

December 22, 2019

Bulletin #51

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003

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

We celebrate Eucharist and evangelize via Catholic doctrine.



Genealogy of Jesus

- ***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

Genealogy of Jesus

Readings: Rom 1:1-12 and Mt 1:1-17

“An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers.”
(Matthew 1:1-17)

Several years ago, while visiting Ireland, I visited the immigrant museum in Cobh. My ancestors had boarded ships in that very port as they escaped to the New World, seeking a better life. I had the knowledge of their journey but certainly lacked an appreciation of their experience. But the museum changed all that. The entrance was fashioned like the ramp of a ship. Once inside, video screens and audio tapes enveloped me, and suddenly the journey of my grandparents came alive. My appreciation for their courage was magnified, and I realized just how much I owed to them.

Abraham and Sarah, Jacob and Rachel -all our ancestors in faith- form the seamless fabric of faith that led to Jesus taking on flesh. The Jewish people were enslaved by the Egyptians; the blood of a lamb and the guidance of Moses set them free. In our day, we have become enslaved by pleasure, greed, and a host of other vices, and we need to be set free. In their exile, the chosen people told the story of God's love over and over again lest they forget. In our own exile from God and from the spiritual life, we need to tell and retell the story of how Jesus came to set us free. Our heritage, our spiritual family tree, holds the story of our salvation. We must never forget those whose faith and sacrifices have prepared this day.

Meditation: Call to mind and heart the ancestors who told you the story of salvation and passed on to you the treasure of faith.

Prayer: Lord God, I have been blessed by many people in my past who have helped me to hear your word. Let me be as faithful as they in passing on your word to those who will come after me.

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 21-22: Genealogy of Jesus

Saturday, December 21:

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

at 4:00 p.m.:

✠ Sister Kathy Shiffer by Jackie Fahey Petros

✠ Helen Schroeder by Mike Linton

† Living and Deceased of Tom & Judy Brock

Sunday, December 22:

at 10:00 a.m.: Christmas Novena (No Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament during Christmas)

at 10:30 a.m.:

† Kaiser and Jeannette Fadoul

† Dale Seidler Sr., by his wife Nettie and Family

This Weekdays Masses

Monday, December 23: No Mass. Pastor's Day off.

Tuesday, December 24: Christmas Eve Masses

At 4:00 p.m.: Children's Christmas Mass (Choir will sing)

† Deceased of the Saseen and Schlog Families (Anniversary) by Fran Saseen

† Shirley Elias Nickerson and the Deceased of the Elias Family by Tammy, Robbie, Don, Lori, Emma and Elijah

At 10:00 p.m.: Christmas Eve Mass (Choir will sing)

† Joe Linton (8th Anniversary) by his children Steve and Mike

† Living and Deceased of Tom & Judy Brock

Wednesday, December 25 at 10:30 a.m.: Christmas Day Mass (No Choir)

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

† Angela Nagem by Lou & Charlotte Khourey

Thursday, December 26 at 12:05 p.m.: Praises to the Virgin Mary

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

† Angela Nagem by Tina Kitlak

† Luke Lenz (Birthday) by his mom, dad and Lindsay

Friday, December 27: No Mass. Pastor's Day off.

Next Weekend, December 28-29: Sunday after the Birth of Our Lord

Saturday, December 28 at 4:00 p.m.: Visit of the Magi

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

† Angela Nagem by Carol Flathey

† Living and Deceased of Tom & Judy Brock

Sunday, December 29 at 10:30 a.m.:

† Living and Deceased of Tom & Judy Brock

† Luke Lenz (Birthday) by Dalton Haas

Calendar of Parish Events

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>

"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.

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 daughter 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*
- ☼ *Danny & Milly Manners by daughter Nini Miller*
- ☼ *In Honor of Veronica Mushet*
- ☼ *Nimon & Miriam Joseph Family by the Weisner & Joseph Families.*
- ☼ *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 & Children*
- ☼ *Abdoo & Dorothy Saseen by Jim & Patty Saseen Connell*
- ☼ *Deceased of the Nolte Family by Janet Shutler*
- ☼ *Deceased of the Shutler Family by Janet Shutler*

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:

- 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
- January 10: Marjorie John, Mary Petros
- January 11: Jennifer Klein
- January 17: George Weisner
- January 22: Nick Bedway

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 Shibben

<i>Your Church Support Last Week</i>	
\$1,325.00	Sunday Collection
38.00	Candles
22.00	Coffee hour
30.00	Christmas 50/50 and Gift Basket
50.00	Christmas Poinsettias
700.00	Donation toward the new roof
30.00	Donation to Poor Families
\$2,195.00	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]

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

Gold Level [\$250 to \$499]

Dr. Nabel & Nisrin **AlKhouri**, Shirley **Bine**, Bill & Carol **Dougherty**, Dr. Adel & Diane **Frenn**, Mike & Terri **Golebiewski**, Matthew & Victoria **Gompers**, Evelyn **Goodson** & Family, Kenneth & Nancy **Joseph**, Mark & Barb **McLaughlin**, Don & Lori, Emma & Elijah **Nickerson**, Dr. Joseph C. **Palmer** Family, Jack & Rose **Palmer**, Scott R. **Smith**, George & Jean **Weisner**, Dr. Lawrence & Victoria **Wright**,

Silver Level [\$25 to \$249]

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

Adele & Bill **Storm**, Joe & Mary **Thomas**, Latif **Thomas**, Dan & Cheryl **Tucker**, Randy **Weisner**, Drs. Matthew & Christina **Zdilla**,

What's New?

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.



Story

I dashed out an exit at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago and ran towards a waiting cab. I was greeted by a cab driver with a three-day-old beard, an old baseball cap and arms the size of tree trunks. As he tossed my bags into the trunk, he spotted my luggage tags and said, "What kind of doctor are you?" "A veterinarian," I said. Instantly, his grizzled face broke into a smile. This happens to veterinarians all the time, as people love to talk about their pets.

The doors slammed, he put the car into gear and hit me with this opening salvo, "My wife claims I love my toy poodle Missy more than I love her. Just once, she wants me to be as excited to see her as I am Missy. But Doc, it ain't gonna happen. Ya see, when I get home from a long day in the cab, dead tired, I open the door and there are the two of them looking at me, Ma and Missy. Ma has a scowl on her face and is ready to tear into me. Missy, on the other hand, is shaking all over, she's that happy - her face is grinning so wide, she could eat a banana sideways. Now who do you think I'm going to run to?"

I nodded my head in agreement because I understood his point only too well. He loved his wife, but he simply wanted permission to savor his fifteen minutes of fame. Everybody gets fifteen minutes of fame once in his lifetime. We pet owners get our fifteen minutes every time we come home - or even return from the next room.

A few days after I saw the cab driver in Chicago, I returned home. I was tired from my travels and looking forward to seeing my family. Pulling into the driveway, I peered through the windshield, straining to catch a glimpse of my loved ones. My two children, Mikkel and Lex, are very close to good ol' dad, but I didn't see their faces pressed against the window looking for me. Nor did my beloved wife, Teresa, come running in super slow motion across the yard, arms open wide ready to embrace me.

But I didn't despair. I knew I was still wanted, a Hollywood heartthrob, hometown hero to my two dogs: Scooter, a wirehaired fox terrier, and, Sirloin, a black Labrador retriever! As soon as I exited the pickup, Sirloin and Scooter charged to meet me. Their love-filled eyes danced with excitement, and their tail turbochargers whipped them into a delighted frenzy of fur. Was this affection-connection routine, or ho-hum for me? Was I cool, calm and collected? Heck no. I turned into a blithering idiot as I got out of my truck and rushed to meet the hairy-princess,

Scooter, and Sirloin, the fur-king.

There I stood, all these false layers stripped away, masks removed and performances cancelled. It was my true self. Extra pounds, bad-hair day, angry people, travel strains, no matter. Scooter and Sirloin came to the emotional rescue and allowed me to drink in the sheer love and joy of the moment. I was drunk with contentment.

I was glad this took place in the privacy of my own home. What happened next might have spoiled my polished professional image. I immediately smiled, and raised my voice an octave or two, exclaiming, "Sirloin, yuz is daaaaddy's boy, aren't ya?" And, "Scooter have you been a good girl today? Yeah, you have, you've been a goooood girl!!!"

They responded by turning inside out with delight, pressing themselves against my legs and talking to me. I felt as if I could tap directly into their wellspring of positive, healing energy. Gee, it was great to be home!

I bounded up the steps to find the rest of the family, heart open, stress gone and spirits restored by my fifteen minutes of fame.



A Time to Laugh (441)

The Country Funeral

As a young minister, I was asked by a funeral director to hold a grave-side service for a homeless man, with no family or friends. The funeral was to be held at a cemetery way back in the country, and this man would be the first to be laid to rest there. As I was not familiar with the backwoods area, I became lost; and being a typical man did not stop for directions. I finally arrived an hour late. I saw the backhoe and the crew, who was eating lunch, but the hearse was nowhere in sight.

I apologized to the workers for my tardiness, and stepped to the side of the open grave, where I saw the vault lid already in place. I assured the workers I would not hold them up for long, but this was the proper thing to do. The workers gathered around, still eating their lunch. I poured out my heart and soul.

As I preached the workers began to say "Amen," "Praise the Lord," and "Glory," I preached, and I preached, like I'd never preached before: from Genesis all the way to Revelations. I closed the lengthy service with a prayer and walked to my car.

As I was opening the door and taking off my coat, I overheard one of the workers saying to another, "I ain't never seen anything like that before and I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years!!!!"

West Virginia Ghost Story

This happened about a month ago just outside a little town in the low country of West Virginia, and while it sounds like an Alfred Hitchcock tale, it's real. A guy was on the side of the road hitchhiking on a really dark night in the middle of a thunderstorm.

Time passed slowly and no cars went by. It was raining so hard he could hardly see his hand in front of his face. Suddenly he saw a car moving slowly, approaching and appearing ghostlike in the rain. It slowly crept toward him and stopped.

Wanting a ride really bad, the guy jumped in the car and closed the door, only then did he realize that there was nobody behind the wheel. The car slowly started moving and the guy was terrified, too scared to think of jumping out and running.

The guy saw that the car was slowly approaching a sharp curve, still too scared to jump out, he started to pray and begging for his life; he was sure the ghost car would go off the road and into the marsh and he would surely drown, when just before the curve, a hand appeared through the driver's window and turned the steering wheel, guiding the car safely around the bend.

Paralyzed with fear, the guy watched the hand reappear every time they reached a curve. Finally the guy, scared to near death, had all he could take and jumped out of the car and ran to town.

Wet and in shock, he went into a bar and voice quavering, ordered two shots of whiskey, then told everybody about his supernatural experience.

A silence enveloped and everybody got goose bumps when they realized the guy was telling the truth and was not just some drunk.

About half an hour later two guys walked into the bar and one says to the other: "Look Bubba, there's that idiot who rode in our car when we were pushing it in the rain."

What are the Odds?

I learned a lesson in marketing from a man who bought a trailer, an old boat and a motor from me. "Thanks," he said as he loaded them up. "I'm planning to resell them." Good luck, I thought. I had been trying to get rid of them for months. But when I ran into him weeks later, he'd sold everything. "How did you do that?" I marveled. "I took out an ad: 'Heavy-duty boat trailer with free boat.' When the buyer came to get it, I asked if he had a motor. He said no. I told him I happened to have one in my garage. Bought that too."