



February 26, 2023

Bulletin #9

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 Leper

***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 Leper

Readings: 2 Kings 5:1-14; Rom 6:12-23 and Mk 1:35-43

When Jesus lived, leprosy was not just an incurable physical ailment: it amounted to social and religious death. Moreover, it was viewed as the severest sentence that God passed on the sinner. Isaiah depicts the guilty people of God as lepers, and he uses this imagery also to describe the mysterious servant who expiates Israel's sin.

The meeting between Jesus and the leper thus becomes highly significant. Impurity meets up with the "Holy"; the outcast meets the Servant, Himself a future outcast; leprosy which defiles comes into contact with the one who makes pure. Here sin confronts its choicest victim, evil its cure. In the person of this leper the Savior touches and purifies the whole sinful world. Thus, in spite of the injunction to secrecy, the religious authorities to which Jesus sent the man He had just cured should have recognized that the Messiah had come and that through Him the social outcasts and the living-dead had rehabilitated.

In differing degrees the lepers of today are the various outcasts of our society. These are the incurable invalids we shut away in hospitals and forget about; they are those who live on the margins of our society in subhuman conditions, and the others rejected by our society for one reason or another. We must learn from Jesus. Each of us is leprosy; each of us has a hidden uncleanness, which we need to reveal to Jesus, in order to obtain healing and wholeness from Him and to be readmitted into the society of the saved. Once we have been touched and cleansed, we must proclaim God's Word and, following Jesus' example, welcome in their human dignity those who before were cast out or rejected.

This Weekend: Feb. 25-26: Sunday of the Leper

Saturday, February 25 at 4:00 p.m.:

✠ John Shiben by Marion Drews

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

Sunday, February 26 at 10:30 a.m.:

✠ In Loving Memory of Cecilia John (Anniversary) by her Children

✠ Bryan Joseph by Cheryl & Dan Tucker and Family

✠ Mike Ledergerber by his uncle Leo Bleifus

Next Weekdays Mass Schedule

Monday, February 27: No Mass. Pastor's Day off.

Tuesday, February 28 Mass at Noon:

✠ In Loving Memory of Cecilia John (Anniversary) by her Children

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

✠ Virginia Matesic (Anniversary) by her sister Rosalie Conti

Wednesday, March 1: No Mass. Office work.

Thursday, March 2 Mass at Noon:

✠ Janis & George Thomas (Ohio) by their last will

✠ Mike & Sue Linton & their parents Joe & Frances Linton by Steve Linton

✠ John Shiben by William & Mary Beth Yaeger

Friday, March 3 at 5:30 p.m.:

Mass followed by Stations of the Cross and light dinner sponsored by Susan & Ron Burns

✠ Intentions of Susan & Ron Burns

✠ Mike & Sue Linton & their parents Joe & Frances Linton by Steve Linton

✠ John Shiben by William & Mary Beth Yaeger

Next Weekend: Mar 4-5: Sunday of the Hemorrhaging Woman

Saturday, March 4 at 4:00 p.m.:

- ✠ Betty Abraham, Clara Cater, Evelyn Goodson by Jean Weisner & Family
- ✠ Bob Sengewalt by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt
- ✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her last Will
- ✠ Special Intention

Sunday, March 5 at 10:30 a.m.:

- ✠ Bill Dougherty (Anniversary) by his wife Carol (OK)
- ✠ Mike Ledergerber by his uncle Leo Bleifus
- ✠ Mike & Sue Linton & their parents Joe & Frances Linton by Steve Linton

Stations of the Cross & Light Dinner (Every Friday during Lent)

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 are sponsoring the Light Meals on Fridays during Lent:
2 nd Friday, March 3	Meal Sponsors: Susan & Ron Burns
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

Coming Parish Events

Monday, March 13 at 6:00 pm	Cedar Club Meeting in the Cedar Hall
1 st week of May	Bake Sale
Saturday, June 17 at 5:00 p.m.	Parish Dinner on the occasion of Father Day
Sunday, August 13 until 7:00 pm	Mahrajan (Festival) at Oglebay Park, Levenson Shelter 10:00 a.m. Outdoor Mass at Oglebay (No Mass at the church)

Easter Lillies

Many Thanks to all who donated toward decorating the church during Easter. All donations small or great are appreciated, but only donations greater than \$20.00 are mentioned here. If you need to donate a flower in memory of a beloved family member, please write a note to Msgr. Bakhos

- ✠ In Memory of Gladys Howard and Louise N. & Louis H. Khourey, Sr., by Lou & Charlotte Khourey and Family
- ✠ In Memory of the Murad and Tatalovich Families by Liz & Jay & Eva Murad
- ✠ In Memory of our beloved parents John T. & Cecilia John and D. William Burns by Ron & Susan Burns
- ✠ In Memory of husband Phil and Deceased Family members of Thomasina Geimer
- ✠ In Memory of Danny & Milly Manners by their daughter NiNi Miller
- ✠ In Honor of Chris and Jeannette Wakim
- ✠ In Honor of Ron Weisner
- ✠ In Honor of Jean Weisner
- ✠ In Honor of Frank & Anna Marie Duymich
- ✠ In Honor of Fran Saseen
- ✠ In Honor of Jackie & Pat Petros
- ✠ In Honor of Dr. & Mrs. Adel Frenn

✘ In Honor of Denise Ferris

✘ In Honor of Larry & Lillian Siebieda

✘ In Memory of Shirley Elias Nickerson and the Deceased of the Elias Family by Tammy Strong

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:

February 27: MaryAnn Carl

March 2: Ava Murad

March 4: Jeff Sengewalt

March 6: Kristen McLaughlin

March 10: Liam George

March 15: Shelby Imer

March 18: Kenny Imer, Bill Stees, Patrick Petros

March 21: Caroline Stees McDowell

March 22: Jennifer Imer

March 26: Joseph John

Your Church Support Last Week

\$1,156.00	Sunday Collection
192.00	2 nd collection: Home Missions
\$387.00	2 nd collection: Earthquake in Syria and Turkie
70.00	Candles
47.00	Coffee hour
196.00	Dinner (valentine)
325.00	Donation to the church
40.00	Easter Flowers
\$2,413.00	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?

Parish Condolences: (Mike Ledergerber)

The pastor and the parishioners of Our Lady of Lebanon Church, offer their heartfelt sympathy to the Ledergerber Family on the loss of their beloved young man Mike. Mike was the nephew of Mr. Leo Bleifus. May the Blessed Mother intercede for him and lead him to the light of Christ. We extend the parish's condolences to his Family in their time of sorrow.

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)

- This year we will celebrate our 90th Lebanese Festival (Mahrajan) at Oglebay Park on Sunday, August 13.
- Outdoor Mass at 10:00 a.m. not 10:30 a.m. There will be no Mass at the church the day of the Festival.
- If you have a friend or know someone who is interested in receiving correspondence about our Festival, please submit their addresses to Msgr. Bakhos.
- Many Thanks to Susan & Ron Burns for sponsoring the welcome center tent at the entrance of the Mahrajan (Festival) this year. It is a beautiful 10x10 red and white stripes. May God reward you manyfolds.

Spirituality: Counting Catholics

The number of Catholics in the world is creeping toward an official 1 billion, according to the Vatican's Central Office of Church Statistics.

The newest edition of the office's Statistical Yearbook of the church says the world's Catholic population totals 989.4 million.

According to the Yearbook, the five countries with the most Catholics are:

Brazil with 134.8 million Catholics.

Mexico with 86.3 million.

The Philippines with 58.7 million.

The United States with 57 million.

Italy with 55.6 million.

Wisdom: Moments in Life

--There are moments in life when you miss someone so much that you just want to pick them from your dreams and hug them for real!

--When the door of happiness closes, another opens; but often times we look so long at the closed door that we don't see the one, which has been opened for us.

--Don't go for looks; they can deceive. Don't go for wealth; even that fades away. Go for someone who makes you smile, because it takes only a smile to make a dark day seem bright. Find the one that makes your heart smile.

--Dream what you want to dream; go where you want to go; be what you want to be, because you have only one life and one chance to do all the things you want to do.

--May you have enough happiness to make you sweet, enough trials to make you strong, enough sorrow to keep you human and enough hope to make you happy.

--The happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the most of everything that comes along their way.

--The brightest future will always be based on a forgotten past; you can't go forward in life until you let go of your past failures and heartaches.

--When you were born, you were crying and everyone around you was smiling. Live your life so at the end, you're the one who is smiling and everyone around you is crying.

Story: Mother's escort

Although Mother raised two children during the fifties and sixties, there was another child she could never forget. Mark was a beautiful red-headed baby who entered the world a month prematurely. He struggled to breathe from the beginning. Six hours after his birth, he gasped his last breath.

One of Mother's greatest regrets was never having held her baby son while he was alive. She was still in the hospital on the day of Mark's funeral, so my dad carried the little coffin into her hospital room for her to say goodbye. A mother can never forget the love of her child, and so it was with my mother. She got on with her

life, but when people asked her how many children she had, she usually answered “three.” So as teenagers, when my brother and I bought her a mother’s ring, we made sure there were three stones surrounding her ruby birthstone; two diamonds, to represent the April birthdays of her living children and the “aquamarine” for Mark’s March birthday.

When my mother was ninety-four, she broke her hip. She stayed in the hospital three weeks, but then returned home, living independently by late April. In early May, she called me one day, her voice full of joy.

“Margaret, when I woke up this morning, there was a tall, handsome, red—haired man standing beside my bed,” she said. I was immediately flooded with peace and joy. I knew instantly that it was Mark. He told me, ‘It won’t be long. I will be coming for you.’” She repeated the story to my brother a few weeks later while they visited Mark’s grave at the cemetery on Memorial Day.

Mother steadily improved, and I forgot about Mark’s visit. Mother, however, started putting her affairs in order, wanting to sell her rental property, emptying closets, and repeatedly saying she wanted to clean out her house and have a rummage sale.

In mid-August, Mother fell and needed hospitalization; in early September she experienced a stroke. When she could not speak, she would often gaze upon the mother’s ring we had given her. On December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, she was humming “Joy to the World with some carolers as she sat eating supper at 6 p.m. Within the hour, she had passed away.

The next day at the funeral home, the funeral director handed me a small black bag containing Mother’s jewelry. As I opened the bag and her Mother’s ring fell into my hand, all at once I remembered Mother’s visitor. I realized Mark had come for her. It was a comfort to know she did not leave this world alone.

A Time to Laugh (51)

Spirituality

There was once a very austere man who let no food or drink pass his lips while the sun was in the heavens. In what seemed to be a sign of heavenly approval for his austerities a bright star shone on top of a nearby mountain, visible to everyone in broad daylight, though no one knew what brought the star there.

One day the man decided to climb the mountain. A little village girl insisted on going with him. The day was warm and soon the two were thirsty. he urged the child to drink but she said she would not unless he drank too. The poor man was in a quandary. He hated to break his fast; but he hated to see the child suffer from thirst. Finally, he drank. And the child with him.

For a long time he dared not look up to the sky, for he feared the star had gone. So imagine his surprise when, on looking up after a while, he saw two stars shining brightly above the mountain.

Human nature

The captain of a submarine, desiring to test his engine room, asked for top speed, then suddenly ordered an emergency stop. His orders were instantly obeyed.

The public address system was turned on. “This is the captain speaking. Well done, engine room. You stopped the sub in exactly 55.05 seconds.”

Soon another voice boomed, “This is the chef. The sub may have stopped, but your steak and potatoes kept going. Cold dinner for everyone tonight!”

Oooooooooooooooooops!

The night before my wedding, we were at the church for the rehearsal. My 4-year-old sister leaned over and asked me if the priest had any children. When I told her that he didn’t, she looked confused and asked, “Then why is everyone calling him father?”

Human Nature

Soon after World war II a London bus conductor noticed a passenger with a heavy parcel on his lap. “What’s that you have there?” he asked.

“An unexploded bomb that fell near my house. I’m taking it to the police station.”

“Good, Good! You don’t want to carry a thing like that on your lap, man! Put it under your seat!”

Relationships

Johnny was a sturdy, robust kid of three.

He made friends with a billy goat next door.

Each morning he would pull up some grass and lettuce and take them over as breakfast for Billy. So deep was their friendship that Johnny would spend hours in Billy’s pleasant company.

One day it occurred to Johnny that a change of diet would do Billy a lot of good. So he went to visit his friend with rhubarb instead of lettuce. Billy nibbled a bit of the rhubarb, decided he didn’t want it, and pushed it away. Johnny caught Billy by one of his horns and attempted to get him to eat the rhubarb. This time Billy butted Johnny away, gently at first, but, as Johnny grew persistent, quite firmly, so that Johnny stumbled and fell with a thump on his backside.

Johnny was so offended by this that he brushed himself off, glared at Billy and walked away, never to return. Some days later when his father asked him why he never went over to chat with Billy, Johnny replied, “Because he rejected me.”

Comfortable Death

An old nun who had tried out the new habit was discussing her funeral with the Mother Superior.

“I’d like to be buried in the old habit,” she said.

“Of course,” said the Superior, “if you’ll be more comfortable in that!”

Famous Quotes (48)

--"It's time to start living the life you've imagined" (**Henry James**)

--"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are." (**Theodore Roosevelt**)

--"Destiny is not a matter of chance, it is a matter of choice; it is not a thing to be waited for, it is a thing to be achieved." (**Winston Churchill**)

--"Never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time, and always start with the person nearest you."
(**Mother Teresa**)

--"This one step - choosing a goal and staying to it - changes everything." (**Scott Reed**)

--"The difference between the impossible and the possible lies in a person's determination." (**Tommy Lasorda**)

--Jesus: You have heard that it was said, you shall not commit adultery. But I tell you that he who casts his eyes on a woman so as to lust after her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye is the occasion of your falling into sin, pluck it out and cast it away from you; better to lose one part of your body than to have the whole cast into hell. And if your right hand is an occasion of falling, cut it off and cast it away from you; better to lose one of your limbs than to have your whole body cast into hell. It was said, too, whoever will put away his wife must first give her a writ of separation. But I tell you that the man who puts away his wife (setting aside the matter of unfaithfulness) makes an adulteress of her, and whoever marries her after she has been put away, commits adultery. (Matthew 5: 28-32)