



October 27, 2024

Bulletin #43

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



7th Sunday after 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.

7th Sunday After the Holy Cross

Readings: Job 29:12-17; Rom 12:9-21 and Mt 25:31-46

The people of God knew what it was like to be under cruel rulers who subjugated their citizens. They also knew the military and political blows of foreign monarchs. The people were as wounded and lost as a flock of sheep. Their rulers were shepherds who ate their sheep instead of looking after them. When earthly powers fail, we pray: *"The Lord is my shepherd."*

God the Father alone shepherds us rightly. God the Father feeds and heals us, guiding us with loving care.

Jesus Christ is God's representative on earth. As our earthly leader, he is in constant warfare with the forces of evil. One by one he destroys those things hostile to God's reign. The last enemy to be conquered is death. At the end of time, all nations will be assembled before God's judgment seat. The ones who will share Jesus' eternal reign are those who do his will.

Unlike commands given by the tyrants of the world, Jesus' commands are not oppressive. He simply asks us to see him in poor, suffering, and oppressed people. As faithful followers of our servant-king, we humbly submit ourselves to bring about his kingdom of love, justice, and peace.

This Weekend, Oct. 26-27: 7th Sunday after the Holy Cross

Saturday, October 26 at 4:00 pm:

- ✠ Betty Joseph & John Wilson (Anniversary) by Becky & Larry Ferrera
- ✠ Gene & Janice Roxby by their son Joe Roxby
- ✠ Special prayer for good health of Julia Schiess by her father Leo Bleifus

Sunday, October 27 at 10:30 am:

- ✠ John Shiben by Erica Shiben & Family
- ✠ Special prayer for good health of Julia Schiess by her father Leo Bleifus

Weekdays Mass Schedule

Monday, October 28: No Mass. Pastor's day off.

Tuesday, October 29 Mass at Noon:

- ✠ Janis & George Thomas (Ohio) by their last will
- ✠ 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

Wednesday, October 30: No Mass. Office works.

Thursday, October 31, Mass at Noon:

- ✠ June Fahey (Birthday) by George & Patty Fahey
- ✠ Judy Wilson by the Cedar Club president & members
- ✠ Special prayer for good health of Julia Schiess by her father Leo Bleifus

All Souls Two Week Masses (From November 1st until November 17th)

The weekend Masses will be followed by the Prayer of Incense for the Repose of All Souls
Special remembrance during these two week Masses for All Souls:

Friday, November 1st: ✠ Charlotte George (Birthday) by Margaret George (MN)

Tuesday, November 5th: ✠ 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 & 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 Nabiha & 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

† Gene & Janice Roxby by their son Joe Roxby

† John Shibben by his wife Dee

† Tom Brock Jr. by his wife Judy & 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

† George A. & Dolores M. Fahey by Jackie & Pat Petros

† Philip G. & Betty Lou Petros by Jackie & Pat Petros

† Chamse Rahi by Alicia Peklinsky & Family

† Deceased of the Rouhana and Rahi Families by Alicia Peklinsky & Family

† Tina Rahi by Alicia Peklinsky & Family

† Lucille Gibbons by Robert & Paula Gibbons

† Robert Armstrong by Robert & Paula Gibbons

† Charles & Roy Gibbons by Paula & Bob Gibbons

† Larry Gibbons by Paula & Bob Gibbons

† Barkett & Sadie Coury Gibbons by Robert & Paula Gibbons

† Elias & Siham Frenn by Dr. Adel, Diane & Justin Frenn & Zack, Andreah & Christian Riedel

† Jim & LaVerne Thomas by Dr. Adel, Diane & Justin Frenn & Zack, Andreah & Christian Riedel

† Fouad Frenn by Dr. Adel, Diane & Justin Frenn & Zack, Andreah & Christian Riedel

† Deceased of the Henning & Bott Families by Don & Roberta Henning

† Richard Frazier by his wife Luane Frazier

† Thomas A. Ferris by his daughter Denise Ferris

† Mary K. Ferris by her daughter Denise Ferris

† Sam & Bernadine Elias Mike & Terri Golebiewski

† Alphonse & Violet Golebiewski by Mike & Terri Golebiewski

† Alfred Felici by his wife Francie Felici and Family

† Tom Ferris by his niece Libby G. Magnone

† Mary Stees by her sister Libby G. Magnone

† Elizabeth A. Magnone by her daughter Libby G. Magnone

† Josephine Ferris by her niece Libby G. Magnone

† Deceased members of the Ferris Family by Libby G. Magnone

† Deceased of the Alkhouri and AlAhmar Families by Dr. & Mrs. Nabil AlKhouri and Family

† Ray, Sara, Mick and Gary McLaughlin by Mark & Barb McLaughlin

† John & Mary Miller by Mark & Barb McLaughlin

† Elias & Selma Joseph by Mark & Barb McLaughlin

† George & Betty Joseph by Mark & Barb McLaughlin

† Edward & Edith & Gerard Joseph by Mark & Barb McLaughlin

† Tom Jochum by his wife Sue, his children & grandchildren

- † Deceased of Gus & Anna Shia by the Family
- † Tom & Edna Jochum by Sue and Family
- † Deceased of Anna Shia Family by Sue and Family
- † Charles & Selma Meder by Sue & Family
- † Bill Dougherty by his wife Carol Dougherty (Ok)
- † Deceased of the Habdo Family by Carol Dougherty
- † Walter Elwartoski by his son Richard Elwartoski
- † Lottie Elwartoski by her son Richard Elwartoski
- † Tony George by his daughter Margaret George (MN)
- † Charlotte George by her daughter Margaret George (MN)
- † Michael George by his sister Margaret George (MN)
- † Gregory George by Margaret George (MN)
- † Nicholas T. Bedway Jr. by Judy Bedway
- † Michelle Bedway by Judy Bedway
- † Shirley Elias Nickerson by her Loving Family
- † Deceased members of the Elias Family by their Loving Family
- † Nicholas Elias, Amelia Elias, Albert Nickerson, Wanda Nickerson by their Loving Family
- † Donald A. Nickerson Sr. by his Loving Family
- † Robert Hunter Jr., & Robby Hunter III by Thomasina Geimer
- † Ralph & Mary (Joseph) Shipley by Thomasina Geimer
- † Phillip Geimer by his wife Thomasina Geimer
- † Deceased of Namon & Salema (Awed) Joseph & Family by Thomasina Geimer
- † Susie Marie Fadoul by Millet Fadoul & Family
- † Marth Ann Rinehart by Millet Fadoul & Family
- † Mary Zaid Stees by Millet Fadoul & Family
- † Bernard & Marie Connell by Jim & Pat Saseen-Connell
- † Abdoo & Dorothy Saseen by Jim & Pat Saseen-Connell
- † Angelo & Rose Ann Palsinelli by Rosalie Conti
- † Joseph & Ina Palsinelli by Rosalie Conti
- † Gene & Dorothy Palsinelli by Rosalie Conti
- † Tony Matesic by Rosalie Conti
- † Herman & Katheryn Conti by Rosalie Conti
- † Virginia & Anton Matesic by Rosalie Conti
- † Lance Crowley (son-in-law) by Rosalie Conti
- † Deceased of the Fadoul & Duffy Families by Earl & Linda Duffy
- † Deceased members of the Porter Family by Dennis & Mary Lee Porter
- † Deceased members of the Schweizer Family by Dennis & Mary Lee Porter
- † Deceased members of the Gibbons and Otterbecks Families by Ron & Kim Gibbons
- † Bob Sengewalt by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt
- † Cathy Sharp-Howard by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt
- † Michael Joseph by Vickie Joseph
- † Alphonse Joseph by Vickie Joseph
- † Georgette Joseph by Vickie Joseph
- † Dennis & June Fahey by George & Patty Fahey
- † Vincent & Agnes Jacovetty by George & Patty Jacovetty-Fahey
- † James Fahey by George & Patty Fahey
- † Sam & Robert Jacovetty by George & Patty Jacovetty-Fahey
- † Deceased Members of the Albaugh & Bernas Families by Denny Albaugh
- † Deceased Members of Olinski & Ragase Families by Mary Ragase
- † Alois Marchy by Mary Ragase
- † Deceased Members of Stolarik Family by Mary Ragase

- † Merle McConn & Mark Slvga by Mary Ragase
- † Earl Ragase by Mary Ragase
- † Rosemary F. Coury by Richard Coury
- † Eva M. Coury by Richard Coury
- † Mary Ann Khoury by Richard Coury
- † Edward A. Khoury by Richard Coury
- † George Alan Weisner by Jean Weisner & Family
- † Nimon & Mariam Joseph Family by the Weisner & Joseph Families
- † Deceased of the Maroon & Mary Catherine Habeb Families by the Weisner & Joseph Families
- † Deceased of the Weisner, Bishop & Schmeichel Families by Jean Weisner and Family
- † Betty Abraham, Clara Carter & Evelyn Goodson by Jean Weisner & Family
- † Forgotten Souls in Purgatory by Jean Weisner
- † George Alan Weisner by his daughter Mary Beth Weisner
- † Bryce D. Luginbill by Mary Beth Weisner
- † Robert N. Ayoob by Mary Beth Weisner
- † Al & Helen Schroeder by their son Mark and their daughter Jane Wine
- † Frank Schroeder by Mark Schroeder
- † Suzanne Bush by Mark Schroeder
- † Deceased of the Hughes Family by Mark Schroeder
- † Deceased Members of the Nolte Family by Janet Shutler
- † Deceased Members of the Shutler Family by Janet Shutler
- † Betty Jane Fadoul by Millet, John & Family
- † George & Rose Fadoul by Millet Fadoul & Family
- † Emily Shia Vince by her Children & grandchildren
- † Donald Vince by his Children & grandchildren
- † Patricia Gompers by Matthew Gompers Family
- † Deborah Vargo by Matt & Vickie Gompers
- † Gus & Anna Shia by Matt & Vickie Gompers
- † George & Martha Saseen by George & Susan Saseen & Family
- † Steve & Elizabeth Harasuik by George & Susan Saseen & Family
- † Debbie Saseen by George & Susan Saseen & Family
- † John & Judy Wilson by Becky Ferrera
- † Joseph Abraham (Cleveland) by Msgr Bakhos and the parishioners
- † Deceased of the Bine & Gaudio Families by Shirley Bine
- † Steve & Theresa Sofka by Mike & Judy Sofka
- † Mary Jean & Jim Stanton by Mike & Judy Sofka
- † John William Sayre by Mike & Judy Sofka
- † Anna & Leo Spyra by Mike & Judy Sofka
- † Violet Machel by Mike & Judy Sofka
- † Lawrence & Teresa Ferrera; Mary Jean Comas; Janet Ferrera, Joann Ferrera Slack by Larry & Becky Ferrera
- † George & Betty Joseph by Larry & Becky Ferrera
- † Patti Smith, Diane Russell, Judy & John Wilson, Barb Hodulik, Jack Harsan by Larry & Becky Ferrera
- † Matthew Siebieda (father) by Larry & Lillian Siebieda
- † Constantino & Delia Cetorelli (grandparents) by Larry & Lillian Siebieda
- † Friend & Ida Blake (grandparents) by Larry & Lillian Siebieda
- † Orval & Elena Blake (parents) by Larry & Lillian Blake Siebieda
- † Debbie Blake (sister-in-law) by Larry & Lillian Blake Siebieda
- † Donnie Sigler (brother-in-law) by Larry & Lillian Siebieda
- † Vincent & Judi Blake (brother and sister-in-law) by Larry & Lillian Blake Siebieda
- † David Frey by his loving Family
- † George & Mary Popovich, Kay Popovich by Joe & Nikki Popovich

- † Don, Helen, Stan Fielding by Joe & Nikki Popovich
 † Augie Montalbano and Mike O’Kane by Joe & Nikki Popovich
 † In Honor of Jesus’ Agonizing suffering in the Garden of Gethsemane by Joe & Nikki Popovich
 † Thomas George by his Family
 † Dolores Palotay by the Jarrett & Palotay Families
 † Rezzo Palotay by the Jarrett & Palotay Families
 † Diane Palotay by the Jarrett & Palotay Families
 † Jerrie Williams by the Jarrett & Palotay Families
 † Dana Burkhart by his wife Carol Burkhart
 † Catherine Arthur by her daughter Carol Burkhart
 † George Alan Weisner by his son Gary Weisner
 † Linda Hostutler by Gary Weisner
 † Mike Linton by Gary Weisner
 † Dr. Ned Cunningham by Mary Beth Weisner
 † The Deceased of the Wakim and Nagem Families by Chris & Jeannette Wakim and Family
 † The Deceased of the Teater and Reass Families by Chris & Jeannette Wakim and Family
 † Stephen Wakim by Chris & Jeannette Wakim and Family
 † John M. Wakim (brother) by Chris & Jeannette Wakim and Family
 † John & Erma Wakim by Chris & Jeannette Wakim and Family
 † William & V. Jeannette Yeater by Chris & Jeannette Wakim and Family
 † Robert Yeater by his uncle and aunt Chris & Jeannette Wakim and Family
 † Kayla Yeater by her uncle and aunt Chris & Jeannette Wakim and Family
 † Melo J. & Laura Z. Wakim by Chris & Jeannette Wakim and Family
 † Andrew & Mary Demsko by their daughter Rosemary Cornish
 † Andrew Demsko Jr. by his sister Rosemary Cornish
 † Howard & Anna Franks by their niece Rosemary Cornish
 † Our beloved parents John & Cecilia John and William and Carol Burns by Ron and Susan Burns
 † Our beloved grandparents Tom & Sadie John, David & Tamamie Joseph, and Sarah Burns by Ron and Susan Burns
 † All deceased Aunts and Uncles, especially Louis & Cecilia Ammar, Fred & Rita John, Sister Mary Thomasina John, and Roland & Julia Tappe by Ron and Susan Burns
 † All deceased of The Sisters of the Poor Child Jesus by Ron and Susan Burns

Coming Events

Wed. October 30	Make Kibbee at 9:00 a.m.
Thurs. October 31	Make Meat Pies at 10:00 a.m.
Sat. November 2	Thanksgiving Bake Sale pick-up orders
Two week masses	All Souls Masses will be celebrated for two weeks from Nov. 1 st until Nov.17 th .
Sun. December 8	Christmas Dinner to all parishioners
Sun. December 15	34 th Anniversary to Priesthood of Msgr. Bakhos. Brunch for parishioners

Priesthood Discernment Weekend (Nov. 1-3)

"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few."

Hearing God’s call in a world where there is so much noise is never easy. Nonetheless, we know there are men in our parishes called to the priesthood. Can we help them hear this call?

Let us increase our efforts to discern with them, to the best of our abilities, and put them on the right path. In this way we will be privileged to accompany men who show signs of a vocation to the priesthood, as well as promote the beauty of the priesthood in all that we do.

The Office of Vocations of the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon and the Eparchy of Saint Maron, will be holding a discernment weekend from Friday November 1st to Sunday November 3rd at the Maronite Seminary, in Washington DC. If you know of anyone discerning a vocation to the priesthood, or would like to know more,

please give him Chorbishop Don Sawyer's phone number (512-796-3693) or Fr. Dominique Hanna's phone number (718-624-7228) or let Chorbishop Don Sawyer or Fr. Dominique Hanna know, and either Vocation director will gladly give him a call.

They will be able to experience a weekend in the life of a seminarian by joining us for Liturgy, Adoration, meals, prayers and hanging out. This weekend is a great opportunity for them to come and see what a weekend in the life of a seminarian is like!

Bulletin Ads

There will be 1 or 2 weekly bulletin Ad spaces available starting January 4th – 5th, 2025. Cost to cover a single-column Ad for the entire year is \$120.00; the cost to cover a double-column ad would be \$240. Please contact Msgr. Bakhos or Charlotte to reserve the space for your Business Ad or Memorial Ad.

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month

October 27: Holly (Porter) Stahl
 October 30: Michael Duffy, Andreah Frenn Riedel
 November 4: Kenny Joseph, Libby G. Magnone
 November 8: Mark Wilson
 November 9: Liz Murad, Cindy Thomas
 November 26: Mary Lish

Your Church Support Last Week

\$1,027.00	Sunday Collection
302.00	2 nd collection: propagation of faith
1,904.50	Bake sale
120.00	Bulletin Ads
30.00	Candles
31.00	Coffee hour
75.00	Donation to the church
\$3,489.50	Total Deposits: May God reward you abundantly for supporting your spiritual home! 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)
 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?

Lower Your 2024 Income Tax Bill

One way to lower your income tax bill for this year is to make charitable contributions, which can be deducted from your income if you are planning to itemize your deductions when you file your 2024 income tax. Gifts you make to charities, such as **Our Lady of Lebanon Church**, are tax deductible. But in order for you to claim the deduction on your tax return for **2024**, you must make the gift this year. That is important to keep in mind if you are planning on making a year-end gift. For example, if you are going to give money using a check, be sure the date on the check is on or before December 31st, 2024. Also, be sure to give the check to the church on or before that date. If your gift is **\$250** or more, and you plan to claim the gift as a deduction on your tax return, the IRS requires that you have a letter or receipt from the church that received the gift. By the end of January **2025** all donors -who donated \$250 or more- will receive a statement from **the Church** stating their names and the

amount of gift received –through checks or weekly offering envelopes- from **January 1st, 2024 until December 31st, 2024**. It is wise to keep the church statement with your tax records, in case the IRS questions your itemized deductions.

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 Building Insurance of our church which exceeds \$22,000. Any donation is accepted and helpful. We will open the basement door for you anytime. Please call 304-233-1688

Around Us

Spaghetti Dinner (Sunday, Friday, November 1st)

--Where: Grace Lutheran church, Bethlehem

--When: Friday, November 1st from 3:00 pm until 7:00 pm

--Cost: \$12.00 adult and \$6.00 children under 3 yrs.

--Menu: spaghetti, meatballs, salad, Italian bread, desserts and beverages. Tickets at the door.

Spirituality: Daily Mass

METHOD OF HEARING HOLY MASS

With what dispositions should we come to holy Mass? In the presence of a God made man who immolates himself, mystically yet in a very real way, for our salvation, our hearts should be filled with faith, hope, love, contrition for our sins, and an ardent desire to receive the Victim of the sacrifice in Communion. We find models of these dispositions in the publican of the Gospel, the good thief, and the Centurion; let us meditate on them.

“The best way of hearing Mass is to unite ourselves with the priest in all he says, and to follow all his actions.”

Nevertheless, here is a method which you may use profitably.

1- FROM THE BEGINNING TO THE OFFERTORY

“Be like penitents pierced with the keenest sorrow for their sins, and take for your model the publican in the temple. The Gospel says that he stood at the bottom of the temple, with his eyes on the ground, not daring to look at the altar, striking his breast, and saying to God, Lord, be merciful to me a sinner.

“He stood at the bottom of the temple, in the least conspicuous place, thinking himself unworthy to enter” further. “He was very different, then, from those nominal Christians who are never in a good enough place, who kneel only on a chair, and who lean back in their seats with their legs crossed.

He had sincere contrition for his sins; he knew himself guilty, and would have wished that his heart might break, for he struck his breast, says St Augustine, “to show God his regret for having offended him.”

2- FROM THE OFFERTORY TO THE CONSECRATION

“Be like ministers who offer Jesus Christ to God his Father and make him the sacrifice of all they are,” and take as a good model the good thief on the cross. “What progress he makes during the three hours that he finds himself in the company of his dying Savior! First, he opens the eyes of his soul to recognize his deliverer; then, fastened to the cross, and having nothing that remains free but his heart and tongue, he offers both to Jesus Christ. He consecrates his heart to him by faith and hope, and humbly asks of him a place in Paradise; and he consecrates his tongue to him by proclaiming his innocence and holiness ‘It is just that we should suffer,’ he says to his companion, ‘but as for him, he is innocent.’

3- FROM THE CONSECRATION TO THE END

“Consider yourselves as those who are to participate in Christ’s adorable Body and precious Blood, and be inspired with the sentiments of the Centurion in order to communicate spiritually or sacramentally.

“The Centurion’s example is so admirable, that the Church seems to take pleasure in putting it before our eyes each day at holy Mass. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, said that humble officer, but speak only the word and my servant shall be healed... Oh! if the good God saw in us this same

humility and realization of our nothingness, with what gladness, with what abundance of graces would he come into our hearts; what strength and courage would he give us to overcome the enemy of our salvation!”

(From The Cure d’Ars, pp.150-153)

Wisdom: Success

--Don’t confuse stuff with success.

--You are neither a better nor worse person for the kind of car you drive, the size of your home, or the performance of your mutual funds. Remember what really matters in your life.

--Imagine for a moment that today was your last day on Earth. Now, make a list for yourself of all the things that you feel you have accomplished, all the things you are proud of, and all the things that make you happy.

Is your car on the list? Your television? Your stereo? Is your salary on the list? No. What’s on the list are the fundamental elements of a satisfied life, your relationship with friends and family, the contribution you have made to others’ lives, the celebrated events of your life. Those are the building blocks of your list.

Many of us live day to day as if the opposite were true. Instead of appreciating what is truly important and making that our priority, we collect things and indicators of success without questioning just what success really means.

--“In a study using surveys and daily observation, the availability of material resources was nine times less important to happiness than the availability of “personal” resources such as friends and family.”

Story: Our Soul is Our 4th wife

Once upon a time there was a rich King who had four wives. He loved the 4th wife the most and adorned her with rich robes and treated her to the finest of delicacies. He gave her nothing but the best.

He also loved the 3rd wife very much and was always showing her off to neighboring kingdoms. However, he feared that one day she would leave him for another.

He also loved his 2nd wife. She was his confidant and was always kind, considerate and patient with him. Whenever the King faced a problem, he could confide in her, and she would help him get through the difficult times.

The King’s 1st wife was a very loyal partner and had made great contributions in maintaining his wealth and kingdom. However, he did not love the first wife. Although she loved him deeply, he hardly took notice of her!

One day, the King fell ill and he knew his time was short. He thought of his luxurious life and wondered, *“I now have four wives with me, but when I die, I’ll be all alone.”*

Thus, he asked the 4th wife, *“I have loved you the most, endowed you with the finest clothing and showered great care over you. Now that I’m dying, will you follow me and keep me company?”* “No way!” replied the 4th wife, and she walked away without another word. Her answer cut like a sharp knife right into his heart.

The sad King then asked the 3rd wife, *“I have loved you all my life. Now that I’m dying, will you follow me and keep me company?”* “No!” replied the 3rd wife. *“Life is too good! When you die, I’m going to remarry!”* His heart sank and turned cold.

He then asked the 2nd wife, *“I have always turned to you for help and you’ve always been there for me. When I die, will you follow me and keep me company?”* “I’m sorry, I can’t help you out this time” replied the 2nd wife. *“At the very most, I can only send you to your grave.”* Her answer came like a bolt of lightning, and the King was devastated.

Then a voice called out: *“I’ll leave with you and follow you no matter where you go.”* The King looked up, and there was his first wife. She was so skinny as she suffered from malnutrition and neglect. Greatly grieved, the King said, *“I should have taken much better care of you when I had the chance!”*

In truth, we all have 4 wives in our lives:

Our 4th wife is our **body**. No matter how much time and effort we lavish in making it look good, it will leave us when we die.

Our 3rd wife is our **possessions**, status and wealth. When we die, it will all go to others.

Our 2nd wife is our **family and friends**. No matter how much they have been there for us, the furthest they can stay by us is up to the grave.

And our 1st wife is our **Soul**. Often neglected in pursuit of wealth, power and pleasures of the world. However, our Soul is the only thing that will follow us wherever we go. So cultivate, strengthen and cherish it now, for it is the only part of us who will follow us to the throne of God and continue with us throughout Eternity.

A Time to Laugh (139)

Break In

A man went to the Police Station wishing to speak with the burglar who had broken into his house the night before.

"You'll get your chance in court," said the Desk Sergeant.

"No, no, no!" said the man. "I want to know how he got into the house without waking my wife. I've been trying to do that for years!"

The Centipede

A man goes into a pet shop and tells the owner that he wants to buy a pet that can do everything. The owner says "How about a dog?"

The man replies, "Come on, a dog?" The owner says, "How about a cat?"

The man replies, "No way! A cat certainly can't do everything. I want a pet that can do everything!" The owner thinks for a minute, then says, "I've got it! A centipede!" The man says, "A centipede? I can't imagine a centipede doing everything, but okay... I'll try a centipede." He gets the centipede home and says to the centipede, "Clean the kitchen."

Thirty minutes later, he walks into the kitchen and... it's immaculate. All the dishes and silverware have been washed, dried, and put away; the counter-tops cleaned; the appliances sparkling; the floor waxed. He's absolutely amazed.

He says to the centipede, "Go clean the living room." Twenty minutes later, he walks into the living room. The carpet has been vacuumed; the furniture cleaned and dusted; the pillows on the sofa plumped; plants watered.

The man thinks to himself, "This is the most amazing thing I've ever seen. This really is a pet that can do everything."

He says to the centipede, "Run down to the corner and get me a newspaper." The centipede walks out the door. 10 minutes later... no centipede. 20 minutes later... no centipede. 30 minutes later... no centipede. The man is wondering what's going on. The centipede should have been back in a couple of minutes. 45 minutes later... still no centipede! He can't imagine what could have happened. Did the centipede run away? Did it get run over by a car? Where is that centipede? He goes to the front door, opens it ... and there's the centipede sitting right outside. The man says, "Hey!!! I sent you down to the corner 45 minutes ago to get me a newspaper. What's the story?!"

The centipede says, "I'm goin'! I'm goin'! I'm just puttin' on my shoes!"

Famous Quotes (40)

--It is good to be zealously affected always in a good thing. Galatians 4:18

--Zeal without knowledge is a runaway horse.

--There is no greater sign of a general decay of virtue in a nation, than a want of zeal in its inhabitants for the good of their country. Joseph Addison

--Don't name a pig you plan to eat.

--Country fences need to be horse high, pig tight and bull strong.

--Life is not about how fast you run, or how high you climb, but how well you bounce.

--Keep skunks and bankers at a distance.

--Life is simpler when you plow around the stumps.

--Mortgaging a future crop is saddling a wobbly colt.

- A bumblebee is faster than a John Deere tractor.
- Trouble with a milk cow is she won't stay milked.
- Don't skinny dip with snapping turtles.
- Words that soak into your ears are whispered, not yelled.
- Meanness don't happen overnight.
- To know how country folks are doing, look at their barns, not their houses.
- Never lay an angry hand on a kid or an animal, it just ain't helpful.
- Teachers, bankers, and hoot owls sleep with one eye open.
- Forgive your enemies. It messes with their heads.
- Don't sell your mule to buy a plow.
- Two can live as cheap as one if one don't eat.
- Don't corner something meaner than you.
- It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.
- You can't unsay a cruel thing.
- Every path has some puddles.
- When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.
- The best sermons are lived, not preached.
- Most of the stuff people worry about happening, don't.
- Lazy and Quarrelsome are ugly sisters.