

January 26, 2020

Bulletin #4

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003

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Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac, Pastor

Evelyn Ghaphery, Organist



3rd Sunday of Epiphany

- ***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 start 20 minutes 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 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
- ***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
- ***Remember the Church in your Last Will & Testament:** Her prayers will accompany you to heaven

3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Readings: Gal 3:23-29 and Jn 3:1-16

For the most part we see Jesus surrounded by the ordinary people, but here we see him in contact with one of the aristocracy of Jerusalem. There are certain things that we know about Nicodemus.

Nicodemus must have been wealthy. When Jesus died Nicodemus brought for his body “a mixture of myrrh and aloes about a hundred pound weight” (*John 19: 39*), and only a wealthy man could have brought that.

Nicodemus was a Pharisee. In many ways the Pharisees were the best people in the whole country. There were never more than 6,000 of them. They formed a brotherhood by taking a pledge in front of three witnesses that they would spend all their lives observing every detail of the scribal law.

What exactly did that mean? To the Jew the Law was the most sacred thing in all the world. The Law was the first five books of the Old Testament. They believed it to be the perfect word of God. To add one word to it or to take one word away from it was a deadly sin. Now if the Law is the perfect and complete word of God, that must mean that it contained everything a man need know for the living of a good life, if not explicitly, then implicitly. If it was not there in so many words, it must be possible to deduce it. The Law as it stood consisted of great, wide, noble principles which a man had to work out for himself.

Nicodemus was a Pharisee, and it is astonishing that a man who regarded goodness in that light and who had given himself to that kind of life in the conviction that he was pleasing God should wish to talk to Jesus at all.

Nicodemus was a ruler of the Jews. This is to say that he was a member of the Sanhedrin. The Sanhedrin was a court of seventy members and was the supreme court of the Jews. It had religious jurisdiction over every Jew in the world; and one of its duties was to examine and deal with anyone suspected of being a false prophet. Again it is amazing that Nicodemus should come to Jesus at all.

It was by night that Nicodemus came to Jesus. There were probably two reasons for that:

- 1- It may have been a sign of caution. Nicodemus quite frankly may not have wished to commit himself by coming to Jesus by day. We must not condemn him. The wonder is that with his background, he came to Jesus at all. It was infinitely better to come at night than not at all. It is a miracle of grace that Nicodemus overcame his prejudices and his upbringing and his whole view of life enough to come to Jesus.
- 2- But there may be another reason. The rabbis declared that the best time to study the law was at night when a man was undisturbed. Throughout the day, Jesus was surrounded by crowds of people all the time. It may well be that Nicodemus came to Jesus by night because he wanted an absolutely private and completely undisturbed time with Jesus.

Nicodemus was a puzzled man, a man with many honors and yet with something lacking in his life. He came to Jesus for a talk so that somehow in the darkness of the night he might find light.

This Weekend, January 25-26: 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Saturday, January 25 at 4:00 p.m.:

- ✠ Bob Sengewalt by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt
- ✠ Vernon Hancher (Anniversary) by his wife Regina & Family
- ✠ Special Intention

Sunday, January 26 at 10:30 a.m.:

- ✠ George Thomas (Anniversary) by his wife Mary & Family
- ✠ Intentions of the Benefactors of our church

Weekday Masses

Monday, January 27: No Mass. Pastor's Day Off

Tuesday, January 28 at 12:05 p.m.:

- ✠ George Shia DDS by OLOI Parishioners

Wednesday, January 29: No Mass. Office work

Thursday, January 30 at 12:05 p.m.:

† Intentions of the Benefactors of our church by Msgr Bakhos

Friday, January 31: No Mass. Pastor's Day Off

Next Weekend, February 1-2: Sunday of the Priests

Saturday, February 1:

At 3:30 p.m.: Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

at 4:00 p.m.:

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

† Special Intention

Sunday, February 2 at 10:30 a.m.: Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass

† Living & Deceased members of the Nicholas & Nimnoom Ghaphery Family and the David Abraham Ghaphery Family

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

Calendar of Parish Events

St. Maron Dinner	<i>Sunday, March 8, 2020</i>
Bake Sale	<i>Cooking dates: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, April 20, 21 and 22nd Pick up orders: Wednesday, April 22nd (afternoon) and Thu, 23rd.</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>

Week Masses for the Faithful Departed (February 15 to February 21st)

It is a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead. Think of how anxious you'll be to be remembered in the Masses and prayers of your relatives and friends when you die. All of us hope and pray that we'll never be forgotten and that our loved ones will pray to God for us every day. Your deceased relatives and friends are just as anxious for you to offer for them a Mass which is the best offering pleasing to God the Father because it is the pure Body and Blood of His Son. They are depending upon God's mercy and your good works to bring about their union with the Holy Trinity, our Blessed Mother and all the saints. The Church is here to remind you to pray for your parents and beloved ones who are deceased. Remember them and pray for them, so that your children and friends will pray for you after your death. You can be sure that your prayers and your sacrifices for the dead will be rewarded when they join the Community of Saints and speak to God in your behalf.

All Masses will be offered for the Repose of the Souls of the followings:

† Catherine Arthur by her daughter Carol Burkhr

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

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

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

† Deceased of the Bentz & Reynolds Families by Carolee Bentz

† Anna Marie McGlumphy by Jerry McGlumphy and Children

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

† Robert Rose by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt

† 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

✠ *Ralph & Mary Joseph Shipley by Thomasina Geimer*
 ✠ *Robert Hunter, Jr. & Robert Hunter III by Thomasina Geimer*
 ✠ *Leona M. Albaugh (on her Birthday February 23) by her son Denny Albaugh*
 ✠ *Beloved grandparents Tom & Sadie John & David & Tamamie Joseph by Ron & Susan Burns*
 ✠ *Beloved parents John T. & Cecilia John by Ron & Susan Burns*
 ✠ *Deceased of the Strawn Family by Rex & Rita Strawn*
 ✠ *Deceased of the Thomas & Dellget Families by Rex & Rita Strawn*
 ✠ *Bob Sengewalt by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt & Family*
 ✠ *Deceased of the Schlog & Saseen Families by Fran Saseen and sons*
 ✠ *Helen Fielding and Augie Montalbano by Joe & Nikki Popovich*
 ✠ *George & Mary Popovich by Joe & Nikki Popovich*
 ✠ *Mike O'Kane by Joe & Nikki Popovich*
 ✠ *Deceased of the Fadoul & Duffy Families by Earl & Linda Duffy*
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Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:

January 26 Chris DeMuth
 January 28: Nikki Popovich
 February 2: David John, Doug Bratton
 February 4: Lindsay Carl
 February 9: Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac, Michael DiFabrizio
 February 10: Sandra DeMuth
 February 11: Charlotte Khourey
 February 14: Diane Frenn
 February 15: Nettie Seidler
 February 16: Dave Sengewalt
 February 17: Rebecca DiFabrizio
 February 21: Louie Khourey

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)

Dolores Joseph, 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>	
\$891.00	Sunday Collection
32.00	Candles
29.00	Coffee hour
30.00	Donation to Poor Families
\$982.00	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

Whats New

MISSING

Two clear large crystal cut glass bowls and a case filled with 50 or more Matchbox cars from the old Basement Hall. Please call or return with any information regarding these items to Linda (304) 242-6853.



Story

There was a little girl sitting by herself in the park. Everyone passed by her and never stopped to see why she looked so sad. Dressed in a worn pink dress, barefoot and dirty, the girl just sat and watched the people go by. She never tried to speak. She never said a word. Many people passed by her, but no one would stop.

The next day I decided to go back to the park in curiosity to see if the little girl would still be there. Yes, she was there, right in the very spot where she was yesterday, and still with the same sad look in her eyes. Today I was to make my own move and walk over to the little girl. For as we all know, a park full of strange people is not a place for young children to play alone. As I got closer I could see the back of the little girl's dress was grotesquely shaped.

I figured that was the reason people just passed by and made no effort to speak to her. Deformities are a low blow to our society and, heaven forbid if you make a step toward assisting someone who is different. As I got closer, the little girl lowered her eyes slightly to avoid my intent stare. As I approached her, I could see the shape of her back more clearly. She was grotesquely shaped in a humped over form. I smiled to let her know it was OK; I was there to help and to talk. I sat down beside her and opened with a simple, "Hello".

The little girl acted shocked, and stammered a "hi"; after a long stare into my eyes. I smiled and she shyly smiled back. We talked until darkness fell and the park was completely empty. I asked the girl why she was so sad. The little girl looked at me with a sad face said, "Because, I'm different"; I immediately said, "That you are!"; and smiled. The little girl acted even sadder and said, "I know." "Little girl," I said, "you remind me of an angel, sweet and innocent." She looked at me and smiled, then slowly she got to her feet and said, "Really?" "Yes, you're like a little Guardian Angel sent to watch over all those people walking by." She nodded her head yes, and smiled. With that she opened the back of her pink dress and allowed her wings to spread, then she said, "I am. I'm your Guardian Angel"; with a twinkle in her eye. I was speechless -- sure I was seeing things. She said, "For once you thought of someone other than yourself. My job here is done." I got to my feet and said, "Wait, why did no one stop to help an angel?" She looked at me, smiled, and said, "You're the only one that could see me"; and then she was gone. And with that, my life was changed dramatically.

A Time to Laugh (445)

How She Looks

After the doctor completed his examination of a woman, he took her husband to the side. "I don't like the looks of your wife at all," the doctor confided.

"She may not be much to look at, Doc," agreed the husband. "But listen, she's an excellent cook and the kids seem to like her."

Dogs and Bikes

An animal shelter attendant checked the identification tag of a dog that was brought in by the police. He then called the owner and explained that she would need to come to the animal shelter and pay the fines and charges, and then she could get her dog.

The woman asked, "What are these fines and charges?" The attendant answered, "You have to pay the animal shelter's standard charges and the police department's fine because your dog was chasing a man on his bicycle."

The woman hesitated and said, "That must not be my dog! My dog doesn't know how to ride a bicycle!"

Seen the Dog Bowl

A mother asked her son, "Have you seen the dog bowl?"

"No," the boy replied, "but he's pretty good at skating!"

One Could Get Hurt

A man decided to commit suicide saturating his body with gasoline, he put a rope around his neck and tied it to a tree limb that jutted out over a river. He put a pistol to his temple. He then set a match to his body, jumped from the tree, and pulled the trigger on the pistol. Missing his temple, the bullet hit the rope and cut it, and he fell into the water below, which immediately put out the flames. As he climbed back up the riverbank gasping, he said, "Wow! If I wasn't such a good swimmer, I would have drowned!"

Getting Off in Buffalo

An important executive boarded a New York to Chicago train. He explained to the porter, "I'm a heavy sleeper, and I want you to be sure to wake me at 3:00 A.M. to get off at Buffalo. Regardless of what I say, get me up and get me off the train. I may resist you, but I have to get off at Buffalo."

But the next morning the executive awakened just as the train pulled into Chicago. He was infuriated, and with abusive language he poured out his anger on the porter.

As the executive stomped down the platform toward the station, another passenger asked the porter, "How could you stand there and take that kind of talk from that fellow?"

The porter replied, "That was nothing. You should have heard what the man I put off in Buffalo said!"

Children Pray for Me!

On a recent Sunday in a Midwest city a young child was acting up during the morning worship hour. The parents did their best to maintain some sense of order in the pew but were losing the battle. Finally, the father picked the little fellow up and walked sternly up the aisle on his way out. Just before reaching the safety of the foyer, the little one called loudly to the congregation, "Pray for me! Pray for me!"

The Cowboy

A cowboy rode into town and stopped at a saloon for a drink. Unfortunately, the locals always had a habit of picking on strangers, which he was. When he finished his drink, he found his horse had been stolen. He goes back into the bar, handily flips his gun into the air, catches it above his head without even looking and fires a shot into the ceiling.

"Which one of you sidewinders stole my hoss?" He yelled with surprising forcefulness. No one answered.

"Alright, I'm gonna have another beer, and if my hoss ain't back outside by the time I finish, I'm gonna do what I dun in Texas and I don't like to have to do what I dun in Texas."

Some of the locals shifted restlessly. He had another beer, walked outside, and his horse is back. The bartender wanders out of the bar and asks, "Say partner, before you go... what happened in Texas?"

The cowboy turned back and said, "I had to walk home."

Shingles

Bubba walked into a doctor's office and the receptionist asked him what he had. Bubba said: "Shingles." So she wrote down his name, address, medical insurance number, and told him to have a seat.

Fifteen minutes later a nurse's aide came out and asked Bubba what he had. Bubba said, "Shingles." So she wrote down his height, weight, a complete medical history, and told Bubba to wait in the examining room.

A half hour later a nurse came in and asked Bubba what he had. Bubba said, "Shingles." So the nurse gave Bubba a blood test, a blood pressure test, an electrocardiogram, and told Bubba to take off all his clothes and wait for the doctor.

An hour later the doctor came in and found Bubba sitting patiently in the nude and asked Bubba what he had. Bubba said, "Shingles." The doctor asked, "Where?" Bubba said, "Outside on the truck. Where do you want me to unload 'em??"