

March 8, 2020
Bulletin #10

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



Sunday of the Hemorrhaging Woman

- ***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 Khourey, Mike Linton, Rita Strawn, P.J. Lenz, Mary Stees
- ***Choir Members:** Earl Duffy, Lou Khourey, Robert Harris, Shelly Hancher, Ted Olinski, Robert Harris, 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

Sunday of the Hemorrhaging Woman

Readings: 2Cor 7:4-11 and Lk 8:40-56

Having overcome the power of nature and the power of evil in the last two scenes, Jesus would now overcome the power of death itself. The scene will also speak more openly of faith. Courage will be demanded in the faith of both protagonists in this story, and in each case there will be two stages to that courage.

In stark contrast to the pagan crowd, which had been so fearful that it had asked Jesus to depart, the Jewish crowd in this scene thronged around him, for the pagan crowd feared the unknown, while this crowd knew that there were miracles to be had.

The term 'leader of the synagogue' does not refer to a person who conducted the service and preached, but to a person who had charge of the synagogue building and organized the externals of the services. Falling at the feet of Jesus was a courageous action, for he risked condemnation by the authorities above him. It was love for his daughter that gave him this courage, for love led to hope and hope created faith. The courage of the man was recognized by Jesus and his appeal was one that he would always hear, so he went with him, causing his hopes to soar. It is implied that in the press of the crowd many people were physically touching Jesus.

The story of the woman is now inserted into the middle of the story of the leader and his daughter. For the Jewish people blood was the life-force of the living being: 'For the life of the flesh is in the blood'. The symbolism, therefore, is that the very life of this woman had been draining away.

Furthermore, the flow of blood made the woman ritually unclean". In this ordinary aspect of their life, all women were considered 'unclean' at the time of their periods and unable to take part in public worship, and for this woman that state had lasted continuously for twelve long years. Life had been ebbing out of her for as long as the young girl had had life in her. Every human effort had been made and nothing more could be done. The woman found herself in an endless state of being ill, unclean, humiliated and impoverished. 'It is scarcely possible to grasp the loneliness and isolation of her situation She is in many ways one of the most marginalized figures in the Gospel.' She is in stark contrast with the religiously and socially important leader of the synagogue, as Mary had been in contrast with Zechariah.

In order to reach Jesus she had to push through the crowd and, in doing so, she had made each individual she touched unclean. When she then touched the garment of Jesus, she made him unclean too. She was, therefore, afraid to approach openly and sought to touch his cloak from behind.

Even this action took courage, for she would be roundly condemned and shunned if the crowd discovered what she was doing. When she finally touched Jesus, the life that had been slowly ebbing out of her flooded back immediately, as her weakness drew life from his wholeness. Jesus was instantly aware that power had gone out of him and sought to know who was the person concerned. Many people had been constantly touching Jesus in the press of the crowd, but only for this one person did he experience the power of life going out from him. One may see at least three reasons why it was important for Jesus to find the one who had touched him: what had happened had to be distinguished from some kind of magical action; the miracle had to become an experience of faith, both for the woman and for the crowd; and any guilt she felt at having made him unclean had to be taken away.

If it had taken courage for the woman to push through the crowd and touch the clothes of Jesus, it now took greater courage for her to confess her action before the whole crowd. Her sense of guilt did not come from the cure, but from having made a number of people unclean. The scene shows that Jesus saw women as in many matters in the same category as the outcast, and that he had no time at all for the idea of women as unclean because of menstruation.

Jesus did not say 'The power of life within me has saved you', but rather 'Your faith has saved you.' Many people had been touching Jesus, pressing in on him as he made his way through them, and the power of life in him was available to all of them, but none of them was cured of any affliction except this woman. The power was always there, but faith was necessary to make it active, so it was in fact her faith that had saved her. To 'go into peace' meant to go into a state of wholeness, health and well-being and, coming from Jesus, the words ensured that there would be no sense of guilt or shame. That the power of life was in Jesus and that it could be activated by faith laid the foundation for the continuation of the story of the daughter of the leader of the synagogue.

At this point the father and Jesus were informed that the child had died. If the leader's original approach to Jesus had required courage, it would now take a far greater courage to keep believing despite his daughter's death. For Jesus, however, death was only a sleep from which he could awaken the girl through the power of life that was within him. The crowd might laugh, but to those who had faith all was possible.

The miracle happened simply, as though the girl was aroused from a gentle sleep. Luke does not dwell on the details of the sensitivity of Jesus, though it is evident in the touch of seeing that the child had something to eat. Furthermore, eating was proof that the child was a true flesh and blood human being, not a spirit.

Belief in an afterlife was not universal among the Jews at the time of Jesus, and many thought of death as the end of all useful existence. The message of the scene is that the power of the word extends even beyond death, even over life itself. The girl in this story is a symbol of every human being.

There are obvious difficulties with the words of Jesus that those present were to tell no one, for it was manifestly impossible for anyone to keep quiet the news of such a miracle. A whole crowd knew that the girl had died and would soon learn that she was alive again. I do not believe that Luke has the slightest interest in such practical considerations. The prohibition against speaking enters in here because of the development of Luke's themes, the time had not come for the revelation that this miracle contained, for the full revelation of Jesus could come only after he himself had risen from the dead.

This Weekend, March 7-8: the Hemorrhaging woman

Saturday, March 7 at 4:00 p.m.:

- ✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her Will
- ✠ Blanche Wakim by Lou & Charlotte Khourey
- ✠ Special Intention

Sunday, March 8 at 10:30 a.m.:

- ✠ Betty Abraham, Clara Carter, Evelyn Goodson by Jean Weisner
- ✠ Tom Jalad (Anniversary) by the Family

Weekdays Masses

Monday, March 9: No Mass. Pastor's day off

Tuesday, March 10 at 12:05 p.m.:

- ✠ Lucille Gibbons by Eva Nagem & Family
- ✠ William Breit

Wednesday, March 11: No mass

Thursday, March 12 at 12:05 p.m.:

- ✠ Lucille Gibbons by Jean & George Weisner
- ✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her Will

Friday, March 13 at 5:30 p.m.: Mass followed by Stations of the Cross and Benediction

- ✠ Lucille Gibbons by Becky & Larry Ferrera
- ✠ Sylvia Long, her husband Arthur, & her son Mark by her last will

Next Weekend, March 14-15: Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Saturday, March 14 at 4:00 p.m.:

- ✠ Mary J. Shipley (Anniversary) by her daughter Thomasina Geimer
- ✠ Robby Hunter III (Anniversary) by his grandma Thomasina Geimer
- ✠ Special Intention

Sunday, March 15 at 10:30 a.m.:

- ✠ John Wilson (Birthday) by his wife Judy
- ✠ John T. John & Cecilia John by their Children: David, Tom, Greg, Maryann, Susan & their families

Calendar of Parish Events

St. Maron Dinner	<i>Sunday, March 8, 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.</i>
Cedar Club Meeting	<i>Monday, March 9, 6:00 p.m. in Cedar Hall. Nini & Mike Hosting</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>
Lebanese Festival (Mahrajan)	<i>Saturday, August 8th from noon to 8:00 p.m. Sunday, August 9th from 10:30 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.</i>

St. Maron Dinner *(Sunday, March 8th from 11:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.)*

Our delicious homemade Lebanese menu includes: *kibbee, grape leaves, hummus, chicken & rice, salad, pita bread, yogurt, dessert & beverage* (no tax is added).

Reminder to the ladies that we will need homemade treats for the bake sale: cakes, cookies, Lebanese cookies, etc., will be greatly appreciated.

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.

Thanks for those who fulfilled their Easter Obligation this year:

Lou & Charlotte Khourey, Dave Sengewalt, Denny Albaugh, Millet & Susie Fadoul, Thomasina Geimer, Kenny & Nancy Joseph, Mike Linton, Joe & Nikki Popovich, Fran Saseen, Rex & Rita Strawn, Jean Weisner, Tom & Judy Brock, Jr., Myron & Cynthia Law, Mark & Barb McLaughlin, Patrick & Laurie Henry, Elsie Renzella, Ron Weisner, Marge John, Sue Jochum, George & Patty Fahey, Msgr Bakhos Chidiac,

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 & 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) & 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 & Dougherty Families by Bill & Carol Dougherty*

✿ *Bob Sengewalt by Dave & Debbie engewalt*

✿ *Deceased members of Nimon & Mariam Joseph Family by the Weisner & Joseph Families*

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:

March 10: Liam George
 March 15: Shelby Imer
 March 21: Caroline Stees McDowell
 March 22: Jennifer Imer
 March 26: Joseph John
 March 30: Greg John
 March 31: Jonas George
 April 1: Patrick Sengewalt
 April 6: Ronald Weisner
 April 8: Jesse John

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)

Jim Sengewalt, Kathleen Olinski, Al Depto, Don Henning, Joe Roxby, Dolores Joseph, Jeff Fahey & his daughter Amanda, Elia Frenn, Nick Bedway, Shirley & Jim George, Patty Fahey, Fred Schweizer (brother of our organist Mary Lee Porter), Mary Jo Terry, Barbara Hostage, Phil Geimer, Justin Frenn, John Shiben

<i>Your Church Support Last Week</i>	
\$1,076.50	Sunday Collection
500.00	Diocesan Appeal
39.00	Candles
24.00	Coffee hour
1,380.00	St. Maron Dinner
25.00	Easter Flowers
1,000.00	Donation to the church
583.00	Utilities
35.00	Donation to Poor Families
\$4,662.50	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

Parish Condolences: Bill Dougherty

The pastor and the parishioners of Our Lady of Lebanon Church, offer their heartfelt sympathy to the Dougherty Family on the loss of their beloved Bill. Msgr. Bakhos will celebrate the funeral Mass on Saturday, March 14th at 11:00 a.m. May the Blessed Mother intercede for him and lead him to the light of Christ. We extend the parish's condolences to his wife Carol and to his Family in their time of sorrow.

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.

Warning! Be Aware of Shoplifters

Warning: Ladies and Gentlemen, when volunteering in any church event, please put your purses, wallets and anything of value in the locker. The lockers are located in the first storage room to the right of the kitchen. They have been provided for the safekeeping of your valuables. You may lock them and keep the key on your person to be opened when you leave. Please don't forget to do this, it is so worth the time and effort to keep your belongings safe. Don't leave your purse unattended -even in the church- because shoplifters are not here to pray but to look for any opportunity to steal anything they can put their hands on. They have records with the police. Lock your purse first, then go work with peace of mind.

Around Us

Lenten Fish Fry

Where: Our Lady of Seven Dolours 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

Bill Hunter tumbled to the wooden floor of his home. His parents picked him up and tried again to help him walk. It was no use. This was 1939, and doctors had been telling the Hunters to institutionalize five—year—old Bill for some time, a common recommendation then for children with physical and mental disabilities. Bill's parents, a steel— worker and a homemaker, struggled with the decision to send Bill away.

“This was back in the Depression,” says Fred Hunter, Bill's older brother by two years. “Things were tough all around. It was a very tearful situation. Their hearts breaking, the Hunters drove Bill from their home outside Chicago to a state facility 200 miles away. They visited regularly for a year. But administrators, worried that such meetings might upset the other residents, advised them to stop coming.

“My brother realized who his parents were,” Fred says. “To be left like that was very traumatic. I felt very sad to see my parents in such turmoil.”

The years rolled by. Bill's siblings got married and had their own children. Everybody thought about Bill, but his name was not spoken. Bill's parents grew old and, as they aged, grew infirm. They had done what they thought was best for Bill, but his absence had left a gaping, raw wound for the family.

The Hunters' sad story inadvertently took a happier turn thirty-five years later. It began when Julie signed up her six-year-old daughter Jenny, who had Down Syndrome, for a religious—education program for the disabled. Sadly, Jenny never had a chance to take a class. She died shortly afterward.

Julie nevertheless went on to volunteer with the program that she had hoped her daughter might enjoy. By 1987, she had become a full-time employee of the Archdiocese of Chicago's Special Religious Education Division.

One of Julie's favorite students was an easygoing older man with a white mustache and gray hair. His records labeled him mildly retarded. He suffered from cerebral palsy and needed a walker to get around. His hearing was bad, but he knew a bit of sign language.

Despite his circumstances, Bill had a special spark. Though he could only say a handful of words, he was a good communicator. And he radiated cheerfulness. Bill was especially religious. He wore a cross around his neck and enjoyed being in church. He took part enthusiastically in the sacraments.

“He’s very prayerful,” Julie says.” He has a deep sense of the sacred. God is a presence in his life, bringing him peace and a reason to hope.”

Bill grew very animated when Julie talked about family, so she decided to find at least one member of his family. But the group home told her that Bill had no family. Even still, Julie was determined. As the years passed, she took up Bill’s cause with renewed passion. Finally, in 1993, an administrator gave Julie a name and phone number. The suburban number was for Kathy, Bill’s sister.

Only brother Fred was old enough to have memories of Bill. His sisters, Kathy and Bonnie, knew next to nothing. “My brother said he was a vegetable,” Kathy says, “and that it was best that we didn’t see him. You have to understand the times. People ask us, “how could your parents give him up?’ There was no schooling like there is today. No way would they do the same thing today. But things are different now.”

As time went by, Fred thought more and more about Bill. What was he like? Was it possible to bring him back to the family? It was the fear of the unknown, not knowing what to expect, that kept Fred from initiating contact.

It was decided that Fred would meet with Bill first. On the day of the meetings, Fred brought a photo of their mother. Bill studied the photo. Julie realized the challenge. “Bill understands family,” she says. “But how do we get him to understand this is his mother?”

Julie put the photo on Bill’s chest and pointed at him. “His face suddenly changed and lit up like a light bulb,” Julie recalls. “He nodded and got excited.”

The next challenge was to help Bill understand that Fred was his brother. Julie put the photo by Bill and signed mother and placed the photo by Fred and signed mother. An amazed look rushed over his face.

“Bud “ Bill said.

Fred nearly fell off the chair. “That’s what he called me when he was little,” Fred said.

That night, Fred called his sister Kathy. I just met my brother,” Fred sobbed.

Bill’s sisters visited two weeks later and then it was time for Bill to meet his mother. It happened on Mothers’ Day in the church basement, where they embraced for the first time in fifty years.

Until she died three years later, mother and son were inseparable, at least emotionally. “They saw each other, held hands and never let go, at least figuratively,” says Hess. “She was so happy when they were together.” Fred says that Bill filled a big hole in their mother’s life. “She felt so relieved to have her family back again,” he adds.

Bill now spends his weekends and holidays with his family. He has bonded with his great-nephews and great-nieces. “He loves kids,” says Kathy.

Not long ago, Bill visited Fred in Florida, where the elder brother has retired. Being near the clouds on the plane ride stirred his religious feelings. “He pointed at the clouds and made the sign of the cross,” Kathy says. “He thought we were up by Jesus.”

The Hunter family has since moved Bill into a more pleasant group home in a suburb closer to his sisters. “This has changed his life entirely,” Julie says. “He held on to the memories of his family for his whole life, and they’ve become real.”

A Time to Laugh (451)

Monkey Business

A Jewish businessman was in a great deal of trouble. His business was failing, he had put everything he had into the business, he owed everybody. It was so bad he was even contemplating suicide. As a last resort he went to a Rabbi and poured out his story of tears and woe.

When he had finished, the Rabbi said, "Here's what I want you to do: Put a beach chair and your Torah in your car and drive down to the beach. Take the beach chair and the Torah to the water's edge, sit down in the beach chair, and put the Torah in your lap. Open the Torah; the wind will rifle the pages, but finally the open Torah

will come to rest on a page. Look down at the page and read the first thing you see. That will be your answer. That will tell you what to do."

A year later the businessman went back to the Rabbi and brought his wife and children with him. The man was in a new custom-tailored suit, his wife in a mink coat, the children shining.

The businessman pulled an envelope stuffed with money out of his pocket, gave it to the Rabbi as a donation in thanks for his advice.

The Rabbi recognized the benefactor, and was curious.

"You did as I suggested?" he asked.

"Absolutely," replied the businessman.

"You went to the beach?"

"Absolutely."

"You sat in a beach chair with the Torah in your lap?"

"Absolutely."

"You let the pages rattle until they stopped?"

"Absolutely."

"And what were the first words you saw?"

"Chapter 11."

Single Black Female Ad

This has to be one of the best "singles" ads ever printed. It is reported to have been listed in the Atlanta Journal "SINGLE BLACK FEMALE seeks male companionship, ethnicity unimportant.

I'm a very good girl who LOVES to play.

I love long walks in the woods, riding in your pickup truck, hunting, camping and fishing trips, cozy winter nights lying by the fire. Candlelight dinners will have me eating out of your hand. I'll be at the front door when you get home from work, wearing only what nature gave me. Call and ask for Daisy, I'll be waiting....

Over 15,000 men found themselves talking to the Atlanta Humane Society about an 8-week-old black Labrador retriever.

Funny Signs

--In a restroom: TOILET OUT OF ORDER. PLEASE USE FLOOR BELOW.

--In a Laundromat: AUTOMATIC WASHING MACHINES: PLEASE REMOVE ALL YOUR CLOTHES WHEN THE LIGHT GOES OUT.

--In a London department store: BARGAIN BASEMENT UPSTAIRS.

--In an office: WOULD THE PERSON WHO TOOK THE STEP LADDER YESTERDAY PLEASE BRING IT BACK OR FURTHER STEPS WILL BE TAKEN.

--In another office: AFTER TEA BREAK STAFF SHOULD EMPTY THE TEAPOT AND STAND UPSIDE DOWN ON THE DRAINING BOARD.

--Outside a secondhand shop: WE EXCHANGE ANYTHING - BICYCLES, WASHING MACHINES, ETC. WHY NOT BRING YOUR WIFE ALONG AND GET A WONDERFUL BARGAIN?

--Notice in health food shop window: CLOSED DUE TO ILLNESS.

--Spotted in a safari park: ELEPHANTS PLEASE STAY IN YOUR CAR.

--Seen during a conference: FOR ANYONE WHO HAS CHILDREN AND DOESN'T KNOW IT, THERE IS A DAY CARE ON THE 1ST FLOOR.