Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003 Rectory: 304-233-1688 • Fax: 304-233-4714

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Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac, Pastor Evelyn Ghaphery, Organist



Sunday of the Leper

*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 and Friday No Mass

Tuesday to Thursday at Noon. [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: Sunday of the Leper

Readings: Rom 6:12-23 and Mk 1:35-45

You can imagine this leper's excitement to know that Jesus the Messiah, of whom the prophets prophesied, was coming his way. He knew that he was condemned by the society and he felt it and suffered much because of that. He very well understood that he was supposed to stay away from people because his disease was contagious. But he knew that this was his last chance. If the Messiah, would not heal him, no one else would. He has lost trust in the society that rejected him and put his full trust in Christ, the Son of God, the Divine Physician and the Medicine of Life. He run toward Jesus and professed his faith in him saying, "Lord, if you will you can make me clean."

Jesus did an extraordinary act by touching him, something that was forbidden by law. That little gesture said a lot about Jesus. He was saying to the leper, "you are important, you are a part of me. You have a dignity because my Father created you and he created everybody else. You are a child of God and therefore you deserve respect."

In his compassion and mercy, Jesus healed the Leper and restored his soul and body, revealing God's compassion toward his children.

Jesus came not to heal the healthy but the sick. He comes not to forgive the saints, but sinners, and who of us is not a sinner and does not need Christ constantly in his and her life?

Jesus always feels compassion toward anyone in need, toward anyone who asks for help. He is the compassion of God in action. He came to touch our souls, to renew our minds, to purify our hearts and spirits with his presence and with the power of his love.

In healing the leper, Jesus gave him a new life. Most importantly he restored him back to the community. Not only his disease was gone, but so is the exclusion, the excommunication and the broken relationship. The healed person is now welcomed back into society, and the community is reconciled. When Jesus healed the leper, the whole community was healed. When Jesus touches a person who is excluded, everyone is healed and reconciled.

Today, each one of us is urged to bring his and her leprosy to Jesus to heal them. We all have to learn first from the leper and identify ourselves with him. Each one of us has leprosy of the heart or the soul. We need to go to Christ in our brokenness, our weakness, our frailty and ask for help, especially in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist.

Then, once Jesus shows compassion to us, we will want to show compassion to each other and to every one around us. Jesus is always compassionate and we are his followers, which means we have to become people of compassion too. We have to show compassion to everywhere.

Like Jesus, we have to side with the leper and the weak of our time, cultivate a heart of compassion, stretch out our hands, touch them, heal them, and welcome them back into the community. We have to reconcile with everyone everywhere.

In the Sermon of the Mount, Jesus, said to us, "Be compassionate as God." This is the heart of our Lenten journey my brothers and sisters, this is the heart of our spiritual life toward heaven, this is what mature Christianity looks like, this is the goal of our journey, to receive his healing and love and to pass it on to others unconditionally.

During this season of Lent, we are all urged to approach Jesus like the leper with faith and humility, falling on our knees before him. Pleading with him saying, "Lord, if you wish, you can make me clean." I need you Lord, I submit to you my whole life, body, soul and spirit, cleanse me and purify with the hyssop of your mercy. To you be glory forever.

Lenten Reflection: Tempted to Run

"Filled with the holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil." (Luke 4:1-2)

We usually think of temptations as involving sexual license, unruly appetites for chocolate or nicotine, maybe the lure of stealing something covertly. The temptations of Christ in the desert were different: to create bread, insure one's sustenance, achieve self-sufficiency. Ah, yes, to be the "self-made man or woman." And

then the temptation to magic: "throw yourself from the heights to invoke the angels." Finally, power: "all this will be yours, if you worship me." Such is the lie of Satan. All are temptations against being human, vulnerable, dependent, and needy.

As if in reversal of the sin of Adam and Eve, seduced into denying their humanity to become "like gods," Jesus utterly enters into and embraces our humanity. Such was the story of Christmas. Such is the story of Lent, the Passion and Death. He embraced our mortality fully, even our sin and its consequences so as to transform it all by Love.

With Lent we are invited to enter into Christ's life as he entered ours. And our daily act of faith is to take him into our own creatureliness, our bodies, as our daily bread. Thus, at every Communion we are bold to say, "Lord, I am not worthy to receive you; but only say the word and I shall be healed."

Divine Liturgy Schedule

This Weekend, March 4-5: Sunday of the Leper

Saturday, March 4 at 4:00 p.m.: (No Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament during Lent)

- ₱ Martha Shia by Cynthia & David Reasbeck
- † Eva Coury Moffat by Carol & Bill Dougherty

Sunday, March 5 at 10:30 a.m.: (No Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament during Lent)

- † Living & Deceased members of the Nicholas & Nimnoom Ghaphery Family & the David Abraham Ghaphery Family
- Tom Jalad (Anniversary) by the Family
- ♣ Irene Breiding (Anniversary) by her grandson Dalton Haas

Weekday Masses

Monday, March 6: No Mass Msgr. Bakhos day off

Tuesday, March 7 at 12:05 p.m.:

- Prosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her Will
- Helen Fielding (Birthday) by her husband Don Fielding (FL) & his special intentions

Wednesday, March 8: No Mass Msgr. Bakhos day off

Thursday, March 9, at 12:05 p.m.:

P Eva Coury Moffat by Msgr. Bakhos

Friday, March 10:

5:10 p.m.: Rosary & Litany

5:30 p.m.: Divine Liturgy for the Repose of the soul of William Breit

6:00 p.m.: Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Cross

7:00 p.m.: Friday Lenten meal

8 For the intentions of the benefactors who sponsored the meatless dinner tonight

Next Weekend, March 11-12: The Hemorrhaging woman

Saturday, March 11 at 4:00 p.m.:

₱ Martha Shia by Msgr. Bakhos

Sunday, March 12 at 10:30 a.m.:

- ₱ Mary J. Shipley (Anniversary) by her daughter Thomasina Geimer
- Probby Hunter (Anniversary) by his grandma Thomasina Geimer
- & Betty Abraham, Clara Carter, Evelyn Goodson by George & Jean Weisner and Family

Easter Lillies

\$25 Donation for Easter Lillies (Due Sunday, March 26)

Easter Lillies in memory of loved ones to decorate the church and the tomb of Christ are sponsored by the following generous parishioners:

- *** A bouquet of yellow roses will decorate the altar of the Blessed Mother in Memory of Helen Fielding by her husband Donald of Florida
- & Gladys Howard & Louise N. & Louise H. Khourey, Sr., by Lou & Charlotte Khourey & Family
- Rosine & Latif Thomas by Nellie Magyar and Family
- & Sue, Frances & Joe Linton by Mike Linton
- ♣ Deceased members of the Bine and Gaudio Families by Shirley Bine
- Poeceased members of the Chidiac Family by Msgr. Bakhos
- # The Daniel and DiFabrizio Families by Rebecca & Michael DiFabrizio

Mother Week Masses (May 13-19)

Prayer for mothers

O glorious Queen of Heaven and earth! You are the chosen patroness of all Christian mothers. Bless all mothers and inspire them to seek your protection and guidance so that they become truly Christian Mothers. O most pure, most compassionate Mother of the Divine Savior and of all the children of the Heavenly Father who have been regenerated in the holy sacrament of Baptism.

All Masses for the Deceased Mothers and Grandmothers:

- Pearl Shutler (mother) and great grandmother Isabelle Nolte by Janet Shutler
- \$\forall \text{ Sadie Chidiac by her son Msgr. Bakhos}
- F Siham Frenn, LaVerne Thomas & Evelyn Hall by Dr. Adel, Diane, Andreah & Justin Frenn
- Duise N. Khourey & Gladys Howard by children Lou & Charlotte & grandchildren Emmalena & Louie
- 🗗 Emma Nader & Nabiha "Lena" Khourey by Lou, Charlotte, Emmalena & Louie Khourey
- # Minnie Church Riggs & Cassandra "Cassie" Howard by Lou, Charlotte, Emmalena & Louie Khourey
- # Helen Fielding by her husband Don Fielding (FL)
- 🕏 Rosella Saseen & her parents Nancepe & Helen & her grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen
- Deceased of the Thomas, Splatt & Nutter Families by John & Kathy Thomas (MN)

All Masses for the Living Mothers and grandmothers:

- ∂ Charlotte Khourey by her children Emmalena & Louie
- 8 Diane Frenn by her husband Dr Adel and children Andreah and Justin
- § Shirley Bine by her son Kenny

Mahrajan News

- This year we are preparing the 84th Annual Festival. It will take place at Oglebay Park for two days: Saturday, August 12th from 4:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.
 - Sunday, August 13th from noon until 7:00 p.m. (outdoor Mass at 10:30 a.m.)
- ➤ All Mahrajan Sponsors will be listed in the bulletin and in the Ad Book at three levels: **Silver** (\$25 to \$49);

Gold (\$50 to \$99); **Diamond** (\$100 and above). Please consider making a donation at one of these levels to support the Mahrajan, to help defray its expenses, and to insure its continuation for future generations.

➤ It is the dream of the Parish to have two dance troupes to perform at the Festival: one by the children (6-12) and by the young adults (13-20). We will provide Lebanese Folklore costumes and hats for everybody and two trainers to prepare the dancers around this time of the year so that they will be ready for the festival. If you have children or grandchildren please call Msgr. Bakhos at 304-233-1688. Thanks

Please Pray for Those on Our Prayer List

Please Remember Those Hospitalized Recently in Your Prayers

Mary Blum,

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

Rose Vargo, Bernadine Elias, Peggy Justice, Barb Sobota, Abbey Lattavo, Shirley and Jim George, Marge John, Diane Palotay, Virginia & Dolores Joseph, Jim Dellget, Betty Shia, Jim Thomas (father of Diane Frenn), Carrie Jane (Powell) Parodi

Your Church Support Last Week		
\$1,809.00	Sunday Collection	
37.00	Candles	
25.00	Easter Lillies	
1,142.00	St. Maron dinner	
456.00	Parking	
622.00	Utilities	
30.00	Donation to Poor Families	
\$4,121.00	Total Deposits: May God reward you abundantly for supporting your spiritual home!	

Calendar of Parish Events

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St. Maron Dinner	Note: No work Monday, Thursday & Friday		
Tuesday, March 7, at 9 a.m. $\rightarrow \rightarrow$	Bake Cookies; Cook & Shred Chicken; Brown Orzo; Prepare Onions		
	Note: Workers please bring a covered dish		
Wednesday, March 8, →→→→	Make Kibbee; Set Up Hall for Dinner		
Sunday, March 12 $\rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow$	St. Maron Dinner served – 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.		
Sunday, March 12 NOTE:	Daylight Savings Time Begins		
Cedar Hall Meeting	Monday, March 13 th at 6:00 p.m.		
Women Society Meeting	Sunday, March 26 th after Mass		
Palm Sunday, April 9	The Passion of the Lord		
Easter Sunday, April 16	The Resurrection of the Lord		
Lebanese Bake Sale	-Sponsored by Women's Society		
Sunday, April 23 $\rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow$	Orders & Payment Due for Lebanese Bake Sale		
Sunday, April 30 $\rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow$	Spinach Preparation – starting after 10:30 a.m. Mass		
Monday-Thursday, May 1 & 2 →→→	Baking Days – starting at 9 a.m. dough will be ready to shape & fill		
Wednesday, May 3 $\rightarrow \rightarrow $	Order Pick-Up for Bake Sale – Wednesday, from 11:30 a.m5:30 p.m.		
Thursday, May 4 $\rightarrow \rightarrow $	Order Pick-Up for Bake Sale – Thursday, from 11:30 a.m3:30 p.m.		
May Crowining & First Communion	Sunday, May 7		
Parish Rummage Sale	Saturday & Sunday, June 10 & 11 (see more info in future bulletins)		
Cedar Hall Rental	Saturday, June 24		
Cedar Hall Rental	Saturday, July 29 (tentatively)		
Mahrajan New for 2017 - 2 day event	Saturday, August 12, & Sunday, August 13		
New: Parish Ladies Kibbee Sale	During Week of September 10 th (see more info in future bulletins)		

^{*}Note: The Soup & Hoagie Sale will be postponed to a future date because of insufficient time and volunteers.

Stations of the Cross & Light Dinner (All Fridays during Lent after 5:30 p.m. Mass)

Every Friday during Lent, we celebrate the Mass at 5:30 p.m. and Stations of the Cross at 6:00 p.m., followed by Benediction of the Cross. The "Stations of the Cross" is a devotion which consists of following the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ by recalling the fourteen prominent events that took place from the time of the trial under Pontius Pilate until His death and burial on Mount Calvary.

We thank the Cedar Club members who will sponsor the first Lenten Meal on Friday, March 3, and on Good Friday, April 14, after the Friday prayers. Also thanks to the generous families who will sponsor meals on other Fridays of Lent.

Cedar Club Meeting (Monday, March 13th, at 6:00 p.m. in Cedar Hall)

The Cedar Club will meet on Monday, March 13th at 6:00 p.m. in the Cedar Hall. Business Meeting and general discussion of future activities. Hosting will be Luane Frazier and Thomasina Geimer.

Date:	Volunteers Who Sponsor the Light Meals on Fridays during Lent:
2 nd Friday, March 10	Meal Sponsors: Dr. Mary Ann Cater & Dr. Robert Vawter
3 rd Friday, March 17	Meal Sponsors: Shirley Bine and Nini Miller
4 th Friday, March 24	Meal Sponsor: Kim Gibbons, Charlotte Khourey, Susan Saseen
5 th Friday, March 31	Meal Sponsors: Chris & Jeannette Wakim
6 th Friday, April 7	Meal Sponsor: Carol Dougherty, Mike Linton & Msgr. Bakhos
Good Friday, April 14	Meal Sponsor: The Cedar Club & Parishioners

May Queen and Attendants

These are the attendants who will share in the May Queen procession this year with the May Queen who is Eva DeMuth: Eden DeMuth, Rosella DeMuth, Addie Dierkes, Riley Robbins, Riyanna Robbins, Austin Robbins, Elyse Ashby, Zao Ashby, Gabriel Thomas, Zaylee Thomas, Lyiah Millard, Rayden Millard, and the Hendricksons boys and girls,

What's New?

Bulletin Ad Space Available

If you or anyone you know would like to sponsor an ad (business, memorial of your loved one(s), or personal ad) at the back of our Weekly Bulletins, please call Msgr. Bakhos at 304-233-1688. Cost is \$120 for all year -52 weeks.

Choir Members Needed

Our choir needs more voices. Please see Lou, Robert, Shelly or Mickey if you can help. A special talents is not required, just a willingness to sing. Current choir members will help you as needed. By chanting the Mass we help the parishioners to pray twice.

Maronite Youth Gathering in Lebanon (July 15-23)

This is a special event held over 8 days, July 15 - 23, in Lebanon welcoming Maronite young adults from across the world to partake of their faith and heritage in Lebanon. All of this will take place with His Eminence Cardinal Bechara Peter Rahi.

At this time we have a tentative schedule of locations for each day, with the schedule of activities to soon follow. Registration is open and we are accepting applications for only young adults ages 18-35 years of age. At the request of Bishop Zaidan, we are asking that you promote, encourage, and advertise for this very unique and blessed opportunity.

We are also looking for priests who would like attend as advisors with our young adults. Please stress the ease of attendance for our young adults who will already be in Lebanon on the dates of the event, **July 15 - 23.** Each young adult will be responsible for their own flight to Lebanon and a \$75 registration fee to help cover costs for the Youth Event.

If interested in attending or would like more information please contact me directly on <u>810-691-7055</u> or reply to my email: <u>abounatony@gmail.com</u>

We need to know who will be attending by the end of this month, the absolute latest early next month. <u>All documents for registration will need to to be emailed to me by February 24th</u> (so that I can send the registration packet by the below deadline, February 28th).

Around Us

Lenten Retreat (Saturday, April 1)

Where: Our Lady of Lebanon National Shrine, North Jackson, Ohio

Retreat theme: "Bolc, Blessed, Broken: Encoutering Grace."

Cost: NAM members \$55 non-members \$65 (registration deadline: March 25th) Inf.: 914-964-3070