



January 14, 2024

Bulletin #2

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



2nd Sunday of Epiphany

- *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.

2nd Sunday of Epiphany

Readings: Jer 1:4-10; 2Cor 4:5-15 and Jn 1:35-42

Indeed, I have spoken thus, not without purpose, but so that when you hear John again uttering the same words as before you will not rate them as nonsense or consider them vain and boring. Of course, when he spoke the first time he wished to be heard, but since many, because of their deep apathy, did not pay attention to his words from the beginning, he roused them from sleep by repeating his message again. Now, consider; he had said: 'After me there comes one who has been set above me'; and 'I am not worthy to loose the strap of his sandal'; and 'He will baptize [you] with the Holy Spirit and with fire,' and that the Spirit was seen descending as a dove and abiding upon him, and he bore witness that 'this is the Son of God.'

No one paid attention or asked a question or said: 'Why do you say these things, and about whom, and for what reason?' Again, he had said: 'Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.' Not even thus did he penetrate their insensibility. For this reason, finally, he was forced to say the same words again, as if softening some hard and unyielding soil by cultivating it. By his word, as it were by a plough, he stirred up the hard-packed mind so that the seeds might settle down deeply. Accordingly, it is for this reason that he did not make his speech long, either, because he was striving for one thing only: namely, to lead them on and to unite them with Christ. He knew that when they had accepted this, and had been convinced, they would not have any further need of his testimony to him. And this is what actually took place.

(John Chrysostom, Homily 17 on John)

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., Jan. 13-14: 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

Saturday, January 13, Mass at 4:00 p.m.:

- ✠ Noel Foreman by his wife Anne
- ✠ Janis & George Thomas (Ohio) by their last will
- ✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her last Will

Sunday, January 14 Mass at 10:30 a.m.:

- ✠ Jim Thomas (1st Anniversary) by Dr Adel, Diane, Justin and Andreah & Zack Riedel
- ✠ Mike & Sue Linton & their parents Joe and Frances Linton by Steve Linton
- ✠ John Shibben by Denna O. Shibben (FL)

Weekdays Mass Schedule

<u>Monday, January 15:</u>	No Mass. Clergy Retreat.
<u>Tuesday, January 16:</u>	No Mass. Clergy Retreat.
<u>Wednesday, January 17:</u>	No Mass. Clergy Retreat.
<u>Thursday, January 18:</u>	No Mass. Clergy Retreat.
<u>Friday, January 19:</u>	No Mass. Clergy Retreat.

Next Weekend: Sat.-Sun., Jan. 20-21:

Commemoration of the priests

Saturday, January 20, Mass at 4:00 p.m.:

- ✠ George Alan Weisner (Birthday) by his daughter Mary Beth Weisner
- ✠ Janis & George Thomas (Ohio) by their last will
- ✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her last Will

Sunday, January 21 Mass at 10:30 a.m.:

- ✠ Donald Vince (Birthday) by his children and grandchildren
- ✠ Sylvia Long, her husband Arthur, and her son Mark by her last will
- ✠ John Shiben by Denna O. Shiben (FL)

Coming Parish Events

Sunday, January 14 th	Women’s Society Meeting after 10:30 a.m. Mass in the Cedar Hall
Sunday, January 21 st	Cedar Club Meeting after 10:30 a.m. Mass in the Cedar Hall

Cedar Club Meeting (Sunday, January 21 after Mass)

Notice to all members. The Cedar Club will now meet on the **Third Sunday** of the month after 10:30 a.m. **Mass in the Cedar Hall.** Our next meeting is Sunday, January 21, 2024.

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:

- January 23: Dale Seidler Jr.
- January 28: Nikki Popovich
- February 2: David John
- February 4: Lindsay Carl
- February 9: Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac, Michael DiFabrizio
- February 10: Sandra DeMuth
- February 11: Charlotte Khourey
- February 14: Diane Frenn

Your Church Support Last Week

\$1,976.00	Sunday Collection
70.00	Candles
21.00	Coffee hour
50.00	Donation to the church
\$2,117.00	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)

Sally Sengewalt, Anthony Wakim, Frank Duymich, Earl Duffy, Fran Saseen, Mary Stees, Rex Strawn, Sandra DeMuth, Ken Imer, Justin Frenn, Elia Frenn, Patty Fahey, Patty Olinsky, Julia Schiess (daughter of Leo Bleifus), Earl Ragase, Patrick Sengewalt, Renee Beabout (daughter of Marge John), Fred Schweizer (brother of our organist Mary Lee Porter),

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

Pro-Life Eucharistic Adoration (Friday, January 19)

‘Pro-Life: With Every Woman, For Every Child.’

In conjunction with the Walk for Life in Washington, DC, St. Michael Church will have Eucharist Adoration and an hourly Pro-Life rosary, on Friday, January 19th. from 8:00am – 8:00pm

All are welcome to come and pray for unborn babies, their mothers, and your own special intentions.

Spirituality

The Blessings of God

“And now, if thou wilt listen to the Lord thy God, carrying out faithfully all those commandments of his which I enjoin upon thee, the Lord thy God will make thee greater than any other nation on earth; and all these blessings which follow shall come to meet thee, if only thou wilt obey his will. Blessed shalt thou be in town and country, blessed with fertility of womb and of soil, with increase of thy stock in byre and sheep-fold, with rich store in barn and granary, blessed in thy journey and blessed in thy coming home. When thy enemies raise war against thee, the Lord will make them cower before thy onslaught; the host that came out against thee in one company shall flee away in seven. Upon all thy store-houses, upon every enterprise of thine, the Lord will send down his blessing; a land of blessing shall be thine.” (Deuteronomy 28:1-8)

Submission to God’s will

The God-responsive soul thinks of religion in terms of submission to the will of God. He does not look to the Infinite to help in his finite interests but, rather, seeks to surrender his finite interests to the Infinite. His prayer is *“Not my will, but Yours, be done, O Lord.”* No longer interested in using God, he wants God to use him. Like Mary, he wants God to use him. Like Mary, he says: *“Be it done unto Me according to Your Word,”* or like Paul he asks: *“What will you have me to do, O Lord?”* or like John the Baptizer he says: *“I must decrease, he must increase.”* The destruction of egotism and selfishness so that the whole mind may thus be subject to the Divine Personality does not entail a disinterest in the active life; it brings a greater interest, because the person now understands life from God’s point of view. Because of his unity with the Divine Source of energy, he has greater power to do good -as a soldier is stronger under a great general than a poor one. *“If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, you shall ask whatever you will and it shall be done unto you. In this is my Father glorified; that you bring forth very much fruit”* (Jn 15:7-8). It is hard for self-centered creatures to realize that there are some souls that are really and truly passionately in love with God. But this should not be so hard to understand; whoever loves the light and heat of the candle should surely love the sunlight even more.

--Bishop Fulton SHEEN, Peace of Soul, p.59.

Wisdom: Daily Prayer

I got up early one morning, and rushed right into the day;
 I had so much to accomplish, that I didn't have time to pray.
 Problems just tumbled about me, and heavier came each task;
"Why doesn't God help me?" I wondered, He answered, **"You didn't ask."**
 I wanted to see joy and beauty, but the day toiled on gray and bleak;
 I wondered why God didn't show me, He said, **"But you didn't seek."**
 I tried to come into God's presence; I used all my keys in the lock.
 God gently and lovingly chided, **"My child, you didn't knock."**
 I woke up early this morning, and paused before entering the day;
 I had so much to accomplish, that I had to take time to pray.

Story: Prisoner’s story

I Had It All

Dear Friends,

I had it all for a long time. Or so I thought. I wanted the things of this world, and I sure got them all right. Lots of cash, a nice apartment, nice clothes, a good job, as many women and parties as I wanted.

Then I started losing these things, one by one. It hurt. Things I had worked for—I deserved them, they were mine! They were being taken away from me. The more things were taken away from me, the angrier I got.

When I got busted and sentenced to jail, that's when I hit bottom. I finally realized what a mess I had made of my life. A total mess. That's when it really hit me. Then a strange thing happened. I realized that when you're all the way down, you can't go down any more. The only way you can go is *up*. I imagined that I was flat on my back at the bottom of a deep hole, looking up. And you know what I saw? The sky. It was pitch dark, but the stars were twinkling. I started feeling very peaceful, like a lot of burdens had been taken off my back. All those things of the world I had, I saw they were just getting between me and God, separating me from God.

The amazing thing is, when I realized that He was allowing all those things to be taken away from me, and it hurt, I saw that it was because He loved me and didn't want anything to keep us apart. When I understood that, He didn't have to take anything else away from me. I started saying, "Lord, you don't have to take these things away from me any more. I want to give You!"

Ever since, I have been giving my bad habit own. And you know what? The more I give them up more peaceful I feel.

"Peace I leave with you; my 'peace I give to you I do not give to you as the world gives.

Do not let your hearts lie troubled, and do not let them be afraid." (John 14:27)

A Time to Laugh (98)

Bible Test

See if you can match your knowledge of the Bible with these children! Incorrect spelling has been left in.

It comes from a Catholic elementary school test.

The following statements about the Bible were written by children.

- 1- SOLOMON, ONE OF DAVID'S SONS, HAD 300 WIVES AND 700 PORCUPINES.
- 2- WHEN MARY HEARD SHE WAS THE MOTHER OF JESUS, SHE SANG THE MAGNA CARTA.
- 3- WHEN THE THREE WISE GUYS FROM THE EAST SIDE ARRIVED THEY FOUND JESUS IN THE MANAGER.
- 4- JESUS WAS BORN BECAUSE MARY HAD AN IMMACULATE CONTRAPTION.
- 5- ST. JOHN THE BLACKSMITH DUMPED WATER ON HIS HEAD.
- 6- JESUS ENUNCIATED THE GOLDEN RULE, WHICH SAYS TO DO UNTO OTHERS BEFORE THEY DO ONE TO YOU. HE ALSO EXPLAINED A MAN DOTH NOT LIVE BY SWEAT ALONE.
- 7- IT WAS A MIRACLE WHEN JESUS ROSE FROM THE DEAD AND MANAGED TO GET THE TOMBSTONE OFF THE ENTRANCE.
- 8- THE PEOPLE WHO FOLLOWED THE LORD WERE CALLED THE 12 DECIBELS.
- 9- THE EPISTELS WERE THE WIVES OF THE APOSTLES.
- 10- ONE OF THE OPOSSUMS WAS ST. MATTHEW WHO WAS ALSO A TAXIMAN.
- 11- ST. PAUL CAVORTED TO CHRISTIANITY, HE PREACHED HOLY ACRIMONY WHICH IS ANOTHER NAME FOR MARRAIGE.
- 12- CHRISTIANS HAVE ONLY ONE SPOUSE. THIS IS CALLED MONOTONY.

Innocent humorous Kids

A small boy is sent to bed by his father. Five minutes later:

"Da-ad..." "What?" "I'm thirsty. Can you bring me a drink of water?" "No. You had your chance. Lights out."

Five minutes later: *"Da-aaaad..." "WHAT?" "I'm THIRSTY..."*

Can I have a drink of water??" "I told you NO! If you ask again I'll have to spank you!!!" Five minutes later... *"Daaaa-aaaad..." "WHAT??!!!"*

"When you come in to spank me, can you bring me a drink of water?"

Famous Quotes (6)

Aging

- Nobody loves life like him who is growing old. (Sophocles)
- There are so few who can grow old with a good grace. (Richard Steele)
- When you were born, you cried and the world rejoiced. Live your life in such a manner that when you die, the world cries and you rejoice.
- The worst thing, I fear, about being no longer young, is that one is no longer young. (Harold Nicotson)
- It is time to be old, to take in sail. (Ralph Waldo Emerson)
- Before you contradict an old man, my fair friend, you should endeavor to understand him. (George Santayana)
- Few people know how to be old. (La Rochefoucauld)
- I really believe that more harm is done by old men who cling to their influence than by young men who anticipate it. (Owen D. Young)
- A man over ninety is a great comfort to all his elderly neighbors: he is a picket-guard at the extreme outpost; and the young folks of sixty and seventy feel that the enemy must get by him before he can come near their camp. (Oliver Wendell Holmes)
- A person is always startled when he hears himself seriously called an old man for the first time. (Oliver Wendell Holmes)
- Age is a high price to pay for maturity. (Tom Stoppard)
- To know how to grow old is the master-work of wisdom, and one of the most difficult chapters in the great art of living. (Henri Frederic Amiel)
- When I was very young, I was disgracefully intolerant but when I passed the thirty mark I prided myself on having learned the beautiful lesson that all things were good, and equally good. That, however, was really laziness. Now, thank goodness, I've sorted out what matters and what doesn't And I'm beginning to be intolerant again. (C. B. Stern)
- No wise man ever wished to be younger. (Jonathan Swift)
- I must be getting absent-minded. Whenever I complain that things aren't what they used to be, I always forget to include myself. (George Burns)
- Growing old, it's not nice, but it's interesting. (August Strindbetg)
- They tell you that you'll lose your mind when you grow older. What they don't tell you is that you won't miss it very much. (Malcolm Cowley)

Agitation:

- Those who profess to favor freedom, and yet depreciate agitation, are men who want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the roar of its many waters. (Frederick Douglass)

Agreement:

- I have never in my life learned anything from any man who agreed with me. (Dudley Field Malone)
- You may easily play a joke on a man who likes to argue—agree with him. (Ed Howe)
- My idea of an agreeable person is a person who agrees with me. (Benjamin Disraeli)

Agriculture:

- Blessed be agriculture! If one does not have too much of it. (Charles Dudley)