



September 8, 2024

Bulletin #36

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



Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Exaltation of the Holy Cross

***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.

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Virtues of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Therese of Lisieux said: "It is good to speak about the prerogatives of Mary, but to help her be loved, we must show her as accessible, similar to us. Let us look in her life for the ordinary things which will attract us to her." Saint Augustine said if we want to obtain more graces from the saints, we must imitate them. There is a Latin proverb which says: "Love finds equals or makes them equal."

The Lord who descended from heaven and died to redeem us had to give a perfect example of his complete victory by raising for us a model, a redeemed person of purity and holiness, showing us that His redemption is able to bring complete holiness and perfection of virtues. For that, He chose Mary, for while the other redeemed saints do not find this total perfection of virtues and/or complete holiness, "among all believers, she is like a 'mirror' in which are reflected, in the most profound and limpid way, the mighty works of God" (Mother of the Redeemer, n. 25).

An example of the "fullness" of virtues is found in the one whom the angel greeted as "full of grace." In her, we have been brought back to the purest state of Adam and Eve immediately after creation. In the Book of Proverbs we read, "Wisdom fashioned herself a house" (Chapter 9). These words were fulfilled when God in His Wisdom fashioned Mary as a marvelous example for mankind and creation. The Fathers speak of the virtues of Mary and they mention, before everything, her theological virtues of faith, hope and love. Then they add humility, chastity, poverty, obedience, patience and her spirit of prayer. We shall look below at each virtue individually.

Humility

Saint Alphonse begins with her humility because humility is the foundation, the basis of every virtue. If we do not realize that we are empty, we will never feel the need to be filled by grace. What we have, we have by grace. We were naked and have been clothed. "Learn from me for I am meek and humble of heart," Jesus said (Mt 11:29). Mary is the point of encounter between the humility of God and man. In the presence of the angel Mary declared herself the handmaid, the servant of the Lord. When Elizabeth tries to praise her, she simply says that the Lord is the One who has gratified her: "My soul magnifies the Lord" (Lk 1:46).

She did not tell Joseph she was to be the Mother of God, rather she left with haste to serve Elizabeth. In the public life of Jesus, when Mary came to see Him she stood outside. She did not consider that being His mother she had the right to enter. At the Cross she embraced the feet of Her Son condemned as a criminal. She claims her motherhood at the Cross, not on Palm Sunday!

Charity

The more a heart is pure and empties itself, the more it loves. Mary, with Jesus in hand, has been called by Saint Ephrem "fire, carrying Fire." She has been compared to an eagle, flying toward the sun (without being burnt), whose eyes are bathed in the light of the sun. Her days and nights were consumed for God and for her Son who was the Son of God. After the Resurrection she longed to meet Him again.

She loved the Father as a Daughter, the Son as a Mother and the Holy Spirit as a Bride. She is the Mother of Divine Love. In the mystery of Christ, she is present even before the creation of the world as the one whom the Father has chosen as Mother of His Son. And what is more, together with the Father, the Son has chosen her, entrusting her eternally to the Spirit of Holiness. In an entirely special and exceptional way, Mary is united to Christ, and similarly she is eternally loved in this beloved Son, this Son who is one in being with the Father, in whom is concentrated all the glory of grace (Mother of the Redeemer, n. 8).

By Archbishop Francis M. Zayek

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Readings: Ex 17:8-15; 1 Cor 1:18-25 and Jn 12:20-32

The Triumph of the Cross is at one and the same time an image of our crucified Lord and a sign of his Easter mystery. It reminds us first of all that Christ merited his glory by undergoing the death of a slave. Before us it puts the prospect of living together with him who, lifted up from the earth, draws all people to himself provided we bear our cross after him and die with him.

Jesus could have died in all manner of ways, but he did so nailed to the tree of the cross, as if the very symbol itself demanded it. Doesn't modern psychology itself find in the image of the tree a symbol where each tends to project him -or herself, with their most secret desires? We know ourselves to be rooted, like a tree, in the generations gone by, in our heredity, even to the very depths of human nature. The same is true of the cross. Even in pagan antiquity it had a cosmic significance, because it evoked the entire universe with its four dimensions, the four cardinal points of the compass, the four elements. Early Christian tradition inherited all this symbolism but gave it a whole new significance, summing up the whole mystery of redemption. The activity of the Word, sustaining all creation, was made manifest by the wood of the cross: by stretching out his arms Jesus gathered Jew and pagan into one people, so giving expression to the length, the breadth, the height and the depth of his love which surpasses all our knowing.

The whole history of salvation takes place between two trees: the tree of forbidden fruit and the tree of life planted in the middle of the garden. If we wish to eat of the tree of life we must embrace the wisdom of God and have no other source of glory save the cross of Christ.

This Weekend, Sep. 7-8: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Saturday, September 7 at 4:00 pm: Mass followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

- ✠ John F. kukula (Anniversary) by his wife Mary Rose Kukula
- ✠ Teresa Ferrera (Anniversary) by Larry & Becky Ferrera
- ✠ Gene & Janice Roxby by their son Joe Roxby
- ✠ Noel Foreman by his wife Anne and Family

Sunday, September 8 at 10:30 am: Feast of the nativity of the Blessed Mother. Mass followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

- ✠ Susie Fadoul, Betty Jean Fadoul, Joe & Nell Duffy, Geo & Rose Fadoul by Earl & Linda Duffy
- ✠ Elias Frenn (Anniversary) by Dr. Adel, Diane and Justin and Andrea & Zack Riedel
- ✠ John Shiben by Erica Shiben & Family

Weekdays Mass Schedule

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

Tuesday, September 10 Mass at Noon:

- ✠ Patrick Stees (Birthday) by his mom from heaven and Libby Magnone
- ✠ Sylvia Long, her husband Arthur, & her son Mark by her last will
- ✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her last Will

Wednesday, September 11: No Mass. Office works.

Thursday, September 12, Mass at Noon:

- ✠ Janis & George Thomas (Ohio) by their last will
- ✠ Noel Foreman by his wife Anne and Family
- ✠ John Shiben by Erica Shiben & Family

Friday, September 13: No Mass. Visitations of the sick.

Next Weekend, Sep. 14-15: Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Saturday, September 14 at 4:00 pm: Actual feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

- ✠ Gene & Janice Roxby by their son Joe Roxby
- ✠ Noel Foreman by his wife Anne and Family

Sunday, September 15 at 10:30 am:

- ✠ John Shiben by Erica Shiben & Family
- ✠ Special Intentions of all the Benefactors and volunteers at our church

Coming Events

Sunday, Sep. 15	Cedar Club meeting. A rummage sale is on Saturday, September 21 st from 8 am to 2pm
Sunday, Sep.22	Volunteers appreciation dinner after 10:30 am Mass. No social hour today.

All Souls two week Masses (From November 1st until November 17th)

(Please complete the attached All Souls Mass Form and drop it in the collection basket)

Special remembrance during these two week Masses for All Souls:

Friday, November 1st:

✠ Charlotte George (Birthday) by Margaret George (MN)

Tuesday, November 5th to:

✠ Libby G. Magnone (Birthday)

✠ Mary Zaid Stees by her sister Libby G. Magnone

Thursday, November 7th:

✠ Elizabeth Ferris Magnone (Birthday) by her daughters Mary Stees & Libby G. Magnone

Saturday, November 9th:

✠ Deceased of the Schroeder Family by Mark Schroeder and Jane Wine

Sunday, November 10th:

✠ Sara McLaughlin (Anniversary) by Mark & Barb McLaughlin

Tuesday, November 12th:

✠ Judith Wolfe (Birthday) and Mary Stees by Libby Magnone

Thursday, November 14th:

✠ V. Jeannette Yeater (Birthday) by Chris & Jeannette Wakim

Saturday, November 16th:

✠ Joseph Benline by his wife Helen

Sunday, November 17th:

✠ Emily Vince (Birthday) by her children and grandchildren

✠ Mary Miller (Anniversary) by Mark & Barb McLaughlin

Masses for All Souls

✠ 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

✠ Deceased of Zaidan Chahine by Youssef & Jocelyne Chahine (PA)

✠ Deceased of the Chidiac Family by Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac

✠ John Shibben by his wife Dee

✠ Tom Brock Jr. by his wife Judy and Family

✠ Khalil & Sadie & Maria Harb & Annette & Al Togliatti by Jamil Harb (Troy, MI)

✠ Sarah Harb (sister of Benefactor Jamil Harb) by the Family

✠ Deceased Family members of Anthony & Rena Nassar

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:

September 8: Carol Dougherty

September 9: Gary Weisner, Patrick Stees, Lorenzo Ferrera

September 10: Chris George

September 18: Michael Duymich

September 20: Regina Hancher, Gavin Hancher

September 24: Luane Frazier
 September 26: Mary Rose Kukula
 October 4: Leo Bleifus
 October 6: Joe Popovich, Frank Duymich

<i>Your Church Support Last Week</i>	
\$1,069.00	Sunday Collection
152.00	2 nd collection: Catholic University
44.00	Candles
300.00	Mahrajan
9.00	Coffee hour
\$1,574.00	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?

Mahrajan Updates

--the Financial Report on the festival will be published by mid-September when all the bills are received and paid.

--The appreciation dinner for all the Mahrajan volunteers will be held at the Cedar Hall on Sunday, September 22nd after Mass. There will be no social hour on that day. --Msgr Bakhos

--Many Thanks to Rose Hankish and her husband Frederick Carpenter for sponsoring two cocktail tables to be used at the festival by our guests while watching the dance floor. Their names will be on the Diamond level in the 2025 Ad Book. May the Blessed reward you abundantly.

Diocese Pilgrimage to Canonization

Subject: Canonization of the three Massabki Brothers

Where: Rome

When: From October 15 till 24th, 2024.

Sites to visit: Rome, Polsen, Orvieto, Florence, Assisi, Casia, Naples

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

Around Us

Catholic Charities Spaghetti Dinner (Sun., Sep. 22nd from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m.)

The Neighborhood Center in Wheeling will host our biggest fundraiser of the year, *The Spaghetti Dinner*, on Sunday, September 22nd from 11:00a.m. until 5:00p.m. As in the past, we are asking local churches if you would be willing to ask your parishioners, or a club within your parish, to donate baked items for dessert (cakes, pies, cookies, etc.)? Items can be dropped off at the Neighborhood Center at 125 18th Street, Wheeling, on Friday, September 20th until 4:00 or from 8:00-Noon on Saturday, September 21st. If this time does not work, other arrangements can be made.

The Neighborhood Center provides supportive services to those who live in Ohio, Marshall, and Belmont Counties. We offer:

- Case Management and Emergency Assistance
- Hot Meals Monday through Saturday at the center, averaging 100 people each day.
- Food Pantry twice a week
- Delivery of approximately 175 hot meals 6 days a week to homebound individuals in Wheeling
- Showers and Laundry Services to the unhoused.
- Cleaning Supplies

Please call Tracey at (304) 232-7157 with any questions. We thank you for your past support of our organization and all the ways you care for our community. Hope to see you at the dinner!

Blessings, Tracey Dickerson

Spirituality

What shall these poor, frustrated, psychotic, and neurotic millions in our midst do to escape a creeping insanity and a growing madness? The only answer for them is to enter into themselves, to lift their eyes to the Divine Physician and cry, "***Have mercy on me, O God!***" If they only knew it, a single confession would rescue them by helping them to have their sins forgiven; it would also save them the small fortune spent in having their sins explained away.

God has promised us pardon if we are penitent, but not if we procrastinate. Sin will wear out mind, heart, and soul, but it will not wear itself out -it will have to be purged out. The secret of peace of soul is to combine detachment from evil with attachment to God, to abandon egotism as the ruling, determining element in living and to substitute Our Divine Lord as the regent of our actions. What is anti-God must be repressed; what is Godly must be expressed. Then one will no longer awaken with a dark brown taste in the mouth or a feeling of being run-down at the heels. Instead of greeting each day with the complaint, "*Good God, morning!*" one will say, from the happiness of a soul in love, "*Good morning, God!*"

Bishop Fulton SHEEN, Peace of Soul, 1949, pp.188-189.

Wisdom: You are Special

A well-known speaker started off his seminar by holding up a \$20.00 bill. In the room of 200, he asked, "Who would like this \$20 bill?" Hands started going up. He said, "I am going to give this \$20 to one of you but first, let me do this. He proceeded to crumple up the \$20 dollar bill.

He then asked, "Who still wants it?" Still the hands were up in the air.

Well, he replied, "What if I do this?"

And he dropped it on the ground and started to grind it into the floor with his shoe. He picked it up, now crumpled and dirty. "Now, who still wants it?"

Still the hands went into the air.

My friends, we have all learned a very valuable lesson. No matter what I did to the money, you still wanted it because it did not decrease in value. It was still worth \$20.

Many times in our lives, we are dropped, crumpled, and ground into the dirt by the decisions we make and the circumstances that come our way. We feel as though we are worthless.

But no matter what has happened or what will happen, you will never lose your value. Dirty or clean, crumpled or finely creased, you are still priceless to those who DO LOVE you. The worth of our lives comes not in what we do or who we know, but by WHO WE ARE. You are special. Don't EVER forget it."

Story

Years ago, a farmer owned land along the Atlantic seacoast. He constantly advertised for hired hands. Most people were reluctant to work on farms along the Atlantic. They dreaded the awful storms that raged across the Atlantic, wreaking havoc on the buildings and crops. As the farmer interviewed applicants for the job, he received a steady stream of refusals.

Finally, a short, thin man, well past middle age, approached the farmer. "Are you a good farmhand?" the farmer asked him. "Well, I can sleep when the wind blows," answered the little man. Although puzzled by this

answer, the farmer, desperate for help, hired him.

The little man worked well around the farm, busy from dawn to dusk, and the farmer felt satisfied with the man's work.

Then one night the wind howled loudly in from offshore. Jumping out of bed, the farmer grabbed a lantern and rushed next door to the hired hand's sleeping quarters. He shook the little man and yelled, "Get up! A storm is coming! Tie things down before they blow away!" The little man rolled over in bed and said firmly, "No sir, I told you, I can sleep when the wind blows.

Enraged by the response, the farmer was tempted to fire him on the spot. Instead, he hurried outside to prepare for the storm. To his amazement, he discovered that all of the haystacks had been covered with tarpaulins. The cows were in the barn, the chickens were in the coops, and the doors were barred. The shutters were tightly secured.

Everything was tied down. Nothing could blow away.

The farmer then understood what his hired hand meant, so he returned to his bed to also sleep while the wind blew.

MORAL: When you're prepared, spiritually, mentally, and physically, you have nothing to fear. Can you sleep when the wind blows through your life? The hired hand in the story was able to sleep because he had secured the farm against the storm. We, as believers in Christ, secure ourselves against the storms of life by grounding ourselves in the Word of God. We don't need to understand, we just need to hold His hand to have peace in the midst of the storms.

I hope you sleep well when the wind blows!

May God Bless you.

A Time to Laugh (132)

Catholic School

Tommy was a troubled child. Despite his parents' best efforts, he was a poor student in school and was constantly getting into trouble for fighting, swearing, and cutting class. He had already been kicked out of all the public schools and was even rejected by the local military academy. His parents tried talking to him, bribing him, even spanking him -but nothing seemed to work.

Finally, his parents decided to try a nearby Catholic school. After the first day, Tommy returned home and went straight to his room. To his parents' amazement, he was doing his homework.

The same thing happened on the second day and the third day and so on and so on.

After some weeks passed, it was time for his parent-teacher conference. His parents met with his teacher, an older nun, who told them that Tommy was an excellent student –nothing but A's. "*And his behavior?*" his father asked. "*His behavior is outstanding... he is a saint*" said the nun.

Tommy's parents were dumbfounded. They sat Tommy down, and his father said, "*Tommy, your mom and I are very happy that you are doing so great in school, but we are puzzled about the dramatic turnaround. Tell us son, what is it about this school that made you such a fine student.*"

"*Well,*" Tommy said, "*I didn't plan to be a good student, and I wasn't about to have some old nun telling me what to do... but when I went into her classroom and saw a picture above her desk of a guy with thorns on his head and his hands and feet nailed to a cross, I knew she meant business!*"

Christian Bumper Stickers

Life is hard, pray harder.

As long as there are exams, there will always be prayer in school.

Those who wait to seek God at the 11th hour, die at 10:30

Follow Jesus and spend eternity in the non-smoking section.

The Lord is coming soon... Look busy!

The word **BIBLE** is short for **B**asic **I**nstruction **B**efore **L**eaving **E**arth.

Afraid Of The Dark

A little boy was afraid of the dark. One night his mother told him to go out to the back porch and bring her

the broom.

The little boy turned to his mother and said, "Mama, I don't want to go out there. It's dark."

The mother smiled reassuringly at her son. "You don't have to be afraid of the dark," she explained. "Jesus is out there. He'll look after you and protect you."

The little boy looked at his mother real hard and asked, "Are you sure he's out there?"

"Yes, I'm sure. He is everywhere, and he is always ready to help you when you need him," she said.

The little boy thought about that for a minute and then went to the back door and cracked it a little. Peering out into the darkness, he called, "Jesus? If you're out there, would you please hand me the broom?"

Famous Quotes (34)

--"All blame is a waste of time. No matter how much fault you find with another, and regardless of how much you blame him, it will not change you" - **Wayne Dyer**

--"The heights by great men reached and kept, were not attained by sudden flight, but they, while their companions

slept, were toiling upward in the night." - **Henry Wadsworth Longfellow**

--"Let no feeling of discouragement prey upon you, and in the end you are sure to succeed."

- **Abraham Lincoln**

--"And in the end it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."

- **Abraham Lincoln**

--"You have achieved success if you have lived well, laughed often and loved much."

- **Author Unknown**

--"Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful." - **Albert Schweitzer**

--"What you get by reaching your destination is not nearly as important as what you will become by reaching your destination." - **Zig Ziglar**

--"Unless you try to do something beyond what you have already mastered, you will never grow."

- **Ronald E. Osborn**

--"Most of our obstacles would melt away if, instead of cowering before them, we should make up our minds to walk boldly through them." - **Orison Swett Marden**

--"When a man is willing and eager, the gods join in." – **Aeschylus**

--"One important key to success is self-confidence. An important key to self-confidence is preparation."

- **Arthur Ashe**

--Success isn't how far you got, but the distance you traveled from where you started.- **Proverb**

--"The greater danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach it." – **Michelangelo**

--"The belief in a thing makes it happen." - **Frank Lloyd Wright**

--Jesus: The Wise and Foolish Builders

“So then, everyone who hears my words and puts them into practice is like a wise man. He builds his house on the rock. The rain comes down. The water rises. The winds blow and beat against that house. But it does not fall. It is built on the rock. But everyone who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man. He builds his house on sand. The rain comes down. The water rises. The winds blow and beat against that house. And it falls with a loud crash.”

Jesus finished saying all these things. The crowds were amazed at his teaching. That’s because he taught like one who had authority. He did not speak like their teachers of the law. Matthew 7: 24-27