



January 1, 2023

Bulletin #1

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



New Year Circumcision of the Lord

***Weekday Masses:** **Mondays and Wednesdays:** No Mass. Pastor's office work.
Tuesdays and Thursday at 12:00 Noon [*Rosary & Litany start 20 minutes before Mass*]
Fridays: No Mass. Pastoral visitations.

- ***Confession:** Saturday: 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. or any other time by appointment
- ***Baptism:** Please call the Pastor as soon as baby is born; at least one Godparent must be Catholic
- ***Weddings:** Please make arrangements at least six months in advance before any other plans are made
- ***Sick Calls & Anointing of the Sick:** Please notify the Pastor at 304-233-1688
- ***Parish Council:** Lou Khourey, Mary Stees, Susan (John) Burns, Mark McLaughlin, Liz Murad
- ***Choir Members:** Lou Khourey, Robert Harris, Joe Simon, Shelly Hancher, Holly Stahl
- ***Bulletin Coordinator:** Thomasina Geimer
- ***Altar Server:** Earl Duffy and Joe Roxby
- ***Altar Boy:** Christopher AlKhouri
- ***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

Circumcision of our Lord

Readings: Gn 21:1-5; Eph 2:11-22 and Lk 2:21-24

And behold there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel. Not alone from angels and prophets, from shepherds and parents, do the Children of the Lord receive testimony, but also from elders and from the just. Every age and either sex, and the wondrous things that happened to them, add to our faith: a virgin has a child, she that was sterile brings forth, the dumb speak Elizabeth prophesies, the Magi adore, he that was enclosed in the womb exults, the widow confesses to the Lord, the just man awaits him; and he is truly a just man, who was seeking, not his own, but the consolation of his people, for himself desiring only that he be freed from the bonds of earthly infirmity, waiting however to look upon the One that was promised; for he knew that blessed are the eyes that would see him. Now, he says, You may dismiss your servant!

Behold the just man, who is as it were shut up in the prison of this earthly body, desires to be set free, that he may begin to be with Christ; for to be dissolved and to be with Christ is far more perfect. He then that desires to be free, let him come to Jerusalem, let him look for the anointed of the Lord, let him receive in his hands the Word of God, and let him embrace it with the arms of his faith. Then let him be dismissed; as he sees not death who has looked upon the Life.

See how at the birth of the lord his grace is poured out on all men; and prophecy, denied to the unbelieving, is given to the just. Thus Simeon prophesies that the Lord Jesus Christ is come, and for the fall and for the resurrection of many, that he may disclose the payment of just and unjust; that he the true and just Judge may decree reward or punishment, according to the quality of our deeds. --St Ambrose

This Weekend; Dec. 31-Jan.1: Circumcision of our Lord

Saturday, December 31st, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.: New Year's Eve Mass (No Midnight Mass)

- ✠ Chamse Rahi by the Women Society of OLOL
- ✠ Bob Sengewalt by his grandchildren: Jeff, Courtney & Patrick Sengewalt
- ✠ Mike & Sue Linton & their parents Joe & Frances Linton by Steve Linton

Sunday, January 1st, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.: **New Year's Day (Day of Obligation)**

- ✠ Deceased of the Habdo Family by Carol Dougherty
- ✠ John Shiben by Marion Drews
- ✠ Chamse Rahi by the Jochum Family

Next Weekdays Mass Schedule

Monday, January 2: No Mass. Pastor day off.

Tuesday, January 3; Mass at Noon:

- ✠ Deceased of the Thomas, Splatt & Nutter Families by John & Kathy Thomas (MN)
- ✠ Sylvia Long, her husband Arthur, & her son Mark by her last will
- ✠ John Shiben by Marion Drews

Wednesday, January 4: No Mass. Office work

Thursday, January 5; Mass at Noon:

- ✠ Janis & George Thomas (Ohio) by their last will
- ✠ Chamse Rahi by Susan Jarrett
- ✠ Mike & Sue Linton & their parents Joe & Frances Linton by Steve Linton

Friday, January 6; Mass at Noon: Epiphany of our Lord (actual feast) **(Blessing of Holy Water)**

- ✠ Chamse Rahi by Debbie & Jamie Bryan and Family
- ✠ John Shiben by Marion Drews
- ✠ Mike & Sue Linton & their parents Joe & Frances Linton by Steve Linton

Next Weekend: Jan.7-8: Epiphany

Saturday, January 7 at 4:00 p.m.: (Epiphany: Blessing of Holy Water)

✠ Camse Rahi by Sheila & Mike Romaneck

✠ John Shibben by Marion Drews

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

Sunday, January 8 at 10:30 a.m.: (Epiphany: Blessing of Holy Water)

✠ 40-Day Memorial Mass for Chamse Rahi by her Family

✠ Sonny Hancher (Anniversary) by his wife Regina and Children: Sondra, Scott and Shelly

✠ Fred & Rita John by Susan John-Burns

✠ Bill Dougherty by his wife Carol (Ok)

Schedule of coming events:

January-9-13	No Mass. Clergy Retreat
Sunday, February 12	Valentine Dinner Dance at the Cedar Hall

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:

January 1: Nancy Joseph

January 3: Rosemary Coury

January 6: Gina Stees

January 7: Jacob Fadoul Wilson

January 10: Marjorie John, Mary Petros-Hill

January 11: Jennifer Klein

January 23: Dale Seidler Jr.

January 26: Chris DeMuth

January 28: Nikki Popovich

Your Church Support Last Week

\$4,341.00	Sunday Collection
120.00	Bulletin Ads
52.00	Candles
500.00	Donation to the church
\$5,013.00	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

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)*

Bettie Jane Fadoul, Patrick Sengewalt, Renee Beabout (daughter of Marge John), Mary Stees, Rex 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, Patty Fahey, Fred Schweizer (brother of our organist Mary Lee Porter),

What's New?***Tax Deduction church statement*** *(By mid January 2023)*

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 2022 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 **2022**, 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, 2022. Also, be sure to give the check to the church

on or before that date. If your gift is **\$250** or more, and you plan to claim the gift as a deduction on your tax return, the IRS requires that you have a letter or receipt from the church that received the gift. By mid-January **2023** all donors -who donated \$250 or more- 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, 2022 until December 31st, 2022**. It is wise to keep the church statement with your tax records, in case the IRS questions your itemized deductions.

Discernment Weekend (March 24-26, 2023)

Wondering if the Lord is calling you to the priesthood in the Maronite church? Men aged 18-40 are invited for the weekend of fellowship, prayer, discussion and discernment on March 24-26, 2023 at the Maronite Seminary, Washington, DC. Information: 202-723-8831

Mahrajan Update (Sunday, August 13, 2023)

Next year's date:

Next year we will celebrate our 90th Lebanese Festival (Mahrajan) at Oglebay Park on Sunday, August 13, 2023.

Mahrajan Mailing List:

If you have a friend or know someone who would be interested in receiving correspondence about next year's Festival, please submit their addresses to Msgr. Bakhos.

Spirituality: Mary as Ideal

God's Ideal Woman

God has two pictures of us: one is what we are, and the other is what we ought to be. He has the model and He has the reality: the blueprint and the edifice, the score of music and the way we play it. God has to have these two pictures because in each and every one of us there is some disproportion and want of conformity between the original plan and the way we worked it out. The image is often blurred, the print is faded. Like unhatched eggs some of us refuse to be warmed by the Divine Love which is so necessary for the incubation to a higher level. We all fall short of what God wants us to be.

There is actually only one person in all humanity of whom God has one picture, and in whom there is a perfect conformity between what He wanted her to be and what she is -and that is Mary, the Mother of Our Lord. But Mary is the equal sign, the Ideal that God has of her, what she is and in the flesh. The Model and the copy are perfect; she is all that was foreseen, planned and dreamed. The melody of her life is played, just as it was written.

--Bishop Fulton SHEEN, That Tremendous Love, p. 23

Wisdom: Life is a gift

Written By a 90 years old lady

"To celebrate growing older, I once wrote the 45 lessons life taught me. It is the most-requested column I've ever written."

My odometer rolled over to 90 in August, so here is the column once more:

1. Life isn't fair, but it's still good.
2. When in doubt, just take the next small step.
3. Life is too short to waste time hating anyone.
4. Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends and parents will. Stay in touch.
5. Pay off your credit cards every month.
6. You don't have to win every argument. Agree to disagree.
7. Cry with someone. It's more healing than crying alone.
8. It's OK to get angry with God. He can take it.
9. Save for retirement starting with your first paycheck.
10. When it comes to chocolate, resistance is futile.
11. Make peace with your past so it won't screw up the present.
12. It's OK to let your children see you cry.

13. Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
14. If a relationship has to be a secret, you shouldn't be in it.
15. Everything can change in the blink of an eye. But don't worry; God never blinks.
16. Take a deep breath. It calms the mind.
17. Get rid of anything that isn't useful, beautiful or joyful.
18. Whatever doesn't kill you really does make you stronger.
19. It's never too late to have a happy childhood. But the second one is up to you and no one else.
20. When it comes to going after what you love in life, don't take no for an answer.
21. Burn the candles, use the nice sheets, wear the fancy lingerie. Don't save it for a special occasion. Today is special.
22. Over prepare, then go with the flow.
23. Be eccentric now. Don't wait for old age to wear purple.
24. The most important sex organ is the brain.
25. No one is in charge of your happiness but you.
26. Frame every so-called disaster with these words 'In five years, will this matter?'
27. Always choose life.
28. Forgive everyone everything.
29. What other people think of you is none of your business.
30. Time heals almost everything. Give time time.
31. However good or bad a situation is, it will change.
32. Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does.
33. Believe in miracles.
34. God loves you because of who God is, not because of anything you did or didn't do.
35. Don't audit life. Show up and make the most of it now.
36. Growing old beats the alternative -- dying young.
37. Your children get only one childhood.
38. All that truly matters in the end is that you loved.
39. Get outside every day. Miracles are waiting everywhere.
40. If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back.
41. Envy is a waste of time. You already have all you need.
42. The best is yet to come.
43. No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up.
44. Yield.
45. Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a gift."

Story: Miraculous Soup Stone

A woman in a village was surprised to find a fairly well-dressed stranger at her door asking for something to eat. *"I'm sorry,"* she said. *"I have nothing in the house right now."*

"Not to worry," said the amiable stranger. *"I have a soup stone in this satchel of mine; if you will let me put it in a pot of boiling water I'll make the most delicious soup in the world. A very large pot, please."*

The woman was curious. She put the pot on the fire and whispered the secret of the soup stone to a neighbor. By the time the water began to boil all the neighbors had gathered to see the stranger and his soup stone. The stranger dropped the stone into the water then tasted a teaspoonful with relish and exclaimed, *"Ah, delicious! All it needs is some potatoes."*

"I have potatoes in my kitchen," shouted one woman. In a few minutes she was back with a large quantity of sliced potatoes that were thrown into the pot. Then the stranger tasted the brew again. *"Excellent!"* he said. But added wistfully, *"If we only had some meat, this would become a tasty stew."*

Another housewife rushed home to bring some meat that the stranger accepted graciously and flung into the pot. When he tasted the broth again he rolled his eyes heavenwards and said, *"Ah, tasty! If we had some vegetables it would be perfect, absolutely perfect."*

One of the neighbors rushed off home and returned with a basketful of carrots and onions. After these

had been thrown in too and the stranger tasted the mixture, he said in a voice of command, “*Salt and sauce.*” “*Right here*”, said the housewife. Then came another command, “*Bowls for everyone.*” People rushed to their homes in search of bowls. Some even brought back bread and fruit.

Then they all set down to a delicious meal while the stranger handed out large helpings of his incredible soup. Everyone felt strangely happy as they laughed and talked and shared their very first common meal. In the middle of the merriment the stranger quietly slipped away, leaving behind the miraculous soup stone that they could use any time they wanted to make the loveliest soup in the world.

A Time to Laugh (43)

Relationships

A storekeeper heard one of his salesman say to a customer, “No, ma’am, we haven’t had any for some weeks now and it doesn’t look as if we’ll be getting any soon.”

Horrified at what he was hearing he rushed over to the customer as she was walking out and said, “That isn’t true, ma’am. Of course we’ll have some soon. In fact, we placed an order for it a couple of weeks ago.”

Then he drew the salesman aside and growled, “never, never, never, never say we don’t have something. If we don’t have it, say we’ve ordered it and it’s on its way. Now what was it she wanted?”

“Rain,” said the salesman.

Spirituality

When the king visited the monasteries of the great Zen Master Lin Chi he was astonished to learn that there were more than ten thousand monks living there with him. Wanting to know the exact number of the monks the king asked, “How many disciples do you have?” Lin Chi replied, “Four or Five at the very most.”

Oooooooooooooops!

A couple from Minneapolis decided to go to Florida for a long weekend to thaw out during one particularly icy winter. Because both had jobs, they had difficulty coordinating their travel schedules. It was decided that the husband would fly to Florida on a Thursday, and his wife would follow him the next day.

Upon arriving as planned, the husband checked into the hotel. There he decided to open his laptop and send his wife an e-mail back in Minneapolis.

However, he accidentally left off one letter in her address, and sent the e-mail without realizing his error. In Houston, a widow had just returned from her husband's funeral. He was a minister of many years who had been "called home to glory" following a heart attack.

The widow checked her e-mail, expecting messages from relatives and friends. Upon reading the first message, she fainted and fell to the floor.

The widow's son rushed into the room, found his mother on the floor, and saw the computer screen which read: “To: My Loving Wife, From: Your Departed Husband. Subject: I've Arrived!

I've just arrived and have been checked in. I see that everything has been prepared for your arrival tomorrow. Looking forward to seeing you then.

Hope your journey is as uneventful as mine was. PS Sure is hot down here!”

Spirituality

A man came upon a tall tower and stepped inside to find it all dark. As he groped around he came upon a circular staircase. Curious to know where it led to he began to climb and, as he climbed, he sensed a growing uneasiness in his heart. So he looked behind him and was horrified to see that each time he climbed a step, the previous one fell off and disappeared. Before him the stairs wound upward and he had no idea where they led: behind him yawned an enormous black emptiness.

Service

A schoolteacher gave up teaching for social work. When his friend wanted to know why, this is what he had to say: “Little can be done in school if nothing is done in the home and the world. At school I felt like a

man who was searching for ivory in the forest. When he finally found it, he discovered it was attached to a large elephant.”

Best Marksman

One of the best marksmen in the FBI was passing through a small town. Everywhere he saw evidence of the most amazing shooting. On trees, on walls, and on fences there were numerous bull's-eyes with the bullet hole in dead center. The FBI man asked one of the townsmen if he could meet the person responsible for this wonderful marksmanship. The man turned out to be the village featherbrain.

"This is the best marksmanship I have ever seen," said the FBI man "How do you do it?"

"Nothing to it," said the man. "I shoot first and draw the circles afterward."

Famous Quotes (43)

Achievement:

--Only those who dare to fail greatly can ever achieve greatly. (Robert F Kennedy)

--I'm a slow walker, but I never walk back. (Abraham Lincoln)

--For a man to achieve all that is demanded of him he must regard himself as greater than he is. (Johann Goethe)

--When spider webs unite, they can tie up a lion. (Ethiopian proverb)

--Every calling is great when greatly pursued. (Oliver Wendell Holmes)

--Don't let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do. (John Wooden)

--The harder you work, the luckier you get. (Gary Player)

--There is no such thing as a great talent without great willpower. Behold the turtle. He makes progress only when he sticks his neck out. (James B. Conant)

--Three great essentials to achieve anything worthwhile are, first, hard work; second, stick-to-itiveness; third, common sense. (Thomas Edison)

Acting:

--Acting is a question of absorbing other people's personalities and adding some of your own experience. (Paul Newman)

Action:

--The shortest answer is doing. (Lord Herbert)

--Nothing will ever be attempted if all possible objections must be first overcome. (Samuel Johnson)

--I want to see you shoot the way you shout. (Theodore Roosevelt)

--I shall tell you a great secret, my friend. Do not wait for the last judgment, it takes place every day. (Albert Camus)

--Action takes precedence over study. (Judah Hanasi)

--Action is eloquence. (William Shakespeare)

--Action makes more fortunes than caution. (Luc de Clapiers)

--Actions speak louder than words.

--If a soldier or a laborer complains of the hardship of his lot, set him to do nothing. (Blaise Pascal)

--The way to get things done is not to mind who gets the credit of doing them. (Benjamin Jowett)

--If a thing is worth doing, it is worth doing badly. (G. K Chesterton)

--The actions of men are the best interpreters of their thoughts. (John Locke)

--It is by acts and not by ideas that people live. (Anatole France)

Activity:

--Lose no time; be always employed in something useful. (Benjamin Franklin)

--Activity is contagious. (Ralph Waldo Emerson)

Adults:

--A boy becomes an adult three years before his parents think he does ... and about two years after he thinks he does. (Lewis Hershey)

--Adults are really not wiser than children; they're just more cunning.

Advancement:

--Build momentum by accumulating small successes. (Anonymous)

--I found that the men and women who got to the top were those who did the jobs they had in hand, with everything they had of energy and enthusiasm and hard work. (Harry S Truman)

Adventure:

--When you're safe at home you wish you were having an adventure; when you're having an adventure you wish you were safe at home. (Thornton Wilder)