

July 21, 2019
Bulletin #29

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

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Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac, Pastor ■ Evelyn Ghaphery, Organist

We celebrate Eucharist and evangelize via Catholic doctrine.



St. Sharbel Feast

- ***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:** Tuesday and Thursday at 12:05 p.m. [Rosary & Litany before Mass]
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday No 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, Lou Khourey, 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
- ***Women's Society:** Carol Dougherty, President



- ***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 adjacent to church** is for parishioners and visitors all the time.
- ***Remember the Church in your Last Will & Testament:** Her prayers will accompany you to heaven

St. Sharbel Feast

Readings: Rom 8:28-39 and Mt 13:36-43

Saint Sharbel Biography

Vocation

The Saint Sharbel is the first Confessor of the Eastern Church raised to the glory of the altars in modern times. He was born on May 8, 1828 in the little village of Biqa-Kafra in the high mountains of Northern Lebanon from poor, but respectable and devout parents. He was the last of five children; two brothers and two sisters were born before him into that blessed family. When he was baptized, he was given the name of Joseph.

He learned a profound and sound piety from his parents and cultivated these seeds of sanctity with generous care, with continuous prayer and, since his adolescence, with a life inspired by detachment and denial of worldly vanities, always seeking interior and exterior solitude. At the age of twenty-three he left his parent's house to go as a novice to the Monastery of Our Lady of Mayfouk at the North of Jebeil.

Some time later he was transferred from the Monastery of Our Lady of Mayfouk to the Monastery of St. Maron at Annaya of the Lebanese Maronite Order, where in 1853, after the two prescribed years of novice, he pronounced the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, choosing the name of Sharbel who was an old Oriental martyr.

Humility, poverty and Chastity

His mother and other members of his family, having found his shelter, reached him and begged him to go back home, but it was useless, because he refused firmly and persisted his vocation. He renounced the pleasure of seeing his home, his relations and even his mother forever, having made up his mind to die to the world and to cut off all ties with it in order to devote himself completely to God, without any reserve.

After pronouncing his solemn monastic vows, the Saint Sharbel was sent by his superiors to the Monastery of Kfifan to finish his religious studies. He was lucky to find there two professors who were well known in the Maronite Order for their virtues and their theological and ascetical learning, namely the Fr. Nimatallah Al-Kafri and the Fr. Nimatallah Kassab Al-Hardini, whose cause of Beatification has already been placed before the Sacred Congregation of Rites. Following the teaching and the example of these two outstanding Fathers, Blessed Sharbel laid to heart the seeds of virtue and monastic perfection.

Saint Sharbel was ordained priest in 1859 and then went back again to the Monastery of St. Maron in Annaya. There he performed all his holy services in a very edifying way, while carrying on every kind of manual work. He accomplished all the duties of monastic life with deep humility, perfect obedience, strict poverty and heroic chastity that made him resemble an angel.

Hermitage

Saint Sharbel had already spent in the Monastery of St. Maron sixteen years of severe ascetic life, always in prayer, mortification and self-denial, a life which he had chosen to be able to advance quickly on the way to God, when he was allowed in 1875 by his superiors to retire to the hermitage of S. Peter and S. Paul in Annaya, a property of the Monastery of St. Maron, one mile from the same.

The hermit does not live independently in the solitude of his hermitage, but he remains at the disposal of his superiors, following a very severe and strict discipline. Thus, in the Eastern Church, hermitic life is a true state of religious life and belongs to the Constitutions of the Lebanese Maronite Order founded in Lebanon in 1695 and approved by Pope Clement XII in 1732.

Saint Sharbel chose this solitude not to live according to his own mind, but to practice virtue and his religious vows in a heroic way. Contemplation, manual work, fasting, continuous prayer, short rest on a hard couch, hair shirt... all these ascetic practices are the program of his daily life. In such a way, for twenty-three years, from 1875 when he entered the hermitage to 1898 when he died, Blessed Sharbel dedicated himself with all his strength to a solitary life of perfection, penance, and mortification.

First miracles and end of worldly life

God wanted to reward this soul purified by His Love allowing Saint Sharbel to perform extraordinary deeds during his life. Once he set his brethren free from a snake by asking the animal to go away; while saying his Breviary, his lamp was lighted with water; he cured a mad person by saying a prayer and the imposition of hands; while going to visit a sick person he was aware of his death before reaching his house, and obeying his superiors, he was able to free with holy water some fields invaded by grasshoppers.

On December 16, 1898, while he was celebrating Mass, at the Elevation of the Host, when - according to Maronite Liturgy - he was saying this prayer : «Father of Truth, here is Your Son, Victim of Expiation; here is the Blood which intercedes for me, it is my offering, accept it» he suffered an apoplectic stroke from which he never recovered. He remained between life and death for eight days, repeating the prayer mentioned above, and on the 24th of December, on Christmas Eve, at the age of seventy, he died and entered Heaven comforted by the Holy Sacraments of the Church.

He fought the good fight

Sixteen years at the Monastery and twenty-three at the hermitage were lived in this holy way. His life was marked by a special devotion to the Holy Eucharist and to the Blessed Virgin Mary. During the 39 years of his priestly life Blessed Sharbel used to celebrate holy Mass every day after a long preparation and he used to finish with a thanksgiving which lasted not less than two hours. He went night and day to chapel to visit the Blessed Sacrament and to say many rosaries before the picture of Our Lady. Therefore, prayers, fasting, mortification, penance for the love of God, all this made up his life, and he could really say with S. Paul at the end of his life : «I have fought the good fight., now I await the crown of justice from the Lord».

The fame of holiness which surrounded Saint Sharbel during his life spread even more after his death. On the evening of his burial in the churchyard of S. Maron Monastery, his superior, Father Antonio El-Michmichani wrote in the Convent's register :«On the 24th of December 1898 was called to God, after receiving the Sacraments of the Church, the hermit Father Sharbel Makhlouf of Biqa-Kafra, struck by paralysis. He was seventy. Because of what he will do after his death, I need not talk about his good behavior and, above all, the observance of his vows, and we may truly say that his obedience was more angelic than human». These prophetic words have prodigiously come true, because hundreds of miracles have been obtained through the intercession of Saint Sharbel at Annaya near his tomb and all over the world.

Indicating remains

During forty five nights after his death an extraordinary brightness surrounded his tomb, according to many witnesses. The apparition of that light as well as the enthusiasm of the faithful who tried to steal the remains of this holy man, made the Ecclesiastical Authority to open the tomb four months afterwards. It was in the middle of winter and the body, because of the bad conditions of that place, was found floating on mud. To everybody's surprise, the body was incorrupt as if it had been buried that same day. We must speak of a prodigy which happens even today : a bloodlike liquid is dripping all the time from his body, challenging the laws of" nature. This liquid is taken devoutly in a cloth which often gives relief to the sick and sometimes it cures them.

In 1927 there was a new burial and his tomb was placed in the crypt of the Monastery. This happened again in 1950, 1952, and in 1955 and each time it has been noticed that his bleeding body still has its flexibility as if he were alive. Since the opening of his tomb in 1950, the miracles attributed to Father Sharbel have become more and more numerous, especially with regard to spiritual graces, conversions, and mystical fervor. Around this blessed tomb there is a sense of faith and piety which attracts pilgrims from every place and there arrive, from all over the world thousands of letters which are kept in the archives of the convent. Every day, people from different countries come to venerate his tomb and there they receive the Sacraments to renew their spiritual life and to find solace around the tomb of this hermit of the 19th century.

And the crippled shall walk

The two cures which have been acknowledged as miraculous by Pope Paul VI now reigning, and which are valid for the Beatification of Father Sharbel Makhlouf, happened during the Holy Year 1950. The first case is that of Sister Maria Abel Kamari S.S.C.C who suffered from sharp pains caused by a gastric ulcer. She had been operated on, but without success and she went on suffering for fourteen years, compelled to

stay in bed, unable to take food, and three times she was so near to dying that she was given the last Sacraments. Such was her condition, when on July 12, 1950 she was taken on pilgrimage to Father Sharbel's tomb in Annaya. She could not even walk to the tomb, but when she was there after long and fervent prayer she felt new strength in her body, and a few minutes later she got up without any help and started walking, followed by the people who cried that it was a miracle.

Since then Sister Maria Abel Kamari has never had any trouble. She is perfectly well.

The second case is that of Mr. Alessandro Obeid. He had been struck by a branch of a tree on his right eye his in the year 1937, and this caused a break of the retina so that he lost his sight. Mr. Oubeid visited many doctors, but it was useless till the end of 1950, when suddenly the eye was cured after many prayers near the tomb of Father Sharbel in Annaya.

Here is what the doctor charged to examine this fact wrote : «According to science and conscience, we must say that an eye so ill and for so long was certainly lost forever. Therefore we cannot explain how it has been cured, certainly not through natural means. We need to consider this extraordinary fact with great humility, and to attribute it to an Almighty Will which operates only by divine grace. There is no other explanation, and it is certain that we have seriously sought an explanation without finding one».

He opened the way

The example of Sharbel, monk and solitary for the love of God, induces us in the midst of this restless and materialistic world, to be silent in order to meet God and to establish an interior desert in our souls and to listen to the appeals of grace. This is a desert which does not make one poor, but rich, a solitude which does not cut us off from others, but which attracts souls to pray and which gives the world the graces necessary for salvation for the glory of God.

Each one of us will be able to follow the Saint Sharbel according to his own measure, escaping from the world when it is an enemy to God and from sin which kills the life of our souls. In fact the Church presents the Hermit of Lebanon not only to our veneration, but also as a model to all Christians.

« Glory to the Father who crowns the struggles of the Saints,

Glory to the Son who shows His power in their relics, Glory to the Holy Spirit who works through their mortal remains to give us a comfort in every sorrow». (Maronite Divine Office)

Address of the Patriarch Paul Peter Cardinal Meouchi, at the Beatification of Father Sharbel, December 5th. 1965

(Translated from the original French - in principal parts)

Most Holy Father :

Sharbel Makhoulf, the Lebanese Maronite Monk, whom you have inscribed to-day among the Blessed, is indeed for our world shaken by indifference, superficiality and atheism, the witness of penance and silent prayer. At the summit of a Lebanese Mountain, in a poor hermitage, deprived of everything, he resolved, attracted by the life of the Savior, to follow the sorrowful way of His Cross. He decided, likewise, through mortifications, penances and great austerities, to offer thus give the example of a contrite heart and real return to God.

Penitence is nevertheless insufficient virtue without prayer. So the hermit Sharbel used to pass long hours of the day and night in silent adoration and supplication. Combining with the contemplative life, manual labor, he was reviving in himself the purest traditions of Oriental Monasticism. By so doing, he was preaching to our unfortunate and confused world the message of truth and the right answer to the solution of its problems, namely, the practice of penance prayer and work.

It is indeed my privilege to express to-day to you, Most Holy Father, my gratitude and that of our Maronite Church. I would like also to be the interpreter of all your children of Lebanon, as well as all those who, of any race or religion have benefited by the intercession of this man of God.

I thank Your Holiness for inscribing the name of Father Sharbel Makhoulf among the Blessed of the Church, and for consecrating, at the same time, in the eyes of the Church and of humanity, his virtues so needed in our modern times.

May the Saint Sharbel and all those whom you inscribed or will inscribe among the Saints and the Blessed intercede for you before Christ the Lord. May you, likewise, reach through their intercession, in your guiding role, your apostolic goal so clearly proclaimed before the whole world: recognition of, the spiritual values of man created in the image of God, peace in justice and the return of humanity to Christ, Centre of everything for all, sole Light and Salvation of mankind.

Lebanese Mountain is inscribed in the number of the Blessed, first Confessor of the East raised to the Altars according to the actual procedure of the Catholic Church. What a symbol of union between East and West ! What a sign of Church brotherhood between Christians of the whole world ! What an honor also joyfully bestowed by the Church of Rome upon the Maronite Church, and through it, upon the Eastern Churches. A new eminent member of monastic sanctity is enriching by his example and his intercession the entire Christian people.

His example and intercession are needed now more than ever. Saint Sharbel, one of a large family was left an orphan at an early age. After he had spent the first years of his life at home in his native town, he felt the urgent call of the Lord. One night he left his family and entered the monastery of Mayfouk, and subsequently that of Annaya.

After twenty years of progressive practice of virtue in the monastic life, he dedicated himself, under the direction of his superiors, to the hermitical life. During this time of his religious life, his whole existence was completely centered on the celebration of Mass, on silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and in the heroic practice of the virtues of Obedience, Poverty and Chastity..

We are happy, after the recent Beatification of Jacques Berthieu, Jesuit Missionary and Martyr, to preside today at the Beatification of a monk entirely dedicated to contemplation. At the closing of the Council, when so many faithful are rightly concerned about the measures to be taken by the Church to hasten the coming of the Kingdom of Christ, how fitting the Saint Monk of Annaya is proposed to remind us of the indispensable role of prayer, of hidden virtues, of mortification. To the apostolic work, the Church must add centers of contemplative life whence praise and intercession ascend to God in a perfumed fragrance.

These are, finally, the lessons derived from this ceremony for all. May the Saint Sharbel draw us after him along the path of sanctity, where silent prayer in the presence of God has its own particular place. May he make us understand, in a world largely fascinated by wealth and comfort, the paramount value of poverty, penance and asceticism, to liberate the soul in its ascent to God. The practice of these virtues is indeed different according to the various states of life and responsibilities of people. But no Christian can ignore them he wants to follow Our Lord. These are the noble lessons which Sharbel Makhlouf so timely gives us. That they may be well understood and practiced, We implore upon all, through the intercession of this new Blessed, already so venerated, an abundant effusion of graces; and paternally we bless you.

Saint Sharbel's moral message

Great are the beneficial effects produced by Father Sharbel's intercession for the relief of human suffering, cures of the sick, and other temporal favors. How much greater and more admirable is his influence in the spiritual domain ! While this transformation in the world of souls is not apparent to the senses, there is no reason to minimize its real value to the glory of God and His Church. From the obscure crypt of St. Maron Annaya there radiates a splendid ray of light enkindling the faith in souls grown cold by the errors of materialism and atheism. From this tomb emanates a supernatural power that is sweeping throughout the East and awakening the dormant energies of many hearts, This scene of numerous miracles reflects at profound atmosphere of piety and religion. The sick, absorbed in prayer, seem to forget their suffering. Even non-Catholics, non-Christians, join in the public acts of devotion and, when the priest blesses the faithful, the non-Christians refuse to be deprived of Father Sharbel's intercession. The religious fervor reaches its climax when the crowd witnesses a miraculous cure. Then resounds the cry Miracle ! Miracle ! The person favored is lifted up and carried aloft; the bells of the monastery ring forth echoing the joyful news; the crowd follows the monks in praising and thanking God and proceeds to solemn devotion and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Moral transformation, the conversion of humanity, is without doubt the primary purpose of God's favors. As at Capharnaum, our Savior, before ordering the paralytic to stand and walk, first absolved him saying, «Thy sins are forgiven thee, my son», so here at St. Maron Annaya, God seems to have chosen a humble monk to exhort

the people to do penance. It has been reported that Father Sharbel appeared to some who were praying and begging for a miracle of healing, and he commanded them : «Go first to the confessional cleanse your soul'. The cure of the body followed the spiritual recovery.

In confirmation of this spiritual message, we refer to the eminent voice of the Patriarch, Card. Paul P. Meouchi, when he says in his address at the Beatification (reproduced in this section): «By his life, Saint Sharbel is preaching to our unfortunate and confused world the message of truth and virtue, and he is going the right answer for the solution of its problems, namely, in the practice of penance, prayer and work».

What better testimonial can we bring to the spiritual contribution of Saint Sharbel in the restoration of the kingdom of Christ within the souls, than the magisterial word of the Supreme Pontiff ? - On that Sunday, Dec. 5th, in the Basilica of Peter and from his throne, before the Fathers of the Ecumenical Council, and representations and Delegations of the whole world, he opens his address by this acclamation: «Great is to-day the gladness in heaven and earth, for the Beatification of Father Sharbel Makhlof. Great is the joy of the East and West, for this son of Lebanon!»

Paul VI who ordered the Beatification to coincide with the closing of the Council, has in mind to propose the holy Hermit Sharbel as a providential man bearing to our modern world a message of deep spirituality of an ecumenical character «At the closing of the Council, says the Pope, when many souls are inquiring about the proper measures to be used by the Church to hasten the coming of the Kingdom of Christ, how appropriately the Saint Monk of Annaya is reminding us about the indispensable role of prayer, of hidden virtues, of mortification».

Divine Liturgy Schedule

This Weekend, July 20-21: Saint Sharbel Feast Day

Saturday, July 20 at 4:00 p.m.:

- ✠ Tom Ferris by Lou & Charlotte Khourey
- ✠ Bob Sengewalt by his grandchildren: Jeff, Courtney and Patrick
- ✠ Special Intention

Sunday, July 21 at 10:30 a.m.:

- ✠ Margaret C. Emmerth (Anniversary) by her sister Helen Benline
- ✠ Deceased of the Breiding, Nassar and Hassan by Dalton Haas

This Weekdays Masses

Monday July 22: No Mass. Pastor's Day off.

Tuesday July 23 at 12:05 p.m.:

- ✠ Bob Sengewalt by his grandchildren: Jeff, Courtney and Patrick
- ✠ Sylvia Long, her husband Arthur, & her son Mark by her last will

Wednesday July 24: No Mass. Pastor's Day off.

Thursday July 25 at 12:05 p.m.:

- ✠ Bob Sengewalt by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt
- ✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her Will

Friday, July 26: No Mass. Pastor's Day off.

Next Weekend, July 27-28:

Saturday, July 27 at 4:00 p.m.:

- ✠ William H. Bentz (Birthday) by Millet & Susie Fadoul
- ✠ Jo Anne Bott Reed by Don & Roberta Henning
- ✠ Special Intention

Sunday, July 28 at 10:30 a.m.:

- ✠ Robert Hunter by Bill & Carol Dougherty
- ✠ Deceased of the Breiding, Nassar and Hassan by Dalton Haas

Calendar of Parish Events

Mahrajan (Festival)	<i>Saturday & Sunday, August 10th & 11th.</i>
Spaghetti Dinner	<i>Sunday, September 15th from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.</i>
Women Society Meeting	<i>Sunday, September 22nd, following Mass in the Cedar Hall</i>

Mahrajan Updates *(Saturday and Sunday, August 10th and 11th)*

--Mahrajan Sponsors

The Mahrajan Committee decided that all Mahrajan Sponsors will be recognized on five levels in many advertisement spots.

Presenting Sponsor: \$2,500	--Gold Kourey & Turak
Platinum Sponsor: \$1,000	--Wheeling Convention & Visitors Bureau by Frank O'Brien (\$1,500.00) --Harris Law Office by Paul Harris (\$1,000.00) --Wheeling Heritage by Chris Villamagna (\$1000.00)
Gold Sponsor: \$500	--Main Street Bank by Rich Lucas (\$500.00) --The Haas Foundation by Dalton Haas (President) (\$500.00)
Silver Sponsor: \$250	--The Haas Insurance Group by Dalton Haas (\$250.00) --First Choice America by Liz Murad (\$250.00) --McCann Distributing by Lisa Breiding (\$250.00)
Bronze Sponsor: \$100	--Wildlife League of Ohio County by Ron Burns (\$100.00) --J.C.Mensore Distributor Inc. by John Mensore (\$100.00) --Bernie Glenn Insurance by Bernie Glenn (\$100.00) --A.E.Pelley Plumbing & Heating by Jay Murad (\$100.00)

--Mahrajan Donors

The Mahrajan Committee decided that all Mahrajan Donors will be recognized on five levels in many advertisement spots.

Platinum Level: \$1,000 & Higher	--Anna Marie Bris Bougher (\$1000.00) --John & Dee Shiben (\$1000.00)
Gold Level: \$500-\$999	--Lou & Charlotte Kourey
Silver Level: \$250-\$499	--Anonymous (\$250.00)
Bronze Level: \$100-\$249	--Myron & Cynthia Law (OH) (\$150.00) --Jan Thomas (OH) (\$200.00) --Paul Abraham (OH) (\$200.00) --Joseph Baker (FL) (\$100.00) --Larry & Lillian Siebieda (\$100.00) --Paula Jo Perilli (VA) (\$100.00)
Supporters of the Festival	--Anonymous, Dave & Debbie Sengewalt, Michael & Kathryn Kelly, John & Kathleen Kazour,

Please consider making a donation at one of these levels to support the Mahrajan, to help defray its expenses (approx. \$25,000) and to insure its continuation for future generations. --Msgr. Bakhos

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:

July 22:	Grace Klein, Mark Boehm
July 26:	Anna Marie Duymich
July 30:	Dee Shiben, Susan John Burns
August 2:	Douglas Bratton, Rosella C. DeMuth
August 3:	Jim George, Sr.
August 7:	Rita Strawn
August 10:	Kory Bratton, Thomasina Geimer
August 14:	Mary Thomas

August 16: Tara George Musilli
 August 17: Judy Bedway
 August 20: Tricia Committee

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)

Shirley & Jim George, Patty Fahey, Bill Dougherty, Fred Schweizer (brother of our organist Mary Lee Porter), Brian Logan (son-in-law of Larry Siebieda), Judi Blake and Donnie Sigler (cousins of Larry & Lillian Siebieda), Phil Geimer, Debbie Crumpler (sister of Nini Miller), Justin Frenn, John Shibem

<i>Your Church Support Last Week</i>	
\$1,502.00	Sunday Collection
24.00	Coffee Hour
100.00	Donation to church
1,060.00	Mahrajan
185.00	Parking
30.00	Donation to Poor Families
\$2,901.00	Total Deposits: <i>May God reward you abundantly for supporting your spiritual home!</i> The Finance Committee: Lou Khourey, Mary Stees, Linda Duffy & Mike Linton



A Time to Laugh (419)

It always pays to tell the Truth

At Duke University, there were four sophomores taking chemistry and all of them had an "A" so far. These four friends were so confident that, the weekend before finals, they decided to visit some friends and have a big party.

They had a great time, but after all the hearty partying, they slept all day Sunday and didn't make it back to Duke until early Monday morning. Rather than taking the final then, they decided that after the final they would explain to their professor why they missed it. They said that they visited friends but, on the way back, they had a flat tire. As a result, they missed the final. The professor agreed they could make up the final the next day. The guys were excited and relieved. They studied that night for the exam. The professor placed them in separate rooms and gave them a test booklet. They quickly answered the first problem worth five points. Cool, they thought! Each one in separate rooms, thinking this was going to be easy... then they turned the page. On the second page was written... For 95 points: Which tire?

Car Alarmed

How much did the driver in front of me love his SUV? Enough to have his vanity plate read "ILVMYSUV." But love is fleeting, which might explain the sign in his back window: "FOR SALE."

Peer pressure has made some in ecologically correct Northern California nervous about driving their mammoth SUVs. One driver obviously felt driven to explain his choice of vehicle by his license plate: "SIXKIDS."

Strange

My wife and I had just returned from our first trip to New York City and were showing our photographs to my sister. The highlights were my shots of the Statue of Liberty, taken from every conceivable angle. "Wow," she said, suitably impressed. "I didn't know it rotated."