



June 2, 2024
Bulletin #22

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003

Rectory: 304-233-1688 • Fax: 304-233-4714

E-Mail: ololwv@comcast.net • Web Site: www.ololwv.com

Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac, Pastor

Mary Lee Porter, Ed.D. Organist



3rd Sunday of Pentecost

- *Weekend Masses: Saturdays: Mass at 4:00 p.m. and 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, Susan (John) Burns, Mark McLaughlin, Liz Murad, Gary Weisner.
- ***Choir Members**: Lou Khourey, Robert Harris, Joe Simon, Shelly Hancher, Holly Stahl.
- ***Bulletin Coordinator**: Thomasina Geimer
- ***Altar Server**: 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.

3rd Sunday of Pentecost

Readings: Rrov. 8:22-36; 1Cor 2:1-10 and Jn 14:21-27

In every age and in every place, the Church continues to renew itself. The struggle now, as always, is to be faithful to the vision handed on in the past as we move ahead to the future. Led by the Holy Spirit, the Church strives to enliven every community that comes to the table of the Lord. Our celebration is not meant to be a relic in a museum but the living Christ among us. We cannot do this on our own. We need the vision of those who stood closest to Jesus. We need the Holy Spirit to guide and direct our decisions and judgments. We need the work of the entire people of God, priests and lay people alike, to bring about God's reign.

John sees a vision of a new Jerusalem coming forth from the hand of God. The holy city is radiant, securely built on the foundation of God's people past and present. With the Lamb of God in our midst as our guiding light, we have no need of any other lamp to light our way.

Jesus promises to dwell forever with those who live in love and fidelity to his word, but he does not leave a blueprint as to how this living is to be done. We must not be distressed that he is removed from our sight. We are at peace because the Holy Spirit is sent in his name as our advocate and helper. Just as Jesus led the Church in the past, the Holy Spirit continues to guide and instruct us every step of the way.

For the safety of our parishioners

In its last meeting, the Parish Council discussed what is going on around us concerning people entering the churches, the shopping centers, or any building with the door unlocked. These people have no business entering these places. All what they want is stealing or causing harm to others. So, concerned about your safety, the parish council decided that the main double-door entrance of the church will be closed 10 minutes after the Mass starts. Many churches in our area are following this procedure. Please come before Mass and enter the church. If you arrive late, ring the bell and someone opens the door for you. Thanks for your cooperation.

This Weekend: Sat-Sun., June 1-2: 3rd Sunday of Pentecost

Saturday, June 1 at 4:00 pm: Mass followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

- ✠ Deceased of the Hughes Family by Mark Schroeder and Jane Wine
- ✠ John Glaser by his sisters Kathy Boehm & Mary Gotses & Families
- ✠ Janice Roxby by Ron & Susan Burns
- ✠ Dana Burkhardt by his wife Carol & Family
- ✠ Special Intention

Sunday, June 2 at 10:30 am: Mass followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

- ✠ Tom Ferris (Anniversary) and Mary Stees by Libby Magnone
- ✠ Mike & Sue Linton and their parents Joe and Frances Linton by Steve Linton
- ✠ Bob Sengewalt by his grandchildren: Jeff, Courtney and Pat Sengewalt

Weekdays Mass Schedule

Monday, June 3: No Mass. Pastor's day off.

Tuesday, June 4 Mass at Noon:

- ✠ Sylvia Long, her husband Arthur, & her son Mark by her last will
- ✠ Janis & George Thomas (Ohio) by their last will
- ✠ Mary Stees by her Family
- ✠ Noel Foreman by his wife Anne and Family

Wednesday, June 5: No Mass. Office works.

Thursday, June 6, Mass at Noon:

- ✠ Mary Stees (Birthday) by her sister Libby Magnone
- ✠ Noel Foreman by his wife Anne and Family
- ✠ Erlinda Pacheco Tackaberry by her husband Steve (TN)
- ✠ Bob Sengewalt by his grandchildren: Jeff, Courtney and Pat Sengewalt

Friday, June 7: No Mass. Visitations of the sick.

Next Weekend: Sat-Sun., June 8-9: 4th Sunday of Pentecost

Saturday, June 8 at 4:00 pm:

- † Margaret Jean Weisner (Birthday) by Mary Beth Weisner
- † Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her last Will
- † George & Martha Saseen (Wed. Anniversary) by George & Susan Saseen & Matthew and Luke and Jeff & Jena Naswadi
- † John Glaser by his sisters Kathy Boehm & Mary Gotses & Families
- † Dana Burkhart by his wife Carol & Family

Sunday, June 9 at 10:30 am:

- † Donnie Sigler (Anniversary) by Larry & Lillian Siebieda
- † George Joseph (Anniversary) by Larry & Becky Ferrera
- † Mike & Sue Linton and their parents Joe and Frances Linton by Steve Linton
- † Bob Sengewalt by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt

Coming Parish Events

Masses for the Living and Deceased fathers and grandfathers from June 15 until June 23rd

Rest of the souls of Deceased Fathers' Day Masses

† Special Remembrance:

- on June 22: Cathy (Sharp) Howard (Anniversary) by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt
- on June 23: Mariam Joseph (Anniversary) by the Weisner & Joseph Families
- † Habib Khourey, Louis Khourey Sr., & Nassif Nader by Lou, Charlotte, Emmalena & Louie Khourey
- † Charles "Pud" Howard, Bruce Cody Riggs and Franklin C. Howard by Lou & Charlotte & Family
- † Adib Chidiac (father) & Nadim Chidiac (brother) by Msgr. Bakhos
- † Sylvia Long, her husband Arthur, & her son Mark by her last will
- † Janis & George Thomas (Ohio) by their last will
- † Deceased fathers & grandfathers of the Saseen Family
- † Robert J. Shutler, Sr. (father) & Fred J. Shutler (grandfather) by Janet Shutler
- † Harry J. Nolte grandfather & Harry F. Nolte (great-grandfather) by Janet Shutler
- † Al Otterbeck by Ron & Kim Gibbons
- † Donald A. Nickerson Sr. & Albert Nickerson by Tammy Strong
- † Nicholas Elias by Tammy Strong
- † Ray McLaughlin Sr., & Elias Joseph by Mark & Barb McLaughlin
- † John Miller by Mark & Barb McLaughlin
- † Elias Frenn & Jim Thomas by Dr Adel, Diane & Justin Frenn & Andreah & Zack & Christian Riedel
- † Tim Shia & Gus Shia by Sue Jochum & Family
- † Tom Jochum, Jr. and Sr., by their children & grandchildren
- † Walter John Elwartoski by his son Richard Elwartoski
- † George Alan Weisner by his 8 children
- † Richard Serafin by Dick & Ann Marie Serafin
- † Thomas A. Ferris by his daughter Denise Ferris
- † Dennis Fahey by George & Patty Fahey
- † Vincent Jacovetty by George & Patty Jacovetty Fahey
- † Abdo Saseen by Jim & Pat Connell
- † Bernard Connell by Jim & Pat Connell
- † Frank Gongola by Dolores Oser

- † Robert (father) & Charles (grandfather) by Carol Dougherty
- † Bill Dougherty by his daughter Lisa Kennedy & his wife Carol Dougherty
- † Ray Palotay by the Palotay Family
- † Albert Schroeder by his son Mark & Jane Wine
- † John Wilson, Rudy & Theodore Hodulik, Wayne Wilson by Judy, Buzz, Chris, Pete & Bailey Wilson
- † Philip E. Petros and George E. Petros by Jackie and Pat Petros
- † George A. Fahey & George M. Fahey by Jackie and Pat Petros
- † John Henning & Joseph Bott by Don & Roberta Henning
- † Michael T. Hatty & Louis M. Hatty by the Hattys of Michigan
- † Joseph P. Hatty by the Hattys of Michigan
- † Donald Vince by his children and grandchildren
- † Angelo Polsinelli by Rosalie Conti
- † Melo J. Wakim & John Wakim by Chris & Jeannette Wakim
- † William M. Yeater Jr. & William M. Yeater by Chris & Jeannette Wakim
- † Nimon Joseph & Maroon Habeb by Jean Weisner & Family
- † George J. Saseen by his son George Saseen
- † Steve Harasuik by his daughter Susan Saseen
- † Alphonse Joseph & Albert Valles by Vickie Joseph
- † Mike Joseph and Clay Allen by Vickie Joseph
- † Nicholas Bedway Jr. by his children
- † Thomas Ferris (uncle) & Nicolai Magnone (granpa) by Libby Magnone
- † John Ferris (uncle) & Abdo Ferris (grandpa) by Libby Magnone
- † William Magnone (father) by Libby Magnone
- † Michael Kzaley and Moses Kzaley (MN) by Pat & Leon Anderson
- † Richard Anderson and Richard Aside (MN) by Pat & Leon Anderson
- † George Weisner by his son Gary Weisner
- † Samuel Gaudio by his daughter Shirley Bine
- † Holly Bine by his son Kenny
- † Nimon Joseph by Kenny & Nancy Joseph & Family
- † Russell Wetzel by Rusty Wetzel
- † George Fadoul & Joseph Duffy by Mickey & Linda Duffy
- † Steve Sofka by Mike & Judy Sofka
- † Tim Stanton & Bill Sayre by Mike & Judy Sofka
- † Anthony George & Sam George (Mn) by Margaret George
- † Albert Stiles (Mn) by Margaret George
- † Assad Nassar by Anthony & Rena Nassar
- † George Popovich & Mike Popovich by Joe & Nikki Popovich
- † Augie Montalbano, Stan Fielding and Don Fielding by Joe & Nikki Popovich
- † Beb Sengewalt by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt & Family
- † Matthew Siebieda, Joseph Siembieda & Constantino Cetorelli by Larry & Lillian Siebieda
- † Orval A. Blake Sr., Friend Blake & Nicola Caputi by Lillian & Larry Siebieda
- † Silvio “Joe” Perilli by Diana Gavin & Paula Perilli
- † George Joseph, Edward Joseph, Gerard Joseph, Lawrence Ferrera & Elias Joseph by Larry & Becky Ferrera
- † Thomas Moses, Jr. & Ralph Shipley by Thomasina Geimer
- †

Intentions of the Living fathers' Day Masses

- † Lou H. Khourey by his children Emmalena & Louie
- † Jamil Harb by his Family (MI)
- † Mark McLaughlin by Brad McLaughlin & Kristen Graney
- † Mark McLaughlin by his grandchildren Nathan & Shane Graney
- † Dr. Adel Frenn & Zack Riedel by Diane & Justin Frenn & Andreah & Christian Riedel

- † Dick Serafin by Ann Marie Serafin, Andrew, Michael, Julie & Daniel Serafin
- † Assad Rahi by the Peklinsky Family
- † Chris Wakim by Laura Wakim Chapman & Family & Nathan Wakim
- † Louis Valles by Vickie Joseph
- † Bill Stees (brother-in-law) by Libby Magnone
- † Josh McDowell (nephew-in-law) by Libby Magnone
- † William Nicholas Magnone (brother) by Libby Magnone
- † James Kzaley (MN) by Pat & Leon Anderson
- † Butch Dennis by Annette Wetzel
- † Joe Popovich by Nikki Popovich & Family
- † PJ Lenz by Joe & Nikki Popovich
- † Larry Ferrera, Larry III, Tony Ferrera, Tony Renzella & Mark McLaughlin by Becky Ferrera
- †
- †
- †
- †

NAM Delegate needed

Dear parishioners, If anyone have time to attend the NAM Convention in Detroit this year, our church needs one or two delegates to represent us at the meetings. The NAM is in the first week of July (4-7 July). Please contact Msgr. Bakhos for details. Thanks.

91st Mahrajan News Update

--**Mahrajan Date:** Sunday, August 11, 2024 from 11:00 am until 6:00 pm at Oglebay Park.

--Church Dance Troupe Announcement

We are looking for kids and young adults to participate in our parish dance troupe for the 91st Mahrajan! If you know anyone who would be interested, please contact the church at 304-233-1688. Practices will be held every Sunday starting April 7 after 10:30 am Mass. Mrs. Nesrin Alkhouri

--**Mass:** Outdoor Mass at Oglebay **at 10:00 a.m.** not 10:30 am.

--**Program:** Live Band, Belly dancers, inflatables, face painting, souvenirs, Lebanese Food, shish kebab, pastry, wine, beer, adult and children games, and much more.

--**Raffle Prize:** will be \$10,000 if all 1,000 numbered tickets are sold.

--**Magnet:** Save the Date Magnet was mailed to everyone on the church mailing list.

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:

- June 2: Debbie Sengewalt
- June 5: Earl "Mickey" Duffy, Kenly George
- June 7: Jean Weisner
- June 9: Ava DeMuth
- June 14: P.J. Lenz, Kathy Boehm
- June 15: Becky Joseph Ferrera, Grace Ferrera
- June 20: Nick Ghaphery, Jr.
- June 23: Mary Beth Weisner
- June 27: Lindsay Lenz

Your Church Support Last Week

\$668.00	Sunday Collection
156.00	2 nd collection: Catholic Campaign
38.00	Candles
32.00	Coffee hour
135.00	Donation to the church

1,030.00	Mahrajan
\$2,059.00	Total Deposits: <i>May God reward you abundantly for supporting your spiritual home!</i> Finance Committee: Lou Khourey, Susan Burns, Liz Murad, Mark McLaughlin

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)
Regina, Shelly and Gavin Hancher, Mary Zigler (sister of Lillian Siebieda), Dolores Oser, Sally Sengewalt, Anthony Wakim, Earl Duffy, Fran Saseen, Sandra DeMuth, Justin Frenn, Elia Frenn, Patty Fahey, Patty Olinsky, Julia Schiess (daughter of Leo Bleifus), Fred Schweizer (brother of our organist Mary Lee Porter),

What's New?

Many Thanks

--To Ron and Gary Weisner for designing and building a deck in the back of the church. Also many thanks to all those who are helping them in this project.

--To Randy Weisner and Ron Gibbons for their handyworks in and outside the church.

--To all members of the sanitizing team who make sure that the pews are clean after every Mass.

--To all the ladies who sponsored flowers to the Blessed Mother during May.

--To all the parishioners, presidents and members, ladies and gentlemen of our miraculous church who are taking care of all the events of the church.

May God and the Blessed Mother reward each and everyone of you for goodness toward the church.

--Msgr Bakhos

Rummage Sale Information

Our Parish Rummage Sale will be on **Friday, June 7th from 4:00p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** and on **Saturday, June 8th from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** For any questions call Linda at 304-242-6853. Thank you

2024 Food Handling Classes Dates:

All volunteers at food events or at the festival are required to have their "Food Handling Card" when preparing food. Jeannette will work with the health department to schedule a class at the cedar hall for all the volunteers. She will inform everyone about the day and time of that class. Anyway, if someone wants to get his/her card at a different place and time, here are some dates. Thanks.

Tuesday, June 4	Wilson Lodge (terrace Room)
Tuesday, July 2	Wheeling Park (hall of Champions)

Diocese Pilgrimage to Poland and Prague

When: From August 26 to September 4, 2024. Space is limited

Where: Poland and Prague

Cost: \$2,900.00 double occupancy. Price per person

Information: call our Diocese at 323-336-3168 or 818-626-9193

Maronite Pilgrimage to Mexico

When: From October 7 to October 12, 2024.

Where: Mexico City, Guadalupe, Tlaxcala, Puebla, Coyoacan

Cost: \$1,599.00 per person. Flights to be booked separately

Information: please call our chancery at: 323-336-3168

Spirituality: Heaven

Nasty people may come to happiness this side of Heaven, too; their humility makes it possible. Many who come to the fullness of Christ, when asked why they embraced the Church, answer: "*I joined the Church in order to get rid of my sins.*" Those who refuse to admit their sins, who deny that they are sinners, will find this

very difficult to understand. Indeed, it is difficult for the nice people to understand, for they fail to realize there are two very devastating things that happen to those who come into contact with Our Lord: an overwhelming sense of shame, and a glorious feeling of liberation.

No one who denies personal guilt is happy, but there is not a person who has admitted it, and been forgiven, and lives in the love of God, who is unhappy. A sense of moral unworthiness has never saddened a soul, but many souls are made sad and frustrated by their own self-love. The greater the consciousness of our own misery, the greater our confidence in the goodness and mercy of God. God could not show the attribute of mercy unless there was misery. God would have been Infinite Goodness if He had never made the world; but unless nasty persons had existed, He never could have shown His sweet Mercy for our sins.

Bishop Fulton SHEEN, Peace of Soul, p.83.

Wisdom: Safety Tips for Women #3

Learn to Dial *677

I knew about the red light on cars, but not the *677. It was about 1:00 p.m. in the afternoon, and Lauren was driving to visit a friend. An UNMARKED police car pulled up behind her and put his lights on.

Lauren's parents have always told them never to pull over for an unmarked car on the side of the road, but rather to wait until they get to a gas station, etc.

Lauren had actually listened to her parents advice, and promptly called *677 on her cell phone to tell the police dispatcher that she would not pull over right away. She proceeded to tell the dispatcher that there was an unmarked police car with a flashing red light on his rooftop behind her. The dispatcher checked to see if there were police cars where she and there weren't, and he told her to keep driving, remain calm and that he had back up already on the way.

Ten minutes later 4 cop cars surrounded her and the unmarked car behind her. One policeman went to her side and the others surrounded the car behind. They pulled the guy from the car and tackled him to the ground. The man was a convicted rapist and wanted for other crimes.

I never knew about the *677 Cell Phone Feature, but especially for a woman alone in a car, you should not pull over for an unmarked car.

Apparently police have to respect your right to keep going to a safe and quiet place. You obviously need to make some signals that you acknowledge them (i.e. put on your hazard lights) or call *677 like Lauren did.

Too bad the cell phone companies don't generally give you this little bit of wonderful information.

Speaking to a service representative at ****Bell**** Mobility confirmed that *677 was a direct link to State Police Dispatch. So, now it's your turn to let your friends know about *677.

Tell this to every person you know; it may save a life.

Story

What kind of family refuses the offer of spiritual intervention for their crippled daughter, Anne? A very rare and selfless one, as it turns out. "We had offered to make a novena to our foundress, Mother Leonie, on several occasions. But the Smith family turned it down. Mother Leonie was a co-founder of a religious order that eventually spread its charitable work to Europe, South Africa, and Ecuador. She died on January 10, 1914, leaving the precept: "Let us work for the happiness of others."

"The nuns approached us several times about the novena, said Mrs. Smith. "But until the third surgery, we felt that there was always hope. We felt that there was another child in much worse condition than our daughter and it would be selfish to deprive another family who had no hope."

Anne was suffering from tethered spinal cord syndrome, a rare condition in which the base of the spine is shredded into tethers and the presence of fatty tumors prevents the spinal cord from keeping pace with the growth of the spine. The condition first presented itself when Anne was ten. She was referred to a neurosurgeon, who believed that once the tumors were removed the pain would end. The surgery, which was supposed to last four hours, took almost seven. Things were much worse than originally thought. The tumors had grown intertwined with her nerves. Her agony continued.

Along with the physical pain came the social isolation that kids often experience from their peers. “The kids weren’t overtly mean,” one of the nuns said, “but Anne wasn’t included in many of the normal activities.” With a laugh, Anne recalls, “When I couldn’t go to school, one of the nuns would bring me ‘important’ files to work on. That made me feel worthwhile and useful. It wasn’t until years later I discovered it was just busy work to keep my morale up.”

But there was precious little laughter as the condition worsened. “There was never a moment that I didn’t feel pain to some degree, Anne remembers. After two initial surgeries, the pain resumed. Anne began high school in 1990. A year later, a third surgery was performed. After this operation, she was not even able to make it to physical therapy. When the family visited the doctor, they went expecting to hear plans for a fourth surgery. “He asked Anne to leave the room. Mrs Smith said, “The doctor told us that our daughter was a surgical failure. He referred us to a pain specialist because Anne was going to be bedridden and in chronic pain for the rest of her life. Paralysis was also a concern. In fact, the doctors were amazed that she could still feel her legs at this point.”

Anne was devastated. “I needed my parents for everything now,” she said, “to help me walk, to get dressed. I used to cry at night, asking someone up there to make me better. When that didn’t happen, my faith and belief in God were really gone.”

One particular piece of bad news was like a dagger in the heart for Anne. She would never dance again. Dancing meant the world to her. During her darkest hour, a ray of divine light came shining through. One of the nuns approached the Smith again with the novena proposal. “It’s time we storm heaven,” she told them. This time the family accepted the offer.

The pastor was conducting evening adoration and benediction. “We placed novena cards in the church pews ahead of time,” says the pastor. The prayer effort spread to a wider audience beyond the parish. Novena booklets were distributed to every student in the girls and the adjoining boys’ high schools. The novena ended up involving more than two—thousand people.

In order for a person to be canonized a Catholic saint, two miracles credited to the intercession of the holy person must be verified. In 1991, Pope John Paul II proclaimed Mother Leonie’s first miracle, when she was credited with saving the severely burned and infected right arm of Vincent Kesner, a South African boy, in 1976. Now the people in this suburb were praying for a second miracle.

Confined to bed, Anne fervently prayed for Mother Leonie’s intercession. But things got worse before they got better. “The night before the miracle I was up all night in the worst pain I ever experienced,” Anne says. “Later on, I found out that many recipients of miracles experience their worst agony right before the healing.”

The next day, was the last day of the novena. Anne was left alone while her parents and four siblings were busy elsewhere. Anne has no memory of anything from ten o’clock in the morning until two in the afternoon that day. “When I came to, I didn’t feel any pain,” Anne said. Contrary to what one might expect, the fourteen-year-old was not overwhelmed. “When the novena started, everything changed for me. It wasn’t a matter of if but when I would get better,” said Anne.

She started walking around in circles and then throughout the house. When her parents returned home, they were shocked. That night, Anne had dinner with her family and then washed the dishes—simple acts which many take for granted, but extraordinary ones for a person whose life had been a prison of pain.

Word began to get out. Anne’s parents called the nun. “It was an overwhelming sense of the awesome power of prayer when I heard of the miracle,” sister said, “When people join together, prayers can be answered.” When Mrs. Smith called the high school to tell them Anne would be returning, the news swept forth like a tidal wave, eventually making its way to the Vatican. It looked as if Anne’s miracle would be the one that moved Mother Leonie from “Blessed” to “Saint.”

After significant scientific study and theological review, the review board made its recommendation to the pope. Then on December 18, 2000, Pope John Paul II declared Anne’s cure a miracle. Anne said, “I went from asking, ‘Why me? Why am I sick?’ to ‘How much can I give back?’” She did a lot of traveling and missionary work. At age nineteen, she worked in an impoverished town in Mexico, teaching and distributing clothes and repairing homes. For two years she also worked with tribes in San Fidel, New Mexico, teaching career development and sign language. Anne has gone on to get her bachelor’s and master’s degrees. On

September 14, 2001, she married and danced at her wedding. Today, she delights in telling the story of her miracle, and spreading a message of faith and hope.

A Time to Laugh (118)

Just pointing them in the right direction

Two priests and a bishop died one day and were outside the gates of heaven waiting to get in.

Saint Peter checked his records and said, "I'm sorry gentlemen, but it looks like it will *be a while before you can go in.*"

Just as he said that another man walked up to him and said, "*Hi, I just got here. My name is John, and I was an IRS agent.*"

"*Come right on in,*" said Saint Peter, and the gates opened for the tax collector.

The bishop was stunned and went up to St. Peter and asked, "*How can you let an IRS agent in before us? We've devoted our lives to saving souls and doing God's work, but we have to wait to get in, while this IRS guy is welcomed right in?!*"

St. Peter shook his head and said, "*You men have truly given your lives so that others would seek the kingdom of heaven, but despite all your sermons and prayers, you still fall short.*"

The bishop was now frustrated and demanded, "*So our work is less worthy than the IRS?*"

Saint Peter smiled and said, "*These IRS agents have scared the hell out of more people than you ever would have!*"

We lost another one

One day Rabbi Feldman was in his synagogue reading a letter from his son. After finishing the letter, the rabbi began to cry out loud. Tears streamed down his anguished face, and he shook his fists upward toward the heavens.

The rabbi shouted, "*Why God?!... Why? How could this happen? My son, my ONLY son has done the unthinkable. He has betrayed me and his people. He has converted to Catholic -He is a Christian. O Lord answer me!*"

And at that a great voice boomed down from above, "*YOURS TOO?*"

Ooooooooooooooooooops!

A woman was terribly overweight, so her doctor put her on a diet.

"I want you to eat regularly for 2 days, then skip a day, and repeat this procedure for 2 weeks. The next time I see you, you will have lost at least 5 pounds."

When the woman returned, she shocked the doctor by losing nearly 20 pounds. "Why, that's amazing!" the doctor said, "Did you follow my instructions?"

The woman nodded. "I'll tell you, though, I thought I was going to drop dead that third day."

"From hunger, you mean?"

"No, from skipping."

Human Nature

Two gentlemen of unsteady gait waited impatiently at the bus terminal late at night, long after the buses had ceased to ply.

A couple of hours passed before they realized, in their drunken stupor, that the last bus had gone. Seeing several buses parked at the depot, they decided to borrow one and drive themselves home.

To their disappointment, they couldn't find the bus they wanted. "Can you believe it?" said one. "A hundred buses, and not a single number 36 in the whole lot!"

"Never mind!" said the other. "Let's take a 22 up to its last stop and walk the rest of the two miles home."

Famous Quotes (22)

Lessons in Life:

Life isn't fair, but it's still good.

When in doubt, just take the next small step.

Life is too short to waste time hating anyone.

Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does.

Pay off your credit cards every month.

You don't have to win every argument. Agree to disagree.

Cry with someone. It's more healing than crying alone.

It's OK to get angry with God. He can take it.

Save for retirement starting with your first paycheck.

When it comes to chocolate, resistance is futile.

Make peace with your past so it won't screw up the present.

It's OK to let your children see you cry.

Don't compare your life to others'. You have no idea what their journey is all about.

If a relationship has to be a secret, you shouldn't be in it.

Everything can change in the blink of an eye. But don't worry; God never blinks.

Life is too short for long pity parties. Get busy living, or get busy dying.

You can get through anything if you stay put in today.

A writer writes. If you want to be a writer, write.

It's never too late to have a happy childhood. But the second one is up to you and no one else.

When it comes to going after what you love in life, don't take no for an answer.

Burn the candles, use the nice sheets, wear the fancy lingerie. Don't save it for a special occasion. Today is special.

Over prepare, then go with the flow.

Be eccentric now. Don't wait for old age to wear purple.

The most important sex organ is the brain.

No one is in charge of your happiness except you.

Frame every so-called disaster with these words: 'In five years, will this matter?'

Always choose life.

Forgive everyone, everything.

What other people think of you is none of your business.

Time heals almost everything. Give time, time.

However good or bad a situation is, it will change.

Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends will. Stay in touch.

Believe in miracles.

God loves you because of who God is, not because of anything you did or didn't do.

Whatever doesn't kill you really does make you stronger.

Growing old beats the alternative -- dying young.

Your children get only one childhood. Make it memorable.

Read the Psalms. They cover every human emotion.

Get outside every day. Miracles are waiting everywhere.

If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back.

Don't audit life. Show up and make the most of it now.

Get rid of anything that isn't useful, beautiful or joyful.

All that truly matters in the end is that you loved.

Envy is a waste of time. You already have all you need.

The best is yet to come.

No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up.

Take a deep breath. It calms the mind.

If you don't ask, you don't get.

Yield.

Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a gift.