



January 21, 2024

Bulletin #3

# Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

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Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac, Pastor

Mary Lee Porter, Ed.D. Organist



## Commemoration of the Priests

- \*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.

## *Commemoration of the Priests*

Readings: Mal 2:1-9; 1Tim 4:6-16 and Lk 12:42-48

A priest celebrating his 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to the priesthood wrote:

I could enumerate all the people to whom I am so greatly indebted and all the things for which I am grateful.

But you did not come to hear a litany of platitudes, however so deserved.

I first ministered in .... After six happy years, I enjoyed another six fulfilling years .... ing. Then, I began a love affair of the heart with Charleston, our capital city, that has endured through 11 years at St. Agnes and 27 years, thus far, at Sacred Heart.

By virtue of our baptism, we all share the priesthood. Sacred Scripture and Catholic theology are clear: "You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people," and Catholic liturgy acknowledges this when the deacon will incense you along with the bishop and the ordained priests.

The ordained priest is the servant of God and you, his people. Ordination does not separate us from you. We teach and firmly believe that the Catholic priest is chosen by the Church from among you and is anointed to praise and glorify God and intercede with God on your behalf. We do this by daily prayer and primarily and uniquely by offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

Ordination is a summons to service and under God; it is you we are ordained to serve. Not always easy because you are who you are and we are who we are. And we priests are not fabricated in the seminary. We are extroverts and introverts, thinkers and doers, spontaneous and deliberate. We share the faults of sinful humans and can be as small as the next man. We get discouraged when we do not live up to our own ideals and your expectations. We get frustrated when our plans do not materialize. We are saddened when our homilies leave you cold; we light up like a Christmas tree when we delight you.

We get lonely for friendship, for love and we find aging difficult to enjoy alone. While we feel a special relationship with God, we know, far better than you can ever appreciate, that we are men with feet of clay. As we have been painfully reminded in recent years, we too, are inherently flawed because of sin.

Counselors of priests can testify better than most, that the priest is not immune to spiritual illnesses and psychological problems, is not impervious to human struggles and destructive behaviors.

We, on our part, rely completely on the special grace God gives us to serve you, the people of God. We have been strengthened, too, by our faith that Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, took on human flesh and became divinely human. And as it was the humanity of Jesus that attracted people to Him, so it is with priests. You identify with our vulnerable humanity as servant-priests.

Dear people of God, you know that priests are not beyond human problems, but don't presume, as some do, that the celibate, male, Catholic priest is defective and abnormal, or sad and dejected. Take to heart the words of Pope John Paul II spoken to the bishops of Boston and Hartford (Conn.): "In a particular way I would ask you to be strongly supportive of your brother priests, many of whom have suffered deeply because of the much-publicized failings of some of the Church's ministers. I would ask you also to convey my personal gratitude for the generous and selfless service which marks the lives of so many American priests, as well as my deep appreciation of their daily efforts to be models of holiness and pastoral charity in the Christian communities entrusted to their care. In a very real way, the renewal of the Church is linked to the renewal of the priesthood."

Certainly, you believe and expect priests to have a unique relationship with God. Otherwise, why else do you ask us day after day, "Father, please pray for me"? Know for sure, this daily prayer is one of the most important things we do, day after day. In return, we rejoice that you treat us as members of your extended families, symbols of the compassionate God you want in your life. So we continue to reach out to all of you ... Would we choose the priesthood again? Speaking, I know, for us in the sanctuary, I say, "Yes, definitely, yes." The priesthood for us has been like a treasure buried in a field. We found it, excitedly sold all we had and bought that field. We have received so much more by exchanging our small human sacrifice for a life of by that we had never dare hope for. We have been blessed by God and by you. I gratefully say, "thank you" and humbly say, "God bless you."

Mgrs. Edward Sadie, Charleston, WV July 2007

## ***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. 20-21: Commemoration of the priests***

#### **Saturday, January 20, 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 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)

### ***Weekdays Mass Schedule***

**Monday, January 22:** No Mass. Pastor's day off.

#### **Tuesday, January 23, Mass at Noon:**

- ✠ Elizabeth Ferris Magnone (Anniversary) by Mary Stees and Libby Magnone
- ✠ Dennis Fahey (Anniversary) by George & Patty Jacovetty-Fahey
- ✠ Janis & George Thomas (Ohio) by their last will

**Wednesday, January 24:** No Mass. Office work.

#### **Thursday, January 25, Mass at Noon**

- ✠ Mike & Sue Linton and their parents Joe and Frances Linton by Steve Linton
- ✠ John Shiben by Denna O. Shiben (FL)
- ✠ Sylvia Long, her husband Arthur, and her son Mark by her last will

**Friday, January 26:** No Mass. Visitation of the sick.

### ***Next Weekend: Sat.-Sun., Jan. 27-28 Commemoration of the Righteous & Just***

#### **Saturday, January 27, Mass at 4:00 p.m.:**

- ✠ Attorney Edward Khoury (Anniversary) by Richard Coury
- ✠ Noel Foreman by his wife Anne
- ✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her last Will

#### **Sunday, January 28 Mass at 10:30 a.m.:**

- ✠ Mike & Sue Linton and their parents Joe and Frances Linton by Steve Linton
- ✠ John Shiben by Denna O. Shiben (FL)

### ***Coming Parish Events***

Sunday, January 21st	Cedar Club Meeting after 10:30 a.m. Mass in the Cedar Hall
Sunday, April 28	Mother Day dinner after 10:00 am Mass

Saturday, May 11

Bake Sale. More details in next bulletins.

**9 Days Novena** (January 16-24)

Each year, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops hosts a nine-day Novena for the protection of human life. This year, the novena will be held from January 16-24, 2024. The 9 Days for Life are a time to pray and reflect on the sanctity of life and the beauty of the wonderful gift given to us by our merciful and loving God. For information visit <https://www.respectlife.org/9-days-for-life>. See also the USCCB's social media posts for the 9 Days for Life. With my sincere best wishes and prayers, I remain Yours in Christ, +A. Elias Zaidan Bishop of the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles.

**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  
 February 15: Nettie Seidler  
 February 16: Dave Sengewalt  
 February 17: Rebecca DiFabrizio  
 February 18: Larry Ferrera III  
 February 21: Louie Khourey, Dennis Porter

**Your Church Support Last Week**

\$1,142.00	Sunday Collection
6.00	Bake sale
45.00	Candles
27.00	Coffee hour
700.00	Donation to the church from George Cater's Baptism
10.00	donation
434.00	Utilities
\$2,364.00	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

## *What's New?*

### *Congratulations on Your Baptism*

George & Laura Cater granted to their three daughters Sofia Marie, Elena Grace and Daniella Nicole the honor to be the adopted daughters of God through the sacrament of Baptism, last Saturday, January 13, at Our Lady of Lebanon Church. After the Baptism, a reception was held at the house of their great aunty Dr Maryann Cater for the family and friends. May the three daughters be protected and be granted along with their parents, godparents, and grandparents, good health and bright future.

### *Spirituality: Is God Hard to find?*

Yet ever since the days of Adam, humanity has been hiding from God and saying: “*God is hard to find.*” The truth is that, in each heart, there is a secret garden that God made uniquely for Himself. That garden is locked like a safety-deposit vault: it has two keys. God has one key; hence the soul cannot let in anyone else but God. The human heart has the other key; hence not even God can get in without man’s consent. When the two keys of God’s Love and human liberty, of Divine Vocation and human response, meet, then Paradise returns to a human heart. God is always at that Garden Gate with His key. We pretend to look for our key, to have mislaid it, to have given up the search; but all the while it is in our hand, if we would only see it. The reason we are not as happy as saints is because we do not wish to be saints.

*Bishop Fulton SHEEN, Peace of Soul, p.65.*

### *Wisdom: Preach without ceasing*

If you’ve been complaining that the homilies in your parish are too long, count your blessings. In England, the Rev. John Smith announced that he is planning to break the world record for nonstop preaching. In what appears like a desperate attempt to raise funds for parish ministries, Smith, a priest of the Church of England, says he will try to preach for 36 hours straight. The current record for an “unscripted sermon” stands at a mere 27½ hours.

The ground rules for this preaching marathon allow for a 15-minutes break every eight hours, but “no repetition, no pause longer than 10 seconds, and no gibberish or nonsense talk are permitted.”

### *Story: another prisoner’s story*

I never thought I was a criminal.

And I didn't think I would end up in jail. But I did. I thought my life was over. I hated myself for what I had done.

In jail I found a Bible in the library. My mother had tried to tell me to go straight all the time I was growing up. But I did not listen.

I opened the Bible and looked at it in disgust. It was worn and marked up, and pages had been torn out by other people. I wanted to kill myself.

Then these words from the Bible just jumped out at me, that the Lord punishes everyone He accepts as a son. I almost fell out of bed. That was me, I thought, *me*, these words are for *me*. I don't know how, but it fits me exactly.

I fell on my knees just like a child. It hit me, these words were for me. Now I know who I am. I am a son, and my father God loves me.

## *A Time to Laugh (99)*

### *Tie or Die*

An Arab was walking through the Sahara desert desperate for water when he saw something far off in the distance. Hoping to find water, he walked towards the image, only to find a little old Jewish man sitting at a card table with a bunch of neckties laid out on it.

The Arab said, "Please, I'm dying of thirst, can I have some water?" The man replied, "I don't have any water, but you should buy a tie. Here's one that goes nicely with your robe." The Arab shouted, "Idiot! I don't want a tie, I need water!"

"OK, don't buy a tie. I don't have any water, but to show you what a nice guy I am, I'll tell you that over the hill there, about 4 miles, is a small restaurant. They'll give you all the water you want." The Arab thanked him and walked away towards the hill and eventually disappeared. Three hours later the Arab came crawling back to where the man was sitting behind his card table. He said, "I told you, about 4 miles over that hill. Couldn't you find it?" The Arab rasped, "I found it. They wouldn't let me in without a tie."

### *Don't Steal*

An elderly man was quite unhappy because he had lost his favorite hat.

Instead of buying a new one, he decided he would go to church and swipe one out of the vestibule. When he got there, an usher intercepted him at the door and took him to a pew where he had to sit and listen to the entire sermon on "**The Ten Commandments.**" After church, the man met the preacher in the vestibule doorway, shook his head vigorously, and told him "*I want to thank you preacher for saving my soul today. I came to church to steal a hat and after hearing your sermon on the 10 Commandments, I decided against it.*"

Preacher: "*You mean the commandment 'I shall not steal' changed your mind?*"

Old Man: "*No, the one about adultery did. As soon as you said that I remember where I left my old hat!*"

### *Innocent humorous Kids*

1- An exasperated mother, whose son was always getting into mischief, finally asked him, "*How do you expect to get into Heaven?*" The boy thought it over and said, "*Well, I'll just run in and out and in and out and keep slamming the door until*

*St. Peter says, 'For Heaven's sake, Jimmy, come in or stay out!'*"

2- A mother took her three-year-old daughter to church for the first time. The church lights were lowered, and then the choir came down the aisle, carrying lighted candles. All was quiet until the little one started to sing in a loud voice, "*Happy birthday to you. Happy birthday to you...*"

## *Famous Quotes (7)*

### **Air conditioning**

--The best thing about an air conditioner is that the neighbors can't borrow it.

### **Air:**

--The air is about the only remaining thing that's free, and it is becoming dangerous to breathe.

### **Airplane:**

--It will soon take only two hours to get around the world, one hour for the flying and one hour to get to the airport.

--It would have helped a lot if the pioneers had located cities closer to airports.

### **Alarm Clocks**

--The only thing worse than hearing the alarm clock in the morning is not hearing it.

--Some men have alarm clocks; I have my wife's elbow.

### **Alimony:**

--Alimony is repossessed love that one must still pay out on the installment plan.

--Alimony is the fee you have to pay for name dropping.

--Alimony is the high cost of leaving.

### **Allowance:**

--An allowance is what you pay your children to live with you.

**Alone:**

--Better be alone than in bad company.

**Amateurs**

--Show me an amateur, and I'll show you a person who is always willing to give you the benefit of his inexperience.

**Ambition:**

--Ambition may be all right, but it sure can get a fellow into a lot of hard work.

--When you are aspiring to the highest place, it is honorable to reach the second or even the third rank. (Cicero)

--Most people would succeed in small things if they were not troubled with great ambitions. (Henry Longfellow)

--I have no political ambitions for myself or my children. (Joseph P Kennedy)

--The ripest peach is highest on the tree. (James Whitcomb Riley)

--I had ambition not only to go farther than any man had ever been before, but as far as it was possible for a man to go. (Captain James Cook)

--We grow small trying to be great. (E. Stanley Jones)

--Too low they build who build below the skies. (Edward Young)

--All ambitions are lawful except those which climb upward on the miseries or credulities of mankind. (Joseph Conrad)