



January 26, 2025
Bulletin #4

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

Monsignor Bakhos Chidiac, Pastor

Mary Lee Porter, Ed.D. Organist



3rd Sunday of Epiphany

- ***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 AlKhoury
- ***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 Epiphany

Readings: Num 21:4-9; Gal 3:23-29 and Jn 3:1-16

The miracle which has made Cana forever famous was worked by Christ before His public life had fully commenced. This is usually taken to be the meaning of the words "My hour is not yet come". He had however, already five disciples -- Sts. Peter, Andrew, John, Phillip, and Bartholomew (Nathaniel). They had followed Him from the banks of the Jordan, but had received as yet no permanent call, such as is recorded later on in the other Gospels. Our Lord was on His way back to Nazareth when He passed by Cana. From the language of the Gospel we should infer that the marriage which was taking place was that of a close relative of the Blessed Virgin, for it is said without comment that she was there; and it was no doubt in her honor that Christ was invited. Again, the cause of the shortage of wine is not explained by St. John; but it has been inferred that it may have been due to the presence of Our Lord and the five Disciples that accompanied Him, who would have made a substantial increase in a small and modest party. If this was so, it would explain the confidence with which Our Lady appealed to Him when she noticed it. The answer of Christ, which has been variously rendered, has given rise to long discussion, and cannot be said to be even yet properly understood. The Greek *ti emoi kai soi, gynai*; is translated in the Vulgate, "Quid mihi et tibi est mulier?" In most English Catholic Bibles this is rendered "Woman, what is it to me and to thee?" The translation adopted in the Authorized and Revised Versions, "Woman, what have I to do with thee?", even if better idiomatically conveys a wrong impression, for it gives the idea of a rebuke which is totally against the context. Father Rickaby, S.J., in his short commentary on St. John suggests as a fair English equivalent, "Leave me alone, Lady". At any rate, she at once told the waiters to take orders from Our Lord. They filled the jars with water, which Jesus converted into wine. Taking the narrative as it stands, we have one of the best authenticated of Our Lord's miracles; for, unlike the case of the cure of bodily ailments, the waiters were comparatively disinterested parties, and yet they bore witness that the water had become wine and was even the best wine of the feast. Not only the miracle but also the whole incident of Christ's attendance at the marriage feast has always been taken as setting His seal on the sanctity of marriage, and on the propriety of humble rejoicing on such occasions. And if the bride or bridegroom was, as is believed, a relative of Our Lady, we may take it as an example of the sympathy which family ties should bring in the ordinary joys, no less than in the sorrows of life.

This Weekend, Jan. 25-26: 3rd Sunday of Epiphany.

Saturday, January 25 at 4:00 pm:

- ✠ Gene & Janice Roxby by their son Joe Roxby
- ✠ Noel Foreman by his wife Anne and Family
- ✠ Deceased Family members of the Harb, Togliatti, and Rice Families by GiGi Rice

Sunday, January 26 at 10:30 am:

- ✠ Laura Z. Wakim (Birthday) by Chris & Jeannette Wakim
- ✠ Tom & Mary K. Ferris (Wedding Anniversary) by their daughter Denise Ferris
- ✠ John Shibben by his wife Dee Shibben

This Weekdays Mass Schedule

Monday, January 27: No Mass. Pastor's Day off.

Tuesday, January 28 Mass at noon:

- ✠ Sylvia Long, her husband Arthur, and her son Mark by her last will
- ✠ Janis & George Thomas (Ohio) by their last will
- ✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her last Will

Wednesday, January 29: No Mass.

Thursday, January 30 Mass at noon:

- ✠ Violet Golebiewski (Birthday) by Mike & Terris Golebiewski

† Deceased of the Harb, Togliatti, and Rice Families by GiGi Rice

† Deceased Family members of the Roxby Family by Joe Roxby

Friday, January 31: No Mass. Visitation of the sick

Next Weekend, Feb. 1-2: 4th Sunday of Epiphany.

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

† Samuel J. Elias (Birthday) by Mike & Terris Golebiewski

† Gene & Janice Roxby by their son Joe Roxby

† Noel Foreman by his wife Anne and Family

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

† Deceased of the Harb, Togliatti, and Rice Families by GiGi Rice

† Noel Foreman by his wife Anne and Family

† John Shiben by his wife Dee Shiben

Coming Events

Blessing with Ashes	Ash Monday, March 3rd: During Noon Mass and 5:30 pm Mass Ash Wednesday, March 5th: During Noon Mass and 5:30 pm Mass
Stations of the Cross	Starting Friday, March 7 th : every Friday during Lent Season, the 5:30 pm Mass will be followed by Stations of the Cross, Spiritual Reflection, and Benediction. A social hour will follow at the Cedar Hall with a light Lenten meal sponsored by generous families of the parish.
Holy Week schedule	Mass at 5:30 pm every day. (no noon Masses)
Good Friday, April 18	Burial of the Lord at 5:30 pm
Easter, Sunday, April 20	10:30 am Easter Mass
Mahrajan (Festival)	Sunday, August 10, 2025

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Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month

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
 February 24: Mary Lee Porter

Your Church Support Last Week

\$653.00	Sunday Collection
25.00	Candles
39.00	Coffee hour
160.00	Donation to the church
20.00	Mahrajan

\$897.00

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)
 Debbie Sengewalt, Gavin Hancher, Monroe DeLuca, Sally Sengewalt, Mary Zigler (sister of Lillian Siebieda), Dolores Oser, 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), Denny Albaugh, Rita Rae Sage,

What's New?

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

Maronite National Youth Conference (June 23-28, 2025)

Where: La Roche University, Pittsburgh

Age groups: 12-18 year old

Registration starts on: January 17, 2025

Information: www.maroniteyouth.org! Questions: office@maroniteyouth.org

In our Mailbox

Many Thanks

--Many Thanks to all the parishioners of our Lady of Lebanon church for your most generous support of the Catholic Charities. Bill

Spirituality: Power of Prayer

Few consolations are greater than the knowledge that we are bound up in a great cooperation of prayers and sacrifices. The Communion of Saints is the great discovery of those who, as adults, find the fullness of faith. They discover that for years there have been dozens, in some instances hundreds, of souls praying especially for them -storming heaven with the plea that a little act of humility by the convert might open a crack in his armor to let in God's grace and truth. Every soul in the world has a price tag on it, and since many cannot or will not pay the price themselves, others must do it for them. There is probably no other way to account for the conversion of some souls than the fact that in this world, as in the next, their parents, relatives, or friends interceded to God and won for them the prize of everlasting life.

Why are there monasteries and convents? Why do so many young souls leave the lights and glamour of the world for the shades and shadows of the Cross where saints are made? The modern world so little understands their mission that, as soon as a newspaperman hears of a handsome young woman entering a cloister, he telephones the parents to ask, "*Was she disappointed in love?*" The answer, of course, is, "*Yes, with the love of the world. She has fallen in love with God.*" These hidden dynamos of prayer, the cloistered men and women, are doing more for our country than all its politicians, its labor leaders, its army and navy put together; they are atoning for sins of us all. They are averting the just wrath of God, repairing the broken fences of those who sin and pray not, rebel and atone not. As ten just men would have saved Sodom and Gomorra, so ten just saints can save a nation now. But so long as a citizenry is more impressed by what its cabinet does than by its chosen souls who are doing penance, the rebirth of the nation has not yet begun. The cloistered are the purest of patriots. They have not become less interested in the world since leaving it; indeed, they have become more

interested in the world than ever before. But they are not concerned with whether it will buy and sell more; they are -and desperately care- whether it will be more virtuous and love God more.

Bishop Fulton Sheen, Peace of Soul, 1949, pp.203-204.

Wisdom: Things are changing

Everything is further away now than it used to be.

It is twice as far to the corner and they added a hill, I noticed.

I have given up running for the bus; it leaves faster than It used to.

It seems to me they are making steps steeper than in the old days.

And have you noticed the smaller print they use in the newspapers?

There is no sense in asking anyone to read aloud.

Everyone speaks in such a low voice, that I can hardly hear them.

The material in clothing is getting very lumpy, especially around the waist and hips.

Even people are changing.

They are so much younger than they used to be when I was their age.

On the other hand, people my age are so much older than I am.

I ran into my old friend the other day and she had aged so much she didn't recognize me.

And in doing so, I glanced at my reflection, and confound it, they don't even make mirrors like they used to.

Story: Love is a cure

Like most elementary schools, it was typical to have a parade of students in and out of the health clinic throughout the day. We dispensed ice for bumps and bruises, Band-Aids for cuts, and liberal doses of sympathy and hugs. As principal, my office was right next door to the clinic, so I often dropped in to lend a hand and help out with the hugs. I knew that for some kids, mine might be the only one they got all day.

One morning I was putting a Band-Aid on a little girl's scraped knee. Her blonde hair was matted, and I noticed that she was shivering in her thin little sleeveless blouse. I found her a warm sweatshirt and helped her pull it on. "Thanks for taking care of me," she whispered as she climbed into my lap and snuggled up against me.

It wasn't long after that when I ran across an unfamiliar lump under my arm. Cancer, an aggressively spreading kind, had already invaded thirteen of my lymph nodes. I pondered whether or not to tell the students about my diagnosis. The word breast seemed so hard to say out loud to them, and the word cancer seemed so frightening.

When it became evident that the children were going to find out one way or another, either the straight scoop from me or possibly a garbled version from someone else, I decided to tell them myself. It wasn't easy to get the words out, but the empathy and concern I saw in their faces as I explained it to them told me I had made the right decision. When I gave them a chance to ask questions, they mostly wanted to know how they could help. I told them that what I would like best would be their letters, pictures and prayers.

I stood by the gym door as the children solemnly filed out. My little blonde friend darted out of line and threw herself into my arms. Then she stepped back to look up into my face. "Don't be afraid, Dr. Perry," she said earnestly, "I know you'll be back because now it's our turn to take care of you."

No one could have ever done a better job. The kids sent me off to my first chemotherapy session with a hilarious book of nausea remedies that they had written. A video of every class in the school singing get-well songs accompanied me to the next chemotherapy appointment. By the third visit, the nurses were waiting at the door to find out what I would bring next. It was a delicate music box that played "I Will Always Love You." Even when I went into isolation at the hospital for a bone marrow transplant, the letters and pictures kept coming until they covered every wall of my room.

Then the kids traced their hands onto colored paper, cut them out and glued them together to make a freestanding rainbow of helping hands. "I feel like I've stepped into Disneyland every time I walk into this room," my doctor laughed. That was even before the six-foot apple blossom tree arrived adorned with messages written on paper apples from the students and teachers. What healing comfort I found in being surrounded by these tokens of their caring.

At long last I was well enough to return to work. As I headed up the road to the school, I was suddenly overcome by doubts. What if the kids have forgotten all about me? I wondered. What if they don't want a skinny bald principal? What if. I caught sight of the school marquee as I rounded the bend. "Welcome Back, Dr. Perry," it read. As I drew closer, everywhere I looked were pink ribbons - ribbons in the windows, tied on the doorknobs, even up in the trees. The children and staff wore pink ribbons, too.

My blonde buddy was first in line to greet me. "You're back, Dr. Perry, you're back!" she called. "See, I told you we'd take care of you!"

As I hugged her tight, in the back of my mind I faintly heard my music box playing ... "I will always love you."

Jokes (151)

Church Bulletin Bloopers

1. The pastor will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing, "*Break forth into joy.*"
2. During the absence of our pastor, we enjoyed the rare privilege of hearing a good sermon when J.F. Stubbs supplied our pulpit.
3. Next Sunday Mrs. Vinson will be soloist for the morning service. The pastor will then speak on "*It's a Terrible Experience.*"
4. Due to the rector's illness, Wednesday's healing services will be discontinued until further notice.
5. The music for today's service was all composed by Georg Friedrich Handel in celebration of the 300th anniversary of his birth.
6. The concert held in fellowship hall was a great success. Special thanks are due to the minister's daughter, who labored the whole evening at the piano, which as usual fell upon her.
7. 22 members were present at the church meeting held at the home of Mrs. Marsha Crutchfield last evening. Mrs. Crutchfield and Mrs. Rankin sang a duet, "*The Lord Knows Why.*"
8. A song fest was held at the methodist church Wednesday.
9. Today's sermon: How much can a man drink? With hymns from a full choir.
10. Hymn 43: "*Great God, What Do I See Here?*" Preacher: The Rev Horace Blodgett. Hymn 47: "*Hark! An Awful Voice is Sounding.*"
11. On a church bulletin during the minister's illness: God is Good, Dr Hargraves is better.
12. Potluck supper: Prayer and medication to follow.
13. The 1997 Spring Council retreat will be held May 10 and 11.
14. Pastor is on vacation. Messages can be given to the church secretary.
15. 8 new choir robes are currently needed, due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
16. The choir invited any member of the congregation who enjoys sinning to join the choir.
17. Please join us as we show our support for Amy and Alan in preparing for the birth of their first born.
18. Weight Watchers will meet at 7 pm. Please use large double doors.

Famous Quotes (48)

- "It's time to start living the life you've imagined" (**Henry James**)
- "Do what you can, with what you have, where you are." (**Theodore Roosevelt**)
- "Destiny is not a matter of chance, it is a matter of choice; it is not a thing to be waited for, it is a thing to be achieved." (**Winston Churchill**)
- "Never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time, and always start with the person nearest you." (**Mother Teresa**)
- "This one step - choosing a goal and staying to it - changes everything." (**Scott Reed**)
- "The difference between the impossible and the possible lies in a person's determination." (**Tommy Lasorda**)
- Jesus: You have heard that it was said, you shall not commit adultery. But I tell you that he who casts his eyes on a woman so as to lust after her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye is the occasion of your falling into sin, pluck it out and cast it away from you; better to lose one part of your body than

to have the whole cast into hell. And if your right hand is an occasion of falling, cut it off and cast it away from you; better to lose one of your limbs than to have your whole body cast into hell. It was said, too, whoever will put away his wife must first give her a writ of separation. But I tell you that the man who puts away his wife (setting aside the matter of unfaithfulness) makes an adulteress of her, and whoever marries her after she has been put away, commits adultery. (Matthew 5: 28-32)