



November 28, 2021

Bulletin #48

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003

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

E-Mail: ololwv@comcast.net • Web Site: www.ololwv.com

Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac, Pastor

Mary Lee Porter, Ed.D. Organist



Mary visits Elizabeth

*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]

Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 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, Liz Murad

*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

Mary visits Elizabeth

Readings: Eph 1:1-14 and Lk 1:39-45

Advent days are drawing quickly to a close. Will there be new life in our lives this week?

The prophet Micah announced a new king, as yet unborn, whose origins will be in Bethlehem. This king will shepherd his people, rule in the name of the Lord, and bring peace to all the world. What a wonderful prophecy for the early Church to seize upon; how well Jesus fulfilled it.

John the Baptizer, himself unborn, announce a new king, as yet unborn. When the newly impregnated Mary comes to visit, he leaps for joy in his mother's womb. This is the first time we hear from the one who will lead the way for Jesus. The messenger conveyed the message to Elizabeth his mother, via the Holy Spirit, that Mary and her child are uniquely blessed.

And Saint Paul, writing to the Christians in Rome, announced this king in a different way. Already born -already died- this king continues to save us through his own battered, bruised, bloodied body.

O Radiant Dawn, our King we search for You amid the dark shadows of our certain death, and we find hope of new life in these promises from of old.

This Weekend, Nov. 27-28: Mary visits Elizabeth

Saturday November 27 at 4:00 p.m.:

- ✠ Rose & George Fadoul (Birthday) and Susie Fadoul by Millet Fadoul
- ✠ Kathleen Olinski by her sister Mary Ragase
- ✠ Special Intentions of A Friend

Sunday, November 28 at 10:30 a.m.:

- ✠ Bob Sengewalt by his grandchildren: Jeff, Courtney and Patrick Sengewalt
- ✠ Living & Deceased of Tom & Judy Brock Jr.

Weekday Masses Schedule

Monday November 29: No Mass. Pastor's day off.

Tuesday November 30 at 12:05 p.m.:

- ✠ Isabel Ferris Wolfe (Anniversary) by Mary Zaid Stees and Libby G. Magnone
- ✠ Deceased of the Thomas, Splatt & Nutter Families by John & Kathy Thomas (MN)
- ✠ Deceased Family members of Rosella Saseen and Sylvia Long by their Last Will.

Wednesday December 1: No Mass. Pastor's day off.

Thursday December 2 at 12:05 p.m.:

- ✠ Deceased of the Thomas, Splatt & Nutter Families by John & Kathy Thomas (MN)
- ✠ Kathleen Olinski by her sister Mary Ragase

Friday, December 3: No Mass. Pastor's day off.

Next Weekend, Dec. 4-5: Birth of John the Baptist

Saturday December 4:

at 3:40 p.m.: Christmas Novena

at 4:00 p.m.: Mass

- ✠ Cathy (Sharp) Howard (Birthday) by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt
- ✠ Bod Sengewalt by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt
- ✠ Special Intentions of A Friend

Sunday, December 5:

at 10:10 a.m.: Christmas Novena

at 10:30 p.m.: Mass

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

✠ Siham Frenn (Anniversary) by Dr. Adel, Diane, Justin and Andreah & Zack Riedel

✠ Living & Deceased of the Duffy and Fadoul and Shedeed Families by Earl & Linda Duffy

Christmas Novena (*Starts on Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 4-5*)

In preparation for the coming of our Savior, we will start the Christmas Novena during all the weekend Masses of December that precede Christmas. Please come little bit early and share in the spiritual uplifting of the Christmas season. (See mass schedule above)

30th Anniversary to the Priesthood (*Sunday, Dec. 19 after 10: 30 am Mass*)

This year, Msgr. Bakhos reached his 70th Birthday (February 9th) and his 30th Anniversary to the priesthood will be on (December 21). He was ordained in Sydney, Australia on December 21, 1991. He designed the church of Saint Joseph in Croydon -which is a suburb of Sydney, Australia- and he handled the building project to the parish council over there before he moved to the United States in 1994. He served in Lawrence (Massachusetts), Dayton (Ohio), St. Paul (Minnesota), in many Missions and he spent the last 20 years serving Our Lady of Lebanon in Wheeling. A brunch will be served on Sunday, December 19th following the 10:30 am Mass at the Cedar Hall. All parishioners and Friends are cordially invited to attend. Please call Linda at 304-242-6853 and let her know how many guests are attending so that the ladies can prepare food for everyone. Please plan to attend because Msgr. Bakhos likes to see you there.

Christmas Poinsettias in Memory of:

Please donate toward decorating the altar with poinsettias during Christmas. Every poinsettia costs \$25.00

- ✠ Louis N. & Louis H. Khourey, Sr. & Gladys Howard by Lou & Charlotte Khourey & Family
- ✠ In Honor of Chris Wakim and Family
- ✠ In Honor of Frank & Anna Marie and Michael Duymich
- ✠ In Honor of Joe & Nikki Popovich and Family
- ✠ In Loving memory of John & Cecilia John by Ron & Susan (John) Burns
- ✠ In Loving memory of The Elias & Nickerson Families by Tammy Strong
- ✠ In Loving memory of the Saseen & Schlog Families by Fran Saseen
- ✠ In Loving memory of Ralph & Mary Joseph Shipley by Thomasina Geimer
- ✠ In Loving memory of Robert Hunter Jr. & Robby Hunter III by Thomasina Geimer
- ✠ In Loving memory of Danny & Milly Manners by their daughter NiNi Miller
- ✠ In Loving memory of Bill Dougherty by his wife Carol
- ✠ In Loving memory of the Habdo Family by Carol Dougherty
- ✠ In Loving memory of

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:

- December 3: Joey John
- December 7: Christina Committee Zdilla
- December 12: Lou Khourey
- December 22: Millet C. Fadoul
- December 25: Shelly Hancher
- December 27: Luke Lenz, Jay Murad
- December 29: Jeff Bentz

Please Pray for Those on Our Prayer List

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(Note: Please call Msgr. Bakhos if you need your name added to our Prayer List. HIPPA regulations)
 Angela & John Carpec, Carol Dougherty, Shirley George, John Frazier, Dennis Porter, Mary Stees, Diane Palotay, Rex & Rita Strawn, Nick & Judy Bedway, 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, Patty Fahey, Fred Schweizer (brother of our organist Mary Lee Porter), Barbara Hostage, Phil Geimer,

<i>Your Church Support Last Week</i>	
\$1,205.00	Sunday Collection
314.00	Christmas poinsettias
44.00	Candles
938.00	Bake Sale deposited in the Women Society account
\$2,501.00	utilities
	Total Deposits: <i>May God reward you abundantly for supporting your spiritual home!</i> Finance Committee: Lou Khourey, Mary Stees, Linda Duffy, Susan Burns, Liz Murad

What's New?

Final Financial Report of the Thanksgiving Bake Sale

After receiving the credit card sales, we have now the final financial report of the last Bake Sale. Many Thanks to all the donors, volunteers and chairpersons. Job well done.

Income	Expenses	Net profit
\$8,357.40	\$2,488.95	\$5,868.45

Bulletin Ads

If you wish to place a memorial Ad or business Ad on the back of our 2022 weekly church bulletin, please contact Msgr. Bakhos 304-233-1688 or Charlotte 304-639-1372 for more information.

Lower your 2021 Income Tax Bill

Dear Parishioners and benefactors,

The CARES Act passed by Congress has certain tax benefits for Parishioners who choose to donate to their Churches. This will help to benefit all Parishioners who make their end of year charitable giving decisions. The Act allows a personal tax deduction of \$300.00 in charitable contributions, even to those who do not itemize. A more important and substantial benefit of the Act, is that Parishioners can deduct 100% of their charitable contributions from their adjusted gross income. In years past, the most one could deduct was 60%. This means that every Dollar the parishioners give to their Church can be fully written off on their taxes.

So, one way to lower your income tax bill for this year is to make charitable contributions, which can be deducted from your income if you are planning to itemize your deductions when you file your 2021 income tax. Gifts you make to charities, such as **Our Lady of Lebanon Church**, are tax deductible. But in order for you to claim the deduction on your tax return for **2021**, you must make the gift this year. That is important to keep in mind if you are planning on making a year-end gift. For example, if you are going to give money using a check, be sure the date on the check is on or before December 31st, 2021. Also, be sure to give the check to the church on or before that date. The IRS requires that you have a letter or receipt from the church that received the gift. By the **end of January 2022** all donors will receive a statement from **the Church** stating their names and the amount of gift received –through checks or weekly offering envelopes- from **January 1st, 2021 until December 31st, 2021**. It is wise to keep the church statement with your tax records, in case the IRS questions your itemized deductions.

Help needed to sanitize pews

Dear parishioners,

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Our goal is to protect you inside and outside the church. We are asking for two volunteers after every Mass to help sanitizing the pews and railings and door handles, etc. Please stay after Mass in the church for five minutes and join those who are sanitizing. May the Blessed Mother protect you and reward you. Msgr Bakhos

2022 Mahrajan (Festival) *(Sunday, August 14, 2022)*

Dear Parishioners, The Mahrajan committee decided to have the 2022 Mahrajan at Oglebay Park on Sunday, August 14, 2022. There will be only one day festival instead of two. More details will be published in the coming bulletins.

Spirituality: Love & Knowledge

Peace is the fruit of love, and love flowers in the person oriented toward God. The greatest privilege that can come to a person is to have his life God-directed; this follows when he has remotely paved the way by disciplined self-direction. God cares enough for us to regulate our lives -and this is the strongest proof of love that He could give to us. For it is a fact of human experience that we do not care very much about the details of other people's lives unless we love them. We are not deeply interested in hearing more of those individuals whom we meet in the subway and in the street and on the highway. But as soon as we begin to know and love any of them, then we become more and more interested in their lives; we have a greater care for them. As we bring them into the area of our love, both our interest and their happiness increases. It is like this when we bring ourselves into the area of God's love: there is an increasing Divine guidance of the details of our life, and we are ever being made more sure of the depth and reality of His Love. To the extent that we abandon our personality to Him, He will take possession of our will and work in us. We are no longer ruled by commands coming from the outside, as from a cruel master, but by almost imperceptible suggestions that rise up from within. We feel as if we had wanted all along to do those things He suggests to us; we are never conscious of being under command. Thus our service to Him becomes the highest form of liberty, for it is always easy to do something for the one we love.

--Bishop Fulton SHEEN, *Peace of Soul*, 1949, p.182.

Wisdom: Emergency Numbers

WHEN:

You are in sorrow	call John 14
You we lonely or fearful	call Psalm 23
you want to be fruitful	call John 15
you want rest and peace	call Matthew 2:25-30
You have sinned	call Psalm 51
You grow bitter ant critical	call 1 Corinthians 13
You worry too much	call Matthew 6:19-34
You feel down and out	call Romans 8: 31-39
Your prayers grow selfish	call Psalm 67
You are in danger	call Psalm 91
Your faith needs stirring	call Hebrews 11
God seems far away	call Psalm 139
others fail you	call Psalm 27
You leave home to labor or travel	call Psalm 121
You want assurance	call Romans 8: 1-30
For Paul's secret of happiness	call Colossians 3:12-17
For Paul's idea of Christianity	call 2Cor5:15-19
The world seems bigger than God	call Psalm 70

Story: Jesus and Andy

Once in a small farming town in Oklahoma, there lived a poor fourth grade boy named Andy who would follow this route to school everyday. He had to cross the rugged plains and a dangerous highway where vehicles recklessly drove to and fro. Once past this highway, the boy would take a short cut by passing by the Church every morning just to say hi to Jesus, and faithfully say his morning prayers. He was being watched by the pastor who always found the boy's sincerity and innocence so uplifting in the morning.

"Hello Andy, How are you today", he would say greeting the child. "I'm fine Pastor Thompson, How are you" ...he would say flashing his innocent grin. Seeing the way that Andy went to school the pastor was so concerned one day he talked to him. "From school...", he advised "do not cross the highway alone, you can pass through the Church and then I will accompany you to the other side of the road that way I can see that you get home safe...." "Thank you Pastor..." "Why don't you go straight home ... why do you stay in this church right after school?"

Andy replied, "I just want to say "Hi" to my friend, Jesus," so the pastor would leave the boy to spend time praying by himself beside the altar, but one day out of curiosity he hid behind the altar to listen to what this boy had to say. "You know my math exam was pretty bad today, but I did not cheat-although my seat mate was bullying me for notes ... you know, Dad's had a bad farming season so far this year so we don't have much food but I ate some bread and drank my water. Thank you for this! I saw a poor kitten that was hungry and know how he feels so I gave some of my bread to him... funny but I am not that hungry... Look, this is my last pair of shoes... I may have to walk barefoot next week... you see this is about to be broken... but it is okay... at least I am still able to go to school... some say we will have a hard season this month, and some of my classmates have had to stop going to school to help with the farms ... please help them get to school again, please Jesus?... Oh, you know, Dad hit me again, it is painful, but I know this pain will pass away, at least I still have a Dad ... you want to see my bruises? I know you can heal them ... here... here and....oh ...blood. I guess you knew about this one, huh? Please don't be mad at Dad, he is just tired and worries about putting food on our table and my schooling that is why he hits me...Oh, I think I am in love... there's this pretty girl in my class, her name is Anita... do you think she will like me? Anyway, at least I know you will always like me, I don't have to be anybody just to please you, you are my very best friend! Hey your birthday is just one week from now!!! Aren't you excited? I am! Wait till you see, I have a gift for you.... but it is a surprise! I hope you will like it! Oooops, I have to go..."

Then he stood up and calls out, "Pastor, I am finished talking to my friend... can you accompany me to the other side of the road now?"

This routine happened everyday. Andy never failed to visit the church. Pastor Thompson shared this every Sunday to the people in his church because he had never before seen such pure faith and trust in God, and such a very positive outlook in such negative circumstances.

The day before Christmas, Pastor Thompson became very ill and was sent to the hospital. The Church was left to a substitute Pastor who had little patience for children or for any interruptions in his work. He would not smile and could always find fault in what other people were doing.

On Christmas Day he was in the Pastor's Study when Andy, coming from his Christmas party, playfully dashed into the church calling, "Hi Jesus!!!!!" "Who are you child and what are you doing in here", the pastor yelled out angrily.

Poor Andy was so terrified. "Where's Pastor Thompson? He always helps me cross the street.... and not only that, I have to greet Jesus, it's His birthday, I have a gift right here...."

Just as he was about to get the gift out of his shirt, the pastor grabbed Andy by the shoulder and pushed him out the door of the church. "I cannot be bothered right now I am preparing my sermon for the Christmas service tonight. Also, next time be more reverent when you come into the church", the man yelled as he closed the door behind Andy.

So the boy had no choice but to cross the dangerous side of the road in front of the church by himself. As he crossed a fast moving bus came in. There was a blind curve. The boy was protecting his gift inside his shirt, so he was not looking. There was so little time. Andy died on the spot.

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As people crowded around the body of the poor, lifeless, young boy... Suddenly, out of nowhere a tall man appeared in a pure white shirt and pants, a face so mild and gentle, but with eyes full of tears... He came and carried the boy in His arms, He was crying.

Curious bystanders nudged the man in white, and asked, *"Excuse me sir, are you related to the child? Do you know him?"* The man in white, His face mourning and in agony, answered, *"He was my best friend.... "* was all he said. He took the badly wrapped gift from the shirt of the lifeless boy, and placed it near his heart. He stood up and carried the boy away and they both disappeared from sight.

The crowd was curious... On New Years Eve, when Pastor Thompson returned home from the hospital he learned of the shocking news. He went to visit Andy's parents, and to ask them about the man in white he had been told about. He consulted the parents of Andy. *"How did you first learn of your sons death?"* *"A man in white brought him here."* Sobbed the mother. *"What did he say?"* The father answered, *"He did not say anything. He was mourning. We do not know him and yet he was very lonely at our son's death, as if he knew our son very well. But there was something peaceful and unexplainable about him. He gave me my son, and then he smiled peacefully. He rubbed my son's hair away from his face and kissed him on his forehead, then he whispered something..."* *"What did he say?"*

"He said to my boy..." the father began, *"Thank you for the gift...will see you soon.. you will be with me..."* and the father of the boy continued, *"and you know for a while, it felt so wonderful... I cried, but I do not know why.... all I know is I cried tears of joy... I could not explain it, but when that man left, something peaceful came over me, I felt a deep sense of love inside... I could not explain the joy in my heart, I know my boy is in heaven now.. but... tell me, who was this man that my son talked to everyday in your church, you should know because you are always there... except at the time of his death..."*

Pastor Thompson suddenly felt the tears welling in his eyes, with trembling knees, he murmured, *"He was talking to Jesus...."*

A Time to Laugh (533)

God's Picture

A little boy was so engrossed in drawing that his mother finally asked him what it was he was drawing. "God," he said. "But nobody has ever seen God," said his mom. "Well, they will when I'm finished," the little boy responded.

What God Can Do

A young boy going to see his grandfather was traveling by train. He took a seat beside a man who happened to be a seminary professor. The boy was reading a Sunday school take-home paper, and the professor thought he would have some fun with the boy, so he said, "Young man, if you can tell me something that God can do, I'll give you a big shiny apple."

Thoughtfully the boy replied, "Mister, if you can tell me something that God can't do, I'll give you a whole barrel of apples."

Secret of Good Golf

I've had a good day when I don't fall out of the golf cart. (*Buddy Hackett*)

Plastic surgery

A 54 year old woman had a heart attack and was taken to the hospital. While on the operating table she had a near death experience.

Seeing God she asked "Is my time up?" God said, "No, you have another 43 years, 2 months and 8 days to live." Upon recovery, the woman decided to stay in the hospital and have a face-lift, liposuction, breast implants and a tummy tuck. She even had someone come in and change her hair color and brighten her teeth! Since she had so much more time to live, she figured she might as well make the most of it.

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After her last operation, she was released from the hospital. While crossing the street on her way home, she was killed by an ambulance.

Arriving in front of God, she demanded, "I thought you said I had another 43 years? Why didn't you pull me from out of the path of the ambulance?"

God replied: "I didn't recognize you."