



April 11, 2021
Bulletin #15

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003

Rectory: 304-233-1688 • Fax: 304-233-4714

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Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac, Pastor

Mary Lee Porter, Organist



New Sunday

***Weekend Masses:**

Saturday at 4:00 p.m. [Rosary & Litany start 20 minutes before Mass]

Sunday 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]

(Lent) Friday at 5:30 p.m. followed by Stations of the Cross and Benediction

Monday and Wednesday No Mass. Pastor's office work.

***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, Rita Strawn, Mary Stees, Susan (John) Burns, Mark McLaughlin

***Choir Members:** Lou Kourey, Robert Harris, Joe Simon, Shelly Hancher, Ted Olinski, Holly Stahl

***Bulletin Coordinator:** Thomasina Geimer

***Altar Server:** Earl Duffy and Joe Roxby

***Altar Boy:** Christopher AlKhoury

***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

New Sunday

Readings: 2 Cor 5:11-21 and Jn 20:26-31

“We have seen the Lord!” The risen Christ had already appeared to the disciples in the absence of Thomas. He had shown the wounds of His passion and imparted to them His messianic peace. In anticipation of Pentecost, He had given them the Holy Spirit -the Spirit who by their means- would affect the work of salvation. Then came Thomas, and careless of what others thought, but true to himself, said flatly: **“Unless I see, I refuse to believe.”**

Thomas the apostle was a forthright and honest man: his mentality is revealed in various places in the Gospels. Here he shows us that in what concerns the adventure of faith, he is not easily convinced. How like ourselves he is, in his pursuit of the real, the tangible; mistrustful of ideologies unless they are vouched for by everyday experience. Yet God is not displeased at this! The most amazing thing about faith is that one can believe. The Lord understands this, and a week later takes him at his word and submits to his demand: **“Give me your hand and put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.”**

And what about us, twentieth century believers: are we going to drift through the liturgical celebration of the Easter Season, repeating abstractedly: **“Happy are those who have not seen, yet believe?”** We ought rather to follow Thomas in trying to see the power of the Resurrection manifested in our lives -as individuals and as a community! We should wish to see this power healing the wounds of our brothers; undoing oppression; bringing back from the dead those men and women still engulfed in sin.

At least we can offer these a helping hand. Another amazing truth about faith is that we can believe in the impossible and do our utmost to achieve it. Then, and only then, dare we say, quite truthfully: **“My Lord and my God!”**

This Weekend Masses Schedule, April 10-11

Saturday April 10 at 4:00 p.m.:

✠ Bernadine Elias (Birthday) by Mike & Terri Golebiewski

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

Sunday, April 11 at 10:30 a.m.:

✠ Thomas and Elias George

✠ Joe & Nell Duffy and George & Rose Fadoul by Earl & Linda Duffy

✠ Deceased of the Cater Family by Dr. Maryann Cater

✠ Intentions of Joe & Nikki Popovich (Wedding Anniversary) by Dalton

Weekday Masses Schedule

Monday April 12: No Mass. Pastor's day off.

Tuesday April 13 at 12:05 p.m.:

✠ Steve & Margaret Schlog (Birthday and Anniversary) by Fran Saseen

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

✠ Good health of Nick & Judy Bedway

Wednesday April 14: No Mass. Pastor's day off.

Thursday April 15 at 12:05 p.m.:

✠ Nancy Ferris Coffield (Anniversary) by Mary Zaid Stees and Libby G. Magnone

✠ Living & Deceased of Tom & Judy Brock

✠ Good health of Nick & Judy Bedway

Friday, April 16: No Mass. Pastor's day off.

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Next Weekend Masses Schedule, April 17-18

Saturday April 17 at 4:00 p.m.:

- ✠ Susie Fadoul by Larry & Becky Ferrara
- ✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her Will
- ✠ Good health of Nick & Judy Bedway

Sunday, April 18 at 10:30 a.m.:

- ✠ Bill Dougherty by his wife Carol
- ✠ Louie & Cecilia Ammar by Ron & Susan (John) Burns
- ✠ Deceased of the Hassan and Nassar Families by Dalton
- ✠ Rodd Haller and Crag Haas (Birthdays) by Dalton

Deceased Mother's Day Masses (From Sat., May 8 till Thu. May 14)

Please remember your mothers on Mother's Day by offering Masses for their souls.

- ✠ Living & Deceased members of the Nicholas & Nimnoom Ghaphery Family and the David Abraham Ghaphery Family
- ✠ Sadie Chidiac (mother), Kathrine & Hasibi (grandmothers) and all my sisters by Msgr. Bakhos
- ✠ Agnes Jacovetty & June Fahey by George & Patty Fahey
- ✠ Patricia Gompers by Matt, Vicky & Christine Gompers
- ✠ Emily Vince by her children & grandchildren
- ✠ Sylvia Long, her husband Arthur, & her son Mark by her last will
- ✠ Catherine Arthur by her daughter Carole Burkhart
- ✠ Louise N. Khourey & Gladys Howard by children Lou & Charlotte & grandchildren Emmalena & Louie
- ✠ Emma Nader & Nabiha "Lena" Khourey by Lou, Charlotte, Emmalena & Louie Khourey
- ✠ Minnie Church Riggs & Cassandra "Cassie" Howard by Lou, Charlotte, Emmalena & Louie Khourey
- ✠ Julian H. McGlumphy (Anniversary) by Jerry McGlumphy and children
- ✠ Mariam Joseph (mother) and Mary Katherine Habeb (grandmother) by the Joseph and Weisner Families
- ✠ Amelia Fitzgerald by Rosemary and Dick Coury
- ✠ Mary Ann Khoury by Rosemary and Dick Coury
- ✠ Cecilia Murad by her daughter Luane Frazier and grandsons John & Rick
- ✠ Victoria John and Marion Keegan by Marge John and Family
- ✠ Minnie Leech and Dolores Fahey and Betty Lou Petros by Jackie & Pat Petros
- ✠ Ann Otterbeck and Lucy Gibbons and Sadie Coury by Ron, Kim and Kaitlin Gibbons
- ✠ Emma Dellget and Rita Schaffer by Rita & Rex Strawn
- ✠ Virginia Strawn and Freda Crawford by Rex & Rita Strawn
- ✠ Cecilia Habdo Mays and Saada Habdo by Carol Dougherty
- ✠ Susie Fadoul by Janet, Millet and Jonathan Fadoul
- ✠ Susie Fadoul by Justin, Jacob, Payton, Mackenzie, Cooper and Millet Jr. Fadoul
- ✠ Pearl I. Shutler and Clara Shutler and Isabelle Nolte by Janet Shutler
- ✠ Helen Schroeder by Mark Schroeder
- ✠ Helen Saseen and Margaret Schlog by Fran Saseen
- ✠ Freda Josephs and Sadie George by Larry Josephs (MN)
- ✠ Vicki-Marie Post by her son Kenneth Post
- ✠ Monica-Marie Peyer by grandson Kenneth Post
- ✠ Mary Daniel by her daughter and son-in-law Rebecca and Michael Difabrizio
- ✠ Mary K. Ferris by her daughter Denise Ferris
- ✠ Ginny and Martha Shia by Sue Jochum
- ✠ Anna Shia by Sue Jochum
- ✠ LaVerne Thomas and Evelyn Hall by Dr. Adel, Diane & Justin and Andreah & Zack Riedel

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- ✠ Siham Frenn by Dr. Adel, Diane & Justin Frenn and Andreah & Zack Riedel
- ✠ Ruth Shibben and Clara McFarland by John & Dee Shibben
- ✠ Shirley Elias Nickerson and Amelia Elias by their Loving Family
- ✠ Wanda Nickerson by her Loving Family
- ✠ Leona M. Albaugh (13th Anniversary) by her son Denny Albaugh
- ✠
- ✠
- ✠

Living Mother's Day Masses (From Sat., May 8 till Thu. May 14)

Please remember your mothers on Mother's Day by offering Masses for their souls.

- ✠ Charlotte Khourey by her children Emmalena and Louie
- ✠ Diane Frenn by Dr. Adel & Justin Frenn and Andreah & Zack Riedel
- ✠

May Flowers for the Blessed Mother

Our Lady of Lebanon Women's Society will be sponsoring the flowers for the Blessed Mother in May
 May 2, Carol Dougherty in honor of Mary Thomas
 May 9 Thomasina Geimer
 May 16 Charlotte Khourey
 May 23 Rita Strawn
 May 30 Nettie Seidler and Mary Lish

Mother's Day Basket

Our Mother's Day Gift Basket Will Be A Delight For The Lucky Winner. The contents include; two bottles of wine, lovely floral kitchen towels and oven mitts, various color coordinated items for the kitchen, assorted chocolate pralines, a package of biscotti, dark chocolate pralines, color coordinated paper plates and utensils, (no clean up that day) and a beautiful floral table runner.

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:

- April 11: Randy Weisner
- April 12: Justin Frenn
- April 13: Adel Frenn
- April 14: Mark McLaughlin, Lori DeMuth
- April 20: Angela Petros
- April 28: Ann Marie Weisner Serafin
- April 29: Linda Hostutler, Jeannette Wakim
- May 5: Mark Thomas, Eden DeMuth
- May 6: Nikki Lenz
- May 7: Laura Lee Hunter
- May 9: Mark Thomas

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)
 Roda Mary Perilli, Nick & Judy Bedway, Mark Fertig (son-in-law of Mary Stees), Earl Duffy & his sister Dorothy McKee, Viola J. Yeater (mother of Jeannette Wakim), Louis "Butch" Elias, Mary Thomas, Jack Hogan (infant son of Mark & Michaela Hogan & great nephew of Lou Khourey), Justin Frenn, Elia Frenn, John Shibben, Al Depto, Don Henning, Patty Fahey, Fred Schweizer (brother of our organist Mary Lee Porter), Mary Jo Terry, Barbara Hostage, Phil Geimer,

<i>Your Church Support Last Week</i>	
\$2,838.00	<i>Easter Collection</i>
500.00	<i>Donation to the church</i>
25.00	<i>Candles</i>
505.00	<i>50/50 Mother Day (Net Cash Prize is now: \$405.00)</i>
385.00	<i>Gift Basket Mother Day</i>
484.00	<i>utilities</i>
\$4,737.00	<i>Total Deposits: May God reward you abundantly for supporting your spiritual home! Finance Committee: Lou Khourey, Mary Stees, Linda Duffy, Susan Burns, Liz Murad</i>

What's New

Mailing Information

Dear Parishioners and friends,

The church is here to serve you and to inform you about all the events that are taking place in the parish. Throughout the year, our parishioners requested to receive mailings concerning: Saint Maron Dinner, Bake Sale, Lebanese Food Festival, Spaghetti Dinner, Diocesan Appeal, Raffles, and Masses for their beloved ones. We thank you if you participate and support the church in order to cover the expenses, but if you belong to the “Complaining Club”, please call 304-233-1688 in order to be removed from our mailing list.

Few parishioners think that everything is free for the church and that the few dollars they put in the collection are enough to pay all the bills!!!

Do you know that nothing is free in USA even for the churches?

Do you know that for this year alone, our building insurance is \$12,831.00, the elevator warranty and permit is \$3,276.58 and the health insurance is \$16,800.00 and utilities \$16,548 and phone and internet \$2,940.00? The total of all these expenses is \$52,395.58 without mentioning the office supplies and maintenance.

If the ladies and gentlemen -who are the backbones of every church- don't volunteer and raise funds via dinners and other events, no church would remain open. We are not asking for your money for we know that you have your own house bills to pay, but we need you to open your mind about our obligations toward you so you don't complain about something you ignore.

Our church is doing great because we have many generous parishioners and the pastor is sparing lot of expenses by driving his own car and living in his own house paying from his pocket his own electricity bills, cable TV, water and other personal taxes. –Msgr. Bakhos

Many Thanks

--To the Family of Dr. AlKhouri and Randy Weisner and Janet Shutler for helping Msgr decorating the church for the Holy Week. May you be rewarded in good health and happy life.

--To PJ and Nikki Lenz for donating 200 carnations to cover the body of Christ in the tomb. May the blessed Mother reward you and prosper you.

--To the dedicated and responsible parishioners who sanitized the pews and every possible touched items on the way to Mass. May God reward you abundantly.

--To those of you who are wearing Masks properly at all times that you are inside Our Lady of Lebanon Church Building. This is to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other flu & bacteria. Please note that your Nose & Mouth are to be covered at ALL times – especially when you are within 6 feet of another person.

--No Mary Crowning procession this year because of COVID-19

--To Don & Roberta Henning and Jane Palmer for fulfilling their Easter Obligation

Rummage Sale Information

Parishioners and friends; you can start bringing items with you on Saturday and Sunday. We can open the basement door before and after mass for the drop-offs. Please remember, no personal clothing.

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More information at a later date. For any questions call Linda (304) 242-6853

Spirituality: God and the spider

During World War II, a US marine was separated from his unit on a Pacific island. The fighting had been intense, and in the smoke and the crossfire he had lost touch with his comrades.

Alone in the jungle, he could hear enemy soldiers coming in his direction. Scrambling for cover, he found his way up a high ridge to several small caves in the rock. Quickly he crawled inside one of the caves. Although safe for the moment, he realized that once the enemy soldiers looking for him swept up the ridge, they would quickly search all the caves and he would be killed.

As he waited, he prayed, "Lord, if it be your will, please protect me. Whatever your will though, I love you and trust you. Amen."

After praying, he lay quietly listening to the enemy begin to draw close. He thought, "Well, I guess the Lord isn't going to help me out of this one." Then he saw a spider begin to build a web over the front of his cave.

As he watched, listening to the enemy searching for him all the while, the spider layered strand after strand of web across the opening of the cave.

"Hah, he thought. "What I need is a brick wall and what the Lord has sent me is a spider web. God does have a sense of humor."

As the enemy drew closer, he watched from the darkness of his hideout and could see them searching one cave after another. As they came to his, he got ready to make his last stand. To his amazement, however, after glancing in the direction of his cave, they moved on. Suddenly, he realized that with the spider web over the entrance, his cave looked as if no one had entered for quite a while. "Lord, forgive me," prayed the young man. "I had forgotten that in you a spider's web is stronger than a brick wall."

We all face times of great trouble. When we do, it is so easy to forget the victories that God would work in our lives, sometimes in the most surprising ways. As the great leader, Nehemiah, reminded the people of Israel when they faced the task of rebuilding Jerusalem, "In God we will have success!" [Nehemiah 2:20] Remember: Whatever is happening in your life, with God, a mere spider's web can become a brick wall of protection. Believe He is with you always. Just speak His name through Jesus His son, and you will see His great power and love for you

Wisdom

I would like to discuss one area of prayer that can be very trying for young families, in fact in many cases it is the reason why some young families do not attend Divine Liturgy on a regular basis: Young children and Divine Liturgy -- the trial of the young family.

I am a father of 4 children (ages 7, 6, almost 5, and almost 2) and this has long been a "problem" that, I and my wife, have had to deal with. I am writing this topic after a recent incident in my own life. Recently I was at Church with my children. I sat through the service with my children. They were not the best behaved by far, but they were not horrible (the biggest situation was the chatter of Anthony, the youngest child). At the conclusion of the service this woman came up to my pew and began to tell me how my children had destroyed the Mass for her. How she would have to wait another week to feel spiritually uplifted and eventually went as far as to say "*you might find your children cute but they are really just a bunch of brats.*" This is a very difficult exchange for many parents to hear and for many would cause them to either:

- 1- get angry with their children or
- 2- not go back to church for a while. I must say that as I was leaving four other individuals went out of their way to tell me my children were not distracting (since they had heard her yelling at me) and one said he didn't hear them at all (some people can be very kind and understanding).

How should we handle Divine Liturgy and young children? I would like to address this in two ways.

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First, I would like to look at the child's place at Liturgy and second, I would like to go over some helpful tips for the parents of a young child at the Divine Liturgy Service.

Even in Christ's time the thinking was that children could not understand Jesus, so they should be turned away. Jesus' own closest followers attempted to turn away the children from coming to see Jesus and He responded in this way. ***“Let the little children come unto Me and do not hinder them, for of such is the kingdom of God.”*** These children come to Jesus in a way that is much easier than for us adults. They come not understanding the words being spoken or the mystery of the liturgy. They come being able to know Jesus by just feeling his touch, by just being present where he is, and Christ knows this and thus told his followers to allow these little children in.

This does not mean that we have no responsibility in forming our children. In fact, as parents, this is our primary responsibility. It simply means that children rightly have a place in church and they should be accepted in church for who they are, Children of God.

How then do we help them to grow in reverence while attending Divine Liturgy?

I am by no means an expert and my children are not perfect, but let me share with you some tips for young children at the Liturgy:

Tips for young children in Church:

- 1- Help the children make the sign of the cross and bless themselves with Holy Water as they enter the church. (This sets up a sense of this being a special place they are entering.)
- 2- Sit towards the FRONT of the church. Children can behave better if they can see more. Standing behind a field of 5-6 feet tall adults gives a child nothing to look at. They need to be able to see the Mystery of the Eucharist develop before them.
- 3- Bring age-appropriate Religious Books for children to look at. This allows them to investigate the world of saints and bible figures when they just can't seem to devote any more attention to the liturgy in front of them.
- 4- Bring paper and pencil for drawing. Possible items to draw:
 - a- flowers to place at Mary's feet;
 - b- a picture to place in the collection basket as their offering;
 - c- a picture about the Liturgy to give Father after Liturgy.
- 5- For the youngest child (probably under 4) a sippy cup and a bag of Cheerios, crackers or some other finger food can really help. We need to remember that this population is at the greatest disadvantage. (Just try your best to pick-up after your child and remove your trash. This is what most parishes object to, the food and trash being left in the pews.)
- 6- As soon as they can (about age 3) start to have children make the sign of the cross, and sing and say simple songs and prayers when they are able to.
- 7- For toddlers (who need to talk) explain to them that when the congregation is all singing they can sing too. This will give them an appropriate time to vocalize whatever it is they need to.
- 8- It is only by coming to Divine Liturgy regularly that they will develop the appropriate behaviors that we so wish would come sooner.

(Extract from NAM Newsletter, July 2002)

Story

At the time when God created the world, after he had finished the plants and the animals, he took material from his own body and created a piece of pure gold. "I name you GOLD, He said, and I mean you to be the crown of creation, the image of Me. Are you clear about who you are?" And GOLD, answered willingly: "I am GOLD, pure gold, created in the image of God." God was pleased, and left GOLD alone for the night, as everything was so recently created, and God was very busy with the animals and plants coming to ask him for things. GOLD lay resting silently at the place where God had created him, experiencing the wonderful feeling of being pure gold, the image of God. And his joy was so great that he could think of nothing but this.

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But night soon came, and in the darkness hobbits called vritis were tip-toeing, eager to do something to destroy the work of God. One of them caught sight of GOLD lying motionless on the ground, contemplating God, and called his four brothers to the place. Together they cast a spell over him, formed the piece of gold into a sheep and then disappeared into the darkness again.

In the morning a bird came flying to GOLD woke him and told him that God was calling him. GOLD felt a bit strange this morning; he didn't know what had happened to him during the night, but he felt that something was wrong. He seemed suddenly to have forgotten everything: anyhow, he hurried away to see God. God had been busy all morning, He had been calling all the plants and animals to check that they remembered the names he had given them. All answered correctly, and God was pleased. Now he turned to the last one GOLD and said: *"Tell me who you are?"* GOLD was confused and didn't know what to answer, but then he looked at his form and answered: *"I am a sheep, Lord."* God sighed, and told him to go and think, and return the next morning to answer the question again. So GOLD went, thinking deeply about the mystery of his identity, but he could only think that he was really a sheep.

The night came and again the five hobbits came tip-toeing in the darkness. They found GOLD in a deep sleep, and this time they formed him into a camel. GOLD woke up next morning and went to God, who asked him again: *"Do you know who you are?"* And GOLD looked at his form and answered: *"I am a camel, Lord."* God asked him again to go back and think and return next morning. That night, the hobbits formed GOLD into an elephant. When God called him and asked the same question again the same answered that he was an elephant. This went on for seven days more, the hobbits each night forming the piece of gold into something new, and GOLD every day identifying himself with the new patterns the hobbits had made him in. Then God saw that this couldn't go on any longer, so he called GOLD and said: *"So you have forgotten your true nature, GOLD. Don't you remember that I created you as gold, in my image and likeness?"*

GOLD was silent, for he had forgotten all about it. *"But you are still GOLD,"* God said. That's your true nature. Your mistake is that you identify yourself with the patterns the hobbits, called vritis, keep giving you. You must do your best to stop them from influencing you. Always remember that you are pure gold and nothing else. So, go back and think this over again. Try to realize that there is no difference between you and me you are not a sheep, a camel, or an elephant: you are just pure gold. So, God said, and GOLD went back again, thinking of how he was to realize this truth. [GOLD is the soul of man. The five vritis are the five modification of mind: right knowledge, wrong knowledge, fancy, sleep, and memory. These modifications carve patterns in the pure consciousness, and man identifies himself with these patterns. To experience God, these patterns must be blocked.]

A Time to Laugh (499)

Sliding Fees

When a lawyer tells you, he has a sliding fee schedule, what he means is that after he bills you, it is financially hard to get back on your feet.

Another Collection Agency

A woman has finally figured out how to stop unsolicited "chance-of-a-lifetime" offers by telemarketers. She enthusiastically welcomes these calls by saying, "Oh, thank you so much for calling! I am so grateful that someone is still willing to sell me something. I thought you were just another collection agency."

Costly Advice

A lawyer's dog ran into a butcher shop and stole a roast. The butcher went to the lawyer's office and asked him, "If a dog is without a leash and steals a roast from my store, do I have the legal right to require payment for the meat that was taken from me?"

The lawyer answered the butcher, "Oh yes, absolutely."

"The dog was your dog, the meat was my meat, and according to your own advice-you owe me ten dollars for the meat your dog took from me today."

The lawyer agreed with the butcher and immediately wrote the butcher a check for ten dollars.

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A few days later the butcher received a letter from the lawyer. The butcher opened the envelope and found an invoice for sixty dollars for the lawyer's consultation fee.

Really Dead Debtors

My sermon for the morning was on the fifth petition of the Lord's Prayer: "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors." The children are always excused just before my sermon for their own children's church, where the leaders use my text for their lesson. So, during the course of the session, they asked the children, "What is a debtor?"

Rachel, a five-year-old, responded, "It's someone who is really, really dead. There's dead and then there's really, really dead."