



March 27, 2022

Bulletin #13

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



Sunday of the Paralytic

*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:

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday: No Mass. Pastor's office work.

Thursday at 12:00 Noon [Rosary & Litany start 20 minutes before Mass]

Friday during Lent: 5:30 p.m. Mass followed by Stations of the Cross & Reflection

*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

Sunday of the Paralytic

Readings: 1Tim 5:24-6:5 and Mk 2:1-12

“One day, while he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting near by, and the power of the Lord was with him to heal.” (Luke 5:17-26)

It can be discouraging to compare our lives with that of Jesus because we fall so far short of being what he was. But in today’s gospel, Jesus is distracted. Now that is something with which we can all identify.

Distractions are the bane of our existence. When we are praying, our minds wander seemingly of their own accord. Too often when we are with friends, we long for solitude. Then when we have our longed-for solitude, we wish we were with friends. When we are busy, we wish for tranquility; when we are tranquil, we think of things we should be doing.

I forget who said it but I have taken great comfort in the saying, “When we are praying and distractions come, we should not fight the distractions because they are God’s way of telling us what should be the subject of our prayer.” Distractions are God’s way of breaking into our monologues to make sure that he is heard. In today’s gospel, Jesus has decided to teach but his Father wants him to heal, so Jesus’ mind wanders. Jesus does not fight the distraction but smoothly moves from teaching to healing. Advent is a good time to pay more attention to our distractions and to see them as God’s way of correcting the course of our day.

This Weekend, Mar 26-27: Sunday of the Paralytic

Saturday March 26 at 4:00 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

Sunday, March 27 at 10:30 a.m.:

✠ Bess Ferris Garcia (Birthday by Mary Zaid Stees and Libby G. Magnone

✠ Michael & Annette Howard (Anniversary) by Lou, Charlotte, Emmalena and Louie Kourey

Next Week Mass Schedule

Monday, March 28: No Mass. Clergy Retreat

Tuesday, March 29: No Mass. Clergy Retreat

Wednesday, March 30: No Mass. Clergy Retreat

Thursday, March 31 at Noon:

✠ Lawrence J. Belt (Anniversary) by Chris & Jeannette Wakim & Family

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

Friday, April 1 at 5:30 p.m.: Mass followed by Stations of the Cross and a spiritual reflection

✠ Diane Palotay by Tony & Rosella Paree

🕯 Good health for the mother of Dr. Nabil AlKhouri

Next Weekend, April 2-3: Sunday of the Blind

Saturday April 2 at 4:00 p.m.: Mass celebrated by our Bishop Elias Zaidan

✠ Catherine Arthur (Anniversary) by her daughter Carol Burkhart

Sunday, April 3 at 10:30 a.m.: Mass celebrated by our Bishop Elias Zaidan

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

Schedule of coming events

Sat. & Sun. March 26-27
2nd collection for Ukraine

Our Eparchy (Diocese) is scheduled for March 26 & 27, 2022, to have a second collection drive for Ukraine. The funds collected will be forwarded to the church in Central and Eastern Europe which will provide humanitarian aid and assistance to the victims of war in Ukraine.

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| Bishop's visit to our parish | Saturday and Sunday, April 2 nd and 3 rd |
| Palm Sunday | April 10 |
| Good Friday | April 15 |
| Easter Sunday | April 17 |
| May Queen | Sunday, May 1 st following Mass. Isabella AlKhoury will be the 2022 May Queen. All Families having children willing to share in the procession, please call 304-233-1688 so that we can prepare flowers for everyone. |

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
- ✦ Bob Sengewalt by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt
- ✦ Ralph & Mary Joseph Shipley by Thomasina Geimer
- ✦ Robert Hunter Jr. & Robby Hunter III by Thomasina Geimer
- ✦ Deceased Family members of Thomasina Geimer by Thomasina Geimer
- ✦ Phillip Geimer by Thomasina Geimer
- ✦ Deceased members of Danny & Milly Manners by NiNi Miller
- ✦ Deceased Family Members of Chris & Jeannette Wakim
- ✦ In Honor of Robert Harris
- ✦ In Honor of Jean Weisner & her Family
- ✦ In Honor of Frank & Anna Marie & Michael Duymich
- ✦ In Memory of the McLaughlin & Joseph & Miller Families by Mark & Barb McLaughlin
- ✦ In Honor of the Frenn Family by Dr. Adel & Diane Frenn
- ✦ In Honor of Fran Saseen & her Family Members
- ✦ In Loving Memory of John T. John & Cecilia John by Susan John Burns
- ✦ Deceased Family members of Jerry McLumphy especially Leslie
- ✦ In Honor of Tammy Strong
- ✦ In Honor of Kenny & Nancy Joseph
- ✦ In Momory of Bill Dougherty by his wife Carol Dougherty (OK)
- ✦ In Momory of The Habdo Family by Carol Dougherty (OK)
- ✦ In Loving memory of grandparents Tom & Sadie John, David & Tamamie Joseph by Susan John
- ✦ In Loving memory of Aunts & Uncles: Louis & Cecilia Ammar, Fred & Rota John, Sister Mary Thomasina John and Roland & Julia Tappe by Susan John
- ✦ In Loving Memory of Helen Rohana, Mike Rohana and all Deceased Family Members of the Rohana and Rahi Families by Chamse Rahi
- ✦ In Loving Memory and Honor of the entire Saseen Family by George & Susan Saseen and Family

Easter Obligation fulfilled

Many Thanks to those who fulfilled their Easter Obligation this year.

Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac, Susan (John) Burns, Ron & Kim Gibbons, Millet L. Fadoul & Family, Cathy Goodson, Pat & Caroline Popicg, Mark & Barb McLaughlin, Joe & Nikki Popovich, Frank & Anna Marie Duymich, Jean Weisner, Ron Weisner, Mark Schroeder, Earl & Linda Duffy, Bill & Mary Stees, Tammy Strong, Kenny & Nancy Joseph, Veronica Mushet, Shirley Bine, Mary Beth Weisner, John & Dee Shiben, John & Opal Ritts, GiGi & Robert Rice, Dr. Jack & Rose Palmer, Jim Moses, Myron & Cynthia Law, Mary Rose Kukula, Dave & Greg John, Marge John, Rosalie Conti, Bill & Tricia Committee, The Frenn Family, Randy P. Weisner, George & Patty Fahey, Angele C. Mansor, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Sofka, Carol Dougherty, Maryann Carl, Larry & Becky Ferrera, Garry & Pauline Ferrell, Linda Hostutler, Paula Perilli, Rex & Rita Strawn, Dave & Debbie Sengewalt, Larry & Lillian Siebieda, NiNi Miller, Denny Albaugh, Debbie & Mark Huffman, Jane Palmer, Dr. Dianna M. Vargo, Elsie Renzella, Sue Jochum, Denise Ferris, Nicholas A. Ghaphery, Jr., Dr. & Mrs. Alfred Ghaphery, Lou & Charlotte Khourey, Tom & Judy Brock, Carol Burkhart, Fran Saseen and sons,

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:

March 30: Greg John
 April 1: Patrick Sengewalt
 April 6: Ronald Weisner
 April 8: Jesse John
 April 11: Randy Weisner
 April 12: Justin Frenn
 April 13: Adel Frenn
 April 14: Mark McLaughlin
 April 20: Angela Petros

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)

Thomasina Geimer, Mary Stees, 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,

What's New?

A Children Book

Our parishioner Lillian Siebieda, the wife of our church's architect Larry, wrote a children book titled: "Jason finds happiness." The proceeds from this book are going to the Saint Jude Children Hospital to help cover family cost for about 15 chemotherapy treatments. The book sells for \$15.00. If parents and grandparents want to order this book to offer it for their children and grandchildren or any other children and at the same time help St. Jude children hospital for a right cause, please call Msgr Bakhos at 304-233-1688. Lillian is coming in March from Florida and she will bring your orders with her. Thanks for your cooperation.

Rummage Sale Information

Dear Parishioners and Friends, while you are sitting still during winter time, we have something for you to do. Please collect the items you want to donate to our church Rummage Sale and bring them with you on Saturdays and Sundays. Let Msgr Bakhos know that you have things, so the basement door can be opened for you. Please remember that NO CLOTHING. For any questions, call Linda at 304-242-6853

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 at Oglebay Park, Site #1. The festival will be one day only this year. The day will begin with an outdoor Mass at 10:30 a.m. followed by the Mahrajan which will begin at 12:00 noon (after mass) and close at 7:00 p.m. 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 Khourey, Susan John-Burns, Nick John, Ryan Storm, Ava Murad

Spirituality: Paid in full

After living what I felt was a "decent" life, my time on earth came to the end. The first thing I remember is sitting on a bench in the waiting room of what I thought to be a courthouse. The doors opened and I was instructed to come in and have a seat by the defense table.

As I looked around, I saw the "prosecutor." He was a villainous looking gent who snarled as he stared at me. He definitely was the most evil person I have ever seen. I sat down and looked to my left and there sat My Attorney, a kind and gentle looking man whose appearance seemed so familiar to me, I felt I knew Him.

The corner door flew open and there appeared the Judge in full flowing robes. He commanded an awesome presence as He moved across the room. I couldn't take my eyes off of Him. As He took His seat behind the bench, He said, "Let us begin."

The prosecutor rose and said, "My name is Satan and I am here to show you why this man belongs in hell." He proceeded to tell of lies I told, things I stole, and in the past when I cheated others. Satan told of other horrible perversions once in my life and the more he spoke, the further down in my seat I sank. I was so embarrassed, I couldn't look at anyone, even my own Attorney, as the Devil told of sins even I completely forgotten about. As upset as I was at Satan for telling all these things about me, I was equally upset at My Attorney who sat there silently not offering any form of defense at all. I know I was guilty of those things, but I did some good in my life - couldn't that at least equal out part of the harm I'd done?

Satan finished with a fury and said, "This man belongs in hell, he is guilty of all I have charged and there is not a person who can prove otherwise."

When it was His turn, My Attorney first asked if He might approach the bench. The Judge allowed this over the strong objection of Satan, and beckoned Him to come forward. As He got up and started walking, I was able to see Him in His full splendor and majesty. I realized why He seemed so familiar; this was Jesus representing me, my Lord and my Savior.

He stopped at the bench and softly said to the Judge, "Hi, Dad," then He turned to address the court. "Satan was correct in saying this man sinned, I won't deny any of these allegations. And, yes, the wage of sin is death, and this man deserves to be punished."

Jesus took a deep breath and turned to His Father with outstretched arms and proclaimed, "However, I died on the cross so this person might have eternal life and he accepted Me as his Savior, so he is Mine."

My Lord continued with, "His name is written in the Book of Life and no one can snatch him from Me. Satan still does not understand yet. This man is not to be given justice, but rather mercy."

As Jesus sat down, He quietly paused, looked at His Father and said, "There is nothing else that needs to be done. I've done it all."

The Judge lifted His mighty hand and slammed the gavel down. The following words bellowed from His lips... "This man is free the penalty for him was already paid in full. Case dismissed"

As my Lord led me away, I could hear Satan ranting and raving, "I won't give up, I will win the next one."

I asked Jesus as He gave me my instructions where to go next, "Have you ever lost a case?" Christ lovingly smiled and said, "Everyone that comes to Me and asked Me to represent them, received the same verdict as you, "PAID IN FULL."

Wisdom: Friends

Lord, thank You for loyal, loving friends, Who are there in winter or springtime fair.

New acquaintances are easy to come by, But true friendship is extremely rare.

A friend always sees the best in you, Although they've known you at your worst.

They laugh with you in the good times, When storms threaten, they'll be there first.
 They'll offer a shoulder to rest your head When tears are welling in your eyes.
 Take a walk down friendship's path with you And help chase away those stormy skies.
 Lord, thank You for all the gifts You give; Each one makes our life seem more worthwhile.
 But one of the finest gifts you've given us Is the warmth of friendship's loving smile.

Story

Walking out of my manager's office with my severance package under my arm, I knew this fellow parishioner was sincere when he told me it was one of the most difficult things he ever had to do. My lay-off was due to the fact that our company, like most of the telecommunications industry, had fallen on very difficult times.

Long before this day arrived, I had grown unhappy at work. A competitor had bought our company a few years before and the morale seemed to go downhill, right along with our stock price and our retirement plans. Still, after nearly eleven years of working for the same company and seeing jobs in the industry dry up, I was willing to hang on to pay the mortgage and provide for my family.

Just prior to this, I had begun praying for the intercession of St. Joseph the Worker to remain employed. My plan had been to wait until things picked up for our industry then seek employment elsewhere. I had forgotten what Mother Teresa used to say: "If you want to make God laugh, tell Him your plans."

As I began to clean out my desk that day, I thought of an old friend and past co-worker, Don. I gave him a call. Don was stunned when I told him I was laid off. When he asked if I wanted another position like I once held with a manager who was difficult to work with, my first response was, "Oh, no."

Don persisted, saying he thought I would really like the job working under John, with whom we both had worked with in the past. "But didn't John move to Paris?" I asked.

"He just moved back and you won't believe it—his office is right here in town," Don said. "As a matter of fact, I had lunch with him last week. He told me he was going to hire someone for the job. I happened to know the candidate and told John the guy isn't qualified. You should call him."

I thanked Don for the tip and told him that was so fed up with telecommunications that I was considering trying another field, but that I would call John. I called him the next afternoon, but found he was on business in Paris, so I sent an email. John answered me in less than two hours asking to get together the following Monday. As I researched the company John worked for, I continued to pray to St. Joseph the Worker.

Monday afternoon came around and I found myself in John's office, comparing stories about what we each had done since we first worked together. He described the type of role he was looking to have filled and I shared some of my ideas with him. After about half an hour of discussion, he looked at me and asked, "So when can you start?"

What an incredible blessing! Less than one week after being laid off, I was offered a job I knew would be just right for me. We agreed on a salary and I also made one final request before practically skipping out the door. "It took me ten years to get to the point where I earned four weeks of annual vacation. You don't suppose I could start with four weeks here, do you?" He told me he would check.

My drive home was filled with prayers of thanksgiving to God and to St. Joseph the Worker. I prayed that by my work at this new company, God would be glorified and I would, through my work and through sharing my faith, be a worthy apostle for Him in this new job.

A few days later, I was told the company could not accommodate my request for four weeks of vacation this year. Instead, they would increase my salary. Only later did I learn that the company's policy would allow me five weeks vacation per year starting the following January.

Just a few months after I left my old company, some of the executives were found to have been involved in the most massive corporate fraud in United States history. The company went into bankruptcy.

Mother Teresa was right. God must have laughed when I told Him my plans because He had a better one than I ever would have imagined. Not only do I have a job I love, but I have been overseas four times since then. By His grace, I've been able to visit places I would never have dreamed of: Notre Dame, Sacre Coeur, Versailles, and the Church where our Blessed Mother spoke to St. Catherine Laboure. God may have had the first laugh, but now I am joyfully laughing with Him.

A Time to Laugh (3)

Love

It intrigued the congregation to see their parish priest disappear each week on the eve of Sunday.

They suspected he was secretly meeting a young woman, so they deputed one of their member to follow him.

This is what the man saw: the priest disguised himself in peasant clothes and served a paralyzed Gentile woman in her cottage, cleaning out the room and preparing a Sunday meal for her.

When the spy got back, the congregation asked, *“Where did the priest go? Did he ascend to heaven?”*

“No,” the man replied, *“He went even higher.”*

Grace

A priest was sitting at his desk by the window composing a sermon on Providence when he heard something that sounded like an explosion. Soon he saw people running to and fro in a panic and discovered that a dam had burst, the river was in spate and the people were being evacuated.

The priest saw the water begin to rise in the street below, he had some difficulty suppressing his own rising sense of panic but he said to himself, *“Here I am preparing a sermon about providence and I am being given an occasion to practice what I preach. I shall not flee with the rest. I shall stay right here and trust in the providence of God to save me.”*

By the time the water reached his window a boat full of people came by, *“Jump in, Father,”* they shouted. *“Ah no, my children,”* said Father confidently.

“I trust in the providence of God to save me.”

Father did climb to the roof, however, and when the water got up there another boatload of people went by, urging Father to join them. Again he refused.

This time he climbed to the top of the belfry. When the water came up to his knees an officer in a motorboat was sent to rescue him. *“No thank you, officer,”* said Father, with a calm smile. *“I trust in God, you see. He will never let me down.”*

When Father drowned and went to heaven the first thing he did was to complain to God. *“I trusted you! You did do nothing to save me?”*

“Well,” said God, *“I did send three boats, you know.”*

Marxist Lightbulbs

How many Marxists does it take to screw in a lightbulb?

None: The bulb contains within it the seeds of its own revolution.

Lawyer Lightbulbs

How many lawyers does it take to change a lightbulb?

It takes just one lawyer to change your lightbulb into his lightbulb.

Surreal Changes

How many surrealists does it take to change a lightbulb?

It takes two: one to hold the giraffe and the other one to fill the bathtub with brightly colored tools.

Tell me this won't happen to us!

Two elderly ladies had been friends for many decades. Over the year, they had shared all kinds of activities and adventures. Lately, their activities had been limited to meeting a few times a week to play cards.

One day, they were playing cards when one looked at the other and said, 'Now don't get mad at me ... I know we've been friends for a long time, but I just can't think of your name! I've thought and thought, but I can't remember it. Please tell me what your name is. Her friend glared at her for at least three minutes she just stared and glared at her. Finally she said, 'How soon do you need to know?'

Famous Quotes (4)

Adversity:

- I am escaped with the skin of my teeth. (Job 19:20)
- I never knew any man in my life who could not bear another's misfortunes perfectly like a Christian. (Alexander Pope)
- Every difficulty slurred over will be a ghost to disturb your repose later on. (Frederic Chopin)
- Adversity introduces a man to himself. (Anonymous)
- The diamond cannot be polished without friction, nor the man perfected without trials. (Chinese proverb)
- There is no education like adversity. (Benjamin Disraeli)
- When it is dark enough, men see the stars. (Ralph Waldo Emerson)
- Into each life some rain must fall. (Henry W Longfellow)
- Bloody noses are great teachers. (Joseph McKinney)
- Our strength often increases in proportion to the obstacles which are imposed upon it. (Rene Rapin)
- Advise and counsel him; if he does not listen, let adversity teach him. (Japanese proverb)
- Adversity is the first path to truth. (Lord Byron)
- Gold is tried by fire, brave men by adversity. (Seneca)
- The bravest sight in the world is to see a great man struggling against adversity. (Seneca)
- Adversity makes men, and prosperity makes monsters. (Victor Hugo)

Advertising:

- Advertising helps raise the standard of living by raising the standard of longing.
- Advertising encourages people to live beyond their means, but then, so does marriage.
- Advertising can be very expensive—especially if your wife can read.
- Advertising is the rattling of a stick inside a swill bucket. (George Orwell)
- What kills a skunk is the publicity it gives itself. (Abraham Lincoln)
- Half the money I spend on advertising is wasted, and the trouble is, I don't know which half. (John Wanamaker)
- Give them quality. That's the best kind of advertising. (Milton Hershey)

Advice

- Anybody can give advice—the trouble comes in finding someone interested in using it.
- When we ask for an advice, we are usually looking for an accomplice.
- When a man asks you for advice you can figure he isn't married.
- Both medicine and advice are easy to prescribe but hard to take.
- The best time to give advice to your children is while they're still young enough to believe you know what you're talking about.
- Never give advice in a crowd. (Arab Proverb)
- Never trust the advice of a man in difficulties. (Aesop)
- Be frank and explicit. That is the right line to take when you wish to conceal your own mind and to confuse the minds of others. (Benjamin Disraeli)
- Advice is like snow; the softer it falls, the longer it dwells upon, and the deeper it sinks into the mind. (Samuel Taylor Coleridge)
- The true secret of giving advice is, after you have honestly given it, to be perfectly indifferent whether it is taken or not and never persist in trying to set people right. (Hannah Whitall Smith)
- Don't fight forces; use them. (Buckminster Fuller)
- People ask you for criticism, but they only want praise. (Somerset Maugham)
- He who builds to every man's advice will have a crooked house. (Danish proverb)
- Whatever advice you give, be brief. (Horace)