

January 11, 2009
Bulletin # 2

Our Lady of Lebanon Church

(Maronite Catholic Rite)

Faith † Family † Friends

2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003

Rectory: (304) 233-1688 • Fax: (304) 233-4714

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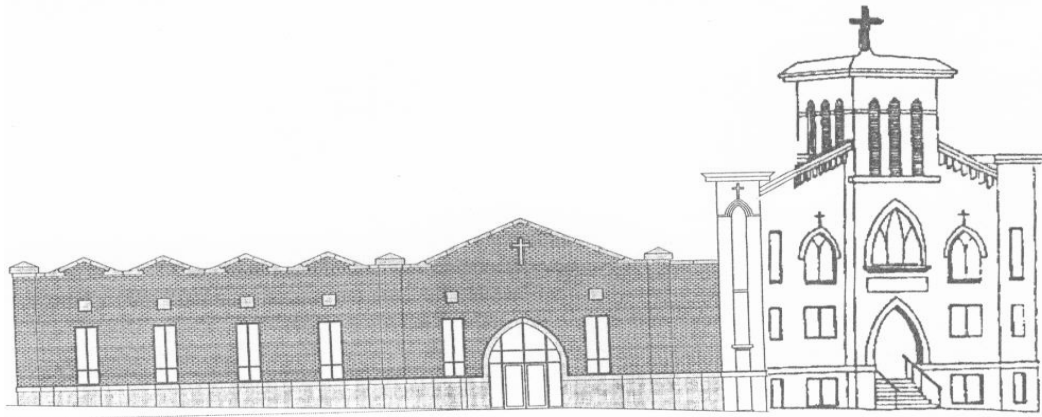
Rev. Bakhos Chidiac (Pastor)

Evelyn Ghaphery (Organist)

Charlotte Khourey & Thomasina Geimer (Secretaries)

Epiphany Season

1st Sunday after Epiphany



Schedule of Divine Liturgies

- ***Weekend Masses:** Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m.
Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. [Rosary & Litany start at 10:10 a.m.]
- ***Weekday Masses:** **At Noon.** Please refer to the Mass schedule on page 3 of this bulletin for Mass times and changes due to special events. Thank you for your cooperation.
- ***Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament:** Every 1st Saturday of the month at 3:30 p.m. & 1st Sunday after Communion
- ***Miraculous Medal Novena:** Every 2nd Sunday of the month at 10:00 a.m.
- ***Reconciliation:** Saturday: 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. or any other time by appointment
- ***Baptism:** Kindly phone the Pastor as soon as the baby is born. Godparents must be Catholics.
- ***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 any time at (304) 233-1688
- ***Parish Council:** Lou Khourey 277-3230, Linda Duffy 242-6853, Tom George 336-7142, P.J. Lenz 242-5606 and Carol Dougherty (740) 782-0146
- ***Choir Members:** Rita Thomas Strawn, Shirley George, Allison Duffy, George Thomas, Ted Olinski, Earl Duffy, Lou Khourey, Robert Vawter, Jody & Abbie Seabright, Tracey Dierkes
- ***Altar Boys:** Louie Khourey & Dalton Haas
- ***Cedar Club:** Linda Duffy, President 242-6853
- ***Women's Society:** Sandra Dusick, President 232-7395



- *Remember the Church in your Last Will – Her prayers will accompany you to heaven
- *Please support Our Lady of Lebanon Church by patronizing our Advertisers
- *If you support the Church and need a Bulletin mailed to you, please call the Rectory
- ***Bulletin Announcements:** Submit all Bulletin Information to Fr. Bakhos. Deadline: Every Tuesday by Noon
- ***New Parishioners:** We welcome you with great joy and invite you to be officially listed as one of our parishioners
- ***Parking:** Saturday & Sunday—all spaces for parishioners; Monday through Friday—park ONLY in the 3 ALLEY spaces

Gospel Reflection: 1st Sunday after Epiphany

Readings: 2Cor 10:1-11 & Jn 1:29-34

'After' and 'before'. The paradox of these terms expresses the point that not until he who was to come has arrived and been manifested is it possible to know who the Baptist is, or what his function is to be; just as in the Prologue it was made clear that only in the light of the historical coming of the eternal Word was it possible really to understand the history of God's chosen people, Israel. John states explicitly that his baptism was undertaken with one final end only –that the one far superior to John might be manifested to Israel. When John sees Jesus he knows that this purpose has been achieved.

But the evangelist has not yet fully made his point, for it is essential to his presentation of the true significance of John that even John's recognition of Jesus should itself rest upon revelation, and that he should clearly affirm that the true baptism would be a baptism with the Holy Spirit, by him upon whom the Spirit would visibly come and with whom he would visibly stay. The true baptism is the gift of the Spirit, and the true baptizer is he with whom the Spirit perpetually dwells. The Baptist bears simple and adequate testimony to the descent of the Spirit upon Jesus, and lest any reader of the Synoptics might misconceive the story, his abiding with him. So here is the end of the Baptist's witness to Jesus.

Mass Intentions

THIS WEEKEND, January 10-11: "1st Sunday after Epiphany"

Saturday, January 10 at 4:00 p.m.:

Mike Sobota by Lucille Gibbons
Kenny Hill by Mrs. Nettie Seidler

Sunday, January 11 at 10:30 a.m.:

Nancepe Saseen (on his Anniversary) by Rosella Saseen
Joe Bittengle by Mrs. Nettie Seidler

Weekday Masses

Monday, January 12: No Mass. Pastor's Day off

Tuesday, January 13: No Mass. Pastor's Day off

Wednesday, January 14 at Noon:

Mike Sobota by Bill & Tricia Committee & Family
William Jacobs by M/M John Pifko (PA)

Thursday, January 15: No Mass. Pastor's Day of vacation

Friday, January 16 at Noon:

Mike Sobota by his wife Barb Sobota
Helen Fielding by her husband Don Fielding (FL) & his special intentions

NEXT WEEKEND, January 17-18: "2nd Sunday after Epiphany"

Saturday, January 17 at 4:00 p.m.:

Mike Sobota by Betty Shia
Deceased Members of the Henning & Bott Families by Don & Roberta Henning

Sunday, January 18 at 10:30 a.m.:

Living & Deceased members of the Nicholas & Nimnoom Ghaphery Family & the David Abraham
Ghaphery Family by the Ghaphery Family.
Dale Seidler Sr., by his wife Nettie & Family

I Want to Help the Church. What Can I Do?

1- Help with the Church Painting Fund

It has been about 20 years since the church was last painted and it needs done at this time. The scaffolding, patching and painting will start when we raise the cost of painting, which is \$30,000 according to the estimate we have received. The Blessed Mother will help us once more to raise funds to brighten her church (we hope by May or June 2009) as we raised the \$1.5 million to construct our new hall. All donations will be earmarked toward the “Church Painting Fund.” A special plaque will be mounted in the church stating: **“Please remember in your prayer these benefactors who painted the church in 2009”**. Please make a generous contribution and become a member of this prayer list. Thank you for your cooperation and generosity.

The Generous Benefactors who painted the church in 2009: (Total Raised: \$6,846)

Nancy Joseph (\$100), Manell Brice (\$500), Mike Sobota (Memorial) (\$635), Paul & Irene Schuler (\$100), Charles Mattes (brother of Betty Shia) [MD] (\$500), Betty Shia (\$500), Cedar Club (Pre-Holiday Sales) \$1,150, Rose Karsten (MN) (\$20), Bob & Fran Saseen (\$100), Millie & Sister Jeanne Vidonic (\$50), Rob & Mary Thomas (OH) (\$40), Robert & Virginia Pockl (\$100), Tom Ferris (\$25), Mary Custer (\$108), Denny Albaugh (\$25), Sylvia Long (\$100), Joseph & Carmella (Babe) Dallison (\$100), A Friend (\$100), Anna Jalad (\$100), Shirley Dietz (\$500), Mike & Maryann Carl (\$1,000), Women’s Society 50/50 Fundraising (\$93), Joe & Nikki Popovich (\$100), Kenny & Nancy Joseph (\$500), Evelyn Ghaphery (\$300),

2- Help with the Endowment Fund to Keep Our Church Open and Alive (Total Raised: \$325)

Fr. Bakhos opened at Main Street Bank an Endowment Fund CD account exclusively for our church maintenance for the years to come. Many parishioners –primarily those who have no one to inherit their property or money– are willing to donate all or part of their assets to the church. These earmarked donations will be saved in this Endowment Fund. Only the yearly interest will be withdrawn and spent to pay for church utilities and general maintenance.

We understand that some members of our community cannot support our church as they would like to because of the need to retain funds for their retirement years. But after their death, their donation can bring stability and security to the future of the church. All benefactors will be enrolled in the daily Mass offering. Please put into writing in your will as Fr. Eugene Jacobs did. The following is suggested wording:

(I, , hereby give, devise and bequeath the sum of \$..... (or specify described real or personal property) to the Church of Our Lady of Lebanon, a non-profit organization located at 2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003. I want my donation to be deposited in the Endowment Fund account designated to maintain and support the church. I also wish to be enrolled as benefactor in the daily Mass intentions.) We thank each of the following individuals for their generous contribution to this Endowment Fund.

Bill & Mary Stees (\$200), Tom Ferris (\$25), Sylvia Long (\$100),

3- Leave a permanent Memorial on the Cedar Tree of Life & Golden Cedar Book

The Cedar Tree of Life, designed by Fr. Bakhos and manufactured by the Baum Company of New Jersey, is a piece of art in the new building addition which allows you to permanently designate a memorial for you or a loved one for a donation of \$500 or more. It is made out of cedar wood that links us to the Cedar of Lebanon –used in the Temple of Solomon in Jerusalem. Most brass leaves are sold, only few are still available. Contact the parish office and engrave your Memorial on a brass leaf and you will also gain daily prayers from the altar of our church. Donations of lesser amounts will be listed in the Golden Cedar Book.

\$1,000	Alexandrite Leaf for Susan John & Ron Burns (12.27.2008)
\$400	Altmeyer Funeral Home [monthly payment of previous pledge] (12.27.2008)
\$100	Topaz Leaf for Linda Hostutler (1.4.2009)

4- Wish List for Our Lady of Lebanon Church

Please share your blessings and sponsor any of the below needed items:

- a- A commercial quality, used heavy-duty Slicer for our new kitchen (approximately \$1,500)
- b- A used grill for Mahrajan and church steak fry from General Rental (\$700)

Thanks to Tom George for sponsoring a Laptop Computer which will allow us to make Power Point presentations in our new Cedar Hall.

Thanks to Mrs. Peggy Justice for sponsoring the Deep Fryer for use frying Falafels or Zelaybee in our new Kitchen and at our Mahrajan (\$75-100) and for Don Henning's help in selecting the best deep fryer.

May the generous benefactors receive their reward many fold.

<i>Our Lady of Lebanon Community Calendar</i>	
Monday, January 12	Cedar Club Meeting – at 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, January 25	Women's Society Next Meeting – after 10:30 a.m. Mass
Sunday, January 25	Women's Society 50/50 Painting Fund Raffle Drawing – after 10:30 a.m. Mass
Thursday, February 5	Reverse Raffle & Dinner – Cocktails & Hors D'oeuvres at 6; Dinner at 7 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 14–Fri., Feb. 20	Week of Faithful Departed Masses
Fri. & Sat., Feb. 20 & 21	Soup & Hoagie Sale – Feb. 20, 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; Feb. 21, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday, March 22	St. Maron Lebanese Dinner – 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 12	Spring Lebanese Bake Sale – Orders Due
Sun.-Thur., April 19-23	Spring Lebanese Bake Sale – Work Days (11:30 a.m. Sun.; M-Th at 9:00 a.m.)
Sunday, May 17	Spring Spaghetti Dinner – 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Cedar Club Meeting (Monday, January 12, 2009, at 7:00 p.m.)

Come to the Cedar Club's first meeting of the new year on Monday, January 12, at 7:00 p.m. The hostess for the evening will be Linda King. Our drawing on December 7 for the YMCA 1-year membership was won by Carol Burns of Wheeling. Congratulations from the Cedar Club. An extra \$100 was made from items sold during the Cookie Sale for our Pre-Holiday Sale – the total Painting Fund donation is now \$1,150.

Women's Society January Meeting (Sunday, January 25, after 10:30 a.m. Mass)

Plan to join the Women's Society at our January meeting to discuss plans for our upcoming Soup and Hoagie Sale and our other upcoming spring events. Everyone is welcome to join.

Monthly 50/50 Raffle (Drawings: Sunday, January 25th)

The Women's Society continues to sponsor the Monthly 50/50 Raffle. Tickets cost \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Proceeds will now be designated to the benefit the Church Painting Fund.

The drawing from entries received **from the January tickets** (printed on blue paper) are provided at the church entrance and in the weekly church bulletin and will take place in the Cedar Hall after Mass on **Sunday, January 25th**.

Buy or sell the tickets, and return the completed stubs as soon as possible in the collection or mail to: Our Lady of Lebanon Church, 2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003. Please write as "Memo": 50/50 Raffle.

For more information or additional tickets, contact the church office at (304) 233-1688. May the Blessed Mother reward you manifold and we ask for your continued support. Congratulations to the November 50/50 winner of \$92: Kenny & Patty Billick who are parents of Beth George (daughter-in-law of parishioners Tom & Kathleen).

First Maronite Reverse Raffle Dinner (Thursday, February 5, 2009, 6:00 p.m.)

Our 1st Maronite Reverse Raffle and Dinner scheduled for Thursday, February 5, 2009, at the Wheeling Country Club. Cocktails and Hors D'oeuvres begin at 6:00 p.m.; a sit-down dinner at 7:00 p.m. Proceeds benefit the Church Building Maintenance Fund. Come and experience the excitement of the night. Winners need not be present.

Deadline to purchase tickets is: Sunday, February 1, 2009. Costs are:

\$ 50.00	1 Raffle Ticket only
\$ 75.00	1 Dinner & 1 Raffle Ticket
\$100.00	2 Dinners & 1 Raffle Ticket

For tickets: Call Mickey (Joseph) Morgan at 304-277-1642, Lois Rutter at 304-242-3922; or

- 1) complete the attached order form
- 2) Make your check payable to: **Our Lady of Lebanon Church** with “Memo Line:” **Reverse Raffle**
- 3) Mail both the form and the check to:

Our Lady of Lebanon Church or
“Attention, Reverse Raffle”
2216 Eoff Street
Wheeling, WV 26003

Linda Duffy
“Attention, Reverse Raffle”
43 Garland Avenue
Wheeling, WV 26003

Week of the Faithful Departed (Saturday, February 14th, to Friday, February 20th)

Please remember your parents and beloved ones during the week of the Faithful Departed. All Masses will be offered for the repose of their souls. The Communion of Saints unites those working out their salvation here on earth –The Church Militant– with those being purified in Purgatory –The Church Suffering– and those Saints in Heaven who are the Church Triumphant. Please complete the attached Form and return it in the collection basket or mail it to the church. Your intentions will be published in the church bulletins.

All Masses will be offered for the Repose of the Souls of the followings:

Deceased family members of Fr. Bakhos Chidiac

Deceased members of the Habib Khourey family by Virginia Khourey Bryan

Deceased of the Khourey and Howard families by Lou & Charlotte, Emmalena & Louie Khourey

Soup & Hoagie Sale (Fri., Feb. 20th, from 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m. & Sat., Feb. 21, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.)

Let's chase away those winter blues and take a break from cooking! The ladies of Our Lady of Lebanon are having a **Soup and Hoagie Sale** on Friday, February 20th, from 10:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. **and** Saturday, February 21st, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. You will be able to purchase and pick up from our church hall an assortment of delicious hoagie sandwiches and homemade soups to eat at home or stock the soup in your freezer to enjoy another day. New this year: We will also have desserts available for you to take home from our **Bake Sale Table** and enjoy with your soup and hoagies.

Here's how the Soup Sale works: We're asking for church volunteers to make and donate a batch of your favorite soup using your largest soup kettle. We'll supply containers and labels featuring your soup's name. All soups should be ordered in advance and will be available for take-out purchase with or without hoagie sandwiches. Please help out by calling and pledging to make your favorite soup available for this sale. If you are willing to make and donate a soup not listed below, please call Charlotte at 277-3230 or at the church office 233-1688.

Soups which will be available include: *Broccoli & Cheese, Chicken Noodle Soup, Chilli, Ham & Bean Soup, Italian Wedding Soup, Lentil Soup, New England Clam Chowder, Stuffed Pepper Soup, Vegetable Beef Soup, Maghrabeyah (Lebanese Chicken Soup), Fasolia (Lebanese Bean Soup-meatless), etc.*

Here's how the Hoagie Sandwich Sale works: The famous hoagie sandwiches –made by Don Henning, retired owner of Don's Corner Market– should be ordered in advance and will be available for purchase during the sale with or without the purchase of soup. Hoagies which will be available include: *Smoked Turkey & Cheese Hoagie, Ham & Swiss Hoagie, and Italian Hoagie.*

Please pre-order a specific a kind and quantity of soup and/or hoagie sandwich by using the **“Soup & Hoagie Sale Order Form,”** which will soon be available in our weekly bulletins and at the church entrance. You may also place your order by calling the church office at (304) 233-1688. Completed Order Forms may also be faxed to the Church Office at (304) 233-4714. Orders are due by: Sunday, February 15. Payment in advance is greatly appreciated. ***All Soups and Hoagies will be available on a take-out basis only.***

Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit the Church Painting Fund. You can help make this sale a success by sharing your time, talents and treasure:

- (1) volunteer to cook and donate your favourite soup;
- (2) volunteer to help prep the sandwiches;

(3) volunteer to make and donate a dessert for our **Bake Sale Table** (*cake, pie, brownies, cookies, Lebanese treat, etc.*);

(4) volunteer to help during the sale day on Friday, February 20, and/or Saturday, February 21;

(5) distribute flyers announcing our event;

(6) purchase some of our delicious homemade soups;

(7) purchase some of Don's famous Hoagies;

(8) purchase some of our mouth-watering desserts from our Bake Sale Table; or

(9) get orders for us from your friends, neighbors and co-workers.

St. Maron Lebanese Dinner (*Sunday, March 22nd, 11:30 to 5:30 p.m.*)

Mark your calendar with the date for our St. Maron Lebanese Dinner. Help is needed in many areas to make this Dinner a success. Please volunteer to work by calling either Linda at 242-6853 or Carol at (740) 782-0146 or you may call the church office at 233-1688. Proceeds will benefit the Church Building Maintenance Fund. Tickets will be available soon.

Menu: *baked kibbee, stuffed grape leaves, luban, lubee, chicken & rice, hummus, salad, pita bread, dessert and beverage*

St. Maron Dinner Baked Goods Sale: A Baked Goods Sale will also be held featuring a variety of delicious homemade pastries and other baked goods (cakes, cookies, pies, candy, breads, Lebanese specialties, etc.) made by our parishioners. After you have enjoyed a wonderful meal, please plan to stop by our table at the Baked Goods Sale and purchase some fabulous treats to take home!

Donations for the St. Maron Baked Goods Sale: We are asking all our generous parishioners to help make this a successful dinner by preparing and donating one (or even two) of your favorite homemade pastries for our St. Maron Lebanese Dinner Baked Goods Sale (especially if you are talented with making Lebanese items). With your help, we will have another great bake sale this year! Thank you in advance for your generosity, effort and time! Please plan to drop-off your donation between 3:30 and 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 21ST, or between 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, March 22nd. If you would like to schedule an alternative drop-off time, please call the church at 233-1688.

St. Maron Dinner Food Preparation: Please plan to share your time and talent in service to our church the week beginning Monday, March 16 (*specific days and times will be listed in a future bulletin*). Please volunteer to work by calling Carol at (740) 782-0146 or Linda at (304) 242-6853 or the Church Office at 233-1688. We welcome everyone who is available to help and thank you in advance for your time.

Spring Lebanese Bake Sale (*Order By: Sunday, April 12; Pick Up Orders: April 22-23*)

Order Deadline	Sunday, April 12
Spinach Preparation	Sunday, April 19, 11:30 a.m.
Baking to Fill Orders	Monday to Thursday, April 20-23, 9:00 a.m.
Order Pick Up Dates	Wednesday & Thursday, April 22 & 23

Spring Lebanese Bake Sale Order Forms will be available soon. The Women's Society of our Church has scheduled its Spring Lebanese Bake Sale of Spinach Pies, Meat Pies, Sweet (*Sesame*) Bread, and Zattar Bread. Completed order forms should be returned by mail or place it in the collection basket.

All those who helped in the past are asked to help us again on the baking days listed above. Please come and join in the camaraderie! **Note:** Please save large clean paper grocery bags for use in packing our orders.

Spaghetti Dinner (*Sunday, May 17th, 11:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.*)

Mark your calendars now and plan to enjoy our Spring Spaghetti Dinner served in our Church Hall following Mass Sunday, May 17. Chairperson Tom George and our parishioners invite you and your friends to come and enjoy our food and hospitality. Help our Church make this our best Spaghetti Dinner yet! Invite your friends, co-workers and neighbors to attend. Every dollar of profit earned will be used for our Church Building Maintenance Fund.

Menu: Spaghetti and Meatballs or Marinara Sauce, Salad, Roll, Dessert & choice of Coffee, Ice Tea or Lemonade. (Beer & pop are available a la carte.)

Tickets: \$7.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children under 12; will be available soon from the Church office at – 233-1688 or at the door.

Notes:

1. Advance Ticket Sales: If you are able & willing to help sell tickets to make our dinner a tremendous success, please contact our Church office. Unsold tickets & payments should be returned by Sunday, May 11.
2. Parishioners are being asked to *please bake and donate a dessert for use at the dinner* so that we may offer a variety of choices to go with the meal.
3. Parishioners are also being asked to help make our *Baked Goods Sale* –held simultaneously with the dinner– a huge success. Please make and donate an item–cookies, cake, pie, fudge, candy, Lebanese treat, etc.
4. Please save large, clean paper grocery or shopping bags and bring them to the Church any weekend so that we may use them to pack bake sale and "to go" orders.
5. If you can volunteer to work for the Spaghetti Dinner or have questions, please call the Church office at 233-1688.

Happy Birthday

January 11: Jennifer Klein
January 17: Richard Elwartoski
January 18: Marge Saseen
January 23: Dale Seidler Jr., Lisa Haas
January 25: Marion Wellman
January 28: Nikki Popovich
January 29: Sandra Dusick

Please Pray for Those on Our Prayer List

Please Remember Those Hospitalized Recently In Your Prayers:

Bill Daniel, Eva Lee Powel, Sam Elias, Catherine Arthur

Also please pray for those who asked us to pray for them:

John John, Laura & Marion Wellman, Jim & Judy Miller, Mary Piko, Theresa Sofka, Bernard Olako, Kathy Siebieda (daughter of our architect), Gene Singleton (Parkersburg), Ervin Splatt (WI), Debbie Laughlin (Columbus), Jennie Bedway (PA), Virginia Khourey Bryan (aunt of Lou Khourey in Toledo, OH), Richard & Mary Ryncarz (Shadyside, OH), Manell Brice (Arlington, VA), Rose Mary Bris-Roybal (Albuquerque, NM), John Vawter and his mother (brother and mother of Dr. Rob Vawter)

Your Church Support Last Week

\$1,332	Collection
162	2 nd Collection – Catholic Communications Campaign
100	Building Project
56	Candles
193	Painting Fund
20	Utilities
50	Refunds
\$1,913.00	Total. May God reward you many fold

What's New?

Parish Condolences: Lena Joseph

The pastor and the parishioners of Our Lady of Lebanon Church, Wheeling, offer their heartfelt sympathy to the **Joseph** family on the loss of their beloved **Lena** who passed away in Wheeling, **last Sunday, January 4th**. Fr. Bakhos celebrated the Funeral Mass at Our Lady of Lebanon Church on Wednesday, January 7th, at 10:00 a.m. The choir of the church served the Mass and the Women Society served the Mercy Meal. May the Almighty God grant repose of the soul to His handmaid **Lena** and we extend the parish's condolences to *her* Family in their time of sorrow.

Parish Condolences: Sonny Hancher

The pastor and the parishioners of Our Lady of Lebanon Church, Wheeling, offer their heartfelt sympathy to the **Hancher** family on the loss of their beloved **Sonny** who died in the Lord in Wheeling, last Thursday, January 8th. Sonny is the husband of our parishioner Regina. (Arrangements were incomplete at the time the bulletin was printed.)

May the Almighty God grant repose of the soul to His servant **Sonny** and we extend the parish's condolences to *his* family in their time of sorrow. May *his* Memory be eternal. AMEN

In Our Mailbox

"Dear Fr. Chidiac, I was in Wheeling at the end of October and I saw your new hall – a dream come true with persistence, faith, generous gifts of self– God answers. When I return to Wheeling again I will take a tour of your new facility. God bless you and all the community. --Brother Rene Roy, Lawrence, MA"

Thank You

Linda Duffy donated a First Aid Kit for our new Cedar Hall and a new Vegetable Peeler. All things – great or small – are deeply appreciated when they are donated from the heart. Thank you Linda!

Poor Box

Please consider sharing your blessings with the brothers and sisters of Christ who knock at our door daily. Many people in the area need assistance in many ways. Some are in dire need some are not, but God alone knows what's in each one's heart. The Poor Box is located at the rear of the church near the Holy Water font. Fr. Bakhos is using his judgment to help the poor on your behalf and asks each of them to pray for you.

Around Us

Free Lecture/Concert on Beethoven (Wednesday, January 14, at 7 p.m.)

What: Maestro Andre Raphael Smith will discuss "Beethoven: The Heroic Period (Prelude to a Festival)
Where: Christ United Methodist Church, Washington Avenue & National Road, Wed., Jan. 14 @ 7 p.m.
Featuring: A short performance by The Pittsburgh Piano Trio followed by a dessert reception
Reservations: Call 232-6191

Wisdom: What's Inside You?

The preacher placed two identical jars on the table next to the pulpit. He then quoted 1 Samuel 16:7: "But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the Lord sees not as man sees; for man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart."

"These jars came from the same factory, were made of the same materials, and can hold the same amount. But they are different," he explained. Then he upset one and it oozed out honey. He turned over the other, and vinegar spilled out.

"When a jar is upset, whatever is in it comes out. Until the jars were upset, they looked alike. The difference was within, and could not be seen. When they were upset, their contents were revealed.

Until we are upset we put on a good front. But when we are upset, we reveal our innermost thoughts and attitudes.

What if someone tipped you over today? What would flow out: Would you reveal the "honey" of grace and patience, or the "vinegar" of anger and sarcasm?

Have a terrific day knowing that the one who upsets you may be just looking for some honey. Don't give them vinegar!

"Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins." (1 Pet. 4:8)

Wisdom: Memo from God

Please be aware that there are changes you need to make in your life. These changes need to be completed in order that I may fulfill My promises to you to grant you peace, joy and happiness in this life. I apologize for any inconvenience, but after all that I am doing, this seem' very little to ask of you. I know I already gave you the Ten Commandments. Keep them. But follow these guidelines also.

1. QUIT WORRYING

Life has dealt you a blow and all you do is sit and worry. Have you forgotten that I am here to take all your burdens and carry them for you? Or do you just enjoy fretting over every little thing that comes your way?

2. PUT IT ON THE LIST

When something needs done or taken care of, put it on the list. No, not your list Put it on MY to-do-list. Let Me be the one to take care of the problem. I can't help you until you turn it over to Me. And although My to-do list is long, I am, after all God. I can take care of anything you put into My hands. In fact, if the truth were ever really known. I take care of a lot of things for you that you never even realize.

3. TRUST MIX

Once you've given your burdens to Me, quit trying to take them back. Trust in Me. Have the faith that I will take care of all your needs, your problems and your trials. Problems with the kids? Put them on My list Problem with finances? Put it on My list. Problems with your emotional roller coaster? For My sake, put it on My list. I want to help you. All you have to do is ask.

4. LEAVE IT ALONE

Don't wake up one morning and say, "Well, I'm feeling much stronger now. I think I can handle it from here" Why do you think you are feeling stronger now? It's simple. You gave Me your burdens and I'm taking care of them. I also renew your strength and cover you in my peace. Don't you know that if I give you these problems back, you will be right back where you started? Leave them with Me and forget about them. Just let Me do my job.

5. TALK TO ME

I want you to forget a lot of things. Forget what was making you crazy. Forget the worry and the fretting because you know I'm in control. But there's one thing I pray you never forget. Please don't forget to talk to Me OFTEN! I love you! I want to hear your voice. I want you to include Me in on the things going on in yaw life. I want to hear you talk about your friends and family. Prayer is simply you having a conversation with Me. I want to be your dearest friend.

6. HAVE FAITH

I see a lot of things from up here that you can't see from where you are. Have faith in Me that I know what I'm doing. Trust Me; you wouldn't want the view from My eyes. I will continue to care for you, watch over you, and meet your needs. You wily have to trust Me. Although I have a much bigger task than you, it seems as if you have so much trouble just doing your simple part. How hard can trust be?

7. SHARE

You were taught to share when you were only two years old. When did you forget? That rule still applies. Share with those who are less fortunate than you. Share your joy with those who need encouragement. Share your laughter with those who haven't heard any in such a long time. Share your tears with those who have forgotten how to cry. Share your faith with those who have none.

8. BE PATIENT

I managed to fix it so in just one lifetime you could have so many diverse experiences. You grow from a child to an adult, have children, change jobs many times, learn many trades, travel to so many places, meet thousands of people, and experience so much. How can you be so impatient then when it takes Me a little longer than you expect to handle something on My to-do list Trust in My timing, for My timing is perfect. Just because I created the entire universe in only six days, everyone thinks I should always rush, rush, rush.

9. BE KIND

Be kind to others, for I love them just as much as I love you. They may not dress like you, or talk like you, or live the same way you do, but I still love you all. Please try to get along, for My sake. I created each of

you different in some way. It would be too boring if you were all identical. Please know I love each of your differences.

10. LOVE YOURSELF

As much as I love you, how can you not love yourself? You were created by me for one reason – to be loved, and to love in return. I am a God of Love. Love Me. Love your neighbors. But also love yourself. It makes My heart ache when I see you so angry with yourself when things go wrong. You are very precious to me. Don't ever forget that! With all My heart, I love you. --God

Maronites = Catholics of the East

History of Assassinations in Lebanon

Major Political Assassinations in Lebanon (Updated: February 15, 2005)

Here is a short chronology of some of the major political assassinations in Lebanon over the three decades.

March 1977	Druze leader Kamal Jumblatt is killed in ambush in his Shouf mountain fiefdom in central Lebanon.
June 1978	Tony Franjeh, son of former President Suleiman Franjeh, is assassinated in raid by Christian militia rivals at his home in Ehden, north Lebanon.
September 1982	Bashir Gemayel, elected president, is killed before taking office by a bomb planted by a pro-Syrian Christian. His brother Amin becomes president.
June 1987	Lebanon's veteran Prime Minister Rashid Karami is killed by a bomb in an army helicopter in Tripoli. Karami was serving his ninth term as prime minister in a 37-year career.
May 1989	Grand Mufti Sheikh Hassan Khaled, religious head of Lebanon's Sunni community, is killed by a car bomb in Beirut. The blast killed 22 people and wounded 80.
November 1989	President Rene Muawad is killed in a huge bomb explosion in Beirut. Muawad, a Syrian-backed Maronite Christian, had only recently been elected.
October 1990	Gunmen kill Dany Chamoun, chairman of the National Liberal Party and former Christian militia leader, in Christian suburb of Beirut.
Feb. 1992	Israelis kill Abbas Mussawi, leader of Shi'ite Hizbollah militia, in helicopter ambush of his convoy near village of Jibsheit in south Lebanon.
January 2002	Elie Hobeika, former minister and leader of pro-Israeli Christian militia involved in 1982 massacre of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, is killed in Beirut.
May 2002	Mohammad Jihad Ahmed Jibril, son of Ahmed Jibril, leader of Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine General-Command (PFLP-GC), is killed in car bomb in Beirut.
February 2005	Huge car bomb kills Lebanon's former prime minister Rafik al-Hariri on Beirut's waterfront.

Story: Youth Today

What's Happening with Today's Youth?

"If you treat an individual as if he were what he ought to be and could be, he will become what he ought to be and could be."

--Goethe

Our young people are growing up much faster today. They need our help. But what could I do? My inner voice questioned me as to why I wasn't a role model for today's generation of young people. No, I couldn't do that. I wasn't a psychologist and I sure didn't have the type of influence to create massive change like a politician. I'm an engineer. I obtained my degree in electrical engineering from the University of Virginia. Now I work for Hewlett-Packard.

But the thought wouldn't leave me. So finally, I decided to do something. That morning, I called up the local neighborhood high school. I spoke to the principal, sharing my desire to help. He was thrilled and invited

me to come down during lunch. I agreed. At noon, I drove to the school. Many thoughts bombarded my mind: “Can I relate to them? Do students want to talk to an outsider?”

I hadn’t been on a high school campus for quite a few years. As I walked down the hallway, students were buzzing with excitement. It was crowded. Students looked much older to me. Most of them were wearing baggy clothes. Finally, I made it to the classroom, Room 103, where I was to share some insight with the students. I took a deep breath and opened the door. There, I found 32 students chit-chatting. As I walked in, everything stopped. All eyes were on me. “Hi, I’m Marlon.” “Hey, Marlon, come on in.” SH0000000, a moment of relief came over me. They accepted me. During that one-hour session, we had fun talking about goal-setting, the importance of school, and conflict resolution without violence. When the bell rang signaling time for the next class, I didn’t want it to end. Time just flew by and before we knew it, it was already time for me to return to work. I couldn’t believe how much fun I had. I went back to work pumped up.

This continued for months. I developed many relationships at the school. Most students bonded to me. But not all the students were excited about my coming. In fact, there was Paul. I’ll never forget Paul. He was a real tough-looking guy, about 6’2”, 220 lbs. He had just transferred to this school. Rumor had it that he had been in and out of many juvenile detention centers. In fact, the teachers were scared of him. And why not? Two years ago, he had been sentenced for stabbing his English teacher in the chest during an argument. Everyone let him do what he wanted. He strolled to class late. Never carried a book in hand because he was just too cool for school. From time to time, he sat in on my lunch sessions but never said anything. I think the only reason he came was to “check out the babes.”

Whenever I tried to get him involved, he just stared at me with his piercing eyes. He intimidated me. He was like a bomb just waiting to explode. But I wasn’t going to give up on him. Every time he came, I tried to engage him in the discussion, but he wasn’t interested. One day, I had enough and the bomb exploded. During this particular session, we were developing our “goals collage.” Students were cutting out pictures of their goals from magazines and pasting them onto a poster board. We were 20 minutes into the session when Paul strolled in. I asked for a volunteer to share his or her goals collage with the rest of the class. Julie, a petite girl, stood up and began sharing her dreams. I was happy to see Julie stand up because, when I first met her, she was so shy. “I’m going to go to medical school to become a doctor.” All of a sudden, laughter broke out from the back of the room. “Please. You, a doctor? Be for real. You ain’t gonna be anybody.” All heads turned to the back of the room. Paul was laughing at his statement. I was shocked. I couldn’t believe what just took place. There was complete silence. What should I do? My adrenaline was flowing strong. “Paul, that’s not right. Who are you to put somebody else down?” “Yo, teach, you dissin’ me? Are you disrespecting me? Do you know who I am? Look man, I’m an Original Gangster. Don’t mess with me; you’ll get hurt.”

He started walking toward the door. “No, Paul, that doesn’t fly. You have no right to put somebody else down. Enough is enough. You don’t have to be here. Either you’re part of the group or you’re not. We’ve got a team here that supports one another. And, Paul, you have so much potential. We want your participation. You have so much to offer the group. I care about you and this entire group. That’s why I’m here. Are you going to be a team player?” Paul looked over his shoulder and gave me a stare of terror. He opened the door and walked out, slamming the door behind him. The class was shaken by this drama, and so was I. After class, I packed up my materials and started making my way to the parking lot. As I approached my car, someone called out to me. I turned around and to my surprise, it was Paul. He was walking quickly toward me. A state of fear came over me. Part of me wanted to get help, but it happened so fast that I couldn’t move.

Mr. Smith, you remember what you said to me?” “Yeah, Paul.” “Did you mean what you said about caring for me and wanting me to be part of the team?” “Yeah, of course, Paul.” “Well, no one has ever in my life told me that they care for me. You are the first person to ever say that. I want to be part of the team. Thanks for caring enough to stand up to me. I’ll apologize to Julie tomorrow in front of the entire class.” I couldn’t believe my ears. I was in shock. I could hardly speak.

As he walked away, tears of joy swelled up in my eyes and started rolling down my face. I had been truly touched for life. That day I decided to commit my life to empowering our young people to realize their true potential.

Joke (524)

Business Is Business

A young Jewish boy started attending public school in a small town. The teacher of the one-room school decided to use her position to try to influence the new student. She asked the class, "Who was the greatest man who ever lived?"

A girl raised her hand and said, "I think George Washington was the greatest man who ever lived because he is the father of our country."

The teacher replied, "Well, that's a good answer, but that's not the answer I'm looking for."

Another young student raised his hand and said, "I think Abraham Lincoln was the greatest man who lived because he freed the slaves and helped end the Civil War."

"Well, that's another good-answer, but that's not the one I was looking for."

The Jewish boy raised his hand and said, "I think Jesus Christ was the greatest man who ever lived."

The teacher's mouth dropped open in astonishment. "Yes!" she said. "That's the answer I was looking for." She then brought him up to the front of the classroom and gave him a lollipop.

Later, during recess, another Jewish boy approached him as he was licking his lollipop. He said, "Why did you say, 'Jesus Christ'?"

The boy stopped licking his lollipop and replied, "I know it's Moses, and you know it's Moses, but business is business."

Magnetic Fishing

Three fishermen were sitting on a riverbank holding fishing poles with the lines in the water. A game warden came up behind them, tapped them on the shoulder, and said, "Excuse me, I'd like to see your fishing licenses."

"We don't have licenses," replied the first fisherman.

"Well, if you're going to fish, you need fishing licenses," said the game warden.

"But, Officer," replied the second fisherman, "we aren't fishing. We all have magnets at the end of our lines, and we're collecting debris off the bottom of the river."

The game warden lifted up all the lines and, sure enough, there were horseshoe magnets tied on the end of each line. "Well, I know of no law against it," said the game warden. "Take all the debris you want." And with that, the game warden left.

As soon as the game warden was out of sight, the three fishermen started laughing hysterically. "What a stupid fish cop!" the second fisherman said to the other two. "Doesn't he know that there are steelhead salmon in this river?"

Special Scales for Fisherman

When President Cleveland's second child was born, the doctor asked Cleveland for a scale to determine the baby's weight. Cleveland searched through the house without success. Finally, he remembered that he had an old scale in the basement that he always used on his fishing trips. He got it and brought it upstairs.

Carefully, the doctor placed the infant on the scale and was amazed to learn that the newborn weighed twenty-five pounds.

Not Going Fishing

An old woman saw a young boy with a fishing pole over his shoulder and a jar of tadpoles in his hand. He was walking through the park on a Sunday afternoon. "Son," she called out, "don't you know you shouldn't go fishing on Sunday?" "I'm not going fishing," the boy answered. "I'm going home."

Miss Piggy on Eating

Muppet star Miss Piggy shared her considerable wisdom and experience concerning food: "You should never eat more at one sitting than you can lift."