

January 18, 2009  
Bulletin # 3

## 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

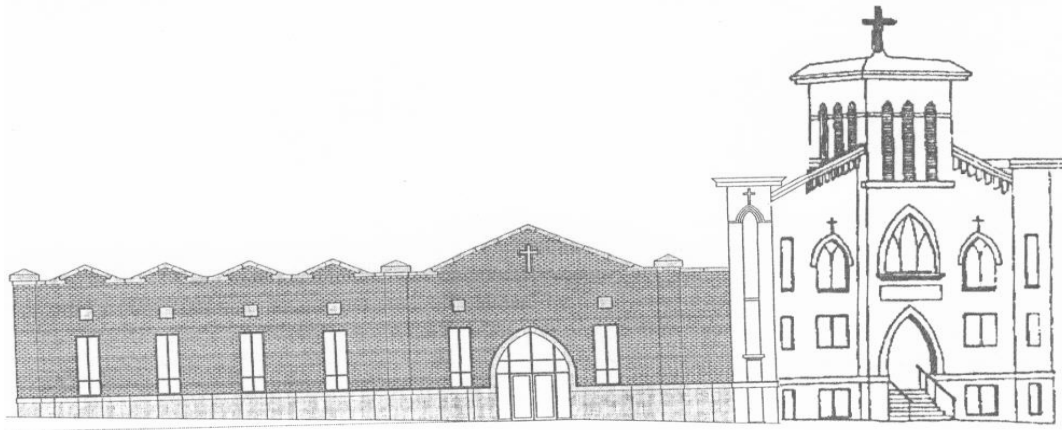
E-Mail: ololwv@Comcast.net • Web Site: www.ololwv.com

**Rev. Bakhos Chidiac (Pastor)**

Evelyn Ghaphery (Organist)

Charlotte Khourey & Thomasina Geimer (Secretaries)

### Epiphany Season 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month at 3:30 p.m. & 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Communion
- \*Miraculous Medal Novena: Every 2<sup>nd</sup> 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: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany***

*Readings: 2Cor 4:5-15 & Jn 1:35-42*

Faithful to his role as Precursor, John the Baptist has just skillfully turned the attention of the men sent from Jerusalem to enquire about him away from his own self. ***“There stands among you the one unknown to you.”*** John himself is only the ***“Voice”*** of the ***“Word”*** who is coming after him.

According to the Jewish tradition, the Messiah had to remain hidden until Elijah had anointed him and made him known publicly to Israel. Before baptizing his cousin, John himself was unaware that Jesus was the Messiah. But he has seen and he bears witness. He has seen the Spirit come down and rest on Jesus in the Jordan. In the light of the scriptures he has sensed that he was the Lamb of future atonements, the Servant chosen by God to baptize in the Spirit. ***“He is the Son of God!”***

From the outset, in its presentation of Jesus, the fourth Gospel heralds the baptism of death which he must accept to take away the sins of the world, the fire which he has come to bring on the earth. But it also suggests the immeasurable greatness that is his divine pre-existence acknowledged by the Baptist: ***“he existed before me.”*** The exceptional destinies of some individuals may be compared to those rivers whose power is only revealed far downstream from their source.

There are two ways of simplifying our thinking about Jesus Christ and avoiding the witness which we must bear him after the example of John. We can either raise Jesus to heaven and proclaim him God, but a God who cannot be reached, and whose salvation remains limited to the life beyond in eternity; or we can bring him down to earth, and see in him no more than a man among men, no doubt closer and more a brother, but deprived of his Father and cut off from the Spirit. But Christ can neither be bound to earth nor confined to heaven.

*“Whatever our state, let us place Jesus between God and ourselves.”* --Bossuet

## ***Mass Intentions***

### **This WEEKEND, January 17-18: “2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany”**

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

Jean Bentz (on her 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary) by Susie & Millet Fadoul

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

### **Weekday Masses**

**Monday, January 19:** No Mass. Pastor’s Day off

**Tuesday, January 20:** No Mass. Pastor’s Day off

**Wednesday, January 21 at Noon:**

Mike Sobota by his wife Barb Sobota

Joe Bittengle by Earl, Linda and Allison Duffy

**Thursday, January 22:** : No Mass. Pastor’s Day off

**Friday, January 23 at Noon:**

Mike & Sadie Thomas and Deceased Relatives (MN) by Ervin & Rosemary Splatt (WI)

Special Intention of Marge & Lou John by the Family

### **NEXT WEEKEND, January 24-25: “3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany”**

#### **Saturday, January 24 at 4:00 p.m.:**

Special Intention

Marjorie Spears by Jerry & Marge Saseen

**Sunday, January 25 at 10:30 a.m.:**

40 Day Mass for Joe Bittengle by Jody Seabright Family  
Jim Garvey (on his Anniversary) by Kay Garvey and Sue Flading

*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"**. By now most of our active generous parishioners should have received a letter of solicitation concerning the painting project of the church. Please once more make the difference and offer a tax deductible 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.

\$500	Alexandrite Leaf offered by Rich Lucas of Main Street Bank honoring Fr. Bakhos (1.10.09)
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#### **4- Wish List for Our Lady of Lebanon Church**

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

a- 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 and for Don Henning's help in selecting the best deep fryer.

Thanks to Marty & Debbie (Elias) Kull (Yorkville, OH) for donating a commercial slicer to our church.

May the generous benefactors receive their reward many fold.

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

### ***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 25<sup>th</sup>)

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 25<sup>th</sup>**.

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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 <b>only</b>
\$ 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**  
**“Attention, Reverse Raffle”**  
**2216 Eoff Street**  
**Wheeling, WV 26003**

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

## ***Week of the Faithful Departed*** (Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, to Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup>)

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*

*Deceased members of Kay Garvey Family by Kay Garvey*

*Deceased members of the Jacobs and Dusick Families by Sandra Dusick*

*Deceased members of the Long and Condelli Families by Sylvia Long*

*Mary K. Ferris by Thomas & Denise Ferris*

*Deceased members of the Abdo H. & Mary Zaid Ferris by Thomas & Denise Ferris*

## ***Soup & Hoagie Sale*** (Fri., Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>, 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 20<sup>th</sup>, from 10:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. **and** Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 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, Fasolia (Lebanese Bean Soup-meatless), Ham & Bean Soup, Italian Wedding Soup, Lentil Soup, Maghrabeyah (Lebanese Chicken Soup), New England Clam Chowder, Potato Soup, Stuffed Pepper Soup, Vegetable Beef Soup, Beef & Multi Vegetable Soup, 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, Hoagies and desserts 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.*);

*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 22<sup>nd</sup>, 11:30 a.m. 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 21<sup>ST</sup>, or between 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. 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*)

<b><i>Order Deadline</i></b>	Sunday, April 12
<b><i>Spinach Preparation</i></b>	Sunday, April 19, 11:30 a.m.
<b><i>Baking to Fill Orders</i></b>	Monday to Thursday, April 20-23, 9:00 a.m.
<b><i>Order Pick Up Dates</i></b>	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 17<sup>th</sup>, 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 18: Marge Saseen  
 January 23: Dale Seidler Jr., Lisa Haas  
 January 25: Marion Wellman  
 January 28: Nikki Popovich  
 January 29: Sandra Dusick  
 February 1: Sam Elias, Clara Morris  
 February 2: David John  
 February 4: Lindsay Carl  
 February 6: Debbie Shia  
 February 9: Fr. Bakhos Chidiac, Michael DiFabrizio

## *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:**

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*

\$894	Collection
38	Candles
5	Utilities
1,500	Donation to Church
50	Flowers
120	Ads
637	Refunds
285	Memorial for Lena Joseph
993	Painting Fund
\$4,522.00	Total. May God reward you many fold

*What's New?****Parish Condolences: John John***

The pastor and the parishioners of Our Lady of Lebanon Church, Wheeling, offer their heartfelt sympathy to the **John** family on the loss of their beloved **John** who passed away in Wheeling, on Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup>. Fr. Bakhos celebrated the Funeral Mass at Our Lady of Lebanon Church on **Friday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m.** The choir of the church served the Mass and the Women's Society served the Mercy Meal at the Social Hall of the church after the interment. May the Blessed Mother intercede for him and lead him to the light of Christ. May the Almighty God grant repose of the soul to His servant **John** and we extend the parish's condolences to *his* Family in their time of sorrow. Our Lady of Lebanon Church is so grateful to **John John's** family for directing all memorial contributions toward the funds for our new building project. May *his* Memory be eternal. AMEN

***Many Thanks for the Simon Family***

Dear Father Chidiac,

I have enclosed a check for \$800 for the annual donation to the church from the Simon Family Trust Fund. This donation is intended for church expenses such as candles, hosts, incense and other necessities for the altar and is done in memory of the following: Joseph R. Simon, Fred Simon, Sadie (Brice) Simon, Catherine Geary Simon, Helen Simon, Ann (Simon) Rose, Michael Simon, Theresa (Simon) David, Nicholas Simon.

As always, it is our happiness and joy to be of assistance to the parish of Our Lady of Lebanon. On behalf of all the members of the Simon and David families, we thank you for all that you are doing for the church. Gratefully,

--Michael David"

May God rest the soul of these benefactors and may the Blessed Mother intercede for them in heaven.

***In Our Mail Box***

Dear Father, Thank you for taking the reins of comfort into your hands when you put your arms around my daughter, Jody, as you walked her to the car from the grave side services for her beloved Joe. You appeared to me to be her Guardian Angel for we all were unable to move

Your beautiful kind words at the Mass on Sunday were most comforting as we listened with tearful eyes. We, her family, were very grateful to you for being there for her; and I pray God gives her comfort as she mends her sad heart. Thank you again Father. With thanks and love,

--Mary Lish

***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.

## ***Maronites = Catholics of the East***

### ***Chronology of the Maronite Church***

313 A.D.

Edict of Milan - Ending persecution of Christians guaranteeing freedom and complete toleration of all religions.

325 A.D.

The first Council of Nicea holding that Jesus is "true God of true God."

405 A.D.

While in exile in Armenia. Saint John Chrysostom writes to Saint Maron asking him to send him disciples to Lebanon to evangelize the mountain.

406-408 A. D.

The disciples of Saint Maron, under the leadership of Saint Abraham of Cyrrhus arrive in Lebanon to evangelize the natives of the mountain who are still pagan and worshipping Adonis.

410 A.D.

After the death of Saint Maron, the great Monastery of Beit Maroun is established near Qalat al Madeeq, Syria.

451 A.D.

Council of Chalcedon affirming Christ's true nature, human and divine, united in one person, thus rejecting previous heresies.

452 A.D.

Upon the request of Bishop Theodoret of Cyr and Pope Leo, Emperor Marcianus begins construction of the Great Monastery of Saint Maron near the Orontes River.

517 A.D.

350 monks are ambushed and killed near Allaat Semaan on their way to Saint Simon Stylites' Monastery near Aleppo, Syria. Their feast day is celebrated on 31 July.

670 A.D.

About 670 AD, the Byzantine Empire hired a highly trained military army of mercenaries. Composed of Christian ethnic groups from Armenia/Georgia in the Amanus Mountains and from Bosnia/Macedonia. They inflict severe losses to the Islamic Umayyads to the point that they sued for peace paying heavily on gold, horses and freedom of thousands of Byzantine prisoners. This brass wall on the eastern flank of the Byzantine Empire waged successfully into 685 AD.

680 A.D.

Sixth Ecumenical Council coincides in Constantinople and decree Christ has two natures, The Maronites adhere to their proclamation.

685 A.D.

A treacherous agreement ensues between the Byzantine Emperor Justinian II and Caliph Abdel Malek ibn Marwan dismantling the Maronite Army of Marada and Jarajima. 13,000 of the army are sent back to Armenia/Georgia and Bosnia/Macedonia and 17,000 enter the mountains of Lebanon and become followers of Patriarch John Maron, first Maronite Patriarch. *(To be continued in the next bulletin)*

### ***Story: Youth Today***

I dashed out an exit at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago and ran towards a waiting cab. I was greeted by a cab driver with a three-day-old beard, an old baseball cap and arms the size of tree trunks. As he tossed my bags into the trunk, he spotted my luggage tags and said, "What kind of doctor are you?" "A veterinarian," I said. Instantly, his grizzled face broke into a smile. This happens to veterinarians all the time, as people love to talk about their pets.

The doors slammed, he put the car into gear and hit me with this opening salvo, "My wife claims I love

my toy poodle Missy more than I love her. Just once, she wants me to be as excited to see her as I am Missy. But Doc, it ain't gonna happen. Ya see, when I get home from a long day in the cab, dead tired, I open the door and there are the two of them looking at me, Ma and Missy. Ma has a scowl on her face and is ready to tear into me. Missy, on the other hand, is shaking all over, she's that happy – her face is grinning so wide, she could eat a banana sideways. Now who do you think I'm going to run to?"

I nodded my head in agreement because I understood his point only too well. He loved his wife, but he simply wanted permission to savor his fifteen minutes of fame. Everybody gets fifteen minutes of fame once in his lifetime. We pet owners get our fifteen minutes every time we come home – or even return from the next room.

A few days after I saw the cab driver in Chicago, I returned home. I was tired from my travels and looking forward to seeing my family. Pulling into the driveway, I peered through the windshield, straining to catch a glimpse of my loved ones. My two children, Mikkell and Lex, are very close to good ol' dad, but I didn't see their faces pressed against the window looking for me. Nor did my beloved wife, Teresa, come running in super slow motion across the yard, arms open wide ready to embrace me.

But I didn't despair. I knew I was still wanted, a Hollywood heartthrob, hometown hero to my two dogs: Scooter, a wirehaired fox terrier, and, Sirloin, a black Labrador retriever! As soon as I exited the pickup, Sirloin and Scooter charged to meet me. Their love-filled eyes danced with excitement, and their tail turbochargers whipped them into a delighted frenzy of fur. Was this affection-connection routine, or ho-hum for me? Was I cool, calm and collected? Heck no. I turned into a blithering idiot as I got out of my truck and rushed to meet the hairy-princess, Scooter, and Sirloin, the fur-king.

There I stood, all these false layers stripped away, masks removed and performances cancelled. It was my true self. Extra pounds, bad-hair day, angry people, travel strains, no matter. Scooter and Sirloin came to the emotional rescue and allowed me to drink in the sheer love and joy of the moment. I was drunk with contentment.

I was glad this took place in the privacy of my own home. What happened next might have spoiled my polished professional image. I immediately smiled, and raised my voice an octave or two, exclaiming, "Sirloin, yuz is daaaaddy's boy, aren't ya?" And, "Scooter have you been a good girl today? Yeah, you have, you've been a goooood girl!!"

They responded by turning inside out with delight, pressing themselves against my legs and talking to me. I felt as if I could tap directly into their wellspring of positive, healing energy. Gee, it was great to be home!

I bounded up the steps to find the rest of the family, heart open, stress gone and spirits restored by my fifteen minutes of fame.

## *Joke (525)*

### *Am I Driving?*

Two elderly women were out driving in a large ear-both could barely see over the dashboard. As they were cruising along, they came to an intersection. The stoplight was red, but they just went on through. The woman in the passenger seat thought to herself, "I must be losing it, but I could have sworn we just went through a red light."

After a few more minutes they came to another intersection, and the light was red again, and again they went right through. This time the woman in the passenger seat was almost sure that the light had been red but was really very concerned that she was losing her mind. She was getting nervous and decided to pay very close attention to the road and the next intersection to see what was going on.

At the next intersection, sure enough, the light was definitely red, and they did go right through it! She turned to the other woman and said, "Mildred! Did you know we just ran through three red lights in a row? You could have killed us!"

Mildred turned to her and said, "Oh, am I driving?"