

February 23, 2020

Bulletin #8

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



Cana Sunday (Entrance to Great Lent)

- ***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

Cana Sunday (Entrance to Great Lent)

Readings: Rom 14:14-23 and Jn 2:1-11

Invited to Cana with His mother, Jesus came there as a friend, a neighbor, accompanied by His disciples. Did He know that He would start there, at the wedding, “THE FIRST OF THE SIGNS” to be given by Him? For Saint John who opened the Prologue to his Gospel: “IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD”, the “first of the signs” expresses the eternal glory of Jesus in time. The evangelist tells us of this sign that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and so believing have life in His name (Jn.20: 30-31).

It was not a chance happening that this village wedding occurred at the beginning of Jesus’ public life. God in Him had wedded humanity to Himself: that is the good news, even if the guests who are present are unaware that the Son of God has sat at their table, and that He is the true bridegroom. The whole mystery of Cana turns on the presence of this bridegroom who is beginning to travel himself. It is Jesus, in fact, who, unknown to the steward of the feast, had “HAD KEPT THE GOOD WINE UNTIL NOW”.

Wine is the drink at weddings, at once the fruit of the wine and of man’s work. The earth had soaked up the sun, bringing forth the fruit of a whole year’s work for the vinedresser. Drawn from the jars intended for the ritual ablutions, the wine of Cana, served in the last place, could not have been inferior: its bouquet had the scent of the redemption, of the prolonging life of the God-man.

In the Middle Ages Mary was often represented as holding in her arms the Infant pressing a bunch of grapes. She was there at Cana, the first to uncover the unease arising from his role. As once She said to the servants, so now She tells us “DO WHATEVER HE TELLS YOU.”

Great Lent Starts with Ash Monday & Wednesday

Remember, You Are Dust and Will Return to Dust

Dust and ashes are signature symbols of Lent, the 40-day liturgical season of prayer, reflection and discipline intended to open us more fully to God’s redeeming and healing presence.

On Ash Monday -the first day of Lent in the Maronite Catholic Church- blessed ashes are spread on our foreheads in the form of a cross -signifying the penitential nature of Lent. Those ashes, which come from the burning of palm branches used on the previous Passion Sunday, are spread by the priest as he says the somber words of Genesis 3:19, “**Remember that you are dust and unto dust you shall return,**” or the clear admonition of Mark 1:15, “**Turn from sin and be faithful to the Gospel.**”

Ashes denote traditional Lenten goals that we are encouraged to strive for in our relationship with God and with others -for repentance and sorrow for sin and spiritual sloth; for humility in the face of God’s greatness; for awareness of our human weakness, fragility and mortality: for “good grief” and appropriate mourning for all the inevitable losses in our lives. To show that he was at the end of his rope and could do nothing else but throw himself on the mercy of God, Job sat on the *ash heap* and spread *ashes* over his head (Job 42:6; 30:19). The psalmist even declares, “*I eat ashes like bread . . .*” (Psalm 102:10). Jesus cited the need “**to repent in sackcloth and ashes**” (Mt. 11:21).

We may be tempted to shy away from the Lenten symbolism of dust and ashes because it seems too negative. Instead, we would be wise to open our minds and hearts to what the Church offers us each year as a healthy dose of realism about God and God’s mercy, and about ourselves and human life.

Next Weekend, Feb. 22-23: Entrance to Great Lent

Saturday, February 22 at 4:00 p.m.:

- ✠ Jerrie Palotay Williams by the Palotay Family
- ✠ Judith A. Wolfe (Anniversary) by Mary Stees and Libby Magnone
- ‡ Special Intention

Sunday, February 23 at 10:30 a.m.:

- ✠ Meha AlKhouri by Dr. Nabiel & Nisrine Alkhouri and Family
- ✠ Lucille Gibbons by the Women Society OLOL

Ash Monday & Wednesday, Feb. 24 & 26

On Ash Monday, we will have two Masses and blessing with Ashes at 12:05 p.m. & 5:30 p.m. Ashes will also be distributed during the two Masses on Ash Wednesday at 12:05 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. for those who missed it on Monday.

Ash Monday, February 24:

at 12:05 p.m.: Mass & Blessing with Ash

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

† Lucille Gibbons by Bill & Carol Dougherty

At 5:30 p.m.: Mass & Blessing with Ash

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

† Lucille Gibbons by Steve & Mike Linton

Tuesday, February 25: No Mass

Ash Wednesday, February 26:

At 12:05 p.m.: Mass & Blessing with Ash

† Lucille Gibbons by Ed Hatton

† Living & Deceased of Tom & Judy Brock Jr.

At 5:30 p.m.: Mass & Blessing with Ash

† Living & Deceased of Tom & Judy Brock Jr.

† Lucille Gibbons by Lou & Charlotte Khourey

Thursday, February 27 at 12:05 p.m.:

† Patricia Gompers (Birthday) by Matt & Vickie Gompers

† Lucille Gibbons by George & Patty Fahey

Friday, February 28 at 5:30 p.m.: Mass followed by Stations of the Cross and Benediction

† Cecilia John (7th Anniversary) by her daughter Susan

† Lucille Gibbons by Rex & Rita Strawn

Next Weekend, Feb. 29-March 1: Sunday of the Leper

Saturday, February 29 at 4:00 p.m.:

† Living & Deceased of Tom & Judy Brock Jr.

† Lucille Gibbons by Msgr Bakhos

† Special Intention

Sunday, March 1 at 10:30 a.m.:

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

† Dale Seidler Sr, by his wife Nettie and Family

Added to the Faithful Departed

† Deceased of the Frenn and Thomas Families by Dr Adel, Diane. Andreah and Justin Frenn

† John Wilson by Judy Wilson

Calendar of Parish Events

Work Days for St. Maron Dinner (Please bring a covered dish)	--Wednesday, March 4 at 9:00 a.m.: making Mamool --Thursday, March 5 at 9:00 a.m.: making kibbee Help is needed to prepare food & enjoy everyone's company
St. Maron Dinner	Sunday, March 8, 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Cedar Club Meeting	Monday, March 9, 6:00 p.m. in Cedar Hall. Nini & Mike Hosting
Bake Sale	Cooking dates: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, April 20, 21 and 22 nd Pick up orders: Wednesday, April 22 nd (afternoon) and Thu, 23 rd .
Rummage Sale	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.

**Lebanese Festival
(Mahrajan)**

*Saturday, August 8th from noon to 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, August 9th from 10:30 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.*

2020 Easter Lilies

Easter Lilies in memory of loved ones to decorate the church and the tomb of Christ are sponsored by the following generous parishioners:

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

- ☘ Tom & Mary K. Ferris by Denise Ferris*
- ☘ George & Martha Saseen by George & Susan Saseen and Family*
- ☘ Suzanne Linton by her husband Mike*
- ☘ Frances & Joseph Linton by their sons Steve & Mike*
- ☘ Deceased of our parish by Steve & Mike Linton*
- ☘ Adib & Sadie Chidiac (parents), Nadim (brother) and Mona (sister) by Steve & Mike Linton*
- ☘ Deceased members of the Chidiac Family by Msgr. Bakhos*
- ☘ Deceased members of the Bine & Gaudio Families by Shirley Bine*
- ☘ Gladys Howard & Louise N. & Louise H. Khourey, Sr., by Lou & Charlotte Khourey & Family*
- ☘ Deceased of the Saseen & Schlog Families by Fran Saseen*
- ☘ Danny & Millie Manners by their daughter NiNi Miller*
- ☘ In honor of the Frenn Family*
- ☘ In honor of Janet Shutler*
- ☘ Deceased Family members of Thomasina Geimer*
- ☘ Deceased of the Habdo and Dougherty Families by Bill & Carol Dougherty*

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:

February 27: MaryAnn Carl
 March 2: Ava Murad
 March 4: Jeff Sengewalt
 March 5: Philip Carl
 March 6: Kristen McLaughlin
 March 10: Liam George
 March 15: Shelby Imer
 March 21: Caroline Stees McDowell
 March 22: Jennifer Imer

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)

Bill Dougherty, Al Depto, Don Henning, Joe Roxby, Dolores Joseph, Jeff Fahey and his daughter Amanda, Elia Frenn, Nick Bedway, Shirley & Jim George, Patty Fahey, Fred Schweizer (brother of our organist Mary Lee Porter), Phil Geimer, Justin Frenn, John Shibben

<i>Your Church Support Last Week</i>	
\$2,313.50	Sunday Collection
100.00	Diocesan Appeal
348.00	2 nd collection:catholic home missions
16.00	Candles
33.00	Coffee hour

910.00	St. Maron Dinner
50.00	Easter Flowers
100.00	Onation toward he new roof
105.00	Utilities
30.00	Donation to Poor Families
\$4,005.50	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

What's New

Easter Obligation (Lenten Appeal)

The Lenten Appeal for our Diocese (the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon) is now taking place. A letter from our Bishop Elias Zaidan about the Appeal as well as another similar letter for our church will be mailed to every family. Our Diocese relies upon your support in order to train our future Maronite priests. Every family is asked to participate in the Appeal and be generous. Please drop your donation in the collection or mail it to our church for tax deduction. Please be generous and support our diocese. Thank you.

Condolences: Emily Saseen

The pastor and the parishioners of Our Lady of Lebanon Church, Wheeling, offer their heartfelt sympathy to the Saseen Family on the loss of their beloved Emily who passed away in Wheeling. Msgr. Bakhos concelebrated the Funeral Mass at Our Lady of the Peace Church on Monday, **February 17**. 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.

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.

Bring Now Your Items to Our Rummage Sale

Dear parishioners and friends,

Please bring your items with you to the church every time you come to daily or weekend Mass. It means from now until the date of the rummage sale in June, fill your trunk with the items you want to donate to our rummage sale and ask Msgr. Bakhos or Mike Linton to open the door of the old basement for you. Bring everything except clothing and tires. You can call us also at 304-233-1688 to wait for you. We appreciate your donation. Thanks.

Around Us

Lenten Fish Fry

Where: Our Lady of Seven Dolors Catholic Church

When: February 28 through April 3, 2020- 11:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Menu: Fresh, Hand-Breaded Coleman's Fish, Macaroni & Cheese, Cole Slaw, Desserts

Infant of Prague Novena

Where: Our Lady of Peace Church

When: every Monday at 7:00 p.m. starting February 30, 2020



Story

I dreamed I was in heaven where an angel kept God's book.

He was writing so intently, I just had to take a look.
It was not, at first, his writing that made me stop and think
But the fluid in the bottle that was marked eternal ink.
This ink was most amazing, dark black upon his blotter
But as it touched the parchment paper it became as clear as water.
The angel kept on writing, but as quickly as a wink
The words were disappearing with that strange eternal ink.
The angel took no notice, but kept writing on and on.
He turned each page and filled it till all its space was gone.
I thought he wrote to no avail, his efforts were so vain
For he wrote a thousand pages that he'd never read again.
And as I watched and wondered that this awesome sight was mine.
I actually saw a word stay black as it dried upon the line.
The angel wrote and I thought I saw a look of satisfaction.
At last he had some print to show for all his earnest action.
A line or two dried dark and stayed as black as black can be,
But strangely the next paragraph became invisible to see.
The book was getting fuller, the angel's records true,
But most of it was blank, with just a few words coming through.
I knew there was some reason, but as hard as I could think,
I couldn't grasp the significance of that eternal ink.
The mystery burned within me, and I finally dared to ask
The angel to explain to me of his amazing task.
And what I heard was frightful as the angel turned his head.
He looked directly at me, and this is what he said
"I know you stand and wonder at what my writing's worth
But God has told me to record the lives of those on earth.
The book that I am filling is an accurate account
Of every word and action and to what they do amount.
And since you have been watching I must tell you what is true.
The details of my journal are the strict accounts of YOU.
The Lord asked me to watch you as each day you worked and played.
I saw you as you went to church, I saw you as you prayed.
But I was told to document your life through all the week;
I wrote when you were proud and bold. I wrote when you were meek.
I recorded all your attitudes whether they were good or bad.
I was sorry that I had to write the things that make God sad.
So now I'll tell the wonder of this eternal ink,
For the reason for its mystery should make you stop and think.
This ink that God created to help me keep my journal
Will only keep a record of things that are eternal.
So much of life is wasted on things that matter not
So instead of my erasing, smudging ink and ugly blot,
I just keep writing faithfully and let the ink do all the rest
For it is able to decide what is useless and what is best.
And God ordained that as I write of all you do and say
Your deeds that count for nothing will just simply disappear away.
When books are opened someday, as sure as heaven is true;
The Lord's eternal ink will tell what mattered most to you.
If you just lived to please yourself the pages will be bare,
And God will issue no reward for you when you get there.

In fact, you'll be embarrassed and you'll hang your head in shame
 Because you didn't give yourself to love in Jesus' Name.
 Yet, maybe there will be a few recorded lines that stayed
 That showed the times when you truly cared, sincerely loved and prayed.
 But you will always wonder as you enter heaven's door
 How much more glad you would have been if only you'd done more.
 For I record as God sees; I don't stop to think
 Because the truth is written with God's eternal ink."
 When I heard the angel's story I fell down and wept and cried
 For as yet I was still dreaming and I hadn't really died.
 And I said: "Oh Angel tell the Lord that as soon as I wake up
 I'll live my life for Jesus and do all for His dear sake.
 I'll give in full surrender; I'll do all He wants me to;
 I'll turn my back on self and sin and whatever isn't true.
 And though the way seems long and rough I promise to endure.
 I'm determined to pursue the things that are holy, clean and pure.
 If not for me - then for my children or spouse or mate in life
 With Jesus as my helper, I will win lost souls and gain great might
 For I know that they will live with Christ for all eternity.
 And that's what really matters when my life on earth is gone
 That I will stand before the Lord and hear Him say, "Well done!"
 For is it really worth it as my life lies now at the brink?
 As I realize in my dream that God keeps books with eternal ink. --(Author Unknown)

A Time to Laugh (449)

Sharing Is Part of Community

A certain fellow was about to make his first parachute jump. The plane carried him up to the proper altitude and he was told, "This is it, friend—jump!" So, he leaped from the plane, counted to ten, and pulled the rip cord, but nothing happened. He was falling rapidly toward the earth and his life was flashing before his eyes. He pulled his second emergency cord. Nothing happened. Just then he looked down toward the earth and was surprised to see another man hurtling up toward him from the earth. He couldn't believe his eyes. As the two men passed each other, the falling parachutist yelled, "Do you know anything about parachutes?" The ascending man cried out, "No. Do you know anything about gas stoves?"

Spectators versus Active Participants

Just remember: Every baseball team could use a man who plays every position perfectly, never strikes out, and never makes an error. The trouble is, there is no way to make him lay down his hot dog and come down out of the stands.

Wise Requests

We all admire the wisdom of those who come to us for advice.

Shark Pictures

While fishing off the Florida coast, a tourist capsized his boat. The man was not sure if it was safe to swim to shore, so when he saw a man with a camera standing on the shore, he called out to him, "Are there any alligators in these parts?" "Nope," the man answered. "There used to be some, but they are long gone."

Feeling assured of his safety, the man began to swim toward shore. While swimming, he began to wonder what happened to the alligators. He stopped swimming for a moment and shouted to the man with the camera on shore, “What happened to the alligators?”

The man with the camera who stood on shore replied, “These waters are too shark-infested for alligators to last long.”

The man with the camera who stood on shore got some great pictures.

Finding Valuable Plants

When weeding, the best way to make sure you are removing a weed and not a valuable plant is to pull on it. If it comes out of the ground easily, it was a valuable plant.

Posted on the elevator

At work is the usual warning sign: “In case of fire do not use elevator.” Scrawled in pen beneath it is this addendum: “Use water.”