

January 8, 2017

Bulletin #2

## ***Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church***

2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003

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Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac, Pastor

Evelyn Ghaphery, Organist



### ***Epiphany***

\***Weekend Masses:** **Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m.** [*Rosary & Litany start 20 minutes before Mass*]  
**Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m.** [*Rosary & Litany start 20 minutes before Mass*]

\***Weekday Masses:** **Monday No Mass**  
**Tuesday to Thursday at 9:05 a.m.** [*Rosary & Litany start 20 minutes before Mass*]

\***Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament:** **First Saturday of the month at 3:30 p.m.**  
**First Sunday of the month after 10:30 a.m. Mass**

\***Confession:** Saturday: 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. or any other time by appointment

\***Baptism:** Please call the Pastor as soon as baby is born; at least one Godparent must be Catholic

\***Weddings:** Please make arrangements at least **six** months in advance before any other plans are made

\***Sick Calls & Anointing of the Sick:** Please notify the Pastor at 304-233-1688

\***Parish Council:** Lou Khourey, Mike Linton, Rita Strawn, P.J. Lenz, Mary Stees

\***Choir Members:** Earl Duffy, George Thomas, Lou Khourey, Robert Harris, Shelly Hancher, Ted Olinski

\***Bulletin Coordinator:** Thomasina Geimer

\***Sacristan:** Mike Linton

\***Altar Boys:** Dalton Haas, Shaun Hancher & Luke Lenz

\***Cedar Club:** Linda Duffy, President 304-242-6853

\***Women's Society:** Sandra Dusick, President 304-232-7395



\***Bulletin Announcements:** Submit all Bulletin Information to Msgr. Bakhos by Noon on Tuesday every week

\***New Parishioners:** We welcome you with great joy & invite you to officially register as one of our parishioners

\***Cedar Hall Rental Fees:** Call the Church Office at 304-233-1688 or 304-639-1372

\***Parking:** Saturday & Sunday parishioners may park in both lots; Monday-Friday park **ONLY** in the 3 Alley spaces

\***Remember the Church in your Last Will & Testament:** Her prayers will accompany you to heaven

## ***Epiphany: Baptism of our Lord***

Readings: Tit 2:11-3:7 and Lk 3:15-22

On January 6<sup>th</sup> the Church celebrates the feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ. In the Eastern Church this feast is generally known by one of two Greek names: Epiphany or Theophany (in Syriac the feast is referred to as Denho). Epiphany means “manifestation or appearance”; Theophany means “an appearance of God”. Both refer directly to the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptizer in the Jordan River and the proclamation of Jesus as God’s Son. At this event Jesus is publicly proclaimed (manifested) as the Son of God. Traditionally, the Epiphany celebrated both the birth of Jesus and his baptism some 30 years later. In some ways it is the original “Christmas.”

The feast of the Epiphany was first celebrated by the Eastern Churches (it was later adopted by the Latin/Western Church); the Latin Church began to emphasize the visit of the Magi (Wise men) instead of the Baptism of the Lord.

The feast of the Epiphany not only reminds us of the baptism of Christ, but also of our own baptism. On the feast of Epiphany the Church blesses water (to commemorate that through Christ’s baptism in the Jordan all waters are blessed). It was on Epiphany that the baptism of converts was traditionally celebrated.

The Maronite Church structures an entire liturgical season around this feast: The Season of Epiphany. It can last up to five weeks, depending upon when the Season of Great Lent begins.

Baptism affects us in two ways:

- a- Baptism incorporates us into the Body of Christ (the Church);
- b- Baptism removes all sin, including the effects of original sin.

According to Jesus, Baptism is necessary for salvation (John 3:5). The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) teaches “Baptism is necessary for salvation for those to whom the Gospel has been proclaimed and who have had the possibility of asking for this sacrament.” (CCC # 1257). This is why proclaiming the Gospel and seeing that all who can be baptized are baptized is fundamental to the Church’s mission.

Do you remember when you were baptized? Who was the priest who baptized you? Who were your godparents? Do you have any photos of your baptism?

On January 6, Lebanese Christians make a special pastry known as zlaabyeh, which is a type of donut or fried dough. At midnight, all people carry bundle of aromatic sticks and go to the nearby creek. They plunge the sticks in the water and spread water all around while chanting: “Jesus is baptized by Saint John and Mary was his godmother...” They believe that by doing that all the water become blessed.

## ***Season of Epiphany***

The second season of the Maronite calendar, lasting six weeks, is Epiphany. This feast was first observed in Alexandria and quickly spread in the 4<sup>th</sup> century throughout the Eastern Churches of Antioch and Constantinople. By the end of the fourth century the feast of the Birth of our Lord, already observed earlier in Rome, was adopted by the East and conversely, the Epiphany began to be celebrated in the West. This feast commemorates the manifestation of Jesus, the divine Word, into the world and the mysterious betrothal between Him and His people. On Epiphany, the Maronite Church recalls the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan and the passage through water for a new people. The Church blesses water with a lighted coal to signify ‘fire and spirit’ in the waters which completes the sanctification in Epiphany. “Son of the Mighty One, you bowed your head before John the Baptizer as the Father proclaimed: This is my beloved Son! You clothed us with your baptism, the robe of glory and the seal of the Holy Spirit.”

The season of Epiphany was originally understood as a time of commemoration of the saints, the fathers, the martyrs and the dead. There are three Sundays observed by all the Syriac Churches which conclude the Epiphany season and prepare for Lent. On these Sundays we remember:

- \* The Deceased Priests
- \* The Righteous and Just that is the Saints
- \* The Faithful Departed

“Let the light of your love direct us toward you. Gather us into your dwelling place that our family be complete. Seat us at your banquet table and let us rejoice at the sight of our deceased ones.”

## *Divine Liturgy Schedule*

### ***This Weekend, January 7-8: Epiphany (Blessing of Holy Water)***

#### **Saturday, January 7**

**At 3:30 p.m.: Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament**

**At 4:00 p.m.: Blessing of Holy Water**

✠ Special Intention

**Sunday, January 8 at 10:30 a.m.: Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass**

✠ Josephine Condelli (Birthday) by Sylvia Long

✠ Shirley Dietz (Anniversary) by Sandra Dusick

#### **Weekday Masses**

**Monday, January 9: No Daily Mass. Msgr. Bakhos Day Off**

**Tuesday, January 10, at 12:05 p.m.:**

✠ Helen Fielding by her husband Don Fielding (FL) & his special intentions

**Wednesday, January 11, at 12:05 p.m.:**

✠ William G. Breit (Birthday) by Loving Family for vocations

**Thursday, January 12, at 12:05 p.m.:**

✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her Will

✠ Deceased of the Thomas, Splatt & Nutter Families by John & Kathy Thomas (MN)

**Friday, January 13 at 12:05 p.m.:**

✠ Intentions of the Benefactors of Msgr. Bakhos & the church

### ***Next Weekend, January 14-15: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany***

**Saturday, January 14 at 4:00 p.m.:**

✠ Special Intention

✠ Good health of Sam Gaudio by his sister Shirley Bine

**Sunday, January 15 at 10:30 a.m.:**

✠ Repose of the souls of all the deceased friends & benefactors of Msgr. Bakhos

### ***Please Pray for Those on Our Prayer List***

#### **Please Remember Those Hospitalized Recently in Your Prayers**

John Shiben, Joe Elias

#### **Also Please Pray for Those Who Asked Us to Pray for Them**

Barb Sobota, Joe McCutcheon, Ray Palotay, George Weisner, Shirley and Jim George, Marge John, Peggy Justice, Diane Palotay, Mary Blum, Virginia & Dolores Joseph, Jim Dellget, Betty Shia, Jim Thomas (father of Diane Frenn), Carrie Jane (Powell) Parodi

### ***Your Church Support Last Week***

\$1,841.00	Sunday Collection
120.00	Bulletin ad
1,100.00	Donation to the church
630.00	Parking
20.00	Utilities
30.00	Donation to Poor Families
\$3,741.00	<b>Total Deposits:</b> <i>May God reward you abundantly for supporting your spiritual home!</i>

## *Calendar of Parish Events*

<b>Cedar Club Meeting</b>	<i>Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m. in Cedar Hall</i>
<b>Women Society Meeting</b>	<i>Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, after Mass</i>

### ***Cedar Club Meeting*** *(Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in Cedar Hall)*

The Cedar Club's first meeting of the new year is on Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Cedar Hall. Upcoming events will be discussed and hosting will be Lindy & Mickey Duffy.

## *What's New?*

### ***Parish Pantry***

"Don't forget January's food donation for our parish Pantry! All packages can be placed in the marked barrel."

### ***2016 Tax Income Statements***

According to IRS regulations, all parishioners, who donated in 2016, the amount of \$250.00 and over to the church will receive around mid January 2017 a church statement to be used for their tax deduction. In the statement every check number and the amount and the date will be shown. The church will not mail statement to those who donated less than \$250.00 throughout the year unless they request it from Msgr. Bakhos. Thanks for all the benefactors of our church and may God reward you many folds. Remember that you are the blessed hands of the Lord.

### ***Choir Members Needed***

Our choir needs more voices. Please see Lou, Robert, Shelly or Mickey if you can help. Talents are not required, just a willingness to sing. By chanting the Mass we help the parishioners to pray twice.

<h2><i>A Time to Laugh (179)</i></h2>
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### ***Grace***

Goldberg had the loveliest garden in town and each time the Rabbi passed by he would call out to Goldberg: "YOUR GARDEN IS A THING OF BEAUTY. THE LORD AND YOU ARE PARTNERS!"

"THANK YOU, RABBI," Goldberg would respond with a bow.

This went on for days and weeks and months. At least twice a day the Rabbi, on his way to and from the Synagogue would call out: "THE LORD AND YOU ARE PARTNERS!" until Goldberg began to be annoyed at what the Rabbi evidently meant as a compliment.

So the next time the Rabbi said: "THE LORD AND YOU ARE PARTNERS," Goldberg replied: "THAT MAY BE TRUE. BUT YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN THIS GARDEN WHEN THE LORD HAD IT ALL ON HIS OWN!"

### ***Fear***

"SO THIS WAS YOUR FIRST FLIGHT. WERE YOU SCARED?"

"WELL, TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, I DIDN'T DARE PUT MY FULL WEIGHT DOWN ON THE SEAT."

### ***Love***

A Sunday school teacher told her children she was going to write their names on the blackboard. After each name she would write the one thing that particular child was the most grateful for.

One little boy was thinking hard when his name went on the board. When he was asked what should go after his name, he finally said: "MOTHER." So that's what the teacher wrote. She was starting to write the next name when the boy began to wave his hand frantically.

"YES?" said the teacher. "PLEASE CANCEL MOTHER," said the little boy, "AND WRITE DOG."

## ***Think & Laugh***

--"Smoking kills. If you're killed, you've lost a very important part of your life." (Brooke Shields, during an interview to become Spokesperson for federal anti smoking campaign.)

--"I've never had major knee surgery on any other part of my body." (Winston Bennett, University of Kentucky basketball forward.)

--"Outside of the killings, Washington has one of the lowest crime rates in the country." (Mayor Marion Barry, Washington, DC.)

## ***Religion***

A parachutist jumped out of a plane on a windy day and was blown a hundred miles off course by a powerful gale. Then his parachute caught on a tree, so he hung there for hours in the middle of nowhere, shouting for help.

Finally someone passed by. "*How did you get up there on that tree?*" he asked.

The parachutist told him. Then asked, "*Where am I?*" "*On a tree,*" was the reply.

"*Hey! You must be a cleric!*" The stranger was stunned. "*Yes I am. How did you know?*" "*Because what you said is certainly true and just as certainly useless.*"

## ***Awareness***

A little old Jewish lady sits down in a plane next to a big Swede and keeps staring at him. Finally she turns to him and says, "*Pardon me, are you Jewish?*"

He says, "*No.*"

A few minutes later she turns to him again and says, "*You can tell me, you know, you are Jewish, aren't you?*"

He says, "*Most certainly not.*"

She keeps studying him for some minutes, then says again, "*I can tell you are Jewish.*"

In order to get rid of the annoyance the man says, "*O.K., I am Jewish!*"

She looks at him again, shakes her head and says, "*You certainly don't look it.*"

## ***Love***

A friend came to the famous essayist Charles LAMB and said, "*I want to introduce you to Mr. SO-AND-SO.*"

"*No, thank you,*" said LAMB. "*I don't like the man.*"

"*But you don't even know him!*" said LAMB.

## ***Money will buy...***

***A Bed***, but not sleep.

***A book***, but not brains.

***Food***, but not an appetite.

***A house***, but not a home.

***Medicine***, but not health.

***Luxuries***, but not culture.

***Amusement***, but not happiness.