



March 2, 2025

Bulletin #9

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



Cana Sunday

- ***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.

Lent Season

Lent, the 3rd season of the Maronite calendar serves as a preparation for the Paschal Mystery and consists of fifty days. The period is composed of two distinct cycles: a proper liturgy of the Sundays of Lent numbering seven: Cana, the Leper, the Hemorrhaging Woman, the Prodigal Son, the Paralytic, Bartimaeus the Blind and Hosanna Sunday- and an independent weekday cycle composed of six weeks divided into three stages initiating the pattern of Christ's public life. They include the Week of Lent, the Week of Miracles and Hosanna Week.

The weekday cycle reflects man's estrangement from God and his need for conversion. The readings and prayers are designed to exhort the worshiper to take courage and to turn back by imitating Christ through penance. Here Lent commemorates the penitential aspect of the Lord's forty day fasting. The Syriac fathers have traditionally described this movement toward God as a nautical journey whose destination is the Harbor of Life. "Bless our fasting ... Make it a journey which will lead us to the harbor of salvation." The liturgies for the Sundays of Lent call to mind the power of God and His mystery over creation, hence the miracle accounts designated for the Sundays before Easter. The readings and prayers reflect an ascending movement toward the glory of resurrection. In this case Lent recalls the Lord's progressive journey toward Jerusalem. The recurring theme is the imminent glorification of the divine Word and through Him the restoration of all creation to peace and harmony. Here one notes the eschatological aspect of Lent. "O Source of love as your peace rescued Noah from the flood, opened a way through the sea for Moses and calmed the raging waters for the disciples so now may it establish peace in your Church and fill her children with joy."

Lenten Observances

EPARCHY OF OUR LADY OF LEBANON OF LOS ANGELES REGULATION FOR GREAT LENT

Then to all Christ said, "Whoever wishes to be my follower must deny his very self, take up his cross each day, and follow in my steps" (Lk 9:23).

The Church has always helped us fulfill these words of Jesus by prescribing very definite penance for all Catholics. Accordingly, the Pope, the Patriarch, and the American bishops have outlined obligatory fasting and abstinence. Our Eparchial Regulations are:

- 1- Ash Monday (February 20, 2023) and Great Friday (Good) Friday (April 7, 2023) are days of abstinence for all Catholics over the age of 14. On these two days, fasting as well as abstinence is also obligatory for those from the ages of 18-59. Abstinence means abstinence from meat and meat products. Fasting means no food from midnight to noon, except for plain water. No Catholic will lightly excuse himself or herself from this obligation.
- 2- All other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat (and meat products) for everyone 14 years of age and older. Here again, Catholics will not hold themselves lightly excused.
- 3- If there is a serious health problem, the obligation of fasting and abstinence would not apply.
- 4- Fasting from midnight to noon daily is optional
- 5- We strive to make all days of Lent a time of prayer, penance, and charitable assistance toward the less fortunate and needy.

Lenten Meditation

The Great Affliction

"For just as the Father raises the dead and gives life, so also does the Son give life to whomever he wishes." (John 5:21)

In many instances, the Gospels address the topic of healing. They provide a key to unlock the mystery of what the many miraculous healings in Jesus' ministry are all about. I don't think they are ultimately about curing particular afflictions or preventing suffering and death. Lepers who were made clean, fathers whose sons were healed, mothers whose children were restored to life all, we can be utterly certain, faced further illness, affliction and even death. Every person Jesus ever healed still died -even if they prayed for a miracle in the greatest faith. So the point of the miracles cannot be about avoiding suffering and death. Jesus himself did not avoid our fate.

The point, I believe, is about the healing of the *great* affliction, death itself. The miracles are just promises, just passing signs, that our God made Flesh in Jesus is eternal Life. And, as this Gospel makes clear, that Life is offered us -the final healing of all illness and loss.

Prayers: Prayer of Abandonment

Father, I abandon myself into your hands; do with me as You will.

Whatever You may do, I thank You: I am ready for all, I accept all.

Let only Your will be done in me, and in all Your creatures.

I wish no more than this, O Lord.

Into your hands I commend my soul: I offer it to You with all the love of my heart, for I love You, Lord, and so need to give myself, to surrender myself into Your hands, without reserve, and with boundless confidence, for You are my Father. --Blessed Charles De Foucauld

Cana Sunday

Readings: Is 55:1,6-13; Rom 14:14-23 and Jn 2:1-11

THE FIRST OF HIS SIGNS

In presenting Jesus in action for the first time, the Apostle John gives us a number of clues about how to understand the story.

First, he calls this incident a sign, which in his vocabulary does not simply mean a miracle, but indicates that one must perceive the meaning of the event in order to understand it. Signs always point beyond themselves. In the same verse he indicates that Jesus “revealed his glory” and in response the disciples “believed in him.” Thus the sign is not merely a miracle to arouse astonishment but a manifestation of the divine glory.

Second, Jesus refers to his “hour,” which means his passion. It is precisely the death and resurrection which is the ultimate manifestation of Jesus’ divine glory, and that is somehow to be seen as anticipated in the miracle of changing water to wine at Cana.

Third, the identity of Jesus as Messiah is implied. The Occasion is a wedding feast where the great abundance of wine provided recalls the imagery of Amos, “Yes, days are coming says the Lord, when the juice of grapes shall drip down the mountains, and the hills shall run with it.” (9:13). Most of all, the remark of the steward in verse 10, “You have kept the good wine until now” invites the conclusion that the Messiah is now here.

Turn off your cellular phone before you enter the church

It is a Common Sense that people silence or turn off their cellular phone before entering the church to pray and focus on prayers. Many public places display signs asking “Turn off your cell phone.” It is the right of every worshiper not to be disturbed while praying. Two signs are posted inside our church to this regard. Thanks for your cooperation and understanding. –Monsignor Bakhos

This Weekend, March 1-2: Entrance to Great Lent ***Cana Sunday***

Saturday, March 1; Mass at 4:00 pm:

✠ Deceased Family members of the Roxby Family by Joe Roxby

✠ John Shiben by his wife Dee Shiben

† Special prayer for good health of Julia Schiess by her father Leo Bleifus

Sunday, March 2; Mass at 10:30 am:

✠ William Dougherty (Anniversary) by his wife Carol (OK)

✠ John Shiben by his wife Dee Shiben

This Weekdays Mass Schedule

Ash Monday, March 3:

12:00 noon: Mass and Blessing with Ashes

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

5:30 p.m.: Mass and Blessing with Ashes

- ✠ Mary Zaid Stees by her Family and libby G. Magnone
- ✠ Healing Mass for Mary Ragase (MD)
- ✠ Special Intention

Tuesday, March 4; No Mass. Pastor's day off.

Ash Wednesday, March 5:

12:00 noon: Mass and Blessing with Ashes

- ✠ Deceased Family members of the Roxby Family by Joe Roxby
- ✠ Donald Fragale by Judy & Joy Griffin
- ✠ Special prayer for good health of Julia Schiess by her father Leo Bleifus

5:30 p.m.: Mass and Blessing with Ashes

- ✠ Deceased Family members of the Roxby Family by Joe Roxby
- ✠ John Shibben by his wife Dee Shibben
- ✠ Special prayer for good health of Julia Schiess by her father Leo Bleifus

Thursday, March 6; Mass at noon:

- ✠ Mary Zaid Stees by her Family and libby G. Magnone
- ✠ Robert & Laurel Kate Matiasek by their last will
- ✠ Special prayer for good health of Julia Schiess by her father Leo Bleifus

Friday, March 7; Mass at 5:30 p.m. followed by Stations of the Cross and Benediction

- ✠ John Shibben by his wife Dee Shibben
- ✠ Intention of Chris & Jeannette Wakim for sponsoring the Lenten Meal
- ✠ Special prayer for good health of Julia Schiess by her father Leo Bleifus

Next Weekend, March 8-9: Sunday of the Leper

Saturday, March 8; Mass at 4:00 pm:

- ✠ Betty Abraham, Clara Carter, Evelyn Goodson (Anniversary) by Jean Weisner and Family
- ✠ George A. & Dolores M. Fahey and Bert Fahey by Jackie & Pat Petros
- ✠ Special prayer for good health of Julia Schiess by her father Leo Bleifus

Sunday, March 9; Mass at 10:30 am:

- ✠ Donald Fragale by Judy & Joy Griffin
- ✠ John Shibben by his wife Dee Shibben
- ✠ Mary Zaid Stees, Elizabeth A. Magnone, Tom Ferris by Libby G. Magnone

Coming Parish Events

Friday, March 7 Stations of the Cross	5:30 pm Mass followed by Stations of the Cross, Spiritual Reflection, and Benediction. Then social hour sponsored by Chris & Jeannette Wakim.
Holy Week schedule April 14-17	Monday thru Thursday, April 14-17: Mass at 5:30 pm every day. (no noon Masses)
Good Friday, April 18	Solemn Burial of the Lord at 5:30 pm followed by Meatless dinner prepared by the Cedar Club.
Easter, Sunday, April 20	10:30 am Easter Mass
Sunday, May 11	Mother Day
Spring Bake Sale	Kibbee baking: Wednesday, May 14 Spinach pie baking: Thursday, May 15

	Order pick-up: Saturday, May 17
Sunday, June 15	Father's Day
Mahrajan (Festival)	Sunday, August 10, 2025. Outdoor Mass at Oglebay at 10:00 a.m. Booths open after Mass.
Thanksgiving Bake Sale	???????

Blessing with Ashes (Monday and Wednesday, March 3rd and 5th)

Ash Monday, March 3rd: Ash distribution during Noon Mass and 5:30 pm Mass

Ash Wednesday, March 5th: Ash distribution during Noon Mass and 5:30 pm Mass

Stations of the Cross (Starting Friday, March 7th)

Every Friday during Lent, we celebrate the Mass at 5:30 p.m. It will be followed by the Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Cross. The "Stations of the Cross" is a devotion which consists of following the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ by recalling the fourteen prominent events that took place from the time of the trial under Pontius Pilate until His death and burial on Mount Calvary. Many Thanks to these generous families who sponsored light Lenten meal dinners for social hour after the Stations of the Cross. If any other family wants to participate in the meal for social hour, please ask and join the families listed below.

Date:	Volunteers Who are sponsoring the Light Meals on Fridays during Lent:
2 nd Friday, March 14	Meal Sponsors: Susan and Ron Burns
3 rd Friday, March 21	Meal Sponsors: Dr. Nabil & Nisrine Alkhouri
4 th Friday, March 28	Meal Sponsors: Liz & Jay Murad
5 th Friday, April 4	Meal Sponsors: Janet Shutler, Randy Weisner and Msgr. Bakhos
6 th Friday, April 11	Meal Sponsors: George & Susan Saseen & the Frenn Family
Good Friday, April 18	Meal Sponsors: The Cedar Club & Parishioners
Easter Sunday, April 20	Happy Easter



Easter Lillies Donated in Memory of:

Please donate \$25.00 to sponsor a lilly or a hyacinth toward decoration the Tomb and the altar of the church at Easter. Please mention on your note: "In Loving Memory of..." May God reward you many folds.

✠ Gladys Howard & Louise N. & Lois H. Kourey, Sr. by Lou & Charlotte Kourey & Family

✠ In Loving Memory of Tom & Mary K. Ferris by their daughter Denise Ferris

✠ In Loving Memory of Mary Stees by Denise Ferris

✠ In Loving Memory of Mary Zaid Stees by Jay & Liz Murad

✠ Adib & Sadie (parents), Nadim (brother), Mona (sister) by Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac

✠ In Loving Memory of the Shutler & Nolte Families by Janet Shutler

✠ In Loving Memory of the Rahi and Peklinsky Families by Alicia Peklinsky

✠ In Loving Memory of Bob Sengewalt by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt

✠ In Loving Memory of beloved parents John & Cecilia John and D. William Burns and grandparents Tom & Sadie John, David & Tamamie Joseph and Sarah Burns by Susan & Ron Burns

✠ In Loving Memory of aunts & uncles: Louis & Cecilia Ammar, Fred & Rita John, Sister Mary Thomasina John & Roland & Julia Tappe by Susan & Ron Burns

✠ In Loving Memory of Elias & Selma Joseph Family by Mark & Barb McLaughlin

✠ In Loving Memory of Sara (Joseph) McLaughlin by Mark & Barb McLaughlin

✠ In Loving Memory of our mother and dear brother David Frey by their loving Family

✠ In Loving Memory of Nimon & Mariam Joseph Family by the Joseph and Weisner Families

✠ In Loving Memory of Shirley Elias Nickerson and deceased members of the Elias Family by Tammy Strong

✠ In Loving Memory of George & Martha Saseen and Steve & Elizabeth Harasuik by George & Susan Saseen

✠ In Loving Memory of Philip Geimer and my Family by Thomasina Geimer

✠ In Honor of Janet Shutler

✠ In Honor of Jean & Mary Beth Weisner

- ✠ In Honor of Chris & Jeannette Wakim
- ✠ In Honor of Larry & Lillian Siebieda
- ✠ In Honor of Dr. & Mrs. Nabiel Alkhouri & Family
- ✠ In Honor of Michael Duymich

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month

March 2:	Ava Murad
March 4:	Jeff Sengewalt
March 6:	Kristen Graney
March 15:	Shelby Imer
March 16:	Mia Ferrera
March 18:	Kenny Imer, Bill Stees, Patrick Petros
March 21:	Caroline Stees McDowell
March 22:	Jennifer Imer
March 26:	Joseph John
March 30:	Greg John
April 1:	Patrick Sengewalt

Your Church Support Last Week

\$1,156.00	Sunday Collection
60.00	Candles
15.00	Coffee hour
160.00	Donation to the church
125.00	Easter Lillies
\$1,516.00	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)
Earl & Linda Duffy, Mary Ragase, Becky Ferrera, Debbie Sengewalt, Gavin Hancher, Monroe DeLuca, Sally Sengewalt, Mary Zigler (sister of Lillian Siebieda), Dolores Oser, Anthony Wakim, 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

Our Diocese Events

Maronite Academy

The Maronite Academy is an initiative, undertaken by the Maronite Foundation, aimed at introducing young Lebanese immigrants around the world to their country of origin, Lebanon.

The Foundation is proud to announce, the opening of the 8th consecutive session of the Maronite Academy in honor of the late H. E. Michel Eddé, Founder and honorary President of the Maronite Foundation.

The candidates should be descendants of Lebanese Ancestors, aged between 20 and 30, and should undergo online courses to build their knowledge about Lebanon and the Maronite Heritage.

To increase their chances of being selected, the candidates must also complete the form on the website <https://maronitefoundation.org/LebaneseCitizenship/en> to learn more about their roots and to check if they are eligible to get their Lebanese Citizenship.

After successfully completing their online courses, the candidates will benefit from an organized two-week trip to Lebanon (August 2 to 17, 2025), hosted by the Maronite Foundation.

During their stay in Lebanon, the candidates will get to bond with their roots and explore the history of Lebanon and the Maronite Heritage through specialized seminars given by prominent figures and various site visits.

Please spread the word about the Maronite Academy program among your friends and family to register before the end of April 2025 and join the Maronite Academy!

*Candidates must be fluent in English

We are expecting your visit soon! Like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram!



The Maronite Foundation in the World maronitefoundation.org

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

NAM awarness

Our Diocese needs two parishioners interested to be the liason of the National Apostolate of Maronites Convention. Please call Msgr Bakhos at 304-233-1688 to be appointed. Thanks for your cooperation

Pilgrimage to Rome & Sicily (August 25 to September 4)

On the occasion of the Jubilee Year 2025, our Diocese is planning a pilgrimage trip to Rome and Sicily.

When: From August 25 until September 4

Package includes: stay at 4 star hotels, meals, visit important sites, English speaking guide, bus transportations.

Cost: \$3,900 for double occupancy per person. Additional \$1,000 supplement for single occupancy.

Reservation due date: May 31, 2025. There are only 50 spots open. First come, first serve.

Reservation: please call Ivette Jackson 323-336-3168 or Jamileh Koury 918-626-9193 info@eparchy.org

Trivia Teaser

2% or 98%

This is strange...can you figure it out?

Are you the 2% or 98% of the population?

Follow the instructions! **NO PEEKING AHEAD!**

* Do the following exercise, guaranteed to raise an eyebrow.

* Cover the lines below with a paper and scroll down line by line, but not too fast, you might miss something.

* There's no trick or surprise.

* Just follow these instructions, and answer the questions one at a time and as quickly as you can!

* Again, as quickly as you can but don't advance until you've done each of them ... really.

Think of a number from 1 to 10.

Multiply that number by 9.

If the number is a 2-digit number, add the digits together.

Now subtract 5.

Determine which letter in the alphabet corresponds to the number you ended up with (example: 1=a, 2=b, 3=c, etc.)

Think of a country that starts with that letter.

Remember the last letter of the name of that country.

Think of the name of an animal that starts with that letter.

Remember the last letter in the name of that animal.

Think of the name of a fruit that starts with that letter.

Are you thinking of a Kangaroo in Denmark eating an Orange?

I told you this was FREAKY!! If not, you're among the 2% of the population whose minds are different enough to think of something else. 98% of people will answer with kangaroos in Denmark when given this exercise.

Freaky, huh? Keep this message going. Pass it to people you know so they can find out if they are usual or unusual.

Advice: Aspiration

--Climb High, Climb Far. Your goal the sky, Your aim the star."

(Inscription on Hopkins Memorial Steps Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts)

--"If you aspire to the highest place, it is no disgrace to stop at the second, or even the third, place." (Cicero)

--"Look to a gown of gold, and you will at least get a sleeve of it." (Sir Walter Scott)

--"Ah, but a man's reach should exceed his grasp Or what's a heaven for?" (Robert Browning)

Question & Answer

Question #4: "What Is the nature of God?" Nathan T., 15

Answer: God is the Supreme Being. He is self-existing (not caused), eternal, all-powerful, all-knowing and present everywhere. He is pure spirit, which means He does not have the limitations of a body. God is also supremely personal. He is no mere force or power. In fact, He is a communion of Persons -Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This is the Blessed Trinity. All three Persons possess the one divine nature.

Giving in Scriptures: God Commands Us to Give

The following one-liners were collected over the years. When you hear one of these, know that either the person is deceiving himself or is trying to deceive you and worse yet, has failed to absorb some basic principals of being a good Christian.

- 1- I will give as much or more, if I do not set a goal for myself.
- 2- I can give so little, it doesn't matter, if I don't give at all.
- 3- I give enough when I attend to make up for all the Sundays I miss.
- 4- Let those who have it, give it; I don't have enough to share.
- 5- What I have is mine, won with my sweat and enterprise; to be used as I please.
- 6- Let God make me a millionaire, then I will give to the church.

Ask yourself in each instance, "What is wrong with the person's thinking."

Spirituality: Prayers to Priests

People's prayer for Priests

Dear Lord,

We pray that the Blessed Mother wrap her mantle around your priests and through her intercession strengthen them for their ministry.

We pray that Mary will guide your priests to follow her own words, "Do whatever He tells you".

May your priests have the heart of St. Joseph, Mary's most chaste spouse.

May the Blessed Mother's own pierced heart inspire them to embrace all who suffer at the foot of the cross.

May your priests be holy, filled with the fire of your love seeking nothing but your greater glory and the salvation of souls. Amen.

Wisdom: Take Time

Take Time TO THINK, it is the source of power.
 Take Time TO PLAY, it is the secret of perpetual youth.
 Take Time TO READ, it is the fountain of wisdom.
 Take TO PRAY, it is the greatest power on earth.
 Take TO LOVE, and BE LOVED, it is a God-given privilege.
 Take Time TO BE FRIENDLY, it is the road to happiness.
 Take Time TO LAUGH, it is the music of the soul.
 Take Time TO GIVE, it is too short a day to be selfish.
 Take Time TO WORK, it is the price of success.

Story: True love

Looking into the face of my newborn baby girl, I was overcome with awe at her helplessness, at her beauty, at her fragile innocence, at the fact that someone could have given her to us. You see, my wife Sharon and I had prayed for a baby for ten long years. As the months turned into years and the hole in our hearts felt bottomless, even imagining holding a baby of our own became difficult. Would there ever be a precious little soul for us to wrap in our love?

Jamie became pregnant at fifteen while dating the local “bad boy.” He convinced her he would love her even more if she would just give in to him. Instead, Jamie learned his love was never there to begin with. Although the relationship ended, he pressured her to have an abortion. Her friends agreed with him.

As the months passed and Jamie’s belly grew, she knew she could never end this life, but neither could she support a child. She was still a child herself, to be sure, but through her motherhood she matured beyond her years. Shopping and boys, makeup and music were the trivial pastimes of her youth. Now, she had a soul to nurture. Jamie loved the little heartbeat that thumped quietly next to hers. She loved it more than words could explain, more than she imagined she was capable of. But more than wanting her baby, Jamie wanted for her baby. She chose Sharon and me as a gift to her baby two loving parents.

In the hospital, Jamie stood by her decision not to hold Hannah, fearing she might weaken and be unable to go through with the adoption. On the day Jamie went home, she wanted to see her baby. As I held her up through the nursery window, tears of both joy and agony washed down her cheeks. For the second time in as many days I was overcome with awe.

Hannah just had her first birthday. Every minute of the first year has been a reassurance to us of the goodness of our Creator. We recently asked Jamie if she would like to meet Hannah. “Only if you’re sure it won’t confuse or upset her,” was Jamie’s reply. “I just want her to be happy.”

That teenage girl, who sought love in the wrong places, has taught me the real meaning of true love.

Jokes (156)

The Saints

A man was fishing in the northern mountains. One day his guide took to telling him anecdotes about the bishop whose guide he had been the previous summer.

“Yes,” the guide was saying, “He is a good man except for his language.”

“Are you saying that the bishop swears?” asked the man.

“Oh, but of course, sir,” said the guide. Once he caught a fine salmon. Just as he was about to land it, the fish slipped off the hook. So I say to the bishop: “that is damned bad luck!” and the bishop, he looks me straight in the eye and he says: “Yes, it is indeed!” But that’s the only time I heard the bishop use such language.

The Self

A seeker, in search of a Master who would lead him to the path of holiness, came to an ashram presided over by a guru who, in addition to having a great reputation for holiness, was also a fraud. But the seeker did not know this.

“Before I accept you as my disciple,” said the guru, “I must test your obedience. There is a river flowing by the ashram that is infested with crocodiles. I want you to wade across the river.”

So great was the faith of the young disciple that he did just that: he walked across the river crying, “All praise to the power of my guru!” To the guru’s astonishment the man walked to the other bank and back unharmed.

This convinced the guru that he was more of a saint than he himself had imagined, so he decided to give all his disciples a demonstration of his power and thereby enhance his reputation for holiness. He stepped into the river crying, “All praise to me! All praise to me!” The crocodiles promptly seized him and devoured him.

Truth

An Englishman migrated to the United States and became an American citizen. When he went back to England for a vacation one of his relatives reprimanded him for changing his citizenship. “What have you gained by becoming an American citizen?” she asked him.

“Well, for one thing, I win the American Revolution,” was the answer.

Slogans

A religious group was in the habit of using, for its many conferences, a hotel whose motto was written in large words over the walls of the lobby: THERE ARE NO PROBLEMS. ONLY OPPORTUNITIES.

A man approached the hotel desk and said, “EXCUSE ME, I HAVE A PROBLEM.”

The desk clerk said, with a smile, “WE HAVE NO PROBLEMS HERE, SIR, ONLY OPPORTUNITIES.”

“CALL IT WHAT YOU WANT,” said the man impatiently. “THERE’S A WOMAN IN THE ROOM ASSIGNED TO ME.”

Famous Quotes (53)

Matthew Chapter 5: 21-26 (Teaching About Anger)

Jesus said:

You have heard that it was said to your ancestors, ‘You shall not kill; and whoever kills will be liable to judgment.’ But I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment, and whoever says to his brother, ‘Raca,’ will be answerable to the Sanhedrin, and whoever says, ‘You fool,’ will be liable to fiery Gehenna. Therefore, if you bring your gift to the altar, and there recall that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift there at the altar, go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Settle with your opponent quickly while on the way to court with him. Otherwise, your opponent will hand you over to the judge, and the judge will hand you over to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Amen, I say to you, you will not be released until you have paid the last penny.