July 24

On **Sunday the 29th of January**, we will have a visiting priest, who will bring a First Class Relic of St. Charbel to *St. Mary's Church, Claran, Headford, H91 A090*

Mass will be held at 11.30am, with the blessing of the First Class Relic & St. Charbel Oil afterwards. All are welcome.

St Charbel was born Youssef Antoun Makhlouf in a small village in Lebanon in 1828, to a poor religious family. His father was a mule driver who died when Youssef was only three. Two of his uncles were hermits and Youssef wanted to follow their example. As a boy, he tended the family's, flock of sheep and goats and would spend the day praying at a small grotto where he had installed an icon of the Blessed Virgin.

Youssef Makhlouf entered the Maronite Monastery of St. Maroun, (A Lebanese Maronite order) at 23 and was ordained a priest in 1859 and took the name Charbel after a second-century martyr. He served there for 16 years, then retired to the hermitage of Ss. Peter and Paul. Charbel lived a severely ascetic life of prayer, mortification, and self-denial and had a remarkable devotion to the Eucharist.

He had a massive stroke while saying Mass on Christmas Eve 1898. For 45 days a bright light surrounded his tomb. The monks exhumed his body and it was found incorrupt. For approximately 62 years a viscous liquid came from his body. Many miracles are attributed to his intercession.

Beatified - 5 December 1965, Saint Peter's Basilica, Vatican City by Pope Paul VI. Canonized - 9 October 1977, Saint Peter's Basilica, Vatican City by Pope Paul VI Major shrine Monastery of Saint Maron Annaya, Byblos District, Lebanon St Charbel's – Many confirmed miracles.
There are over 26,000 miracles attributed to the intercession of Saint Charbel Makhlouf since his death in 1898.

"Your wealth is measured by the lack of your needs, not by the abundance of your possessions."

St. Charbel Makhlouf

