

December 8, 2019

Bulletin #49

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

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Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac, Pastor ■ Mary Lee Porter, Organist

We celebrate Eucharist and evangelize via Catholic doctrine.



Birth of John the Baptist Immaculate Conception

- ***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, Joe Simon
- ***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 for Parishioners only:** 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

Birth of John the Baptist ***Immaculate Conception***

Readings: Gal 4:21-5:1 and Lk 1:57-66

Following the close parallel which St. Luke establishes between Jesus and John the Baptizer in his infancy narrative, the liturgy also celebrates two births: the birth of the Messiah at the winter solstice, and the birth of the Precursor at the summer solstice. This clearly shows the importance given to John the baptizer.

He is a strange destiny. On the one hand, a saintly intolerance of the things of this earth. "He shall drink neither wine nor any strong drink." Yet also, hand in hand with this rugged austerity, an intense spiritual joy. Twice in his life he trembles with joy: in his mother's womb, and when as a grown man, he points to the Messiah. Until he has found him he remains "The voice crying in the wilderness", that arena of spiritual warfare between a fallen world and the kingdom which is to come. God speaks in hearts which have abandoned all else.

In the desert regions along the Jordan, John rises up 'In the spirit and power of Elijah', as the great preacher of judgment. With his burning words and his baptism in water, he is to bring back the sons of the covenant to the Lord their God, before the deluge of fire. He is therefore the great successor of Noah whose primeval judgment by water foreshadowed the final judgment and foretold the waters of baptism which save us from impending retribution.

But more than all that, John appears as the friend who brings the bride to the bridegroom, and then goes quietly away. He turns all hearts towards Jesus. Then, eager to decrease so that Jesus may increase, he chooses to be forgotten and abandoned. Is not this the passion which makes manifest the extent of his faith and perfects the identification between servant and master?

Capital Campaign of our Diocese

Dear Parishioners and friends,

This is an exciting and historic time for our Diocese, the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles. We are in the midst of celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Eparchy. Like any milestone, this is an opportunity to reflect on God's blessings to us, and a chance to look to the bright future of our Church. Our Bishop Elias Zaidan is not just thinking about the future – he is *building* it, through Eparchy's first-ever Capital Campaign - Vision for the Future, Mission for Today. This campaign is to strengthen our parishes, missions and ministries today, *and* create the resources we will need for tomorrow! Over \$4 million has been pledged towards the Campaign's \$15 million goal!

The Eparchy continues to make great progress in so many ways: 2 deacons had been ordained this year and they are on the way toward the priesthood. We have seven additional young men preparing to become priests, along with several married men. Large numbers of children received their First Communion in parishes across the Eparchy. Two new churches had been blessed this year: one in El-Paso and the other in Dayton. At this time of giving thanks, we thank you for all that you do for the Church and your Eparchy.

As we approach the holidays and Christmas, we ask you to please be generous to the Eparchy and include us among your Christmas and year-end giving. Your gift will help support our seminarians, missions and important ministries in 2020. Please prayerfully consider making a sacrificial gift today. Thank you.

This Weekend, December 7: Birth of John the Baptist ***December 8 Immaculate Conception***

Saturday, December 7: Birth of John the Baptist

At 3:30 p.m.: Christmas Novena (No Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament during Christmas)

at 4:00 p.m.:

✠ Cathy Sharp Howard by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt

✠ Living & Deceased of Tom & Judy Brock

✠ Special Intention

Sunday, December 8: Immaculate Conception**At 10:00 a.m.: Christmas Novena (No Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament during Christmas)****at 10:30 a.m.:**

- ✠ Living & Deceased members of the Nicholas & Nimnoom Ghaphery Family and the David Abraham Ghaphery Family
- ✠ Siham Frenn (Anniversary) by Dr. Adel, Diane, Andreah and Justin Frenn

This Weekdays Masses**Monday December 9:** No Mass. Pastor's Day off.**Tuesday December 10 at 12:05 p.m.:**

- ✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her Will
- ✠ Saab M and Tacla W. Saab by Sheila Saab

Wednesday December 11: No Mass. Pastor's Day off.**Thursday December 12 at 10:30 a.m.: Thanksgiving Mass**

- ✠ Sylvia Long, her husband Arthur, & her son Mark by her last will

- ✠ Angela Nagem by Karen Shipley

Friday, December 13: No Mass. Pastor's Day off.***Next Weekend, December 14-15: Revelation to Saint Joseph*****Saturday, December 14:****At 3:30 p.m.: Christmas Novena (No Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament during Christmas)****at 4:00 p.m.:**

- ✠ Bob Sengewalt by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt
- ✠ Deceased of the Bentz, Fadoul, Sengewalt and Werner Families by Millet & Susie Fadoul
- ✠ Special Intention

Sunday, December 8: Immaculate Conception**At 10:00 a.m.: Christmas Novena (No Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament during Christmas)****at 10:30 a.m.:**

- ✠ Peter & Emma Peters
- ✠ Rita & Fred John
- ✠ Lottie Elwartoski (Birthday) by her son Richard

Calendar of Parish Events

Christmas Family Breakfast	<i>Sunday, December 8th, following Mass in the Cedar Hall</i>
Hall for Parishioner	<i>Saturday, December 21st.</i>
Priesthood Anniversary	<i>Saturday, December 21st is Msgr. Bakhos 28th Anniversary to the Priesthood. Sunday, December 22nd, celebration with a cake for Msgr.</i>
Rummage Sale	<i>Friday-Saturday June 5-6, 2020 Please start saving your merchandise for us. More information at a later date. No clothing will be accepted in 2020.</i>

Family Christmas Breakfast (Sunday, December 8th after 10:30 am Mass)

Come One Come All and join us for our Christmas Family Breakfast. You will enjoy a bountiful breakfast of: Scrambled Eggs; Sausage or Bacon; Hash Brown Potatoes; Toast or Biscuits with Butter, Assorted Jellies or Honey; Mixed Fruit; Orange Juice and Coffee.

Bring the children because we have heard that Santa will make a surprise visit.

Let us start the Christmas Season right with our wonderful Family Christmas Breakfast. A modest donation of \$5.00 a person is welcomed.

Your reservation(s) must be made by Monday, November 24. This is not an open banquet to the public. Every person is asked to write his/her name and the names of his family members on the sheet of paper and handle it to Msgr. Bakhos personally or to one of the ladies of the church so that we can order the right amount of food for everyone. You may also make your reservation by calling 304-639-1372. You should receive a mailing with a flier for this event and raffle tickets soon. The Raffle Drawing will be on Sunday, December 22.

“Noel” Gift Basket & 50/50 Raffle (*Drawing: Sunday, December 22nd*)

A 50/50 Raffle and a Gift Basket Raffle will be held for Christmas. The drawing will be held on Sunday, December 22, following Mass. Contents of the “Noel” Gift Basket are: 1 bottle of Barefoot Red Moscato, 1 bottle of White Zinfandel, 1 bottle of Shiraz Cabernet Sauvignon, 1 bottle of Merlot, 4 mini bottles of Pinot Noir, 4 tins Shortbread Cookies, 1 bag Milk Chocolate Kisses, 1 bag Chocolate Covered Pretzels, 1 mini Cutting Board with Knife, 2 Christmas Hand Towels. Also two hand - crocheted shawls were donated by Mary Lee Porter, to become extra prizes along with the Gift Basket. That means there will be two more drawings (3 total) stubs from everyone who entered the Gift Basket & 50/50 Raffle.

Donations for Santa’s Christmas Treats

The ladies are collecting candy to prepare treat bags for the children attending Sunday, December 8th Family Christmas Breakfast Party which will follow Mass that day.

Christmas Poinsettias in Memory of:

A bouquet of yellow roses will decorate the altar of the Blessed Mother in Memory of Helen Fielding by her husband Donald Fielding, Florida.

These Poinsettias were donated in Memory of:

- ☼ *Tom & Mary K. Ferris by Denise Ferris*
- ☼ *George & Martha Saseen by George & Susan Saseen & Family*
- ☼ *Bob Sengewalt by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt*
- ☼ *Louis N. & Louis H. Khourey, Sr. & Gladys Howard by Lou & Charlotte Khourey & Family*
- ☼ *Bill & Mary Daniel by Rebecca & Michael DiFabrizio*
- ☼ *Ralph & Mary J. Shipley by Thomasina Geimer*
- ☼ *Robert Hunter, Jr. (son-in-law & Robby Hunter, III (grandson) by Thomasina Geimer*
- ☼ *Deceased of the Saseen and Schlog Families by Fran Saseen*
- ☼ *In Honor of Nini Miller*
- ☼ *In Honor of Veronica Mushet*
- ☼ *In Honor of Kenny & Nancy Joseph*
- ☼ *Deceased of the DeMuth & Moses Families by Sandra DeMuth*
- ☼ *Deceased of the Habdo & Dougherty Families by Bill & Carol Dougherty*
- ☼ *Shirley Elias Nickerson & Deceased of the Elias Family by Tammy, Robbie, Don, Lori, Emma & Elijah*
- ☼ *Suzanne Linton by husband Mike*
- ☼ *Frances & Joseph Linton by sons Steve & Mike*
- ☼ *The deceased of our parish by Steve & Mike Linton*
- ☼ *Msgr. Bakhos’ parents Adib & Sadie, his sister Mona & his brother Nadim by Steve & Mike Linton*
- ☼ *Leslie McGlumphy by her husband Jerry and Children*
- ☼ *Abdo and Dorothy Saseen by Jim & Patty Saseen Connell*

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:

December 12: Lou Khourey
 December 19: Chris Wakim
 December 22 Millet C. Fadoul
 December 25: Shelly Hancher
 December 27: Luke Lenz, Jay Murad
 December 29: Jeff Bentz
 January 1: Nancy Joseph
 January 3: Rosemary Coury
 January 6: Gina Stees
 January 7: Jacob Fadoul Wilson

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)

Jeff Fahey and his daughter Amanda, Elia Frenn, Nick Bedway, Shirley & Jim George, Patty Fahey, Bill Dougherty, Fred Schweizer (brother of our organist Mary Lee Porter), Phil Geimer, Justin Frenn, John Shiben

<i>Your Church Support Last Week</i>	
\$1,174.00	Sunday Collection
257.00	2 nd collection
120.00	Bulletin ads
46.00	Candles
155.00	Christmas Breakfast
7.00	Coffee hour
200.00	Donation to the church
400.00	Hall rental
30.00	Donation to Poor Families
\$2,389.00	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

Update on the New Roof of the Church and Rectory

The roof of the church is done completely. The leak damage inside the church is repaired and the wall painted. This week they installed the roof of the rectory. Both roofs and the inside repair cost us around \$45,000. So far, we raised \$25,185.00. Please help if you can. Many Thanks to all generous parishioners and friends who donated toward this project. All your donations are tax deductible and your names will be engraved on the Plaque to be mounted inside the church. Please secure your names on the plaque by donating before December 31st, 2019. May God reward you abundantly.

Diamond Level [\$500 and over]

Tom & Judy Brock, Jr., John & Deanna Shiben, Tom, Mary K. & Denise Ferris, Michael & Nicole Breit, Lou & Charlotte Khourey, Rex & Rita Strawn, Women Society, Cedar Club, George J. Thomas (Memorial), George, Susan, Matthew & Luke Saseen, Anonymous, Mark Schroeder and Helen Schroeder, Ron Weisner, Al & Dana Zambito, Ron & Susan Burns, Bill & Mary Zaid Stees, Mike Linton, Jerry McGlumphy Family,

Gold Level [\$250 to \$499]

Dr. Joseph C. Palmer Family, Evelyn Goodson & Family, Bill & Carol Dougherty, Mike & Terri Golebiewski, Chris & Jeannette Wakim, Kenneth & Nancy Joseph, Don & Lori, Emma & Elijah Nickerson,

Matthew & Victoria Gompers, Jack & Rose Palmer, Shirley Bine, George & Jean Weisner, Dr. Lawrence & Victoria Wright, Scott R. Smith, Dr. Adel & Diane Frenn, Dr. Nabel & Nisrin AlKhoury, Mark & Barb McLaughlin,

Silver Level [\$25 to \$249]

Larry & Lillian Siebieda, Denny & Mary Lee Porter, Ron, Kim & Kaitlin Gibbons, Frederick & Janet Jaquay, Peggy Palmer, Joe Roxby, Michael & Kathryn Kelly, Millet & Susie Fadoul, Paul & Natalie Mulvey, Anonymous, Al Depto & Mary C. Davis, Vickie Joseph, Laurence G. Schroeder, Elsie Renzella, Frank & Anna Marie Duymich, Pam & Rick Obyc, Phillip & Thomasina Geimer, Robert J. Coram, Latif Thomas, Richard Elwartoski, Patrick & Jackie Petros, Larry & Becky Ferrera, Carol Burkhart, The Palotay Family, Sue Jochum, Scott & Alicia Peklinsky, Abraham & Company PLLC, Elizabeth Simon, Angele Mansor, James & Lynn Comercci, Fran Saseen, Nini Miller, Mark & Debbie Huffman, Dave & Debbie Sengewalt, Drs. Matthew & Christina Zdilla, Bassam & Jodi Deeb, Mike & Judy Sofka, Rosalie Conti, Saab M. & Tacla W. Saab, Donzil & Theresa Gain, Michael Duymich, Don & Roberta Henning, Anonymous, Veronica C. Mushet, Randy Weisner, Robert Harris, Carolee K. Bentz, Dolores Oser, Denny Albaugh, Mark & Catherine John, Virginia Ghaphery Cox, Dan & Cheryl Tucker, Joe & Mary Thomas, George & Patty Fahey, Frank & Anna Marie Duymich, Thomas & Sharon Beatty, Adele & Bill Storm,

What's New?

Congratulations on Your Baptism: Millet Fadoul Jr.

Millet & Kasha Fadoul granted to their boy Millet Jr. the honor to be the adopted son of God through the sacrament of Baptism, last Friday, November 29th, at Our Lady of Lebanon Church. Millet Jr. is the grandson of Millet & Susie Fadoul. Godparents were: Jacob and Payton Wilson. After the Baptism, a great Reception was held at the Cedar Hall for the Family and friends. May Saint Maron, the patron saint of Millet Jr., protect him and grant him along with his parents, godparents, and grandparents, good health and bright future.

Condolences: Helen Schroeder

The pastor and the parishioners of Our Lady of Lebanon Church, Wheeling, offer their heartfelt sympathy to the Schroeder family on the loss of their beloved Helen who passed away in Wheeling this week. Msgr. Bakhos celebrated the Funeral Mass at Our Lady of Lebanon Church on Saturday, November 30th. The choir of the church served the funeral Mass. May the Almighty God grant repose of the soul to His handmaid and we extend the parish's condolences to her Family in their time of sorrow.

Christmas Barrel for the needy

Please bring non-perishable food items to help needy families in our parish and put them in the barrel at the entrance of the church. Thanks

Cedar Hall Not for Rent

--The Cedar Hall is not for rent anymore. We have no hired Hall Manager to open and close doors and answer the questions of renters about our electronic and electrical equipments. The Hall was built and paid by our parishioners and it is exclusively for them to enjoy. Please don't ask Charlotte or Msgr. Bakhos to rent the hall for your friends who are not parishioners. Parish rate apply.

--Letters have been mailed requesting payments for Ads on the back page of the bulletin. There are 2 openings for new ads for \$120.00 per year each. Ads can be a memorial for your loved ones or for a business or any other message. Please talk or call Msgr. Bakhos or Charlotte before December 2nd. These ads help defray the expenses of printing our bulletins throughout the year. Thanks for your support.



Story

“We call them dumb animals, and so they are, for they cannot tell us how they feel, but they do not suffer less because they have no words.” Anna Sewell

A Dog and His Owner Are reunited.

Albert Payson Terhune, the famed dog writer of the 1920's and 1930's, often told this story about his friend Wilson to illustrate the deep love that people and dogs share.

Wilson's dog Jack was an energetic, 6-year-old collie that would meet him every day at the trolley station when he returned from work. This was a ritual that had begun when Jack was a pup. The dog knew the route to and from the station like the back of his paw - and following that route was the highlight of his day. So when Wilson changed jobs and had to move to California, he thought it best to leave Jack on his home turf in Philadelphia with a relative. He explained all this to the dog upon leaving and told him that they both would have to adjust to new homes.

But Jack, who had always listened to his owner, didn't want a new home. He would not stay with the family he'd been left with. He returned to Wilson's old house, even though it was boarded up, and there he passed his solitary days beside an abandoned chair beneath the portico. But every evening, tail wagging, he trotted off to the trolley station. For as long as Jack had been in the world, Wilson had always taken the same trolley home from work, and Jack had been there to greet him.

But evening after evening, there was no sign of the devoted dog's master. Confused and sad, he would return alone to the deserted house. The dog's depression grew. He refused the food left for him, and as the days passed, he became thinner and thinner, his ribs noticeable even through his thick blond coat. But every evening, ever hopeful, he'd go to the station to meet the trolley. And every evening, he'd return to the porch more despondent than before.

No one knows why Jack's new family didn't contact Wilson, but Jack's deteriorating condition did not go unnoticed. A friend who lived nearby was so upset by it that he took it upon himself to send a telegram to Wilson in California, informing him of the dog's situation.

That was all it took.

Wilson bought a return train ticket immediately; he knew what he had to do. Upon arriving in Philadelphia, he waited several hours just so that he could take the same trolley that he always did when coming home. When it arrived at the station, sure enough, there was Jack, waiting and watching as the passengers got off. Looking and hoping. And then suddenly there he was, his beloved owner. His master had returned at last! Jack's world was whole once more -and so was Wilson's.

Wilson later told Terhune: “Jack was sobbing almost like a child might sob. He was shivering all over as if he had a chill. And I? Well, I blew my nose and did a lot of fast winking.”

Wilson took his devoted dog Jack back to California with him. They were never separated again.



A Time to Laugh (439)

All in a day's work

--The halls of the shopping mall that I manage were cluttered with boxes. So, I had the maintenance staff check the labels and place the packages in front of the stores they belonged to. The next day, I got a call from the manager of a furniture store wondering why there were so many boxes piled up outside his door. “What's the name of your store?” I asked him. “This End Up.”

--Around my office building in downtown Manhattan, it's not uncommon to see a person holding a sign asking for money. Sadly, most of these people don't even get the time of day. But one man didn't have that problem—his sign caught everyone's attention: "Brad and Angelina Are Having a Baby. I Need Money for a Gift."

--Before I could enroll in my company's medical insurance plan, I needed to fill out a questionnaire. As expected, the form was very thorough, leaving nothing to chance. One question asked, "Do you think you may need to go to the emergency room within the next three months?"

--My husband was booking a business flight when the reservation clerk gave him a choice of seats: behind the bulkhead or in Shakespeare's chair. A seasoned traveler, my husband was confused. "Shakespeare's chair? What's that?" "You know," said the operator. "2B."

--You know you're under stress at work when you take your job home with you. After a hectic day manning the checkout line at the supermarket, I came home and went to bed early. But I woke up in the middle of the night. In my work-related stupor, I looked at the clock and thought, Oh, a dollar fifty.

--Learning the administrative assistant job was tough enough without having to compete with the Legend of Nancy, the previous jobholder. For months, everyone kept calling me "the new Nancy." It got so I wasn't sure they even knew my name. Until a new hire came in and asked who Nancy was. The receptionist answered, "She was the old Karen."

--My boss is a workaholic who's more likely to be found stuck behind her desk than on a treadmill. So, when she declared, "I really have to make it a point to get to the gym tonight," I was thrilled. "Good for you!" I cheered. "Yeah," she said. "I have to cancel my membership."

--Concocting excuses for missing work is a time-honored tradition. And the folks at CareerBuilder.com have collected some beauts:

"My boyfriend's snake got loose, and I'm afraid to leave the bedroom until he gets home."

"I'm too drunk to drive."

"I forgot I was getting married today."

"My cow bit me."

"I was watching a guy fixing the septic pump, fell in the hole and hurt myself."

Waist not, want no

After a distressing report from my doctor that my cholesterol was too high, I decided to try the diet and exercise route before resorting to medications. I tried to make an appointment with the roommate of a friend, who is a dietitian. Unfortunately, she couldn't see me, my friend said, because "her plate is too full."