



January 23, 2022

Bulletin #4

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003

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Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac, Pastor

Mary Lee Porter, Ed.D. Organist



3rd Sunday of Epiphany

*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, 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:

Jeannette Wakim, President



*Bulletin Announcements: Submit all Bulletin Information to Msgr. Bakhos by Noon on Tuesday every week

*New Parishioners: We welcome you with great joy & invite you to officially register as one of our parishioners

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

3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Readings: Gal 3:23-39 and Jn 3:1-16

Have you ever found yourself in a situation wherein you did not understand the language? Maybe it was while visiting a foreign country; or, possibly, in this “*hi-tech*” age, you have not kept up with the latest professional jargon. Whatever the circumstances, a failure to figure out what is being said leaves us at a distinct disadvantage.

God’s communication with us is like this. As Scripture so often relates, the Lord never stops attempting to speak to creation. Sometimes people listen and understand, but much of the time they fail to comprehend. Ultimately, God speaks a most surprising Word: a Word that “*became flesh and lived among us.*” (Jn 1 :14)

Still, even among Jesus’ own followers, there was often misunderstanding. Thus, he promised that an Advocate would be sent, “*the Holy Spirit... [who] .. will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you.*” (Jn14:26) And, at Pentecost, the apostles, “*filled with the Holy Spirit ... began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.*”

What about us? Throughout our lives, God speaks to us in new and wonderful ways. But we can only comprehend through the Spirit. As Catholics, we believe we receive the Holy Spirit particularly in the sacraments of baptism and confirmation. Baptism calls us into the life and family of God. Confirmation strengthens us in our continued growth in faith. Thus, the Church teaches that we receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, understanding, knowledge, fortitude, counsel, piety, and fear of the Lord (Is 11:2-3).

To understand how these gifts are operative, consider how we learn a new language. We need to study the tools of grammar, pronunciation, and vocabulary. But to truly understand the language, we must practice reading it and, even more, speaking it. Similarly, the gifts of the Spirit not only enable us to know God’s love, but empower us to proclaim that love in the very words and actions of our daily lives.

It may seem to be long ago since the first Pentecost, when the crowds in Jerusalem were startled to hear the Spirit-filled disciples speaking in their own tongues, but the reality of Pentecost continues. The Good News is that God has spoken -and continues to speak. God’s language can be understood through the Spirit-filled Christians of every age, even today. There are so many who long to hear a message of hope and love! May our prayer for this task continue to be: “*Come, Holy Spirit.*”

Stay Safe & keep others safe

Our Lady of Lebanon church urges all parishioners to mask up inside the church premises, get tested when appropriate and stay home when ill. Also, we remind everyone to get coronavirus vaccinations or booster shots. By following these rules, we protect ourselves and others from corona virus and its variances.

This Weekend, Jan. 22-23: 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Saturday January 22 at 4:00 p.m.:

- ✠ Living and Deceased of Tom & Judy Brock Jr.
- ✠ Khalil & Sadie & Maria Harb and Annette & Al Togliatti by Jamil Harb (Troy, MI)
- ✠ Special Intentions of A Friend

Sunday, January 23 at 10:30 p.m.:

- ✠ Jim George Sr. (1st Anniversary) by his wife Shirley and Family
- ✠ Elizabeth Ferris Magnone (Anniversary) by Mary Zaid Stees and Libby G. Magnone
- ✠ Dennis Fahey (Anniversary) by George & Patty (Jacovetty) Fahey

Weekday Masses Schedule

Monday January 24: No Mass. Electrical work at the church.

Tuesday January 25: No Mass. Electrical work at the church.

Wednesday January 26: No Mass. Electrical work at the church.

Thursday January 27 at 12:05 p.m.:

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

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

Friday January 28: No Mass. Pastor's day off

Next Weekend, Jan. 29-30: 4th Sunday of Epiphany

Saturday January 29 at 4:00 p.m.:

✠ Living and Deceased of Tom & Judy Brock Jr.

✠ Khalil & Sadie & Maria Harb and Annette & Al Togliatti by Jamil Harb (Troy, MI)

✠ Special Intentions of A Friend

Sunday, January 30 at 10:30 p.m.:

✠ Philip Geimer by his wife Thomasina Geimer

✠ Khalil & Sadie & Maria Harb and Annette & Al Togliatti by Jamil Harb (Troy, MI)

Schedule of coming events

Saturday Feb. 19 – Fri. Feb. 25	Masses for the Faithful Departed during the last week before Great Lent
Monday, February 28	Ash Monday
Easter Sunday	April 17

Mass Time change in January and February

Some electrical works need to be done in the church. So, Msgr Bakhos wants to give the electricians enough time to work without interruption. No Mass all Tuesdays in January and February. So, there will be only a Mass on Thursday during the week. Weekend Masses on Saturday and Sunday will be on time as usual. Many thanks for the Weisner's for their help and expertise.

Pope Francis requests your opinion in the Synod

In preparation for the Synod of Bishops that will take place in the Vatican in October 2023, Pope Francis has invited all Catholics around the world to offer their opinions regarding how the Church should journey together in its mission of evangelization in the future. This is the first time in Church history that lay people of all ages are given the opportunity to participate and voice their opinions about how the church should work more closely together. We should all take this invitation from Pope Francis very seriously and do our part. On behalf of Bishop Elias A. Zaidan, I urge each and every one of you to participate in this Synodal process.

Everyone will have the opportunity to offer feedback in the next 3 months, through the end of March. Feedback will be collected for 10 topics that Pope Francis selected, which are all related to the theme of “*journeying together in our mission of evangelization*”.

You can offer your feedback in two ways. First, you can participate in Synod consultation events which will be organized and facilitated by members in our parish. Second, you can provide your feedback electronically through Google Forms. If you prefer, you can also print, complete, and submit these Google forms by mail or by hand to our church office.

Do not miss your once in a lifetime chance to make a difference in the future of our church.

If you have any questions or want more information, please reach out to Msgr Bakhos at 304-233-1688

Week of the Faithful Departed (February 19 until February 25)

The week of the Faithful Departed precedes the Great Lent. Parishioners offer Masses, alms, and prayers for the Repose of the Souls of their beloved ones. The Communion of Saints unites those working out their salvation here on earth (The Church Militant) with those being purified in Purgatory (The Church Suffering) and those Saints in Heaven who are the Church Triumphant. If you need to remember your beloved family members during that week, please complete the attached Form and hand it to Msgr Bakhos after Mass.

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

✠ All those who died from our parish by Msgr. Bakhos

- ✠ Deceased members of the Chidiac Family by Msgr. Bakhos
- ✠ All the benefactors of our church by Msgr. Bakhos
- ✠ Catherine Arthur by her daughter Carol Burkhart
- ✠ Deceased Members of the Khourey and Howard Families by Lou, Charlotte, Emmalena and Louie Khourey
- ✠ Sylvia Long, her husband Arthur, & her son Mark by her last will
- ✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her last Will
- ✠ Deceased of the Thomas, Splatt & Nutter Families by John & Kathy Thomas (MN)
- ✠ Philip Geimer by Millet Fadoul

Easter Lilies in Memory of:

These generous parishioners sponsored the Easter Lilies to decorate the church and the tomb of Christ at Easter in memory of their beloved ones:

✠ Gladys Howard and Louise N. & Louis H. Khourey, Sr., by Lou & Charlotte Khourey and Family

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:

- January 23: Dale Seidler Jr., Lisa Breiding
- January 26: Chris DeMuth
- January 28: Nikki Popovich
- February 2: David John
- February 4: Lindsay Carl
- February 9: Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac, Michael DiFabrizio
- February 10: Sandra DeMuth
- February 11: Charlotte Khourey
- February 14: Diane Frenn
- February 15: Nettie Seidler
- February 16: Dave Sengewalt
- February 17: Rebecca DiFabrizio
- February 21: Louie Khourey, Dennis Porter

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)

Mary Stees, Diane Palotay, Rex & Rita Strawn, Viola J. Yeater (mother of Jeannette Wakim), Mary Thomas, Jack Hogan (infant son of Mark & Michaela Hogan & great nephew of Lou Khourey), Justin Frenn, Elia Frenn, John Shiben, Patty Fahey, Fred Schweizer (brother of our organist Mary Lee Porter), Ted Olinski, Patricia Corder,

<i>Your Church Support Last Week</i>	
\$828.00	Sunday Collection
50.00	Candles
120.00	Bulletin ad
10.00	Utilities
\$1008.00	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?

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

Our beloved Mahrajan is back!

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, Aug 14, 2022 and plan on spending the day with us celebrating the Lebanese Mahrajan (Festival) at Oglebay Park!

The Mahrajan Committee began preliminary planning last October. We feel confident that we can resume the Mahrajan safely outdoors in the wide-open space of Site #1. The festival will be one day only this year. The day will begin with an outdoor Mass at 10:30am followed by the Mahrajan which will begin at 12:00 noon (after mass) and close at 7:00pm. The committee will keep you updated on planning progress in the weekly bulletin. We also ask that you please feel free to make any suggestions or share your thoughts with any committee member.

Mahrajan Update:

- Band & singer have been booked and contract signed.
- Contracts for dancers and vendors have been mailed.
- 50/50 Raffle will take place. Details regarding 50/50 Raffle will follow in a few weeks.
- Menu items: All your favorite Lebanese food items are planned. More details to follow.
- Volunteers: We love and need our volunteers! No event can be successful without our volunteers. We will be meeting with the Women Club and Cedar Club in the following weeks to discuss the Mahrajan menu and volunteers. Also, all parishioners who are willing to help, please contact any committee member.

Mahrajan Committee:

Liz Murad, Mahrajan Committee Chairperson

Monsignor Bakhos, Lou Kouhrey, Susan John-Burns, Nick John, Ryan Storm, Ava Murad

Spirituality: Why does Mass have to be so boring?

Dear Padre,

My mom told me to ask you this question, she says she is tired of hearing it from me. So, pardon the offense but why does Mass have to be so boring? I don't think I'll use my real name just in case. --Bored

Dear Bored,

You are not alone, let me tell you. But you're laying the boredom rap on the wrong person, unless you are just talking about the homily at Mass. If the sermon is boring, then it may be the priest's fault. But if you are talking about the Mass itself, it might be that you are coming to Mass with the wrong expectations.

A church can look like a theater, so unconsciously you might think of the Mass as a performance. The priest is the performer and the audience is there to be entertained. But the Mass is not a show, and a rite, by definition, is something that is done in the same way over and over again. The Mass is a repetitive rite for a reason. When you come to Mass, you don't have to worry about what is going to happen next. All you have to do is recognize the gift of enormous love waiting for you through the actions of Jesus Christ on your behalf. How does one do that?

Before coming to Mass, read the selected readings from the Bible for that particular Sunday. Most parishes have missalette with the readings for several weeks, even months. Ask if you could take home a missalette to prepare for next Sunday's readings. I don't know of any priest who would say no to that request! Listen to the prayers that are said at the Mass and ask yourself: Who should I be praying for right now? Think of people in need of God's love right now -maybe you heard about them in school- and think of what Jesus' love would do in their lives right now. Take a moment and think of all the things you've received thus far in your life, and say thanks.

You see, Mass allows you to think of the needs of others and talk to Jesus without any distractions and to hear a message that Jesus has just for you. If you were to come to Mass each Sunday with this kind of attitude, you'd find that the Mass is really timeless, not boring. --The Padre, Fr. William I. Parker, C.Ss.R.

Wisdom

A few years ago, at the Seattle Special Olympics, nine contestants, all physically or mentally disabled, assembled at the starting line for the 100-yard dash.

At the gun, they all started out, not exactly in a dash, but with a relish to run the race to the finish and win. All, that is, except one little boy who stumbled on the asphalt, tumbled over a couple of times, and began to cry. The other eight heard the boy cry. They slowed down and looked back. Then they all turned around and went back. Every one of them.

One girl with Down's Syndrome bent down and kissed him and said: "This will make it better." Then all nine linked arms and walked together to the finish line.

Everyone in the stadium stood, and the cheering went on for several minutes. People who were there are

still telling the story. Why?

Because deep down we know this one thing. What matters in this life is more than winning for ourselves. What matters in this life is helping others win, even if it means slowing down and changing our course.

Story: Jn 3:16

In the city of Chicago, one cold, dark night, a blizzard was setting in. A little boy was selling newspapers on the corner; the people were in and out of the cold. The little boy was so cold that he wasn't trying to sell many papers. He walked up to a policeman and said, *"Mister, you wouldn't happen to know where a poor boy could find a warm place to sleep tonight would you? You see, I sleep in a box up around the corner there and down the alley and it's awful cold in there for tonight. Sure would be nice to have a warm place to stay."* The policeman looked down at the little boy and said, *"You go down the street to that big white house and you knock on the door. When they come out the door you just say John 3:16, and they will let you in."*

So he did. He walked up the steps and knocked on the door, and a lady answered. He looked up and said, *"John 3:16."* The lady said, *"Come on in, Son."* She took him in and she sat him down in a split bottom rocker in front of a great big old fireplace, and she went off. The boy sat there for a while and thought to himself: John 3:16...I don't understand it, but it sure makes a cold boy warm. Later she came back and asked him *"Are you hungry?"* He said, *"Well, just a little. I haven't eaten in a couple of days, and I guess I could stand a little bit of food."* The lady took him in the kitchen and sat him down to a table full of wonderful food. He ate and ate until he couldn't eat any more. Then he thought to himself: John 3:16... Boy, I sure don't understand it but it sure makes a hungry boy full. She took him upstairs to a bathroom to a huge bathtub filled with warm water, and he sat there and soaked for a while. As he soaked, he thought to himself: John 3:16... I sure don't understand it, but it sure makes a dirty boy clean. You know, I've not had a bath, a real bath, in my whole life. The only bath I ever had was when I stood in front of that big old fire hydrant as they flushed it out. The lady came in and got him. She took him to a room, tucked him into a big old feather bed, pulled the covers up around his neck, kissed him goodnight and turned out the lights. As he lay in the darkness and looked out the window at the snow coming down on that cold night, he thought to himself: John 3:16... I don't understand it but it sure makes a tired boy rested. The next morning the lady came back up and took him down again to that same big table full of food. After he ate, she took him back to that same big old split bottom rocker in front of the fireplace and picked up a big old Bible. She sat down in front of him and looked into his young face. *"Do you understand John 3:16?"* she asked gently. He replied, *"No, Ma'am, I don't. The first time I ever heard it was last night when the policeman told me to use it."* She opened the Bible to John 3:16 and began to explain to him about Jesus. Right there, in front of that big old fireplace, he gave his heart and life to Jesus. He sat there and thought: John 3:16. ... I don't understand it, but it sure makes a lost boy feel safe.

You know, I have to confess I don't understand it either, how God was willing to send His Son to die for me, and how Jesus would agree to do such a thing. I don't understand the agony of the Father and every angel in heaven as they watched Jesus suffer and die. I don't understand the intense love for ME that kept Jesus on the cross till the end. I don't understand it, but it sure does make life worth living.

John 3:16: *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."*

A Time to Laugh (541)

Happiness and Marriage

At a wedding reception a woman and her friend watched the newly married couple cut their cake. As they watched, the woman remarked to her friend, "I never knew what true happiness was until I got married, but by then it was too late."

Man without Mirth

A man without mirth is like a wagon without springs: He is jolted disagreeably by every pebble in the road.
(Henry Ward Beecher)

Make Someone Happy

The late Congressman Sol Bloom would habitually drop a coin into the street. When someone asked why, he said, laughingly, "Oh, somebody is sure to find it and be happy the rest of the day."

Too Much Good

Excess: Too much of a good thing is wonderful!

Delighted Lightning Bug

Here is a "bright" opening: "I am delighted to speak to you today. Like the lightning bug who backed into a fan."