

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



Feast of Saint Sharbel

*Weekend Masses: Saturdays: Mass at 4:00 p.m.

Sundays: Mass at 10:30 a.m.

*Weekday Masses: Mondays and Wednesdays and Fridays: No Mass. Pastor's office work.

Tuesdays and Thursdays Mass at 12:00 Noon

*Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament: Every 1st Saturday and Sunday of the month after Mass

*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

Feast of Saint Sharbel

Readings: Is 61:1-11; 2Co 5:6-10 and Mt 13:36-43

"From the top of the cedar, from the highest branch I will take a shoot and plant it myself on a very high mountain...this branch will bear fruit and become a noble cedar". (Ezekiel 17:22-26)

The Story of Charbel

On May 8, 1828 in a mountain village of Beka'kafra, the highest village in the near-east, Charbel was born to a poor Maronite family. From childhood his life revealed a calling to "bear fruit as a noble Cedar of Lebanon". Charbel "grew in age and wisdom before God and men". At 23 years old he entered the monastery of Our Lady of Mayfouk (north of Byblos) where he became a novice. After two years of novitiate, in 1853, he was sent to St. Maron monastery where he pronounced the monastic vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. Charbel was then transferred to the monastery of Kfeifan where he studied philosophy and theology. His ordination to the priesthood took place in 1859, after which he was sent back to St. Maron monastery. His teachers provided him with good education and nurtured within him a deep love for monastic life. During his 19 years at St. Maron monastery, Charbel performed his priestly ministry and his monastic duties in an edifying way. He totally dedicated himself to Christ with undivided heart to live in silence before Nameless One. In 1875 Charbel was granted permission to live as a hermit nearby the monastery at St. Peter and Paul hermitage. His 23 years of solitary life were lived in a spirit of total abandonment to God.

Charbel's companions in the hermitage were the Sons of God, as encountered in the Scriptures and in the Eucharist, and the Blessed Mother. The Eucharist became the center of his life. He consumed the Bread of his Life and was consumed by it. Though this hermit did not have a place in the world, the world had a great place in his heart. Through prayer and penance he offered himself as a sacrifice so that the world would return to God. It is in this light that one sees the importance of the following Eucharistic prayer in his life:

"Father of Truth, behold Your Son a sacrifice pleasing to You, accept this offering of Him who died for me..." On December 16, 1898 while reciting the "Father of Truth" prayer at the Holy Liturgy Charbel suffered a stroke. He died on Christmas Eve at the age of 70. Through faith this hermit received the Word of God and through love he continued the Ministry of Incarnation.

On the evening of his funeral, his superior wrote: "Because of what he will do after his death, I need not talk about his behavior". A few months after his death a bright light was seen surrounding his tomb. The superiors opened it to find his body still intact. Since that day ablood-like liquid flows from his body. Experts and doctors are unable to give medical explanations for the incorruptibility and flexibility. In the years 1950 and 1952 his tomb was opened and his body still had the appearance of a living one.

The spirit of Charbel still lives in many people. His miracles include numerous healings of the body and of the spirit. Thomas Merton, the American Hermit, wrote in his journal: "Charbel lived as a hermit in Lebanon---he was a Maronite. He died. Everyone forgot about him. Fifty years later, his body was discovered incorrupt and in short time he worked over 600 miracles. He is my newcompanion. My road has taken a new turning. It seems to me that I have been asleep for 9 years---and before that I was dead."

At the closing of the Second Vatican Council, on December 5, 1965 Charbel was beatified by Pope Paul VI who said:

"...a hermit of the Lebanese mountain is inscribed in the number of the blessed...a new eminent member of monastic sanctity is enriching, by his example and his intercession, the entire Christian people...May he make us understand, in a world largely fascinated by wealth and comfort, the paramount value of poverty, penance, and asceticism, to liberate the soul in its ascent to God..."

On October 9, 1977 during the World Synod of Bishops, Pope Paul VI canonized Blessed Charbel among the ranks of the Saints.

"The just will flourish like the palm tree, like the Cedar of Lebanon shall he grow." (Psalm 92:13)

Miracle of Iskandar Obeid

The cure of Iskandar Oubaid, because of its importance, constitutes the second miracle, held in reserve to support the cause for the beatification of Father charbel, the first being the aforementioned recovery of Sister Marie.

Iskandar was a blacksmith from Baabdat. He had lost his sight resulting from a blow to the eye. Dr. T. Salhab declared that the pupil had been destroyed. At the French Hospital, Sacred Heart, in Beirut, Dr. Nakarier advised the patient to go home, lie down and rest for seven days. At the end of this time, a repeat examination was carried out, but there was no improvement. Dr. Salhab imposed an additional two weeks rest upon Oubaid, but this brought no change in the condition of his eye. Dr. Salhab and Nakarier then advised surgery to remove the eye in an attempt to prevent any infection from passing to the second one.

While waiting for a definite decision as to whether or not they would proceed with such a drastic remedy, Dr. Salhab and his patient. Several months passed; meanwhile the handicapped man never ceased to pray and to receive Holy Communion daily.

One night, in a dream, he saw a monk who spoke to him; "Go to the monastery and you will be cured." Iskandar set out immediately. It was on a Tuesday. He spent the night in prayer and remained near the hermit's tomb. The following day he heard Holy Mass, received Communion, and returned home.

From the very first day he began to feel pain in his injured eye, pain which increased two days later to the point of torture. To the friends who came to call on him, he repeated with confidence, "I shall get well, God willing, for this pain that I feel is a sign."

The pain increased again and his family begged him to see a doctor. Iskandar refused, saying," From now on, charbel is my only doctor," and he began to cry like a child.

It was not until about four o'clock in the morning that he finally went to sleep. During his slumber, he felt as though he were being carried to the door of the Monastery of Saint Moses, which belongs to the same order as that of charbel, and was given the task of unloading a truck. It seemed to him that the driver plunged an iron bar into his eye and then pulled the organ out and threw it onto the ground. He cried out in terrible pain, "Oh, you have drawn out my eye, Michael!" He awoke with a start.

His wife was frightened to see him in such a state. "Why are you crying out like that?" She demanded.

"It's nothing," he continued, "cover me up, I feel so cold!"

He fell asleep again and this time he dreamt he was standing in front of the very same monastery.

A monk appeared and asked what was troubling him. "My eye is so sore," Iskandar replied.

"Have you been here a long time?" inquired the monk.

"Since morning," answered Iskandar.

"Why didn't you notify us? We would have come earlier to cure you," and with these words the monk withdrew, only to return a few minutes later. Then he said, "I am going to put this powder in your eye. It will be extremely painful and your eye will swelll. Don't be afraid, for it is going to cure you." He dusted Iskandars eye with the powder and disappeared. Iskandar then saw Father Charbel's name inscribed in the asphalt near the church. He gave forth a great cry and awoke. He asked his wife if his eye was swollen. "But it is," she marvelled, "very much so!"

It was at this moment that an admirable scene took place. Joyfully, Iskandar said to his wife, "Bring me the picture of Father Charbel." He covered his healthy eye with a handkerchief and gazing at the image with his damaged one, made the sign of the cross and cried out, "I can see it, I am cured!"

The neighbours came running. With one impassioned voice, they praised God and offered up thanks for His benevolence.

Dr. Salhab was summoned and could only verify the recovery. He periodically examined Iskandar on subsequent occasions and consulted other specialists. The same gentlemen took up the study of this phenomenon and all unanimously declared: "Iskandar, who lost the use of one eye thirteen years ago, now sees normally with both eyes. The deteriorated iris, which no longer permitted light to pass through, is now perfectly healthy."

A canonical inquiry was convened which verified the miracle. The entire village of Baabdat testified that one Iskandar, blacksmith by trade, had been blind in one eye, and that he had recovered the use of his blind eye by the intercession of Father Charbel.

Creating your legacy

How can you manage your charitable giving more efficiently to benefit the charities you love and support, like our church established by our ancestors since 1906? The Parish Council opened an Endowment Fund Account designated exclusively for the church maintenance for years to come. All donations are tax deductible. Please

donate anytime toward this account or put in writing in your will the amount you wish to donate. Call the church office at 304-233-1688. May the Blessed Mother reward you in this life and in the next. Monsignor Bakhos, pastor.

Jesus performed 37 Miracles.

We will publish them weekly in order to strengthen our faith that Jesus is indeed the Son of God who has divine power to heal and raise the dead by a Word from his mouth. Blessed are those who believe without seeing Him.

The 21st miracle of Jesus when he healed many people

They crossed over the lake and landed at Gennesaret. The men who lived there recognized Jesus. So, they sent a message all over the nearby countryside. People brought all those who were sick to Jesus. They begged him to let those who were sick just touch the edge of his clothes. And all who touched his clothes were healed. (Matthew 14:34-36)

This Weekend: Saturday-Sunday, July 22-23

Saturday, July 22, Mass at 4:00 p.m.: Feast of Saint Sharbel

- Prichard Frazier (Anniversary) by his wife Luane
- ₱ Margaret Emmerth (Anniversary) by her sister Helen Benline
- ₱ Robert Shutler by Carol Dougherty (OK)

Sunday, July 23, Mass at 10:30 a.m.: Feast of Saint Sharbel

- ☆ George AlKhouri by Mary Stees and Libby Magnone
- The Mike & Sue Linton and their parents Joe and Frances Linton by Steve Linton
- ♣ John Shiben by Lisa & Bernie Paul

Coming Weekdays Mass Schedule

Monday, July 24: No Mass. NAM Convention

Tuesday, July 25 Mass at Noon:

- ♥ Sylvia Long, her husband Arthur, and her son Mark by her last will
- 4 Janis & George Thomas (Ohio) by their last will
- ♣ Chris DeMuth by Lou and Charlotte Khourey

Wednesday, July 26: No Mass. NAM Convention

Thursday, July 27 Mass at Noon:

- Prosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her last Will
- ♣ Robert Shutler by Lou and Charlotte Khourey

Friday, July 28: No Mass.

Next Weekend: Saturday-Sunday, July 29-30

Saturday, July 29, Mass at 4:00 p.m.:

- ♣ George Alan Weisner by his wife Jean and family
- ₱ Bob Sengewalt by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt
- ♣ Al Otterbeck by Chris & Jeannette Wakim
- § Special Intention

Sunday, July 30, Mass at 10:30 a.m.:

- ♣ Gene Howard by Thomasina Geimer
- ♣ Chris DeMuth by Mark & Pam Gary

Coming Parish Events

Benediction of the Blessed	Every 1st Saturday and Sunday of the month after Mass followed by
Sacrament	blessing with healing oil from Saint Sharbel for good health.
Thursday, July 27	Food gandling class at 5:30 pm in the Cedar Hall
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)
Thanksgiving Bake Sale	Date will be announced later.
Christmas Party	Sunday, December 3 rd after Mass (Dinner will be served at noon)

Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament (Sat. & Sun., August 5 & 6 after Mass)

In preparation of the year of the Eucharist that will take place in the fall of next year, we will celebrate the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament every 1st Saturday and Sunday of the month after Mass. Please stay in the church after Mass and adore Jesus present in the Eucharist.

The words and acts of Christ at the institution of the Eucharist stand at the heart of the celebration; the Eucharistic meal is the sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ, the sacrament of his real presence. Christ fulfills in a variety of ways his promise to be always with his own even to the end of the world. But Christ's mode of presence in the Eucharist is unique. Jesus said over the bread and wine of the Eucharist: "This is my Body ... this is my Blood ..." What Christ declared is true, and this truth is fulfilled every time the Eucharist is celebrated. The Church confesses Christ's real, living and active presence in the Eucharist.

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.
- --Net Mahrajan Raffle Cash Prize reached so far: \$6,760.00. Only 1,000 numbered tickets were printed this year. Buy your tickets before they are sold. The drawing that will take place at the stage of the Festival at Oglebay Park around 6:00 p.m. in presence of everyone. Good luck.

2023 Mahrajan Golden Sponsors:

The following Mahrajan supporters are honoring the Blessed Mother on her Assumption feast day by sponsoring items needed for the Mahrajan. They are adding more joy to the hearts of the Community and our guests in defrying the increasing cost of materials. May the Blessed Mother, the Queen of heaven and earth, lead them to her Son, the Lord of the Resurrection and grant them an honorable place with the righteous and the just. Their names will be published in next year Ad Book as Golden Mahrajan Sponsors.

- --Susan & Ron Burns sponsored the red and white tent that will be used as welcome center at the entrance of the Mahrajan. Also they sponsored the burner of the sajj to be used for baking zaatar bread.
- --An Anonymous person, Leo Bleifus, Don & Lori Nickerson sponsored the six Credit Card Readers.
- --George & Susan Saseen sponsored the Lebanese National costume outfits of our church dance troupe that will perform a Dabke at the festival.
- --An anonymous person sponsored the Lebanese Wine to be tasted and sold at the festival.
- --Ron & Kim Gibbons sponsored the Pop & Water.
- --GiGi Rice and her Family sponsored the signs over the booths

More gnerous Sponsors needed: (please call Monsignor Bakhos at 304-233-1688)

- --Aprons with Lebanese Logo \$1,500
- --Shish Kebab lamb \$2,000
- --Souvenir Ad Book printing \$3,000
- --T-Shirts (cost will be estimated later)

Already purchased by the church:

- --Two refrigerators for pop and water. Also one Sajj (woke) for Lebanese cheese pizza and Zaatar bread.
- --Four red tents 10x15 feet each to be used for our special booths.
- -- Many souvenirs from Lebanon will be sold at the Market Place

More Information:

--All tables under four tents are rented. Available are some picmic tables under trees.

--If you have a friend or know someone who is interested in receiving correspondence about our Festival, please submit their addresses to Msgr. Bakhos.

Food Handling Class (Thursday, July 27 at 5:30 pm)

The Health Department of Wheeling will run a class for the food handlers on Thursday July 27th at 5:30 in the Cedar Hall. All those sharing food events mainly at the Festival must attend and have their license renewed. Msgr Bakhos

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:

July 26: Anna Marie Duymich

July 30: Dee Shiben, Susan John Burns

August 2: Rosella C. DeMuth August 10: Thomasina Geimer August 16: Tara George Musilli

August 17: Judy Bedway August 20: Tricia Committee

August 23: Georgene Weisner Manning

Your Church Support Last Week	
\$2,000.00	Sunday Collection
59.00	candles
45.00	Coffee hour
2,795.00	Mahrajan
20.00	utilities
\$4,919.00	Total Deposits: May God reward you abundantly for supporting your spiritual home!
	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)
Frank Duymich, Nathan Wakim, Earl Duffy, Fran Saseen, Mary Stees, Rex Strawn, Mary Thomas, Sandra DeMuth, Ken Imer, Justin Frenn, Elia Frenn, Patty Fahey, Jamie Stoneking (nephew of Charlotte and Lou Khourey), Lou Anne Blazier, Patty Olinsky, Sarah Volk (aunt of GiGi Rice), Julia Schiess (daughter of Leo Bleifus), Earl Ragase, Patrick Sengewalt, Renee Beabout (daughter of Marge John), Jack Hogan (infant son of Mark & Michaela Hogan & great nephew of Lou Khourey), Fred Schweizer (brother of our organist Mary Lee Porter),

What's New?

Choir Members Needed

The organist needs more soprano's for our Church Choir; both men and women. We practice at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday before 10:30 a.m. Mass. If you have good voice, please join the choir and help our parishioners to pray twice while listening to the beautiful hymns.

Furnishure for sale

A medical student is selling a queen bed frame with mattress, outdoor patio set, and sofa and all need to be out by July 31. If you are interested please call Msgr Bakhos at 304-233-1688

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: National Day of Fasting

Proclamation for National Day of Humiliation, Fasting, and Prayer (President Abraham Lincoln)

WHEREAS, The Senate of the United States; devoutly recognizing the Supreme authority and just government of Almighty God in all the affairs of men and nations, has, by a resolution, requested the President to designate and set apart a day for National prayer and humiliation.

And whereas, it is the duty of nations, as well as of men, to owe their dependence upon the overruling power of God, to confess their sins and transgressions, in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon, and to recognize the sublime truth announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord.

And, insomuch as we know that, by His Divine law, nations like individuals are subjected to punishments and chastisements in this world, may we not justly fear that the awful calamity of civil war, which now desolates the land, may be but a punishment inflicted upon us for our presumptuous sins, to the needful end of our national reformation as a whole People.

We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of Heaven. We have been preserved, these many years, in peace and prosperity. We have grown in numbers, wealth, and power as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace, and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us; and have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us! It behooves us, then, to humble ourselves before the offended Power, to confess our national sins, and to pray for clemency and forgiveness.

Now, therefore, in compliance with the request, and fully concurring in the views of the Senate, I do, by this my proclamation, designate and set apart Thursday, the 30th day of April, 1863, as a day of national humiliation, fasting, and prayer. And I do hereby request all the People to abstain, on that day, from their ordinary secular pursuits, and to unite, at their several places of public worship and their respective homes, in keeping the day holy to the Lord, and devoted to the humble discharge of the religious duties proper to that solemn occasion. All this being done, in sincerity and truth, let us then rest humbly in the hope, authorized by the Divine teachings, that the united cry of the Nation will be heard on high, and answered with blessings, no less the pardon of our national sins, and the restoration of our now divided and suffering Country, to its former happy condition of unity and peace.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the City of Washington, this thirtieth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty seventh.

Abraham Lincoln, President

William H Seward, Secretary of State

The Senate resolution requesting the president to proclaim a day for "national prayer and humiliation" was introduced by Senator James Harlan on March 2, and adopted on March 3, 1863.

Story: 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 court house. 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 that I told, things that I stole, and in the past when I cheated others. Satan told of other horrible perversions that were once in my life and the more he spoke, the further down in my seat I sank. I was so embarrassed that I couldn't look at anyone, even my own Attorney, as the Devil told of sins that even I had 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 had been guilty of those things, but I had done 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 that 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," and then He turned to address the court. "Satan was correct in saying that this man had 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 that this person might have eternal life and he has 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 has already been paid in full. Case dismissed."

As my Lord led me away, I could hear Satan ranting and saying, "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 has come to Me and asked Me to represent them has received the same verdict as you, Paid in Full."

A Time to Laugh (72)

Quick Laughter

-A guy spots a sign outside a house that reads "Talking Dog for Sale." Intrigued, he walks in.

"So what have you done with your life?" he asks the dog.

"I've led a very full life," says the dog. "I lived in the Alps rescuing avalanche victims. Then I served my country in Iraq. And now I spend my days reading to the residents of a retirement home."

The guy is flabbergasted. He asks the dog's owner, "Why on earth would you want to get rid of an incredible dog like that?"

The owner says, "Because he's a liar.' He never did any of that!"

-A guy suffering from a miserable cold begs his doctor for relief. The doctor prescribes pills. But after a week, the guy's still sick. So the doctor gives him a shot. But that doesn't help his condition either.

"Okay, this is what I want you to do," says the doctor on the third visit. "Go home and take a hot bath. Then throw open all the windows and stand in the draft."

"I'll get pneumonia!" protests the patient.

"I know. That I can cure."

-Visiting a village in a Third World nation, an American dignitary tells the natives, "I bring you warm greetings from my people!" The natives respond, "Kazanga!" "We wish you prosperity!" "Kazanga!" they bellow. "I promise years of friendship and economic benefit!" "Kazanga! Kazanga!" As the dignitary leaves the podium, he tells the chief, "That went well."

"Uh-huh," the chief replies, adding, "Look out! Don't step in the kazanga."

Tarzan and the Lion's Den

A little girl was getting quizzed by her Sunday school teacher to determine how well she knew the Bible. The teacher had asked several questions, and the poor girl had not answered any of the questions correctly. The sympathetic teacher, trying to come up with an easier question, asked the girl who had been thrown into the den of lions and had survived.

The girl paused and carefully thought for a moment. Her eyes brightened, and she then exclaimed, "Oh, I know that one: it was Tarzan!"

Flipping the Presidents

A low-achieving man was explaining why he was fired as an investigator for the treasury department. "I arrested a couple of alleged counterfeiters, but it turned out they were not counterfeiting at all."

His friend asked why he thought they were counterfeiting. He explained, "The bills they were passing looked suspicious."

"What was suspicious about them?" his friend asked.

He answered, "Some of the bills were printed upside down. So some of the presidents were on one side of the bills, and some were on the other side." No wonder the man was fired!

Whole East Coast

A churchgoing family took a girl who was visiting with them to church one Sunday. This girl had never gone to church in her life but seemed to enjoy the experience. When they returned home, they asked the girl what she thought about the experience. She said she liked it, but she was confused about one thing. She asked why the whole West Coast was not included. No one in the family knew what she was talking about. She explained, "The man in the front kept talking about the Father, Son, and whole East Coast."