



October 8, 2023

Bulletin #41

## 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



# 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Holy Cross

- \*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 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.
- \*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.

## ***4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Holy Cross***

Readings: Gen 41:38-44; 1Thess 5:1-11 and Mt 24:45-51

Both the Old and the New Testaments describe our existence in relation to God as one of waiting ... Waiting means not having and having at the same time ... The condition of man's relation to God is first of all one of not having, not seeing, not knowing, and not grasping. ... I think of the theologian who does not wait for God, because he possesses him, enclosed within a doctrine. I think of the biblical student who does not wait for God, because he possesses him, enclosed in a book. I think of the churchman who does not wait for God, because he possesses him, enclosed in an institution. I think of the believer who does not wait for God, because he possesses him, enclosed within his own experience. It is not easy to endure this not having God, this waiting for God. It is not easy to preach Sunday after Sunday without convincing ourselves and others that we have God and can dispose of him, It is not easy to proclaim God to children and pagans, to skeptics and secularists, and at the same time to make clear to them that we ourselves do not possess God, that we too wait for him. I am convinced that much of the rebellion against Christianity is due to the overt or veiled claim of the Christians to possess God, and therefore, also, to the loss of this element of waiting, so decisive for the prophets and the apostles. ... They did not possess God; they waited for him. For how can God be possessed? Is God a thing that can be grasped and known among other things? Is God less than a human person? We always have to wait for a human being. Even in the most intimate communion among human beings, there is an element of not having and not knowing, and of waiting. Therefore, since God is infinitely hidden, free, and incalculable, we must wait for him in the most absolute and radical way. He is God for us just in so far as we do not possess him. ... We have God through not having him.

### ***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 31st miracle of Jesus when he healed a man with Dropsy**

One Sabbath day, Jesus went to eat in the house of a well-known Pharisee. While he was there, he was being carefully watched. In front of him was a man whose body was badly swollen. Jesus turned to the Pharisees and the authorities on the law. He asked them, "Is it breaking the Law to heal on the Sabbath day?" But they remained silent. So, Jesus took hold of the man and healed him. Then he sent him away. He asked them another question. He said, "Suppose one of you has a child or an ox that falls into a well on the Sabbath day. Wouldn't you pull it out right away?" And they had nothing to say. (Luke 14:1-6)

### ***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., Oct 7-8: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Cross***

#### **Saturday, October 7, Mass at 4:00 p.m. followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament**

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

✠ Bob Sengewalt by his grandchildren: Jeff, Courtney and Patrick Sengewalt

✠ Susie Marie Fadoul (Birthday) by her children: Janet, Millet C., Jonathan and Millet Lou

#### **Sunday, October 8, Mass at 10:30 a.m. followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament**

✠ Deceased of the Wakim & Yeater Families by Chris & Jeannette Wakim

✠ Lawrence Belt by the Wakim Family

## ***Weekdays Mass Schedule***

**Monday, October 9:** No Mass. Pastor's day off.

**Tuesday, October 10 Mass at Noon:**

- ✠ Bill Dougherty by his wife Carol (OK)
- ✠ Sylvia Long, her husband Arthur, and her son Mark by her last will
- ✠ Living & Deceased of the Roxby & Olinski Families by Joe Roxby

**Wednesday, October 11:** No Mass. Office Work.

**Thursday, October 12 Mass at Noon:**

- ✠ John Shiben by Don & Lucinda Ullery
- ✠ Janis & George Thomas (Ohio) by their last will
- ✠ Living & Deceased of Tom & Judy Brock, Jr.

**Friday, October 13:** No Mass. Visitation of the sick.

## ***Next Weekend: Sat.-Sun., Oct 14-15: 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Cross***

**Saturday, October 14, Mass at 4:00 p.m.:**

- ✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her last Will
- ✠ Mary Thomas by Rebecca (Daniel) & Michael DiFabrizio
- ✠ Living & Deceased of the Roxby & Olinski Families by Joe Roxby

**Sunday, October 15, Mass at 10:30 a.m.:**

- ✠ Louise N. & Louis H. Khourey Sr., by Lou, Charlotte, Emmalena and Louie Khourey
- ✠ Mike & Sue Linton and their parents Joe and Frances Linton by Steve Linton

## ***Coming Parish Events***

Sunday October 8th	Cooking Class by the Women's Society at 1:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 22	Flower Arranging Class by the Women's Society at 1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 1	Thanksgiving Bake Sale: baking Kibbee
Thursday, November 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Thanksgiving Bake Sale: baking Meat pies, zatar bread, sesame bread
Saturday, November 4	Thanksgiving Bake Sale: Orders Pick-Up
Sunday, December 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Christmas Dinner after 10:30 am 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 9<sup>th</sup>: All Souls Masses

✠ Special Prayers during this week to:

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

Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> to: ✠ Libby G. Magnone (Birthday) by her sister Mary Zaid Stees

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

✠ 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 Nabihah & 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)

✠ Rosella 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
- † Rudy Hodulik, Theodore Hodulik and Wayne Wilson by Judy Wilson
- † Julia Hodulik, Filka Hodulik by Judy Wilson
- † 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
- † 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)
- † Sarah Harb (sister of Benefactor Jamil Harb) by the Family
- † Mike & Sue Linton & their parents Joe & Frances Linton by Steve Linton
- † Deceased of Tom & Judy Brock, Jr.
- † 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
- † Mary K. Ferris by her daughter Denise Ferris
- † George & Martha Saseen by George & Susan Saseen & Family
- † Steve & Elizabeth Harasuik by George & Susan Saseen & Family
- † 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 & Anna Shia by the Family
- † Tim, Ginny & 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
- † Bob Sengewalt by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt
- † Ray, Sara, Mick and Gary McLaughlin by Mark & Barb McLaughlin
- † John & Mary Miller by Mark & Barb McLaughlin
- † 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
- † Georgette Joseph by Vickie Joseph
- † Sam & Bernadine Elias & Deceased Family members by Mike & Terri Golebiewski
- † Alphonse & Violet Golebiewski & Deceased Family members by Mike & Terri Golebiewski
- † 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
- † Fouad Frenn by Dr Adel, Diane & Justin Frenn & Zack, Andreah & Christian Riedel
- † Rose 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
- † Emily Vince by her Children & grandchildren
- † Donald Vince by his Children & grandchildren
- † Patricia Gompers by Matt & Vickie Gompers
- † George Alan Weisner by Jean Weisner & Family
- † 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
- † Betty Abraham, Clara Carter & Evelyn Goodson by Jean Weisner & Family
- † Forgotten Souls in Purgatory by Jean Weisner
- † 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
- † Loved Ones of the Bine, Gaudio & Paesani Families by Shirley Bine
- † Deceased of the Fadoul & Duffy Families by Earl & Linda Duffy
- † Robert “Herk” Henry by Patrick Henry
- † Rosemary Henry by Patrick Henry
- † Alma Erbachen by Patrick Henry
- † Barbara Wenskey by Patrick Henry
- † Don Wensyel by Patrick Henry
- † Paul & Anna Orr & Jim Orr by Patrick Henry
- † Camille & Selma Rohanna by Kim & Jan Seabright
- † Harry Charles Seabright by Kim & Jan Seabright
- † Frank Lish by Kim & Jan Seabright
- † Louis C. Seabright by Kim & Jan Seabright
- † Louise S. Gladkowski by Kim & Jan Seabright
- † Walter Elwartoski by his son Richard Elwartoski
- † Lottie Elwartoski by her son Richard Elwartoski
- † Elizabeth “Betty” Purpura by Robert & Sandra Coram
- † Noel Foreman by his wife Anne Foreman
- † Rose Maxwell Hazlett by her daughter Anne Foreman
- † Rose McKennan Hazlett by her sister Anne Foreman
- † Helen & Al Schroeder by Mark Schroeder & Jane Wine
- † Frank Schroeder by Mark Schroeder
- † Shirley Elias Nickerson & Deceased members of the Elias Family by their Loving Family
- † Donald Nickerson Sr. & Deceased members of the Nickerson Family by their Loving Family
- † Cathy Sharp-Howard by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt
- † Betty Jane Fadoul by Millet Fadoul & Family
- † Susie Marie Fadoul by Millet Fadoul & Family
- † Our parents John & Cecilia John & D. William Burns by Ron & Susan Burns
- † Our grandparents Tom & Sadie John, David & Tamamie Joseph & Sarah Burns by Ron & Susan Burns
- † Our Aunts & Uncles, Louis & Cecilia Ammar, Fred & Rita John, Sister Mary Thomasina John & Roland & Julia Tappe by Ron & Susan Burns
- † All deceased of The Sisters of the Poor Child Jesus by Ron and Susan Burns
- † Deceased of the Gibbons and Otterbeck Families by Ron & Kim Gibbons
- † Robert Hunter Sr., and Robby Hunter III by Thomasina Geimer
- † Ralph & Mary (Joseph) Shipley by Thomasina Geimer
- † Philip Geimer by his wife Thomasina Geimer
- † Andrew Sr. & Mary Demsko by their daughter Rosemary
- † Andrew Demsko Jr. by his sister Rose
- † Rhoda Marie Perilli “Ginger Perilli” by Diana Gavin and Paula Perilli
- † Silvio “Joe” Perilli by Diana Gavin and Paula Perilli
- † Evelyn Goodson by her daughter Cathy Goodson
- † Albert & Annette Togliatti by GiGi Rice
- † Khalil, Sadie and Agatha Harb by GiGi Rice

✠ Sarah Volk by GiGi Rice

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## ***Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:***

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  
 October 27: Holly (Porter) Stahl  
 October 30: Michael Duffy, Andreah Frenn Riedel  
 November 4: Kenny Joseph, Libby G. Magnone  
 November 8: Mark Wilson

<b><i>Your Church Support Last Week</i></b>	
\$1,195.00	Sunday Collection
48.00	Candles
38.00	Coffee hour
351.00	Utilities
\$1,632.00	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)*

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, 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?***

### ***Mahrajan Golden Sponsors***

--Many Thanks to Mark & Barb McLaughlin for sponsoring a Blackstone Griddle to be used for cooking at Oglebay Park.

### ***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 Baklava. 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 @ 304-551-3934 by Sunday, October 1.

### ***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 [www.orderstsharbel.org](http://www.orderstsharbel.org) 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 1<sup>st</sup>: Kibbee

Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>: Meat pies, sesame and 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

## ***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***

### ***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 Street, 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)

### ***Annual Card Party*** (November 5, 2023)

St. Alphonsus Christian Mothers and Ladies Guild will be hosting their

Where: St. Alphonsus Parish Hall

When: Sunday, November 5, from 1:00-3:00 pm. Cost per seat \$10

## *Spirituality: Eucharist as source of joy*

HIS LIBERALITY AND MERCY ARE HERE MANIFESTED MORE VIVIDLY THAN IN THE OTHER SACRAMENTS

None can be compared to the Eucharist. By Baptism, it is true, we receive the title of God's children; heaven is opened to us in consequence, and we are made participators in all the treasures of the Church. By Penance, the wounds of our soul are healed, and the friendship of God is restored to us. By Confirmation, Jesus Christ gives us the Spirit of light and power. By Extreme Unction, he clothes us with the merits of his death and passion. By Holy Orders, he communicates to the priest all his powers. By Matrimony, he sanctifies all our actions, even those in which man seems only to follow natural inclinations. Mercies truly worthy of a God who is in all things infinite!

"But all this seems to be only an apprenticeship of his love for men in the adorable Sacrament of the Eucharist he goes further." He gives us himself; we receive here not the application of his precious Blood, but the author of grace as well.

The Eucharist is Jesus in all his different states it is Nazareth where he renews his Incarnation, Bethlehem where he is mystically born, Galilee where he continues to teach souls and to move them with his grace, the Calvary on which he offers himself in sacrifice. It is Jesus prolonging his life and his benefits in our midst.

What a happiness was the aged Simeon's when he was "pressing to his love-laden heart the child Jesus, who was enkindling and consuming that heart!" "Now, Lord, let me die," he cried out... Truly he was in ecstasy.

But we, are we not happier than Simeon? He could keep Jesus only for an instant; we can keep him always, if we will. He comes not only into our arms, but into our heart

THE EUCHARIST, SOURCE OF SPIRITUAL JOY RESULTING FROM OUR LORD'S PRESENCE

"When we go to Holy Communion, we feel something extraordinary, a well-being which runs through the whole body from head to foot. What is this well-being? It is our Lord, who imparts himself to every part of our body, making it thrill with joy. We are compelled to say, like St John, It is the Lord! Those who feel nothing at all are much to be pitied!

When you have had the happiness of receiving the good God, you feel for some time a gladness, a balm in your heart... Pure souls are always like that; and this union is their strength and happiness.

--The Cure d'Ars

## *Wisdom: Optimism*

I'm always fascinated by stories of people who have managed to develop a different mental attitude than that commonly held by those around them: the poor man who refuses to think poor, the sick woman who focuses on what she can do rather than on her handicap. Such people display the kind of attitude suggested by the old story of the boy who was given a roomful of manure and deduced that there must be a gift of a pony nearby.

You tiptoed into my dream, like sweet fragrance of spring.

You whispered sweet lullabies, the songs that angels sing.

You gave yourself so freely, asking nothing in return.

You are the example, a lesson for us to learn.

Your spirit roams the stars, like a comet in the sky.

You gave away the answers, when you were asked to reply.

You opened up your heart, and shared your gift of love.

To me you are not a friend, but an angel from above.

I cannot put into words, just what you mean to me.

You are more close to heaven, than I could ever be.

Set your own pace when someone is pushing you, it's ok to tell them they're pushing.



Take nothing for granted, watch water flow, the corn grow, the leaves blow, your neighbors mow. Allow yourself time to be lazy and unproductive. Rest isn't a luxury, it's a necessity.  
 Listen to the wind blow. It carries a message of yesterday and tomorrow... And now..... Now counts. Rest on your laurels. They bring comfort whatever their size, age or condition.  
 Talk slower. Talk less. Don't talk. Communication isn't measured by words.  
 Quit planning how you're going to use what you know, learn or possess.  
 God's gifts just are. Be grateful and their purpose will be clear.  
 When you walk with someone, don't think about what you'll say next.  
 Thoughts will spring up naturally if you let them.  
 Learn to stand back and let others take their turn as leaders.  
 There will always be new opportunities for you to step out in front again.  
 Divide big jobs into little jobs.  
 If God took six days to create the universe, can you do any better?  
 Direct your life with purposeful choices, not with speed and efficiency.  
 The best musician is one who plays with expression and meaning, not the one who finishes first. Take a day off alone..... make a retreat.  
 You can learn from monks and hermits without becoming one. Pet a furry friend. You will give and get the gift of now. Work with your hands.... It frees the mind.  
 Take time to wonder.... without wonder, life is merely an existence.  
 Sit in the dark... It will treat you to see and hear, taste and smell.  
 Once in awhile, turn down the lights, the throttle, the invitations.  
 Less really can be more. Let go. Nothing is usually the hardest thing to do... but often it is the best.  
 Taste your food. God gave it to delight as well as nourish.  
 Notice the sun and the moon as they rise and set.  
 They are remarkable for their steady pattern of movement, not their speed.  
 And as you ramble on thru life my dearest friend.....  
 Keep your eye upon the doughnut, and not upon the hole.

## *Story*

The pickle jar as far back as I can remember sat on the floor beside the dresser in my parents' bedroom. When he got ready for bed, Dad would empty his pockets and toss his coins into the jar.

As a small boy I was always fascinated at the sounds the coins made as they were dropped into the jar. They landed with a merry jingle when the jar was almost empty. Then the tones gradually muted to a dull thud as the jar was filled.

I used to squat on the floor in front of the jar and admire the copper and silver circles that glinted like a pirate's treasure when the sun poured through the bedroom window. When the jar was filled, Dad would sit at the kitchen table and roll the coins before taking them to the bank.

Taking the coins to the bank was always a big production. Stacked neatly in a small cardboard box, the coins were placed between Dad and me on the seat of his old truck. Each and every time, as we drove to the bank, Dad would look at me hopefully. "Those coins are going to keep you out of the textile mill, son. You're going to do better than me. This old mill town's not going to hold you back."

Also, each and every time, as he slid the box of rolled coins across the counter at the bank toward the cashier, he would grin proudly "These are for my son's college fund. He'll never work at the mill all his life like me."

We would always celebrate each deposit by stopping for an ice cream cone. I always got chocolate. Dad always got vanilla. When the clerk at the ice cream parlor handed Dad his change, he would show me the few coins nestled in his palm. "When we get home, we'll start filling the jar again." He always let me drop the first coins into the empty jar. As they rattled around with a brief, happy jingle, we grinned at each other. "You'll get to college on pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters," he said. "But you'll get there. I'll see to that."

The years passed, and I finished college and took a job in another town. Once, while visiting my parents, I used the phone in their bedroom, and noticed that the pickle jar was gone. It had served its purpose and had been removed. A lump rose in my throat as I stared at the spot beside the dresser where the jar had always stood. My dad was a man of few words, and never lectured me on the values of determination, perseverance, and faith.

The pickle jar had taught me all these virtues far more eloquently than the most flowery of words could have done. When I married, I told my wife Susan about the significant part the lowly pickle jar had played in my life as a boy. In my mind, it defined, more than anything else, how much my dad had loved me.

No matter how rough things got at home, Dad continued to doggedly drop his coins into the jar. Even the summer when Dad got laid off from the mill, and Mama had to serve dried beans several times a week, not a single dime was taken from the jar. To the contrary, as Dad looked across the table at me, pouring catsup over my beans to make them more palatable, he became more determined than ever to make a way out for me. "When you finish college, Son," he told me, his eyes glistening, "You'll never have to eat beans again - unless you want to."

The first Christmas after our daughter Jessica was born, we spent the holiday with my parents. After dinner, Mom and Dad sat next to each other on the sofa, taking turns cuddling their first grandchild. Jessica began to whimper softly, and Susan took her from Dad's arms. "She probably needs to be changed," she said, carrying the baby into my parents' bedroom to diaper her. When Susan came back into the living room, there was a strange mist in her eyes. She handed Jessica back to Dad before taking my hand and leading me into the room. "Look," she said softly, her eyes directing me to a spot on the floor beside the dresser. To my amazement, there, as if it had never been removed, stood the old pickle jar, the bottom already covered with coins. I walked over to the pickle jar, dug down into my pocket, and pulled out a fistful of coins. With a gamut of emotions choking me, I dropped the coins into the jar. I looked up and saw that Dad, carrying Jessica, had slipped quietly into the room. Our eyes locked, and I knew he was feeling the same emotions I felt. Neither one of us could speak.

This truly touched my heart. I know it has yours as well. Sometimes we are so busy adding up our troubles that we forget to count our blessings.

Never underestimate the power of your actions. With one small gesture you can change a person's life, for better or for worse.

God puts us all in each other's lives to impact one another in some way.

Look for God in others. The best and most beautiful things cannot be seen or touched - they must be felt with the heart.

## *A Time to Laugh (83)*

### *Elderly*

While working for an organization that delivers lunches to elderly shut-ins, I used to take my 4-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, 'The tooth fairy will never believe this!'

### *Dress-Up*

A little girl was watching her parents dress for a party. When she saw her dad donning his tuxedo, she warned, 'Daddy, you shouldn't wear that suit.' 'And why not, darling?' 'You know that it always gives you a headache the next morning.'

### *Death*

While walking along the sidewalk in front of his church, our minister heard the intoning of a prayer that nearly made his collar wilt. Apparently, his 5-year-old son and his playmates had found a dead robin. Feeling that proper burial should be performed, they had secured a small box and cotton batting, then dug a hole and made ready for the disposal of the deceased.

The minister's son was chosen to say the appropriate prayers and with sonorous dignity intoned his versions of what he thought his father always said: 'Glory be unto the Father, and unto the Son, and into the hole he goes.'

## ***School***

A little girl had just finished her first week of school. 'I'm just wasting my time,' she said to her mother. 'I can't read, I can't write, and they won't let me talk!'

## ***Bible***

A little boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages. 'Mama, look what I found,' the boy called out. 'What have you got there dear?' With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered, 'I think it's Adam's underwear!'

## ***Elderly Wisdom***

Two service technicians working for the gas company conducted an ongoing rivalry to break up the monotony of their jobs. One day, as they went around to the back of a house to read the meter, the woman who owned the house idly watched them from her kitchen window.

When they finished their business, the two technicians decided to race back to the truck-and burst into a run. As they reached their vehicle, they were surprised to see the woman from the house close on their heels, "What's wrong?" one asked.