



November 26, 2023

Bulletin #48

## *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



## *Announcement to Mary*

- \***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.

## *Announcement to Mary*

Readings: 2 Sam 7:8-17; Gal 3:15-22 and Lk 1:26-38

‘The Mother Of All The Living’

**“The man called his wife Eve, because she became the mother of all the living.”** Genesis 3:20

What does “Eve” as a woman’s name mean in English?

“Eve” is simply the English transliteration of her name in Hebrew: *chawwah*. The actual derivation of this name is uncertain. The ancient Israelite writer who composed the Adam and Eve story in its present form—scholars refer to this anonymous individual as the “Yahwist,” because he identifies God by the divine name, YHWH—delighted in spicing up his stories with wordplays.

The man’s explanation for Eve’s name is one example of this. The Hebrew word for “living” is *chay*, which comes from the verb *chayah*, to live. Say them out loud together and you’ll catch the pun: *chawwah*, *chay(ah)*. Get it? The naming of Eve is a significant moment in the story, because she is the sole creature whose unique gift the man has not yet been able to fathom. According to Genesis 2:1 8-20, the man gave names to every other “help” God devised for him as soon as they were created.

It is only after the forbidden fruit has made the man and woman aware of their sexual difference (Gn 3:7) and God has unveiled procreation as the means by which human life will be perpetuated (Gn 3:16) that the man solves this mystery, making the connection between the woman and life.

### *Salvation Army Angel Tree at OLOL Church:*

Every child deserves to experience the joy of Christmas morning.

The Salvation Army Angel Tree program helps provide Christmas gifts for hundreds of thousands of children around the country each year. This year, Our Lady of Lebanon Church is participating in the Angel Tree Program. A Christmas Tree has been placed in the foyer near the church entrance. Hanging from the tree are 20 tags representing a child in need in the Wheeling WV area. On the tag will be the age and gender of the child along with a few gift ideas. If you would like to sponsor a child in need, please take a tag, purchase gifts base on the child’s need (listed on the tag), wrap the gift, and return the gifts to Our Lady of Lebanon Church by **Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup>**. Your generosity will prove joy and love to a child on Christmas morning. If you have questions, please contact Susan John, Liz Murad, or any OLOL Parish Council member. Once it has been registered and accepted as an **Angel** their Christmas wish list is shared with donors in your community who purchase gifts of new clothing and toys. The gifts are distributed to the family to place under their family Christmas tree.

### *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., Nov. 25-26: Announcement to Mary*

### Saturday, November 25, Mass at 4:00 p.m.:

- ✠ Cecilia Murad (Anniversary) by her daughter Luane Frazier
- ✠ George Joseph (Birthday), Gary McLaughlin and Selma Joseph by Becky & Larry Ferrera
- ✠ Bob Sengewalt by his grandchildren: Jeff, Courtney and Patrick Sengewalt

### Sunday, November 26, Mass at 10:30 a.m.:

- ✠ Gary McLaughlin (Anniversary) and Selma Joseph by Mark & barb McLaughlin
- ✠ Mike & Sue Linton and their parents Joe and Frances Linton by Steve Linton
- ✠ John Shibben by Denna O. Shibben (FL)

## ***Weekdays Mass Schedule***

- Monday, November 27:** No Mass. Pastor's day off.  
**Tuesday, November 28:** No Mass. Vacation day for Msgr Bakhos  
**Wednesday, November 29:** No Mass. Office work  
**Thursday, November 30:** No Mass. Vacation day for Msgr Bakhos  
**Friday, December 1:** No Mass. Visitation of the sick.

## ***Next Weekend: Sat.-Sun., Dec 2-3: Mary visits Elizabeth***

### **Saturday, December 2, Mass at 4:00 p.m. followed by Christmas Novena**

- ✠ Cathy (Sharp) Howard (Birthday) by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt
- ✠ Elias Joseph (Anniversary) by Becky & Larry Ferrera
- ✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her last Will

### **Sunday, December 3, Mass at 10:30 a.m. followed by Christmas Novena**

- ✠ Chamse Rahi (1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary) by her Family
- ✠ Siham Frenn (Anniversary) by Dr Adel, Diane, Justin Frenn and Andreah & Zack Riedel
- ✠ Philip Geimer (Anniversary) by Thomasina Geimer
- ✠ Living & Deceased of the Duffy & Fadoul Families by Earl & Linda Duffy

## ***Coming Parish Events***

Sunday, December 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Christmas Dinner after 10:30 am Mass (Dinner will be served at noon)
Christmas Novena	Every Saturday and Sunday during December after Communion No Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament during December

## ***Christmas Poinsettias in Memory of:***

Please donate toward decorating the altar with poinsettias during Christmas. Every poinsettia cost \$25.00

- ✠ Louis N. & Louis H. Kourey, Sr. & Gladys Howard by Lou & Charlotte Kourey & Family
- ✠ Tom & Mary K. Ferris by Denise Ferris
- ✠ In honor of the Blessed Mother by Denise Ferris
- ✠ In honor of the Blessed Mother by Janet Shutler
- ✠ In honor of the Blessed Mother by Frank & Anna Marie Duymich
- ✠ In honor of the Blessed Mother by Michael Duymich
- ✠ In honor of the Blessed Mother by Larry & Lillian Siebieda
- ✠ In honor of the Blessed Mother by
- ✠ In Loving Memory of Philip Geimer by his wife Thomasina
- ✠ In Loving Memory of Ralph & Mary (Joseph) Shipley by Thomasina Geimer
- ✠ In Loving Memory of Robert Hunter Jr. & Robby Hunter III by Thomasina Geimer
- ✠ In honor of the Blessed Mother by Joe & Nikki Popovich
- ✠ In honor of the Blessed Mother by Dr. & Mrs Nabiel Alkhouri and Family
- ✠ In Loving Memory of the deceased of the Murad and Tatalovich Families by Jay & Liz Murad
- ✠ In honor of the Blessed Mother by Stephanie Richards
- ✠ In Loving memory of Shirley Elias Nickerson and the Deceased members of the Elias Family by their Family
- ✠ In Loving Memory of the Schlog and Saseen Families by Fran Saseen
- ✠ In Loving Memory of Ray & Sara McLaughlin by Mark & Barb McLaughlin
- ✠ In Loving Memory of Elias & Selma Joseph Family by Mark & Barb McLaughlin
- ✠ In honor of the Blessed Mother by Jean Weisner
- ✠ In honor of the Blessed Mother by Earl & Linda Duffy
- ✠ In Loving Memory of Bob Sengewalt by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt and Family

## *Christmas Masses Schedule*

### Sunday, December 24:

10:30 a.m.: Sunday Mass

4:00 p.m.: Christmas Eve Mass

10:00 p.m.: Christmas Midnight Mass

### Monday, December 25th: Day of Obligation

10:30 a.m.: Christmas Day Morning Mass

## *New Year Masses Schedule*

### Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023:

10:30 a.m.: Sunday Mass

4:00 p.m.: New Year's Eve Mass (No Midnight Mass)

### Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024: New Year's Day (Day of Obligation)

10:30 a.m.: New Year's Day Mass

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

## *Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:*

November 26: Mary Lish

December 3: Joey John

December 7: Christina Committee Zdilla

December 12: Lou Khourey

December 19: Chris Wakim

December 21: Millet C. Faddoul Jr.

December 22: Millet C. Fadoul

December 25: Shelly Hancher

## *Your Church Support Last Week*

\$944.00	Sunday Collection
1,911.00	2 <sup>nd</sup> collection to sponsor Christian students in Lebanon
120.00	Bulletin Ads
84.00	Candles
19.00	Coffee hour
476.00	Christmas Dinner
436.00	Christmas Poinsettias
\$3,990.00	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?*

## *Bulletin Ad Page*

We are preparing the ad page at the back of our weekly bulletin. It is a good way to advertise your business and to support the church in defraying the cost of printing the bulletins. Please call Msgr Bakhos or Charlotte at 304-639-1372 if you would like to place a personal or business ad. Cost is \$120.00 for a single space ad (2.5 inches x 1.5 inches) for the entire year. You can purchase more adjacent ads.

## ***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

### ***Spirituality: Forgiveness***

One rainy afternoon I was driving along one of the main streets of town, taking those extra precautions necessary when the roads are wet and slick. Suddenly, my son Matthew spoke up from his relaxed position in the front seat. *"Mom, I'm thinking of something."* This announcement usually meant he had been pondering some fact for a while and was now ready to expound all that his seven-year-old mind had discovered. I was eager to hear. *"What are you thinking?"* I asked. *"The rain,"* he began, *"is like sin and the windshield wipers are like God, wiping our sins away."* After the chill bumps raced up my arms, I was able to respond.

*"That's really good, Matthew."* Then my curiosity broke in. How far would this little boy take this revelation? So, I asked... *"Do you notice how the rain keeps on coming? What does that tell you?"* Matthew didn't hesitate one moment with his answer: *"We keep on sinning, and God just keeps on forgiving us."* I will always remember this whenever I turn my wipers on. Isn't it comforting to know that God does keep forgiving us? That all we have to do is ask Him to come into our lives and He will keep washing our sins away.

Hope each of you remember this when you turn on your wipers for God does keep forgiving when we invite him into our life.

### ***Famous Quotes: Jesus & Fasting***

One day John's disciples came. They said to Jesus, "We and the Pharisees often go without eating. Why don't your disciples go without eating?" Jesus answered, "How can the guests of the groom be sad while he is with them? The time will come when the groom will be taken away from them. Then they will fast.

"People don't sew a patch of new cloth on old clothes. The new piece will pull away from the old. That will make the tear worse. People don't pour new wine into old wineskins. If they do, the skins will burst. The wine will run out, and the wineskins will be destroyed. No, people pour new wine into new wineskins. Then both are saved." (Matthew 9:14-17)

### ***Wisdom: Pleasures***

#### **COME AND TASTE**

There is this difference between spiritual and earthly pleasures. Before we enjoy them, earthly pleasures are greatly desired; but when they are partaken to the full, our liking for them soon begins to pall. Spiritual joys, on the other hand, are a matter of indifference to us when we do not possess them, but once we begin to

experience them, we are filled with desire; the more we enjoy them, the more we desire them. With pleasures of the body, it is desire that delights us, realization which disappoints; with pleasures of the soul, desire is weak but spiritual experience is a source of the greatest joy ... When our souls are full of spiritual joy we long for more, since by tasting it we learn to desire it more eagerly. We cannot love what we do not possess, because we do not know its savor. For who can love what he does not know? Therefore, the Psalmist admonishes us, "Taste and see that the Lord is sweet." As if he were to say more explicitly, "You know not His sweetness if you have never tasted it; let then your heart but taste the Bread of Life, that coming to know its sweetness you may be able to love it." --(St. Gregory The GREAT)

### ***Story: Prayer answered***

A voyaging ship was wrecked during a storm at sea and only two of the men on it were able to swim to a small, desert like island.

The two survivors, not knowing what else to do, agree that they had no other recourse but to pray to God. However, to find out whose prayer was more powerful, they agreed to divide the territory between them and stay on opposite sides of the island.

The first thing they prayed for was food. The next morning, the first man saw a fruit-bearing tree on his side of the land, and he was able to eat its fruit. The other man's parcel of land remained barren.

After a week, the first man was lonely and he decided to pray for a wife. The next day, another ship was wrecked, and the only survivor was a woman who swam to his side of the land. On the other side of the island, there was nothing.

Soon the first man prayed for a house, clothes, more food. The next day, like magic, all of these were given to him. However, the second man still had nothing.

Finally, the first man prayed for a ship, so that he and his wife could leave the island. In the morning, he found a ship docked at his side of the island. The first man boarded the ship with his wife and decided to leave the second man on the island.

He considered the other man unworthy to receive God's blessings, since none of his prayers had been answered. As the ship was about to leave, the first man heard a voice from heaven booming, "Why are you leaving your companion on the island?"

"My blessings are mine alone, since I was the one who prayed for them," the first man answered. "His prayers were all unanswered and so he does not deserve anything."

"You are mistaken!" the voice rebuked him. "He had only one prayer, which I answered. If not for that, you would not have received any of my blessings."

"Tell me," the first man asked the voice, "what did he pray for that I should owe him anything?"

"He prayed that all your prayers be answered."

For all we know, our blessings are not the fruits of our prayers alone, but those of another praying for us.

### ***Extra Story: Why Dogs Don't Live Longer Than People***

Being a veterinarian, I was called to examine a ten-year-old Irish Wolfhound named Belker. The dog's owners, Ron, his wife, Lisa, and their little boy, Shane, were all very attached to Belker and they were hoping for a miracle.

I examined Belker and found he was dying of cancer. I told the family there were no miracles left for Belker, and offered to perform the euthanasia procedure for the old dog in their home. As we made arrangements, Ron and Lisa told me they thought it would be good for the four-year-old Shane to observe the procedure. They felt as though Shane might learn something from the experience.

The next day, I felt the familiar catch in my throat as Belker's family surrounded him. Shane seemed so calm, petting the old dog for the last time, that I wondered if he understood what was going on. Within a few minutes, Belker slipped peacefully away. The little boy seemed to accept Belker's transition without any difficulty or confusion.

We sat together for a while after Belker's death, wondering aloud about the sad fact that animal lives are shorter than human lives. Shane, who had been listening quietly, piped up, "I know why."

Startled, we all turned to him. What came out of his mouth next stunned me.

I'd never heard a more comforting explanation. He said, "People are born so that they can learn how to live a good life -- like loving everybody all the time and being nice, right?" The four-year-old continued, "Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don't have to stay as long."

Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply, Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.

## *A Time to Laugh (88)*

### *Forrest Gump goes to heaven*

The day finally arrived. Forrest Gump dies and goes to Heaven.

He is at the Pearly Gates, met by St. Peter himself. However, the gates are closed, and Forrest approaches the gatekeeper.

St. Peter said, 'Well, Forrest, it is certainly good to see you. We have heard a lot about you. I must tell you, though, that the place is filling up fast, and we have been administering an entrance examination for everyone. The test is short, but you have to pass it before you can get into Heaven.'

Forrest responds, 'It sure is good to be here, St. Peter, sir. But nobody ever told me about any entrance exam. I sure hope that the test ain't too hard.'

Life was a big enough test as it was.' St. Peter continued, 'Yes, I know, Forrest, but the test is only three questions.'

First: What two days of the week begin with the letter T?

Second: How many seconds are there in a year?

Third: What is God's first name?

Forrest leaves to think the questions over. He returns the next day and sees St. Peter, who waves him up, and says, 'Now that you have had a chance to think the questions over, tell me your answers.'

Forrest replied, 'Well, the first one -- which two days in the week begins with the letter "T"?

Shucks, that one is easy. That would be, "Today and Tomorrow." The Saint's eyes opened wide and

he exclaimed, 'Forrest, that is not what I was thinking, but you do have a point, and I guess I did not specify, so I will give you credit for that answer. How about the next one?' asked St. Peter.

'How many seconds in a year?

Now that one is harder,' replied Forrest, 'but I think and think about that, and I guess the only answer can be twelve.'

Astounded, St. Peter said, 'Twelve?

Twelve? Forrest, how in Heaven's name could you come up with twelve seconds in a year?'

Forrest replied, 'Shucks, there's got to be twelve: January 2nd, February 2nd, March 2nd... 'Hold it,' interrupts St. Peter. 'I see where you are going with this, and I see your point, though that was not quite what I had in mind....but I will have to give you credit for that one, too. Let us go on with the third and final question.

Can you tell me God's first name'?

'Sure,' Forrest replied, 'it's Andy.'

'Andy?' exclaimed an exasperated and frustrated St Peter. 'Ok, I can understand how you came up with your answers to my first two questions, but just how in the world did you come up with the name Andy as the first name of God?'

'Shucks, that was the easiest one of all,' Forrest replied. 'I learnt it from the song,

“ANDY WALKS WITH ME,

ANDY TALKS WITH ME,

ANDY TELLS ME I AM HIS OWN.”

St. Peter opened the Pearly Gates, and said: 'Run, Forrest, run.'

Lord, give me a sense of humor. Give me the ability to understand a clean joke. To get some humor out of life, and to pass it on to other folks!