



February 2, 2025
Bulletin #5

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003

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Monsignor Bakhos Chidiac, Pastor

Mary Lee Porter, Ed.D. Organist



4th 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.

4th Sunday of Epiphany

Readings: Gen 29:1-14; Rom 7:1-6 and Jn 4:5-7,9-26

It is midday at the well of Jacob. There Jesus is resting. He, the Word of God, is hungry and thirsty: “Here begin the mysteries” (St Augustine). We must not fail to recognize them: what is at stake is the faith of a woman and her townspeople, and our own faith too.

A Samaritan woman comes to the well, at an hour when the sun burns high — doubtless in order to avoid meeting anyone, because she was sensitive about her ill-repute. She sees someone there, sitting by the well, but she takes little notice, because he is a Jew, and Jews shun Samaritans ... This is an old story of schism and pagan defilement: Samaria had prostituted itself to idols, and that woman of many men is a personification of her people. The Word of God is thirsty athirst for the woman’s faith. He engages her in a word-play of question and answer until a weakness in her defense is breached and he touches her secret soul. Who is this man who is greater than Jacob? A prophet? The Messiah, perhaps? Now it is the Samaritan woman who is athirst toe living water, and who runs to her village to announce the good news of the mystery of Jesus.

The Word, who but now was hungry, hungers no longer. By initiating this woman into the way of faith, by leading true adorers to the Father, he has already begun his mission. The Samaritans are already on the path to salvation, and their acceptance of Jesus, Savior of the world, is a portent for the spreading of the gospel, preached to the ends of the earth. Give me this living water which wells up from your heart, O long-awaited Messiah! I will adore you in truth everywhere on earth. In this age I shall discover the well-springs of the living Waters of the Holy Spirit. Then my hunger will be appeased and my thirst quenched, and I will re-echo your name to all men — Jesus, Messiah and Savior of the world.

This 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 Shibben by his wife Dee Shibben

This Weekdays Mass Schedule

Monday, February 3: No Mass. Pastor’s Day off.

Tuesday, February 4 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, February 5: No Mass.

Thursday, February 6 Mass at noon:

- ✠ Robert & Laurel Kate Matiasek by their last will
- ✠ Mary A. Khoury by Richard Coury
- ✠ Deceased Family members of the Roxby Family by Joe Roxby

Friday, February 7: No Mass. Visitation of the sick

Next Weekend, Feb. 8-9: Saint Maron feast Day

Saturday, February 8 at 4:00 pm:

- ✠ Dana Burkhart (Anniversary) by his wife Carol Burkhart

✠ Deceased Family members of the Roxby Family by Joe Roxby

Sunday, February 9 at 10:30 am:

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

✠ 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
Spring Bake Sale	???????
Mahrajan (Festival)	Sunday, August 10, 2025
Thanksgiving Bake Sale	???????

✠

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month

- 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
- February 27: MaryAnn Carl
- March 2: Ava Murad

Your Church Support Last Week

\$1,174.00	Sunday Collection
337.00	2 nd collection
34.00	Candles
57.00	Coffee hour
200.00	Donation to the church
\$1,802.00	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)
Mary Ragase, Becky Ferrera, 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)

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

Spirituality: Power and occupation

"If you get tired kneeling, sit down." That was Saint Francis de Sales' understanding advice to a pregnant woman, encouraging her to use the problems of her pregnancy itself as a prayer. *"Be careful to spare yourself in this pregnancy ... You can only give God what you have ... suffer with love what you have to suffer."*

Saint Francis was only giving his pregnant woman friend the same kind of common-sense spiritual advice that he gave to everyone who asked his help, in essence: *"You need prayer. Without it, your soul shrivels up. But you have to pray within the circumstances of your own life. A wife is not a nun. A husband is not a monk."* Listen to him:

"When God the Creator made all things, he commanded the plants to bring forth fruit each according to its own kind; he has likewise commanded Christians, who are the living plants to his Church, to bring forth the fruits of devotion, each one in accord with its character, station, and calling."

I say that devotion must be practiced in different ways by the nobleman and by the working man, by the servant and by the prince, by the widow, by the unmarried girl and by the married woman. But even this distinction is not sufficient; for the practice of devotion must be adapted to the strength, to the occupation, and to the duties of each one in particular."

Tell me, please ... whether it is proper for a bishop to want to lead a solitary life like a Carthusian; or for married people to be more concerned than a Capuchin about increasing their income; or for a working man to spend his whole day in church like a religious; or on the other hand for a religious to be constantly exposed like a bishop to all events and circumstances that bear on the needs of our neighbor. Is not this sort of devotion ridiculous, unorganized, and intolerable?"

John Cardinal O'CONNOR, Covenant of Love, pp.18-19.

Wisdom: Think about it

- 1- I signed up for an exercise class and was told to wear loose-fitting clothing. If I HAD any loose-fitting clothing, I wouldn't have signed up!
- 2- When I was young, we used to go "skinny dipping." Now I just "chunky dunk."
- 3- Wouldn't it be nice if whenever we messed up our life we could simply press 'Ctrl Alt Delete' and start all over?
- 4- Stress is when you wake up screaming and then you realize you haven't fallen asleep yet.
- 5- Why is it that our children can't read a Bible in school, but they can in prison? Think about it.
- 6- If raising children was going to be easy, it never would have started with something called labor!
- 7- Brain cells come and brain cells go, but fat cells live forever.
- 8- Why do I have to swear on the Bible in court when the Ten Commandments cannot be displayed in the same courthouse?
Think about IT

Story: Love your enemies

Abraham Lincoln tried to love, and he left for all history a magnificent drama of reconciliation. When he was campaigning for the presidency, one of his arch-enemies was a man named Edwin McMasters Stanton. For some reason Stanton hated Lincoln. He used every ounce of his energy to degrade Lincoln in the eyes of the public. So deep-rooted was Stanton's hate for Lincoln that he uttered unkind words about his physical appearance, and sought to embarrass him at every point with the bitterest diatribes. But in spite of this, Lincoln was elected the sixteenth president of the United States of America.

Then came the period when Lincoln had to select his cabinet, which would consist of the persons who would be his most intimate associates in implementing his programs. He started choosing men here and there for the various positions.

The day finally came for Lincoln to select the all-important post of Secretary of War. Can you imagine whom Lincoln chose to fill this post? None other than the man named Stanton. There was an immediate uproar in the president's inner circle when the news began to spread. Advisor after advisor was heard saying, "Mr. President, you are making a mistake. Do you know this man Stanton? Are you familiar with all the ugly things he said about you? He is your enemy. He will seek to sabotage your programs. Have you thought this through, Mr. President?"

Mr. Lincoln's answer was terse and to the point: "Yes, I know Mr. Stanton. I am aware of all the terrible things he has said about me. But after looking over the nation, I find he is the best man for the job." So Stanton became Abraham Lincoln's Secretary of War and rendered an invaluable service to his nation and his president.

Not many years later Lincoln was assassinated. Many laudable things were said about him. But of all the great statements made about Abraham Lincoln, the words of Stanton remain among the greatest. Standing near the dead body of the man he once hated, Stanton referred to him as one of the greatest men who ever lived and said, "He now belongs to the ages."

If Lincoln had hated Stanton both men would have gone to their graves as bitter enemies. But through the power of love Lincoln transformed an enemy into a friend. This is the power of redemptive love.

Jokes (152)

You Might Be In A Country Church If...

1. The doors are never locked.
2. The Call to Worship is, "Y'all come on in!"
3. People grumble about Noah letting coyotes on the Ark.
4. The Preacher says, "I'd like to ask Bubba to help take up the offering" and five guys stand up.
5. The restroom is outside.
6. Opening day of deer hunting season is recognized as an official church holiday.
7. A member requests to be buried in his four-wheel drive truck because, "I ain't never been in a hole it couldn't get me out of."
8. In the annual stewardship drive there is at least one pledge of "two calves."
9. Never in its entire 100-year history has one of its pastors had to buy any meat or vegetables.
10. When it rains, everybody's smiling.
11. Prayers regarding the weather are a standard part of every worship service.
12. A singing group is known as "The O.K. Chorale."
13. The church directory doesn't have last names.
14. The pastor wears boots.
15. Four generations of one family sit together in worship every Sunday.
16. The only time people lock their cars in the parking lot is during the summer and then only so their neighbors can't leave them a bag of squash.
17. There is no such thing as a "secret" sin.

18. Baptism is referred to as "branding."
19. There is a special fund-raiser for a new septic tank.
20. Finding and returning lost sheep is not just a parable.
21. You miss worship one Sunday morning and by 2 o'clock that afternoon you have had a dozen phone calls inquiring about your health.
22. High notes on the organ set dogs in the parking lot to howling.
23. People wonder when Jesus fed the 5,000 whether the two fish were bass or catfish.
24. It's not heaven, but you can see heaven from there.
25. The final words, of the benediction are, "Y'all come on back now, ya hear!"

Famous Quotes (49)

- When it is dark enough, you can see the stars.
- "A man would do nothing, if he waited until he could do it so well that no one at all would find fault with what he has done." (Cardinal John NEWMAN)
- God cannot fill you unless you empty yourself.
- God cannot enrich you unless you impoverish yourself.
- God cannot exalt you unless you humble yourself. (Bishop Fulton SHEEN)
- If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich. (John F. Kennedy)
- A poet says: "Sit on the edge of dawn, the sun rises upon you. Sit on the edge of night, stars shine upon you. Sit on the edge of the river, the nightingale sings to you. Sit on the edge of silence, God talks to you".
- Who sits in solitude and is quiet has escaped three wars: hearing, speaking, seeing; yet against one thing shall he continually battle: that is, his own heart. (Abbot ANTHONY)
- Here on earth, we have already both Hell and Heaven -in our passions and in our experience of God. (Father YELCHANINOV)
- The Christian is far more pagan than he knows; the pagan is more Christian than he admits. (Rosalind MURRAY)
- "Nothing is more certain than that a general profligacy and corruption of manners make a people ripe for destruction. A good form of government may hold the rotten materials together for some time, but beyond a certain pitch, even the best constitution will be ineffectual, and slavery must ensue." (John Witherspoon)
- Good friends are like stars.... You don't always see them, but you know they are always there.
- Don't frown. You never know who is falling in love with your smile.
- What do you do when the only person who can make you stop crying is the person who made you cry?
- Nobody is perfect until you fall in love with them.
- Everything is okay in the end. If it's not okay, then it's not the end.
- Most people walk in and out of your life, but only friends leave footprints in your heart.
- Remember, every minute spent angry is sixty seconds of happiness wasted.
- May today there be peace within you. May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be.
- "I believe that friends are quiet angels who lift us to our feet when our wings have trouble remembering how to fly."
- If you have not chosen the kingdom of God first, it will in the end make no difference what you have chosen instead.
- "Don't be afraid of the space between your dreams and reality. If you can dream it, you can make it so." (Belva Davis)