

January 7, 2018

Bulletin #1

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



Epiphany of the Lord

- ***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 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 Kourey, Mike Linton, Rita Strawn, P.J. Lenz, Mary Stees
- ***Choir Members:** Earl Duffy, George Thomas, Lou Kourey, Robert Harris, Shelly Hancher, Ted Olinski, Natalie Horner
- ***Bulletin Coordinator:** Thomasina Geimer
- ***Sacristan:** Mike Linton
- ***Altar Boys:** Dalton Haas, Shaun Hancher, Christopher AlKhouri & 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 of our Lord

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

“Are you the One whose coming was foretold, or should we look for another? Tell John what you see: the blind have their sight restored, the dead are raised to life, the poor have the good news preached to them, alleluia.”

Now the advertisers are telling us there are “only ten more shopping days till Christmas.” Will we be ready? Will the tree be trimmed, the cards be mailed, the cookies be baked? Are we allowing ourselves the opportunity to really “be ready”?

Or are we getting caught up in the externals -all the “things” that have become associated with Christmas but have nothing to do with Christ? We know that soulful repentance is more important than glitzy gift-wrapping, but ... John the Baptist does his best to prepare us. He baptizes many and preaches a “Christian ethic.” Earlier prophecies, read today from Zephaniah and Isaiah, have us “filled with expectation,” for we have heard that “great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.” But John is careful to point out that he is not the promised Messiah. We must continue to wait.

Still, today we celebrate, for the day we are awaiting has drawn very close. Rejoice! And light a candle and listen to Saint Paul telling us to “rejoice in the Lord always ... [because] ... the Lord is near.”

Tax Deduction Statements Mailed

Dear parishioners and benefactors,

All those generous parishioners and benefactors who donated to the church during 2017 \$250.00 or more will receive a statement before January 15, 2018 for their tax deduction. Those who donated less than \$250.00 could not deduct that amount according to the IRS rule so there is no need to mail them a statement unless requested by the donor. We thank you for supporting our miraculous church. The Blessed Mother deserves your love.

This Weekend, January 6-7: Epiphany. Baptism of the Lord

Saturday, January 6 at 4:00 p.m.: Blessing of Holy Water

- ✠ Jean Bentz and Doug Bentz (Anniversary) by Millet & Susie Fadoul
- ✠ Donald Vince by children: Don & Michele & Ron Lucki and Vicki & Matt Gompers
- ✠ Vernon Hancher (Anniversary) by his wife Regina & Family

Sunday, January 7 at 10:30 a.m.:

- ✠ Living & Deceased members of the Nicholas & Nimnoom Ghaphery Family & the David Abraham Ghaphery Family
- ✠ Deceased of the Habdo Family by Bill & Carol Dougherty

Weekday Masses

Monday, January 8: No Mass. Clergy Retreat

Tuesday, January 9: No Mass. Clergy Retreat

Wednesday, January 10: No Mass. Clergy Retreat

Thursday, January 11: No Mass. Clergy Retreat

Friday, January 12: No Mass. Clergy Retreat

Next Weekend, January 13-14: 2nd Sunday of Epiphany.

Saturday, January 13 at 4:00 p.m.:

- ✠ William Ganter Breit (Birthday) by his mom Nicole M. Breit
- ✠ Nancy Stees Hartman (Birthday) by Mary Zaid Stees & Libby G. Magnone
- ✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her last will

Sunday, January 14 at 10:30 a.m.:

- ✠ Dale Seidler Sr., by his wife Nettie & Family
- ✠ Deceased of the Breiding, Nassar & Hassan Families by Dalton Haas

Calendar of Parish Events

Cedar Club Meeting	<i>Monday, Jan 8, 2018, 6:00 p.m. in Cedar Hall</i>
Kibbee Sale (<i>info in future bulletins</i>)	<i>Orders Due Jan. 28, 2018; Order Pick Up February 7th or 8th, 2018</i>
Faithful Departed Masses	<i>From Saturday, February 3rd until Friday, February 9th</i>
St. Maron Dinner	<i>Sunday, March 18, 2018 (look for more info in future bulletins)</i>
Lebanese Bake Sale - <i>more info later</i>	<i>Orders Due Easter Sun., April 1, 2018; Order Pick Up April 11th or 12th</i>

Masses for Our Faithful Departed (Saturday, February 3, thru Friday, February 9)

Before Great Lent, the church urges parishioners to remember their parents and beloved ones in the offering of the Mass which is the pleasing to God; it is the offering of love of the Son of God on the Cross.

Prayer For Departed Loved Ones

O Almighty God, Who by the love which You have for men, have willed to take our humanity, to live a life of hard work, to suffer a most cruel Passion, and finally to die on the Cross, I beseech You, by the infinite merits purchased for us with Your precious Blood, look mercifully on the suffering which is endured by the holy souls in Purgatory. Accept, O merciful God, the prayers which I offer for them, and call them to the glory of heaven. I recommend to You the souls of my relatives, friends and benefactors, and in a special manner of those to whom I may have been an occasion of sin by my bad example.

Most Holy Virgin, Mother of Mercy, Comforter of the Afflicted, intercede for those souls, that, by your powerful intercession, they may be admitted to enjoy that kingdom which is prepared for them. Amen.

6 Masses will be offered for the following Faithful Departed:

Special Remembrance on special days:

Sunday, February 4:

✠ **Living & Deceased members of the Nicholas & Nimnoom Ghaphery Family & the David Abraham Ghaphery Family**

✠ **Steve & Margaret Schlog (Birthday & Anniversary) by Fran Saseen**

Wednesday, February 7: ✠ Josephine Ferris (Anniversary) by Mary Zaid Stees and Libby G. Magnone

Thursday, February 8: ✠ Isabel Ferris Wolfe (Anniversary) by Mary Zaid Stees and Libby G. Magnone

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

✠ *Deceased of the Khourey & Howard Families by Lou, Charlotte, Emmalena & Louie*

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

✠ *Deceased of the Chidiac, Linton & Albaugh Families*

✠ *Deceased of the Bine & Gaudio & Paesani Families by Shirley Bine*

✠ *Bob Saseen by Wheeling firefighters Local 12*

✠ *Anna Marie McGlumphy (Anniversary) by Jerry McGlumphy & Children*

✠ *Suzanne Linton by her husband Mike*

✠ *Frances & Joseph Linton by sons Steve & Mike*

✠ *Adib & Sadie Chidiac (parents), Nadim (brother) & Mona (sister) by Steve & Mike Linton*

✠ *Deceased of our parish by Steve & Mike Linton*

✠ *Catherine Arthur by her daughter Carol Burkhart*

Please Pray for Those on Our Prayer List

(Note: Please call Msgr. Bakhos if you need your name added to our Prayer List. HIPPA regulations)

George & Patty fahey, Sandra Dusick, Bernadine Elias, John Shibben, George Thomas, Peggy Justice, Diane Palotay, Virginia & Dolores Joseph, Jim Dellget, Betty Shia, Jim Thomas (father of Diane Frenn), Carrie Jane (Powell) Parodi, Mike O'Kane (brother-in-law of Nikki Popovich),

<i>Your Church Support Last Week</i>	
\$1,816.00	Sunday and Christmas Collection
21.00	Coffee hour
9.00	Candles
23.00	Kibbee sale
150.00	Donation to the church toward the Difibrillator
30.00	Donation to Poor Box
\$2,049.00	Total Deposits: <i>May God reward you abundantly for supporting your spiritual home!</i> The Finance Committee: Lou Kourey, Linda Duffy & Mike Linton

Cedar Club Meeting (Monday, January 8, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in Cedar Hall)

The Cedar Club Business Meeting will be held on Monday, January 8, 2018, 6:00 p.m. in the Cedar Hall. Please plan to attend as the members present will make a final decision for the Holiday Outing. There will be pot-luck "Hors d'oeuvres" from all members who will be serving for the evening.

What's New

Parish Condolences: George Thomas

The pastor and the parishioners of Our Lady of Lebanon Church, offer their heartfelt sympathy to the Thomas Family on the loss of their beloved George. Msgr. Bakhos celebrated the funeral Mass on Friday, January 5th at our Church. The Women Society served the Mercy Meal after the burial. May the Blessed Mother intercede for him and lead him to the light of Christ. We extend the parish's condolences to his Family in their time of sorrow.

In Our Mailbox,

"Msgr. Bakhos,

My father, Richard Blum, and I have been attending the Saturday service at Our Lady of Lebanon church. We both get our "spiritual fix" and definitely walk away with a warm and happy heart. Our Mary Margaret loved you and dad and I are seeing why. Since living here with dad, I appreciate the word far more than in past years..... I also appreciate my dad's coming with such interest to hear you. -makes me blessed. I am also grateful for you coming to him for Communion. Shows how special you are. God bless and happy new year, Debra Supalla and Richard Blum. Glen Easton, WV"

Defibrillator for the Church Needed

It is time that OLOL Church has its own defibrillator and catches up with all the other Catholic Churches across the country. Defibrillator saves life when someone has a heart attack while help is on the way. Two doctors from the church will train a team how to use it. If you are fortunate at this time of year and can support this project, please choose an amount you can afford & mail your donation to: Our Lady of Lebanon Church, 2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003. On the memo line please write "defibrillator". Please consider donating \$20, \$25, \$50, \$75, \$100, \$125, 150, \$200 We estimate that the total cost will be between \$1,200 and \$1,500.

Donations received:

- \$100.00 from Myron & Cynthia Law, Senecaville, Ohio
- \$50.00 from an anonymous generous parishioner
- \$300.00 from anonymous donor

First Communion & Confirmation Classes

Dear Parents,

First Communion classes for children age 7 and older and Confirmation classes for young adults ages 12 to 13 and up will start soon. Please call Msgr. Bakhos to register your children and grandchildren.

Wisdom: Count Your Blessings

If we could shrink the earth's population to a village of precisely 100 people, with all the existing human ratios remaining the same, it would look something like the following.

There would be:

57 Asians, 21 Europeans, 14 from the Western Hemisphere, both north and south, 8 would be Africans. 52 would be female, 48 would be male. 70 would be non-white, 30 would be white. 70 would be non-Christian, 30 would be Christian. 6 people would possess 59% of the entire world's wealth and all 6 would be from the United States. 80 would live in substandard housing, 70 would be unable to read, 50 would suffer from malnutrition. 1 would be near death; 1 would be near birth; 1 (yes, only 1) would have a college education; 1 (yes, only 1) would own a computer.

When one considers our world from such a compressed perspective, the need for acceptance, understanding, and education becomes glaringly apparent.

And, therefore . . .

If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof over your head, and a place to sleep, you are richer than 75% of this world.

If you woke up this morning with more health than illness, you are more blessed than the million who will not survive this week.

If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish someplace, you are among the top 8% of the world's wealthy.

If you can attend a church meeting without fear of harassment, arrest, torture, or death, you are more blessed than three billion people in the world.

If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation, you are ahead of 500 million people in the world.

If your parents are still alive and still married, you are very rare, especially in the United States.

If you can hold someone's hand, hug them, or even touch them on the shoulder, you are blessed because you can offer a healing touch.

If you hold up your head with a smile on your face and are truly thankful, you are blessed because the majority can, but most do not.

If you can read this message, you have just received a double blessing in that someone was thinking of you, and furthermore, you are more blessed than over two billion people in the world who cannot read at all.

As you read this and are reminded how life is in the rest of the world, remember just how blessed you really are!

A Time to Laugh (340)

Smile with kids

--"Our family just bought one of those furry Chinese dogs."

--"Chow?"

--"No, thanks. I just had lunch."

--Mom: "If you're good, I'll give you a shiny new penny."

--Son: "Haven't you got a dirty old nickel?"

--"How many controls do you have for your television set?"

--"Four: my father, my mother, and my two brothers."

--"Do you have holes in your socks?"

--"No."

--"Then how do you get your feet in them?"

--"Are you a good soccer player?"

--"I'm so good I can play without using my hands."

The Gift

Three sons left home, went out on their own and prospered. Getting back together, they discussed the gifts they were able to give their elderly mother. The first said, "I built a big house for our mother."

The second said, "I sent her a Mercedes with a driver."

The third smiled and said, "I've got you, both beat. You know how Mom enjoys the Bible, and you know she can't see very well. I sent her a brown parrot that can recite the entire Bible. It took 20 monks in a monastery 12 years to teach him. I had to pledge to contribute \$100,000.00 a year for 10 years, but it was worth it. Mom just has to name the chapter and verse, and the parrot will recite it."

Soon thereafter, Mom sent out her letters of thanks to her sons.

"Milton," she wrote the first son, "The house you built is so huge. I live in only one room, but I have to clean the whole house."

"Marvin," she wrote to another, "I am too old to travel. I stay home all the time, so I never use the Mercedes. And the driver is so rude!"

"Dearest Melvin," she wrote to her third son, "You were the only son to have the good sense to know what your mother likes. That chicken was delicious!"

Grandma's Apron

The principle use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, but along with that, it served as a holder for removing hot pans from the oven. It was also wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion it was even used for cleaning out dirty ears. From the chicken coop the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven. When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids, and when the weather was cold, grandma wrapped it around her arms. Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove. Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron. From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls. In the fall, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees. When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds. When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron, and the men knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that "old-time apron" that served so many purposes