



February 12, 2023

Bulletin #7

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 Faithful Departed

***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 Kourey, 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 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

Sunday of the Faithful Departed

Readings: Ez 37:1-10; 1Thess 5:1-11 and Lk 16:19-31

The “seesaw” world of the first century is epitomized in the two men in this Sunday’s Gospel. One, dressed in the finest of clothes, with more than enough to eat, stands in contrast to the other, homeless, hungry, and ill. Which of the two men will the reader envy? In the beginning of the story, certainly it is the rich man. Lazarus, sitting outside the gate of the good life, is an unappealing figure.

The turning point is death. At death, Lazarus becomes the one to envy. He is now at “*the bosom of Abraham*”, the place of honor and security. The rich man ignored Lazarus when he was alive. Now the rich man turns to him for help, but Lazarus has no obligation to help him. In life, Lazarus was not aided by this rich man; in death the rich man cannot be aided by Lazarus. The rich man failed to use his wealth to create a bond with the poor. The rich man’s suffering is all the more poignant by its permanence. No one can ever help him. Neither Lazarus nor Abraham can reach across the divide that separates them from him.

This seems like the logical conclusion of the story, but there is still another point to be made. The rich man wants to be a messenger of sorts; he wants to let his family know just what it is like after death so that they don’t suffer the same fate. This suggestion is rejected by Abraham, since the family knows already what to expect: “*They have Moses and the prophets.*” God has already revealed that care of the poor is necessary. The rich man presses further, suggesting his return from the dead will do the trick. Abraham sternly replies that if Moses and the prophets didn’t affect them, neither would someone’s resurrection.

The message in the second part of the story is complex. First, the tradition of Moses and the prophets is upheld. Someone who follows this tradition will be welcomed by God. Second, if this tradition is not held to, not even a resurrection will convince anyone to change. Christianity is in continuity with the faith of the past, with Moses and the prophets. The rich man and his family had all they needed to guide their lives yet refused to do so. Neither will the resurrection convince them. The Christians of Luke’s community are left with a choice. Whom will they be like?

February 11-17: Week of the Faithful Departed

Week of the Faithful Departed (Saturday, February 11 until Friday, February 17)

Throughout the week of the faithful departed, offer prayers for the Repose of the Souls of your 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.

Special Mass:

- ✠ **40-Day Memorial Mass for Jim Thomas (father of Mrs. Diane Frenn) by the Frenn Family**
- ✠ Deceased of the Khourey and Howard Families by Lou, Charlotte, Emmalena and Louie Khourey
- ✠ Catherine Arthur by her daughter Carol Burkhart
- ✠ Adib & Sadie Chidiac (parents), Nadim (brother) and Mona (sister) by Msgr. Bakhos
- ✠ Deceased of the Chidiac Family by Msgr Bakhos
- ✠ John Shiben by John & Tulane Mensore
- ✠ Mike & Sue Linton & their parents Joe & Frances Linton by Steve Linton
- ✠ Janis & George Thomas (Ohio) by their last will
- ✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her last Will
- ✠ Living & Deceased of Tom & Judy Brock, Jr.
- ✠ Khalil & Sadie & Maria Harb and Annette & Al Togliatti by Jamil Harb (Troy, MI)
- ✠ Deceased of the Thomas, Splatt & Nutter Families by John & Kathy Thomas (MN)

Next Weekend: Feb.18-19: Entrance into Lent (Cana Sunday)

Saturday, February 18 at 4:00 p.m.:

- ✠ Janis & George Thomas (Ohio) by their last will
- ✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her last Will

Sunday, February 19 at 10:30 a.m.:

- ✠ Gaby Hobeish (brother-in-law of Msgr Bakhos) by the Frenn Family
 ✠ John Shibben by John & Tulane Mensore
 ✠ Mike & Sue Linton & their parents Joe & Frances Linton by Steve Linton

Schedule of Coming Events:

Sunday, February 12	Valentine Dinner Dance at Noon in the Cedar Hall (parishioners only)
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2022 Ash Distribution Schedule

Ash Monday, February 20:

12:05 p.m.: Mass & Blessing with Ash

5:30 p.m.: Mass & Blessing with Ash

Ash Wednesday, February 22:

12:05 p.m.: Mass & Blessing with Ash

5:30 p.m.: Mass & Blessing with Ash

Stations of the Cross & Light Dinner (starting Friday, February 24)

Every Friday during Lent, we celebrate the Mass at 5:30 p.m. Mass will be followed by the Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Cross. The “*Stations of the Cross*” is a devotion which consists of following the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ by recalling the fourteen prominent events that took place from the time of the trial under Pontius Pilate until His death and burial on Mount Calvary. Many Thanks to these generous families who sponsored light meatless dinners after the Stations of the Cross. If any other family wants to participate in the social hour, please ask and join the families listed below.

Date:	Volunteers Who Sponsor the Light Meals on Fridays during Lent:
1 st Friday, Feb. 24	Meal Sponsor: Dr. & Mrs Nabil Alkhouri
2 nd Friday, March 3	Meal Sponsors: Susan John
3 rd Friday, March 10	Meal Sponsors: Chris & Jeannette Wakim
4 th Friday, March 17	Meal Sponsor: Mary Stees and Libby Magnone
5 th Friday, March 24	Meal Sponsors: Liz & Jay Murad
6 th Friday, March 31	Meal Sponsor: George & Susan Saseen
Good Friday, April 7	Meal Sponsor: The Cedar Club & Parishioners

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:

- February 14: Diane Frenn
 February 15: Nettie Seidler
 February 16: Dave Sengewalt
 February 17: Rebecca DiFabrizio
 February 21: Louie Khourey, Dennis Porter
 February 24: Mary Lee Porter
 February 27: MaryAnn Carl
 March 2: Ava Murad
 March 4: Jeff Sengewalt
 March 6: Kristen McLaughlin
 March 10: Liam George

Your Church Support Last Week

\$1,075.00	Sunday Collection
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43.00	Candles
44.00	Coffee hour
90.00	Festival
50.00	Donation to the church
401.00	Utilities
\$1,703.00	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)

Fred Jaquay, Tim Pack, Patty Olinsky, Earl Ragase, 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?

2nd Collection to help earthquake victims (Sat. & Sun, February 19 & 20)

“Dear Msgrs. and Fathers,

To do our part in helping the victims and families of the recent earthquake in Syria which has taken so many lives, we will be holding a special Second Collection on Saturday and Sunday, February 18 and 19.

I ask that you send your Second Collection to the Chancery Office by the end of February.

Thank you for your assistance. Chancery Office”

Many Thanks

--To Mr. Gary and Ron Weisner for leading the electrical company to upgrade of the electricity of the old part of the church building. Job well done.

--To Mr. Jay Murad for keeping on eye on the heating and cooling system of the church.

-- To Mr. Ron Gibbons for helping all workers when needed.

--To Mary Lee & Dennis Porter for donating a hot pot for tea with tea bags. It is highly appreciated.

Msgr. Bakhos and all the parishioners raise their prayers for you guys and for all the volunteers and helpers and benefactors of our church. You are our pride and joy.

Rummage Sale

The ladies of the church would appreciate any items to be donated toward the coming rummage sale in June.

Please bring your items with you to the church and we will open the basement door for you. Many Thanks.

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.

Welcome center tent needed

We need a generous person to sponsor a tent to be used as the welcome center at the entrance of the Mahrajan (Festival) this year. It is a heavy duty 10x15 feet with skirts and back wall. It cost \$475.00. Your donation is tax exempt. May God reward you manyfolds.

Spirituality: Prayer to Mary

I hold your name ever since birth
 With it I face the problems on earth.
 It gives me the strength to carry on
 To live, to laugh, to never be down.
 Whenever I feel sorry or sad
 I turn to you, you're never mad.
 The promises I constantly make
 Usually I break.
 But you are there forgiving me
 Giving me chances to let me see
 To understand why I'm here
 To pray, work and love with no fear.
 I praise you every morning and during the day
 My love to you will never end, Ah! No way.
 A question if I may
 Why do you keep answering my prayers when I'm always away.
 I feel your existence with me
 Open my heart and give me the key.
 The key to find happiness with you
 To walk with God and be one of the few.
 Few people that walked your way
 And found joy at the end of the day.
 I love you with all my heart
 And I will always love you as days go apart
 Your name that I hold, will always be safe
 As days go by, I promise not to be a disgrace
 Love You with All My Heart.

Wisdom: Lessons from Life

Written by a 90 years old lady.

"To celebrate growing older, I once wrote the 45 lessons life taught me.

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 - enjoy it.
4. Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends and family will.
5. Pay off your credit cards every month.
6. You don't have to win every argument. Stay true to yourself.
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. Clutter weighs you down in many ways.
18. Whatever doesn't kill you really does make you stronger.
19. It's never too late to be happy. But it's all 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
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 of 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. Accept what you already have, not what 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: Morning Service

Every Sunday afternoon, after the morning service at their church, the Pastor and his eleven-year-old son would go out into their town and hand out Gospel Tracts. This particular Sunday afternoon, as it came time for the Pastor and his son to go to the streets with their tracts, it was very cold outside as well as pouring down rain. The boy bundled up in his warmest and driest clothes and said, "OK dad, I'm ready." His pastor dad asked, "Ready for what?" "Dad, it's time we gather our tracts together and go out." Dad responds, "Son, it's very cold outside and it's pouring down rain." The boy gives his dad a surprised look, asking, "But dad, aren't people still going to Hell, even though it's raining?" Dad answers, "Son, I am not going out in this weather." Despondently the boy asks, "Dad, can I go? Please?" His father hesitated for a moment then said, "Son, you can go. Here are the tracts; be careful son." "Thanks Dad!!!" And with that he was off and out into the rain. This eleven-year-old boy walked the streets of the town going door to door and handing everybody he met in the street a Gospel Tract. After 2 hours of walking in the rain he was soaking bone-chilled wet and down to his VERY LAST TRACT. He stopped on a corner and looked for someone to hand a tract to but the streets were totally deserted. Then he turned toward the first home he saw and started up the sidewalk to the front door and rang the doorbell. He rang the bell--but nobody answered. He rang it again and again bit still no one answered. He waited but still no answer. Finally this eleven-year-old trooper turned to leave but something stopped him. Again, he turned to the door and rang the bell and knocked loudly on the door with his fist. He

waited, something holding him there on the front porch. He rang again, and this time the door slowly opened. Standing in the doorway was a very sad looking elderly lady? She softly asked, "What can I do for you son?" With radiant eyes and a smile that lit up her world this little boy said, "Ma'am, I'm sorry if I disturbed you, but I just want to tell you that **JESUS REALLY DOES LOVE YOU**, and I came to give you my very last Gospel Tract which will tell you all about **JESUS and His great LOVE**." With that he handed her his last tract, and turned to leave. She called to him as he departed, "Thank you son! And God Bless You!"

Well, the following Sunday Morning in Church, Pastor dad was in the pulpit and as the service began he asked, "Does anybody have a testimony or want to say anything?" Slowly, in the back row of the Church, an elderly lady stood to her feet. As she began to speak a look of glorious radiance came from her face as she said, "None of you in this church know me. I've never been here before. You see, before last Sunday I was not a Christian. My husband has passed on, some time ago, leaving me totally alone in this world. Last Sunday, being a particularly cold and rainy day, it was even more so in my heart as I came to the end of the line where I no longer had any hope or will to live. So I took a rope and a chair and ascended the stairway into the attic of my home. I fastened the rope securely to a rafter in the roof then stood on the chair and fastened the other end of the rope around my neck. Standing on that chair, so lonely and brokenhearted, I was about to leap off when suddenly the loud ringing of my doorbell downstairs startled me. I thought, 'I'll wait a minute, and whoever it is will go away.' I waited and waited, but the ringing doorbell seemed to get louder and more insistent and then the person ringing also started knocking loudly. I thought to myself again, 'who on earth could this be? Nobody ever rings my bell or comes to see me.' I loosened the rope from my neck and started for the front door, all the while the bell rang louder and louder. When I opened the door and looked I could hardly believe my eyes for there on my front porch was the most radiant and angelic little boy I had ever seen in my life. His smile, Oh, I could never describe it to you!!! And the words that came from his mouth caused my heart, that had long been dead, to leap to life as he exclaimed with cherub like voice, 'Ma'am, I just came to tell you that **JESUS REALLY DOES LOVE YOU**.'" Then he gave me this Gospel Tract that I now hold in my hand. As the little angel disappeared back out, into the cold and rain, I closed my door and read slowly every word of this Gospel Tract. Then I went up to my attic to get my rope and chair. I wouldn't need them any more. You see, I am now a happy child of the King, and since the address of your Church was on the back of this Gospel Tract I have come here to personally say thank you to God's little angel who came just in the nick of time and, by so doing, spared my soul from eternity in hell." There were now no dry eyes in the Church. And as shouts of praise, and honor to the King, resounded off the very rafters of the building, Pastor dad descended from the pulpit to the front pew where the little angel was seated; he took him in his arms and sobbed uncontrollably. Probably no church has had a more glorious moment. And probably this universe has never seen a Papa that was more filled with love & honor for his son, except for one -- this Father also allowed His Son to go out into a cold & dark world. He received His Son back with joy unspeakable, and as all of heaven shouted praises and honor to the King. The Father sat His beloved Son on a throne far above all principalities and powers.... and every name that is named.... Whatever the case, and whatever the problem or situation you find yourself in, and no matter how dark it may seem, I want you to know that I just came to tell you, **JESUS REALLY DOES LOVE YOU**.

A Time to Laugh (49)

Enlightenment

A great and foolish king complained that the rough ground hurt his feet, so he ordered the whole country to be carpeted with cowhide.

The court jester laughed when the king told him of his order. "What an absolutely crazy idea, your Majesty," he cried. "Why all the needless expenses? Just cut out two small pads of cowhide to protect your feet!"

That is what the king did. And that is how the idea of shoes was born.

Marathon

The very first person to run a marathon died for his efforts. In 490 B.C.E., an anonymous Athenian ran from the village of Marathon to Athens -approximately 26 miles- to carry the news that the Athenians had defeated the Persians. He completed his run, made his announcement, and dropped dead.

Funny Quote:

"The word "genius" isn't applicable in football. A genius is a guy like Norman Einstein." (Joe Theisman, NFL football quarterback & sports analyst.)

The lawyer and the loan

A New Orleans lawyer sought a Federal Housing Administration (FHA) loan for a client. He was told the loan would be granted if he could prove satisfactory title to a parcel of property being offered as collateral. The title to the property dated back to 1803, which took the lawyer three months to track down.

After sending the information to the FHA, he received the following reply (actual letter):

"Upon review of your letter adjoining your client's loan application, we note that the request is supported by an Abstract of Title. While we compliment the able manner in which you have prepared and presented the application, we must point out that you have only cleared title to the proposed collateral property back to 1803. Before final approval can be accorded, it will be necessary to clear the title back to its origin."

Annoyed, the lawyer responded as follows:

"Your letter regarding title in Case No. 189156 has been received. I note that you wish to have the title extended further than the 194 years covered by the present application. I was unaware that any educated person in this country, particularly those working in the property area, would not know that Louisiana was purchased by the U.S. from France in 1803, the year of origin identified in our application.

For the edification of uninformed FHA bureaucrats, the title to the land prior to U.S. ownership was obtained from France, which had acquired it by Right of Conquest from Spain. The land came into the possession of Spain by Right of Discovery made in the year 1492 by a sea captain named Christopher Columbus, who had been granted the privilege of seeking a new route to India by the Spanish monarch, Isabella. The good queen, Isabella, being a pious woman and almost as careful about titles as the FHA, took the precaution of securing the blessing of the Pope before she sold her jewels to finance Columbus' expedition.

Now the Pope, as I'm sure you may know, is the emissary of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. And God, it is commonly accepted, created this world. Therefore, I believe it is safe to presume that God also made that part of the world called Louisiana. God, therefore, would be the owner of origin and His origins date back to before the beginning of time, the world as we know it, AND the FHA. I hope you find God's original claim to be satisfactory. Now, may we have our loan?"

The loan was approved.

Relationships

A woman was at her singing lessons. She had such a jarring voice that a neighbor could take it no more. He managed, finally, to summon up the courage to knock at her door and say: "Madam, if you don't stop your singing I think I'll go mad!"

"What are you talking about? said the woman. "I stopped two hours ago!"

[So sorry! It isn't you I am dealing with but an image in my head]

Famous Quotes (46)

--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)

--Any fool can criticize, condemn, and complain, and most fools do. — *Benjamin Franklin*

--If you hear that someone is speaking ill of you, instead of trying to defend yourself you should say, "He obviously does not know me very well, since there are so many other faults he could have mentioned. — *Epictectus*

--Let me tell you the secret that has led me to my goal. My strength lies solely in my tenacity. — *Loui Pasteur*

--The Lord can do great things through those who don't care who gets the credit. — *Helen Pearson*

--Consider the postage stamp: Its usefulness consists in the ability to stick to one thing until it gets there. — *Josh Billings*

--The difference between perseverance and obstinacy is that one often comes from a strong will, and the other from a strong won't. — *Henry Ward Beecher*

--Lack of will power has caused more failure than lack of intelligence or ability. — *Flower A. Newhouse*

--I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had absolutely no other place to go. — *Abraham Lincoln*

--If you want the last word, apologize. — *Anonymous*

--The deeds you do today may be the only sermon some people will hear today. — *St. Francis of Assisi*

--God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.

--He who angers you, controls you!

--If God is your Co-pilot - swap seats!

--Prayer: Don't give God instructions -- just report for duty!

--The task ahead of us is never as great as the Power behind us.

--We don't change the message, the message changes us.

--You can tell how big a person is by what it takes to discourage him.

--The best mathematical equation I have ever seen: 1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given.

"Long-range goals keep you from being frustrated by short-term failures." - **James Cash Penney**

"There's only one way to succeed in anything and that is to give everything." - **Vince Lombardi**

--Don't let your worries get the best of you; remember, Moses started out as a basket case.

Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited until you try to sit in their pews.

Many folks want to serve God, but only as advisors.