

#### September 24, 2023 Bulletin #39 **Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church**

2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003 Rectory: 304-233-1688 • Fax: 304-233-4714 E-Mail: <u>ololwv@comcast.net</u> • Web Site: <u>www.ololwv.com</u> Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac, Pastor Mary Lee Porter, Ed.D. Organist



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after the Holy Cross

Saturdays: Mass at 4:00 p.m. \*Weekend Masses: Sundays: Mass at 10:30 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays and Fridays: No Mass. Pastor's office work. \*Weekday Masses: **Tuesdays and Thursdays Mass at 12:00 Noon \*Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament:** Every 1<sup>st</sup> 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. Lou Khourey, Robert Harris, Joe Simon, Shelly Hancher, Holly Stahl. \*Choir Members: \*Bulletin Coordinator: Thomasina Geimer Earl Duffy and Joe Roxby \*Altar Server: \*Altar Boy: Christopher AlKhouri \*Cedar Club: Linda Duffy, President \*Women's Society: Jeannette Wakim, President የቅ ት ጭ የቅ

\*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.

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after the Holy Cross

Readings: Joel 2:1-16; 1Cor 15:19-34 and Mt 24:1-14

If we think of the terrible crimes that we have witnessed in our time (drive-by shootings, deadly rampages in our public schools, mass murders, drug addiction, and all forms of demoniac behavior), these magic people did not just suddenly wake up one morning and decide out of the blue that they were going to do these terrible things; it was the result of years of wrongful thinking on their part, wrongful imagery.

We have seen over the last few years younger and younger people committing terrible atrocities. The recent wave of school shootings is really only a symptom of the way our society is going. Make no mistake: these young people are not the lunatic fringe, they are our children, pointing out the direction our society is headed. Take a look at the images the world is presenting to our youth: images of graphic violence and lack of respect for human life. Images that make ugliness and disharmony seem normal. Images that desensitize our youth to the hideous and the harmful. Children play computer games that expose them to murderous destruction, developing sniper skills with which they shoot people for fun. In our society abortion is considered normal, and it is taught that it is a woman's right to murder her own child. Is it any wonder that these things are happening?

We need to return to God. We need to provide our youth with healthy and healing images. We need to allow them to stand before the Living God and gaze upon His countenance.

#### 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 29th miracle of Jesus when he healed a demoniac

A man controlled by demons was brought to Jesus. The man was blind and could not speak. Jesus healed him. Then the man could speak and see. All the people were amazed. They said, "Could this be the Son of David?" (Matthew 12:22-23)

### 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 let us keep our beautiful church well maintained and donate anytime toward this account or put the church in writing in your last will. To donate, please call the church office at 304-233-1688. May the Blessed Mother reward you in this life and in the next. --Monsignor Bakhos, pastor.

# This Weekend: Sat.-Sun. Sep. 23-24: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun. after the Cross

#### Saturday, September 23, Mass at 4:00 p.m.:

✤ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her last Will
✤ John Shiben by Esta McCall

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- Living & Deceased of the Roxby & Olinski Families by Joe Roxby
- <sup>8</sup> Special Intention

#### Sunday, September 24, Mass at 10:30 a.m.:

- ✤ Mary Thomas by Lou & Charlotte Khourey and Family
- ✤ Greg George by Bernadette Conklin
- Living & Deceased of Tom & Judy Brock, Jr.

# Weekdays Mass Schedule

Monday, September 25: No Mass. Pastor's day off.

#### Tuesday, September 26 Mass at Noon:

William Yeater by the Wakim Family

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

Living & Deceased of the Roxby & Olinski Families by Joe Roxby

Wednesday, September 27: No Mass. Office Work.

#### Thursday, September 28 Mass at Noon:

P Dennis Fahey (Birthday) by Geoge & Patty Fahey

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

Living & Deceased of Tom & Judy Brock, Jr.

Friday, September 29: No Mass. Visitation of the sick.

# Sat.-Sun., Sep. 30- Oct 1: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun. after the Cross

#### Saturday, September 30, Mass at 4:00 p.m.:

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

Provide the sengewalt by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt

T Living & Deceased of the Roxby & Olinski Families by Joe Roxby

8 Special Intention

#### Sunday, October 1, Mass at 10:30 a.m.:

✤ Mary Thomas by Lou & Charlotte Khourey and Family

Greg George by Bernadette Conklin

✤ Living & Deceased of Tom & Judy Brock, Jr.

## **Coming** Parish Events

Benediction of the Blessed	Every 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday and Sunday of the month after Mass followed by	
Sacrament	blessing with healing oil from Saint Sharbel for good health.	
Cooking Class, Sunday October 8th	Women's Society cooking class on Sunday, October 8 at 1:00 p.m.	
Flower Arranging Class	Women's Society cooking class on Sunday, October 22 at 1:00 p.m.	
Thanksgiving Bake Sale	Baking date:	
	Wednesday, November 1 <sup>st</sup> : Kibbee and Meat pies	
	Thursday, November $2^{nd}$ : zatar bread.	
	Orders Pick-Up: Saturday, November 4, 2023.	
Christmas Party	Sunday, December 3 <sup>rd</sup> after Mass (Dinner will be served at noon)	

# All Souls Masses for the Repose of the souls of:

From November 1<sup>st</sup> until November 9th: All Souls Masses

<sup>δ</sup> Special Prayers during this week to:

Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>: <sup>‡</sup> Charlotte George (Birthday) by Margaret George (MN)

Tuesday, November 7th to: 8 Libby G. Magnone (Birthday) by her sister Mary Zaid Stees

Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>: <sup>‡</sup> Elizabeth Ferris Magnone (Birthday) by her daughters Mary Stees and Libby G. Magnone

P Deceased of Zaidan Chahine by Youssef & Jocelyne Chahine (PA)

- Deceased of the Chidiac Family by Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac
- Catherine Arthur by her daughter Carol Burkhart
- Deceased of the Khourey & Howard Families by Lou & Charlotte Khourey & Emmalena & Louie

✤ Virginia Khourey Bryan & Deceased of the Nabiha & Habib Khourey Family by the Khourey Family

- Deceased of the Nader Family by Lou & Charlotte Khourey & Emmalena & Louie
- Deceased of the Thomas, Splatt & Nutter Families by John & Kathy Thomas (MN)
- PRosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her last Will
- ✤ Sylvia Long, her husband Arthur, & her son Mark by her last will
- 🕆 Janis & George Thomas (Ohio) by their last will
- 🕆 John Wilson by Judy Wilson & Family
- P Rudy Hodulik, Theodore Hodulik and Wayne Wilson by Judy Wilson
- 🕈 Julia Hodulik, Filka Hodulik by Judy Wilson
- P Alice Wilson by Judy Wilson & Family
- Tom Ferris by his nieces Mary Stees and Libby G. Magnone
- ✤ Zaid Hawa Ferris by her granddaughters Mary Stees and Libby G. Magnone
- P Albert & Annette Togliatti by GiGi Rice
- Sadie Bouharb & Mary Harb by GiGi Rice
- Khalil & Sadie & Maria Harb & Annette & Al Togliatti by Jamil Harb (Troy, MI)
- The Mike & Sue Linton & their parents Joe & Frances Linton by Steve Linton
- Deceased of Tom & Judy Brock, Jr.
- P Chamse Rahi by the Peklinsky, Howarth, Storm & Rahi Families
- Deceased of the Rouhana Family by the Peklinsky, Howarth, Storm & Rahi Families
- Tina Rahi by the Peklinsky, Howarth, Storm & Rahi Families
- A Mary K. Ferris by her daughter Denise Ferris
- ✤ George & Martha Saseen by George & Susan Saseen & Family
- ✤ Steve & Elizabeth Harasuik by George & Susan Saseen & Family
- P Debbie Saseen by George & Susan Saseen & Family
- Paul Hankish by Rose Hankish Carpenter
- Patty Ross Hankish by Rose Hankish Carpenter
- Christopher Hankish by Rose Hankish Carpenter
- Deceased of Gus and Anna Shia by the Family
- Tim, Ginny and Martha Shia by the Family
- Tom Jochum by his Family
- ✤ George, Dolores and Bert Fahey by Jackie & Pat Petros
- Philip & Betty Lou Petros by Jackie & Pat Petros
- P Bob Sengewalt by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt
- P Ray, Sara, Mick and Gary McLaughlin by Mark & Barb McLaughlin
- 🕆 John & Mary Miller by Mark & Barb McLaughlin
- P Elias & Selma, Edward & Edith, George & Betty Joseph by Mark & Barb McLaughlin
- Deceased of the Daniel and DiFabrizio Families by Rebecca & Michael DiFabrizio
- Mike Joseph by Vickie Joseph
- Alphonse Joseph by Vickie Joseph
- Ceorgette Joseph by Vickie Joseph
- ✤ Sam & Bernadine Elias & Deceased Family members by Mike & Terri Golebiewski
- Alphonse & Violet Golebiewski & Deceased Family members by Mike & Terri Golebiewski
- P Elias & Siham Frenn by Dr Adel, Diane & Justin Frenn and Zack, Andreah and Christian Riedel
- ✤ Jim & LaVerne Thomas by Dr Adel, Diane & Justin Frenn and Zack, Andreah and Christian Riedel
- P Fouad Frenn by Dr Adel, Diane & Justin Frenn and Zack, Andreah and Christian Riedel
- PRose Ann & Angelo Palsinelli by Rosalie Conti
- ✤ Katheryn & Hermon E. Conti by Rosalie Conti
- Herman E. Conti Jr, & Tony Matesic by Rosalie Conti
- ✤ Bill Dougherty by his wife Carol Dougherty (OK)
- Deceased of the Habdo Family by Carol Dougherty
- The Emily Vince by her Children and grandchildren
- Donald Vince by his Children and grandchildren

- Patricia Gompers by Matt & Vickie Gompers
- ✤ George Alan Weisner by Jean Weisner & Family
- P Deceased of the Nimon & Mariam Joseph Family by the Weisner & Joseph Families
- Deceased of the Maroon & Mary Catherine Habeb Families by the Weisner & Joseph Families
- Deceased of the Weisner, Bishop & Schmeichel Families by the Weisner & Joseph Families
- P Betty Abraham, Clara Carter & Evelyn Goodson by Jean Weisner & Family
- Progotten Souls in Purgatory by Jean Weisner
- P Betty Coram Purpura by Jean Weisner
- Mary Thomas by Jean Weisner
- Sophie Moses by Jim Moses
- John G. Moses by Jim Moses
- Jeffery Moses by Jim Moses
- PLoved Ones of the Bine, Gaudio & Paesani Families by Shirley Bine
- Deceased of the Fadoul and Duffy Families by Earl & Linda Duffy
- P Robert "Herk" Henry by Patrick Henry
- P Rosemary Henry by Patrick Henry
- Alma Erbachen by Patrick Henry
- Parbara Wenskey by Patrick Henry
- Don Wensyel by Patrick Henry
- Paul & Anna Orr & Jim Orr by Patrick Henry
- Camille & Selma Rohanna by Kim & Jan Seabright
- P Harry Charles Seabright by Kim & Jan Seabright
- Frank Lish by Kim & Jan Seabright
- P Louis C. Seabright by Kim & Jan Seabright
- Louise S. Gladkowski by Kim & Jan Seabright
- Walter Elwartoski by his son Richard Elwartoski
- P Lottie Elwartoski by her son Richard Elwartoski

## Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:

- September 24: Luane Frazier
- September 26: Mary Rose Kukula
- October 4: Leo Bleifus
- October 6: Joe Popovich, Frank Duymich
- October 10: Linda Duffy
- October 15: Denise "Nini" Miller
- October 16: Karen John, Natalie DeMuth Mulvey
- October 20: Courtney Sengewalt
- October 24: Jonathan D. Fadoul

Your Church Support Last Week		
\$588.00	Sunday Collection	
45.00	Candles	
47.00	Coffee hour	
450.00	Donation to the church	
\$1130.00	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)

Anthony Wakim, Frank Duymich, Earl Duffy, Fran Saseen, Mary Stees, Rex Strawn, Sandra DeMuth, Ken Imer, Justin Frenn, Elia Frenn, Patty Fahey, Jamie Stoneking (nephew of Charlotte and Lou Khourey), 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?

#### Cooking Class (Sunday, October 8 at 1:00 p.m)

The OLOL Women's Society will be hosting a cooking class on Sunday, October 8, 2023. We will be making Baklawa. The class will start at 1:00 p.m in the Cedar Hall. The class will be taught by Allison Duffy Totterdale (Linda Duffy's daughter). A recipe will be provided and samples! Everyone is invited so if you have a friend, he or she can attend! Please RSVP to Jeannette Wakim at 304-551-3934 by Sunday, October 1, 2023.

# Order of Saint Sharbel

October 8th is designated "Order of Saint Sharbel Sunday" in the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles. We will have a brief, special presentation on the Order that day. The Order of Saint Sharbel is vitally important in providing financial and spiritual support for educating our seminarians, who are crucial for the future of our Maronite Church. Please prayerfully consider joining the Order. You may enroll online at <u>www.orderstsharbel.org</u> or ask Msgr. Bakhos for more information.

#### Flower Arranging Class (Sunday, October 22 at 1:00 p.m)

The Womens Society will host a Flower Arranging Class on Sunday, October 22 at 1:00 PM in the social hall. There is no fee for the class. You will need to bring your supplies. You will need a container for your arrangement and your flowers, ribbon and anything else you would like to add to your arrangement. You may want to bring florist foam for your arrangement.

If you have Wire Cutters and a Glue gun and glue please bring them. We will have some if you do not have a glue gun or wire cutters.

This class is open to anyone who would like to attend. Please RSVP to Jeannette Wakim @ 304-551-3934

# Thanksgiving Bake Sale

Baking date:

Wednesday, November 1st: Kibbee and Meat pies

Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>: zatar bread.

Orders Pick-Up: Saturday, November 4, 2023.

# 2024 Offering Envelopes

Many Thanks for all parishioners of good standing who are supporting the church via envelopes, cash or checks. Only donations (cash and checks) via envelopes or loose checks (not cash) are recorded all year long for tax deduction. The financial committee is unable to identify the names of those who put cash in the collection basket. Consequently, no one could claim cash donations unless it is marked. Those who donate less than \$50.00 throughout 2023 will not receive 2024 offering envelopes. They are still considered parishioners and welcomed to the church. —Msgr. Bakhos

## Mahrajan Generous Sponsors needed:

--Many Thanks to:

-Rose Hankish for sponsoring 2 round cocktail tables to be used in 2024 Mahrajan.

-Chris & Jeanette Wakim for sponsoring 2 round cocktail tables to be used in 2024 Mahrajan.

We need to buy six more cocktail folding tables for our guests to use around the dance floor and around the beer and wine booths (\$75.00 each). Please sponsor one or more.

--We need to buy two extra red tent 10x15 to be used at next year festival (\$300 each). Please sponsor one or more.

Names of all Generous Benefactors will be published in 2024 Ad Book as Golden Mahrajan Supporters.

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May God and the Blessed Mother reward you many folds in this life and in heaven.

# Christmas Gift from our church Gift Shop

Order your Christmas Gifts to your family and friends from our Gift Shop. Please call 304-233-1688

Aprons	\$25.00
Born & Raised T-shirt	\$25.00
Heartbeat T-shirt	\$25.00
Dry Fit Festival T-shirt (youth)	\$25.00
Dry Fit Festival T-shirt (adult)	\$30.00
Festival Golf Shirt (youth)	\$35.00
Festival Golf Shirt (adult)	\$40.00

### Rummage Sale items drop off all year long

Please bring with you to the church all the items you wish to donate toward the Rummage Sale. Items are accepted all year long. The Cedar Club and the Women Society raise funds to cover the expensive Building Insurance of our church. Any donation is accepted and helpful. We will open the basement door for you anytime. Please call 304-233-1688

### Around Us

### **Reconciliation & Penance** (Saturday, September 30)

**The Laymen's Retreat League invites** all Catholic Men of the area to join us on Saturday September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Saint Vincent dePaul Parish's Marist Center, Wheeling, WV. A day of reflection with Reverend Justin Golna, J.C.L. from 8am to 5pm. The theme for the day will be *Reconciliation and Penance: The Love that is Greater than Sin.* The day includes light breakfast and lunch. Cost: \$30 JOIN US . . . Contact Don Klamut at 304-280-4626 or <u>laymensretreatleague@gmail.com</u> --Deacon Doug Breiding

#### Turkey Dinner (Sunday, October 8)

When: Sunday, October 8th from 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Where: at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, 630 Main Streeet, Bridgeport OH.

Menu includes: turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, stuffing, sweet potatoes, green beans, cranberries, roll, butter, pie and beverage. Adults \$12.00, children \$10.00. Eat in or take out. Sara Mudrick (740-635-0296)

## Spirituality: Eucharist & family

The Eucharist and the Family

The richest, most complex Sacrament, and the one most difficult to understand in depth and define is surely the Eucharist. For this reason, we need to have recourse to different names, each of which describes its particular aspects: Eucharist, Lord's Supper, Breaking the Bread, Eucharistic Assembly, Memorial, Holy and Divine Liturgy, Communion, Holy Mass.

We have to acknowledge that we, Christians, are not fully aware of the value of the word "Eucharist". The term is Greek and it is incomprehensible for most people. The two verbs that make up the term, "eucaristien" and "eulogein" recall the Hebrew blessings, especially at meals, which proclaim God's works: creation, redemption, sanctification. Therefore, Eucharist means "thanksgiving".

An exhaustive explanation of the value of the Sacrament of the Eucharist is found in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. It explains the reasons why the Eucharist is above all the sacraments, "almost the crowning of spiritual life and the end towards which all the sacraments tend", as St. Thomas states in the Summa Theologica.

Even though we cannot understand all the spiritual richness that the Eucharist represents for our Christian formation —which is expressed in the different names by which it is called — nonetheless, our thought as Christians "on the move" cannot help but go to Sunday Mass and Communion.

It is during the Mass, especially at some intense moments, that we manage to remain in silent conversation with Christ, divested of our vanity and despoiled of ourselves, aware of our weaknesses, fears and doubts. In those moments, our thoughts as parents go to our families, and a desire grows in us to thank God for the gifts he has given us, for our children and grandchildren, for the favors we have received, and for the joys and satisfactions we have had and continuously get from life. Perhaps this is the most beautiful moment of our day. In addition to feeling a great inner need to thank God from the bottom of our hearts, we also feel spiritually united to our spouses and family members. In an unconscious, but surely intense way, they too are in communion with Christ who has always loved us and wants what is good for us. From this mysterious interweaving of spiritual ties, we realize that we are not alone with our miseries and weaknesses because God is close to us, even at the most critical and difficult moments.

The knowledge, then, that the entire Christian community is gathered together all over the earth to give thanks to God in the Eucharist reconciles us with the whole world. It makes us see our neighbor closer to us, and, above all, it lets us see how great God's Love is, which is distributed among all his creatures.

We have all experienced how beautiful it is, as a family, to come together on Sunday in church to pray together. Together we feel the same sentiments of gratitude to God. Even if going to Mass on Sunday may feel like a routine at times, a cold, repetitive "precept" to be observed (like when we were children and our parents forced us to "sanctify the holy day"), nonetheless, it does leave a sense of satisfaction in our hearts. We feel more goodness and well-disposed towards others, as well as reassured and less insecure about ourselves. However, it is especially Communion that enthralls and involves us. Jesus' words, "Anyone who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me and I in him", penetrate within and upturn the entire person. To know that Jesus Christ is inside me is to relive his sacrifice for the remission of our sins and understand the greatness of his love for others. This makes us capable of getting away from a disordered life, the different futilities that try to seduce us, our pride and our selfishness. Above all, however, the greatness and the value of real Love appear clearly to us. This Love, present in Christ's sacrifice for the salvation of all humanity, constitutes a valid and real reference point for the family. This Love is a beacon that can and must enlighten our life together and make us overcome, with serenity and hope, the inevitable obstacles that come up in our daily lives which, despite everything, should be faced joyfully and as witness for those who are navigating amidst uncertainties and do not have the perspective of the resurrection.

### Wisdom: Onions cures flu

In 1919 when the flu killed 40 million people there was this Doctor that visited the many farmers to see if he could help them combat the flu. Many of the farmers and their family had contracted it and many died. The doctor came upon this one farmer and to his surprise, everyone was very healthy. When the doctor asked what the farmer was doing that was different the wife replied that she had placed an unpeeled onion in a dish in the rooms of the home, (probably only two rooms back then).

The doctor couldn't believe it and asked if he could have one of the onions and place it under the microscope. She gave him one and when he did this, he did find the flu virus in the onion. It obviously absorbed the bacteria, therefore, keeping the family healthy.

Now, I heard this story from my hairdresser in AZ. She said that several years ago many of her employees were coming down with the flu and so were many of her customers. The next year she placed several bowls with onions around in her shop. To her surprise, none of her staff got sick. It must work. (And no, she is not in the onion business.)

The moral of the story is, buy some onions and place them in bowls around your home. If you work at a desk, place one or two in your office or under your desk or even on top somewhere. Try it and see what happens. We did it last year and we never got the flu.

Comment: I don't know about the farmers' story but, I do know that I contacted pneumonia and needless to say I was very ill. I came across an article that said to cut both ends off an onion put one end on a fork and then place the forked end into an empty jar ... placing the jar next to the sick patient at night. It said the onion would be black in the morning from the germs ... sure enough it happened just like that ... the onion was

a mess and I began to feel better. Another thing I read in the article was that onions and garlic placed around the room saved many from the black plague years ago. They have powerful antibacterial, antiseptic properties.

# Story: The Piano Concert

Wishing to encourage her young son's progress on the piano, a mother took her boy to a Paderewski concert. After they were seated, the mother spotted an old friend in the audience and walked down the aisle to greet her.

Seizing the opportunity to explore the wonders of the concert hall, the little boy rose and eventually explored his way through a door marked "NO ADMITTANCE".

When the house lights dimmed and the concert was about to begin, the mother returned to her seat and discovered that the child was missing. Suddenly, the curtains parted and spotlights focused on the impressive Steinway on stage. In horror, the mother saw her little boy sitting at the keyboard, innocently picking out "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."

At that moment, the great piano master made his entrance, quickly moved to the piano, and whispered in the boy's ear, "Don't quit. Keep playing." Then leaning over, Paderewski reached down with his left hand and began filling in a bass part. Soon his right arm reached around to the other side of the child, and he added a running obbligato. Together, the old master and the young novice transformed what could have been a frightening situation into a wonderfully creative experience.

The audience was so mesmerized that they couldn't recall what else the great master played. Only the classic "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."

Perhaps that's the way it is with God. What we can accomplish on our own is hardly noteworthy. We try our best, but the results aren't always graceful flowing music. However, with the hand of the Master, our life's work can truly be beautiful.

Next time you set out to accomplish great feats, listen carefully. You may hear the voice of the Master, whispering in your ear, "Don't quit. Keep playing."

May you feel His arms around you and know that His hands are there helping you turn your feeble attempts into true masterpieces. Remember, God doesn't seem to call the equipped; rather, He equips the 'called'.

Life is more accurately measured by the lives you touch than by the things you acquire.

# A Time to Laugh (81)

# Some Rules Are Tougher Than Others

Four-year-old Jimmy was on a family vacation last summer, and he was given quarters for the video game machine by his older sister. Since Jimmy is not proficient in operating such games, the quarters went rapidly. Finally, he had to be told that there were no more quarters. He demanded, "But I want more."

His sister responded, "Jimmy, in life we don't always get what we want."

Jimmy paused and then shouted, "I hate that rule!"

## Take Your Pick

A newspaper in the county seat ran an expose on the unethical practices of some of the lawyers in that particular county. They ran the headline: "Half of the Lawyers in Our County Are Crooks!"

An association of the lawyers in the county threatened to sue the newspaper unless the "libelous" headline was retracted. The newspaper signed an agreement that did not admit that its story was inaccurate, but that they would indeed retract the headline. The following day the newspaper ran the new headline: "Half of the Lawyers in Our County Are Not Crooks!"

### **Research Lawyers**

Did you know they are using lawyers now for medical research?

There are three reasons for this.

- 1- There are more lawyers than white rats.
- 2- Lawyers are slightly more humanoid than white rats.
- 3- There are certain things you can't get a white rat to do.

### Lawyer and a Thief

A man was charged with the theft of an expensive sports car. After a lengthy trial, the man was acquitted. Shortly after his trial, the acquitted man returned to see the judge and told him that he wanted to file a warrant against his lawyer. The judge wanted to know why the man wanted his lawyer arrested after his lawyer had won his case and his freedom for him.

The man explained, "Well, I didn't have enough money to pay my lawyer, so he took the car I stole as payment."