

**May 10, 2009**  
**Bulletin # 19**

## ***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)

## ***Mother Day***



## ***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 is: 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 are for parishioners; Monday through Friday – park ONLY in the 3 ALLEY spaces

## ***Gospel Reflection: Mother's Day***

*Readings: Eph 2:1-10 & Mt 5:13-16*

Today's Gospel forms with the Beatitudes the opening of the Sermon on the Mount. 'Happy are you!' Jesus told those to whom he had foretold persecutions. Here he opens their eyes to themselves: 'You are Speaking through them to Christians of all ages, he makes known their greatness within the mysterious fellowship in which he gathers them.

What are they then? They are the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Leaving aside the purely natural aspects of these images, it must be remembered that the Bible prescribed that salt, the sign of a covenant, be put on every offering presented to God, and the people of old believed it had the power to fertilize. Light symbolized for Israel the triumph of the messianic revelation over the darkness of paganism.

Christians, who are the new Israel, are now given a mission to all mankind: by their faith and their love, they redirect, consecrate, fertilize humankind.

We must live out the certainty underlying this 'You are . . .'. For many Christians today, the systematic running down of the Church's message is as much a temptation as an inward-looking exclusivism has been. They have been warned about proud particularism, about the conceit and triumphalism of the clergy, to such an extent that they are in danger either of wishing to return to the catacombs or of naively coming to terms with the world. They are to take their place in the world, but in order to be for it a living gospel; if they do not do so, their message will lose all power and will only be trodden under foot.

***'O Christian, be aware of your nobility!' (St Leo) in order to live up to it, and so give glory to God.***

### ***Mother's Day: Safe Box***

Child (tugging at mother's sleeve with one hand and raising a chewed wad of gum with the other): Here mom, hold my gum, please. Mother (searching in her purse for a wrapper): Didn't I tell you not to put so many pieces in your mouth at once? Child: But Mom, I thought you'd like to hold it. You don't want me to drop it on the ground, do you? Why do children presume that mothers like to hold things? Why do we think Mother is some kind of safe-deposit box? There's no question about it. We can give Mom anything to hold for us and we know that when we come back and ask her for it, she'll have it – or know where to find it – and that we'll get it back safe and sound, exactly as we gave it to her, or better.

Have you ever wondered how many bottles and blankets and bears and half-chewed pieces of gum mothers have been asked to hold in the course of a lifetime? Too many to count. And too often without thanks. But they do it. Anyway, mothers are better than any safe-deposit box. Mothers never hesitate about what they will or will not hold; they never set time limits about how long they'll hold; they never charge, never ask, never refuse, and never forget. They keep our treasures safe, holding them close against the day when we return and want them back.

### ***Mother's Day Prayer***

Prayer to preserve the innocence of our children:

O God, Source of all life and goodness, preserve the natural wonder and innocence of our children, their innate joy and simplicity. Protect us from the snares of the devil; keep our homes pure and filled with love. May we, as adults, seek to emulate the purity of our children, so that our hearts may grow closer to Yours.

### ***Mother's Day: Prayer of Grandma***

I give You thanks, Heavenly Father, that I enjoy the blessing of being able to see my children's children. They are so dear to me because in them I see my own children when they were young. What marvels You have wrought to bring me to this place in life, how You have preserved me through the trials both in my life and my children's.

Gracious Father, You have given me, through my grandchildren, the hope that life springs eternally new. May I never cease to appreciate Your overwhelming goodness mirrored in their faces. Amen.

## Mass Intentions

**This WEEKEND and following weekdays, May 9-15: Mother Week Masses**

**Requested Special Masses this weekend:**

**Saturday, May 9:** Fred & Freddie Oser by Bob Oser

**Sunday, May 10:** Dale Seidler Sr. by his wife Nettie & her Family

### *Mother's Day: Mom*

Once upon a time there was a child ready to be born. The child asked God, *"They tell me you are sending me to earth tomorrow, but how am I going to live there being so small and helpless?"*

God replied, *"Among the many angels, I chose one for you. Your angel will be waiting for you and will take care of you."*

The child further inquired, *"But tell me, here in heaven I don't have to do anything but sing and smile to be happy."*

God said, *"Your angel will sing for you and will also smile for you everyday. And you will feel your angel's love and be very happy."*

Again the child asked, *"And how am I going to be able to understand when people talk to me if I don't know the language?"*

God said, *"Your angel will tell you the most beautiful and sweet words you will ever hear, and with much patience and care, your angel will teach you how to speak."*

*"And what am I going to do when I want to talk to you?"* asked the child.

God said, *"Your angel will place your hands together and will teach you how to pray."*

*"I've heard that on Earth there are bad men. Who will protect me?"*

God said, *"Your angel will defend you even if it means risking its life."*

*"But I will always be sad because I will not see you anymore."*

God said, *"Your angel will always talk to you about me and will teach you the way to come back to me, even though I will always be next to you."*

At that moment there was much peace in heaven, but voices from Earth could be heard and the child hurriedly asked, *"God, if I am to leave now, please tell me my angel's name."*

*"Her name is not important. You will simply call her Mom."*

### **5 Masses For the Repose of the Souls of Our Deceased Mothers:**

*Mimi Rohanna, Clara, Edwina & Yvonne by Mary & Frank Lish & Families*

*Sadie Chidiac by her son Fr. Bakhos (pastor)*

*Louise N. Khourey & Gladys Howard by their children Lou & Charlotte and grandchildren Emmalena & Louie*

*Living & Deceased members of the Nicholas & Nimnoom Ghaphery Family & the David Abraham Ghaphery Family by the Ghaphery Family*

*Nimnoom Ghaphery by the Ghaphery Family*

*Anne Bott & Beulah Brubach by Sue & Jim Brubach*

*Sarah Magruder & Janet Voitle by Denny & Barbara Magruder*

*Victoria John by her children: Lou, John and Jennie Zambito*

*Marian Keegan by her daughter Marge John*

*Anna Przelenski & Adelaide Schuler by Irene & Paul Schuler*

*Mary K. Ferris by Tom & Denise Ferris*

*Catherine Yost & Elizabeth Garvey by Kay Garvey*

*My mother Sadie Coury by Lucille Gibbons*

*Idamae Hoit & Stella Olinski by Patty & Ted Olinski*

*Peggy Emmerth by sisters Mary & Helen*

*Anna O'Niell Emmerth by daughters Mary & Helen*

*Our mothers & grandmothers by Bill & Carol Dougherty*

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*Sally Malatinski by Sandra Dusick*

*Mary Joseph Shipley by daughter Thomasina*

*Margaret Schlog & Helen Saseen by Bob & Fran Saseen*

*Mother Grace & grandmother Mary DeLeonardis by Sylvia Long*

*Rose Fadoul & Nell Duffy by Earl, Linda & Allison Duffy*

*Helen Fielding a Loving Mother by Don Fielding (FL)*

*Nasima Elias, Barbara George, Sadie Nassif, Takla Wakim by Rick and Debbie Davis & Family*

*Mariam Joseph & Mary Catherine Habeb by the Abraham, Joseph, Weisner & Goodson Families*

*Anita Weisner & Louise Bishop by George & Jean Weisner & Family*

*Sadie John (mother) & Katherine Tappe by Julia Tappe*

*Pauline Shalvey by her daughters Peggy & Nancy Shalvey*

*Mary Elias by Joe Elias*

*Jean A. Weekly by sisters Mary and Helen*

*Sophia Philips (mother) & Rose Douhty (sister) by Josephine Joseph*

*Mary Popovich and Helen Fielding by Joe & Nikki Popovich*

*Mary Demsko by Rosemary Cornish*

### **5 Masses For Good Health and Long and Happy Life of Our Living Mothers:**

*My married sisters by Fr. Bakhos*

*Charlotte Khourey by her husband Lou & her children Emmalena & Louie*

*Diane Frenn by her children Andreah & Justin Frenn*

*Sue Brubach by Jim Brubach, Kim, Lorrie, Lisa*

*Marjorie C. John by her husband Lou John & children*

*Kay Garvey by her daughter Sue & Mike Flading*

*My 2 daughters & 5 daughters-in-law by Lucille Gibbons*

*Judy Custer by mother (Mary) & husband Rich*

*Bernadine Elias, Terri Golebiewski, Barbara Joseph, Rita Masslander, Leighann Zinn, Elizabeth Zinn, Anita Pisano by Rick & Debbie Davis*

*Pearl Shutler by her daughter Janet Shutler*

*Janet Shutler by her family & friends*

*Jean Weisner by her children*

*Nikki Popovich & Nikki Lenz by Joe Popovich*

### **THIS WEEKEND, May 16-17: May Crowning**

#### **Saturday, May 16 at 4:00 p.m.:**

Fr. William Martin (on his Anniversary) by Fr. Anthony Batt

Martha Bris Corondoni by Mariam Bris Harris & her children & Anna & Jim Bougher

#### **Sunday, May 17 at 10:30 a.m.:**

Ben Roski (on his Anniversary) by Rosella Saseen

Nimnoom Ghaphery by the Ghaphery Family

### ***I Want to Help the Church – What Can I Do?***

#### **Painting the Church is our gift to the Blessed Mother during her Month – May**

**Painting of the church is in progress now. It is scheduled to end by May 31<sup>st</sup>.**

During the month of May, the old basement hall will be used for coffee and donuts and all other events. No Cedar Hall rental may be scheduled during May. A special plaque will be mounted in the church stating: **“Please remember in your prayer these benefactors who painted the church in 2009.”** Please check the list of donors below and see if your name is listed. Thank you for your dedication and generosity.

**The Generous Benefactors who painted the church in 2009: (Cost of painting is \$32,000 + \$3,000 for electrical wiring = \$35,000. Total Raised for painting so far: \$35,269.00). Many Thanks to you all.**

**Memorials:** *Mike Sobota (Memorial) (\$735), John John (Memorial) (\$1,000), Lena Joseph (Memorial) (\$100), Jennie Bedway (Memorial) (\$300), Rosella Saseen (\$5,000 in Memory of her grandparents Shikery & Helen & her parents Nancepe & Helen), Sue Linton (Memorial) (\$20),*

**Donations:** *Our Lady of Lebanon Church Women Society Fundraising (\$451), Nancy Joseph (\$100), Manell Brice (\$500), Paul & Irene Schuler (\$100), Betty Shia (\$500), Charles Mattes (MD –Betty Shia’s brother \$500), Cedar Club \$1,150, Rose Karsten (MN \$20), Bob & Fran Saseen (\$100), Millie & Sister Jeanne Vidonic (\$50), Robert & Virginia Pockl (\$100), Tom Ferris (\$125), 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), Kenny & Nancy Joseph (\$500), Evelyn Ghaphery (\$300), Mark & Barb McLaughlin (\$50), Dr. Joe Palmer (\$100), Joann Hill (\$50), Robert & Lois Hammond (\$100), Jim & Sue Brubach (\$100), Anonymous Parishioners (\$250), Fred & Debbie Shia (\$100), Annette Togliatti (OH \$20), Salem David (CT \$15), Susan & Dominique George (\$100), Lou & Marge John (\$200), Dr. Samy Sakla (\$100), Rose Mary White (\$25), Thomasina Geimer (\$100), Drs. Rajai & Nahla Khoury (\$100), Mike & Nicole Breit (NC \$50), Donald Fielding (FL \$250), Randy Weisner (\$500), Barbara Joseph (FL \$500), Evelyn Goodson (\$100), Rose Vargo (\$100), Ron & Kim Gibbons (\$30), Mike & Sue Linton (\$150), Al & Josephine Weidman (\$25), Frank & Anna Marie Duymich (\$25), Charles Sleeme (FL \$25), Emily Vince (\$50), Youssef & Jocelyn Chahine (PA \$300), John & Dee Shibben (\$500), Jim & Shirley George (\$100), Bill Hogan (\$100), Kathy Maroon (\$25), Patti (Hage) Hirsh (TX \$70), Clara Morris (\$45), Rex & Rita Strawn (\$300), Bill & Carol Dougherty (\$1,500), Eleanor Thomas (\$25), Mary Beth Weisner (OH \$1,000), George & Jean Weisner (\$500), Philip & Robbie Saseen (\$100), Millet & Susie Fadoul (\$200), Patrick & Laurie Henry (\$200), Linda Hostutler (\$200), Julia Tappe (\$100), Louis & Joan Betras (\$100), Bob & Mary Thomas (OH) (\$340), Ron Weisner (\$2,000), Peggy & Nancy Shalvey (\$30), Dee Freeland and Michelle Beatty and Ann Verardi (\$55), Allison Duffy (\$50), Josephine Joseph (\$50), Mary M. Blum (\$50), Michael Sofka (\$20), Patrick & Jacqueline Petros (\$100), Holly & Shirley Bine (\$100), Earl & Linda Duffy (\$100), Frank & Mary Lish (\$100), Anonymous (\$1,000), Peggy Justice & Ann Lee Bauduin (\$100), Cedar Club Bingo Fundraising (\$60), Juliette Breit (PA) (\$100), Jerry & Marge Saseen (\$200), Tom & Kathleen George (\$200), George & Dolores Fahey (\$100), Anonymous generous parishioners (\$1,000), Adele & Bill Storm (\$25), Joe & Frances Linton (\$50), George & Patti Fahey (\$50), Anonymous (\$30), Sandra Dusick (\$100), Kay Garvey (\$120), Fr. Bakhos Chidiac (\$1,000), Joe & Nikki Popovich (\$1,100), Gary Weisner (\$1,800), Lou & Charlotte Khourey (\$1,000), Larry Breiding (\$2,000), Mary Rose Kukula (\$100), John & Mary Pifko (PA) (\$50),*

**Help with the Endowment Fund to Keep Our Church Open and Active (Total Raised: \$625)**

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 (\$225), Sylvia Long (\$100), Catherine Arthur (Memorial) (\$100),*

## *Our Lady of Lebanon Community Calendar*

Date	Event
Saturday, May 9	<b>Cedar Club Spring Dinner</b> (at 5:30 p.m. – following Mass)
Sat., May 9, - Fri., May 15	<b>Week of Mother’s Day Masses</b>
Sunday, May 10	<b>Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass</b>
Monday, May 11	<b>Cedar Club Meeting</b> (at 7:00 p.m.)
Sun. May 24 <sup>th</sup> or 31 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Restoring the Church and Cedar Hall after the Painting Project</b>
Sunday, May 31	<b>Women’s Society 50/50 Maintenance Fund Raffle</b> – Drawing after 10:30 a.m. Mass
Saturday, June 6	<b>Parish Rummage Sale</b> – from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. – <b>In Old Basement Hall</b> <i>Drop Off Days:</i> Sunday, May 31, from after Mass to 5 p.m. Monday & Tuesday, June 1 & 2, from 5 to 8 p.m. Wednesday & Thursday, June 3 & 4, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Sunday, June 7	<b>Spring Spaghetti Dinner</b> – 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. – <b>In New Cedar Hall</b>
Sunday, June 7	<b>Women’s Society Gift Basket Raffle Drawing</b> – at the Spaghetti Dinner
Sunday, August 9	<b>2009 Mahrajan</b>
Sunday, August 30	<b>Women’s Society Meeting</b> – after 10:30 a.m. Mass

### *Flowers for the Blessed Mother in May* (Sundays, May 3 through May 31)

The flowers donated for the Blessed mother in May will be sponsored as follows:

Sunday, May 10	Carol Dougherty, Sandra Dusick, Kay Garvey, Julia Tappe
Sunday, May 17	Shirley George, Rita Strawn & Anna Jalad
Sunday, May 24	Fran Saseen, Marge Saseen, Rosella Saseen
Sunday, May 31	Charlotte Kourey & Mary Stees

### *Cedar Club Spring Dinner* (Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 p.m.)

Please join the Cedar Club at their Spring Dinner to be held at Abbey’s Restaurant at 5:30 p.m., after Mass on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome. Please call Nini Miller at 304-243-0057 for details.

### *Cedar Club Meeting* (Monday, May 11, 7:00 p.m.)

The next Cedar Club meeting will be **in the Old Basement Hall** on Monday, May 11, at 7 p.m.. Hostess for the evening will be Danielle Lavoie.

### *Restoring the Church after Painting* (Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup> or Sunday May 31<sup>st</sup>)

According to the contract with the painting company, the job should be done by the end of May. It might be done the week before, but we don’t know for certain yet. Please follow the progress of the painting and be prepared to help Fr. Bakhos return the statues and all items to the church and set up the Cedar Hall for the Spaghetti Dinner when called upon to do so.

### *Women’s Society Monthly 50/50 Raffle* (Drawing: Sunday, May 31)

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 “Maintenance Fund.”

The drawing from entries received **for the May 50/50 Raffle Tickets** are provided at the church entrance and in the Weekly Church Bulletins will take place in the Cedar Hall after Mass on **Sunday, May 31**.

**Please check the ticket sheets carefully to be sure you are completing the correct ticket stubs. All raffle tickets are now printed on white paper only.** 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 April 50/50 winner of \$77: Virginia Porchiran, who participates monthly and now has won for the second month in a row. May the Blessed Mother continue to grant you a long life filled with good health.

## **Rummage Sale** (Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.) – **Held in the Old Basement Hall**

Start saving your household items that are in good condition and can be sold at our upcoming Parish Rummage Sale which will be held **in our Old Basement Hall**. There is always a profit on our sales. *If you have any questions, call Linda at 304-242-6853 or Luane at 304-242-7437.* Drop off dates are as follows:

Sunday, May 31, from after Mass until 5 p.m.

Monday & Tuesday, June 1 & 2, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Wednesday & Thursday, June 3 & 4 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

## **Spaghetti Dinner** (Sunday, June 7<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 Cedar Hall following Mass Sunday, June 7. 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 with coffee, ice tea or lemonade.

**Tickets:** \$7.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children under 12; Tickets are now available from the Church office at: 304-233-1688 or at the door. *Remember to purchase your tickets early. Our last three Spaghetti Dinners were sell outs!* **Tickets can be held at the door only if they are prepaid.** **Payment in advance is greatly appreciated.**

### **Notes:**

1. Advance Ticket Sales: If you are able & willing to help sell tickets to make our dinner a tremendous success, please call our Church office. Unsold tickets & payments must be returned by Sunday, May 31.
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 304-233-1688.

## **Gift Basket Raffle Drawing** (Sunday, June 7, at the Spaghetti Dinner)

**“Wine & Dine Italian Style”** is the theme of our next Gift Basket Raffle. The drawing will be at the Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, June 7. The Gift Basket includes the following Italian items: *1 bag of tri-color pasta, 1 jar Figaretti Pasta Sauce, 1 box San Georgia shells, 1 box San Georgia spaghetti, 1 box Ronzini's Healthy Harvest spaghetti, 1 jar Classico Sweet Basil sauce. 1 jar DeLallo Roasted Peppers, 1 bottle Riunite Rasp. Wine, 2 Italian Wine Goblets, 1 Pasta Italian Cook Book, 1 pair kitchen shears, 1 Oneida 4-sided grater, 1 hand cheese grater, 1 Italian Spoon rest, 1 bottle Balsamic Vinegar, 1 bottle Pure Olive Oil, 1 container Parmesan Cheese, 1 Pampered Chef Measuring Cup, 1 garlic press, 1 pasta fork, 1 kitchen towel.*

The Gift Basket Raffles are sponsored by the Women's Society to benefit our “Maintenance Fund.” Tickets are available now at the church entrance, in our weekly Bulletin, at our upcoming St. Maron Dinner or call Kay at 232-0492. Tickets cost \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 or **triple your chances of winning by sending in 18 ticket stubs (3 sheets of tickets) at one time for only \$10.00.**

**Please check the ticket sheets carefully to be sure you are completing the correct ticket stubs. All raffle tickets will now be printed on white paper only.** Buy or sell the tickets, and return the completed stubs

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as soon as possible in the weekly collection (with Gift Basket Raffle noted on the front of the envelope) or write the notation on the "Memo" line of your check when you mail it to: Our Lady of Lebanon Church, 2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003. For more information, contact the church office at 304-233-1688. Your generosity and cooperation enhances our Church.

## *Please Pray for Those on Our Prayer List*

### **Please Remember Those Hospitalized Recently In Your Prayers:**

Rosalie Conti, Donald Gibbons, Rosella Saseen,

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

Barb Sobota, Sam Elias, Laura & Marion Wellman, Mary Piko, 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 & his mom (brother & mother of Dr. Rob Vawter)

## *Happy Birthday*

May 9: Debra Laughlin  
 May 10: Frank Lish  
 May 15: Austin Musilli  
 May 16: Dustin Olinski, Jacqueline Petros  
 May 18: Millet L. Fadoul  
 May 20: John Fadoul  
 May 21: Roxanne Wurtzbacher, Rachel Zinn  
 May 23: Jim George Jr., Brian K. Seidler  
 May 27: Emmalena Khourey, Brad McLaughlin  
 May 30: Josie Stees Fertig  
 May 31: Bill Dougherty

## *Your Church Support Last Week*

1,557	Collection
214	2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection "National Shrine"
61	Candles
80	Utilities
20	Parking
78	Fundraising
525	Reimbursement
825	Mahrajan (Ad Book)
160	Mahrajan (Table reservations)
1,215	Painting Fund
\$4,735	Total. May God reward you many fold

## *What's New?*

### *Award to the Blessed Mother*

Last Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, Fr. Bakhos and the Architect Larry Siebieda and his wife, the parish council members and their wives, husbands and many parishioners (total 23) attended the Award Ceremony Dinner at the First State Capitol Building in Wheeling, to receive the Sympathetic Architectural Award from the Friends of Wheeling. Fr. Bakhos insisted that he and the architect and the parish council members as a group should be in the memorable photo, and receive the Crystal Award from the President of the Friends of Wheeling Association.

The Award is a crystal trophy stating, "**This award is presented to our Lady of Lebanon Church, 2216 Eoff Street, Outstanding Sympathetic Addition. Friends of Wheeling, Inc., May 6, 2009**".

Fr. Bakhos said, “no one deserves this award other than the Blessed Mother who made everything easy and possible from day one of the building project. The impossible was made possible through her inspiration and by using us her servants as instruments. Every generous parishioner and benefactor should take part of this pride and glorify God for finishing the 1,600,000 without debt and before this world economic crisis. It is a miracle.”

### ***Parish Condolences: Sue Linton***

The pastor and the parishioners of Our Lady of Lebanon Church, Wheeling, offer their heartfelt sympathy to the **Linton** family on the loss of their beloved **Sue** who passed away in Wheeling, **last week**. Fr. Bakhos celebrated the Funeral Mass at Our Lady of Lebanon Church on Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 a.m. Our organist Evelyn Ghaphery and soloist Amanda Borkoski served the Mass and the Women’s Society served the Mercy Meal at the Social Hall. May the Almighty God grant repose of the soul to His handmaid Sue and we extend the parish’s condolences to *her* husband Mike and family members in their time of sorrow.

Our Lady of Lebanon Church is so grateful to **Sue’s** family for directing all memorial contributions toward the new Church Painting Fund. May *her* Memory be eternal. AMEN

### ***Parish Condolences: Martha Bris Corondoni***

The pastor and the parishioners of Our Lady of Lebanon Church, Wheeling, offer their heartfelt sympathy to the Corondoni and Bris families on the loss of their beloved **Martha** who passed away in California last week. Martha was the aunt of our beloved Paul Harris and also of Anna Bris Bougher.

May the Almighty God grant repose of the soul to His handmaid **Martha** and we extend the parish’s condolences to *her* Family in their time of sorrow.

### ***Extra Lebanese Bake Sale Items Available***

See any of the Women’s Society members to purchase the following extra items – which were frozen – from our recent sale:

Spinach Pies at \$2.25 each      or      Sesame Bread at \$1.25 each

### ***Many Thanks to...***

... to a friend of Fr. Bakhos and benefactor of our parish who anonymously donated the 14-foot aluminum ladder which we can use to changing bulbs in the high-ceiling areas in our new addition and in the church. May God bless him with good health and rest the souls of his beloved family members in heaven.

### ***Congratulations Graduate***

Michael Seabright who was graduated with honors on May 2nd from Clarion University of Pennsylvania with a degree I Molecular Biology and Biotechnology. Michael is the son of Michael & Cindy Seabright of Pennsylvania and the grandson of our beloved parishioners Mary and Frank Lish. He has been accepted at the Commonwealth of Virginia University pharmacy program for the fall semester. We’re proud of you Michael. May God bless you.

### ***Around Us***

#### ***Mini Food Festival*** (May 21-22)

Where:            Greek Church, Chapline Street from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; call for information: 304-233-1766  
Menu:            Gyro, Calamari, Tavern Fries, Salad, Pastries, Soft Drink.

#### ***Celebrating Christian Mothers*** (May 23-24)

Where:            St. Michael Church, Wheeling; for info call: 304-232-1949 or 304-242-4245 or 304-242-0479  
When:            Saturday & Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.

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

### **A Maronite Role in Lebanon**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Since the time, almost 1500 years ago when the ancestors of the present church fled the plains of Syria for the protection of Lebanon, the identity of this community of believers, the Maronites, has been tied to the land of Lebanon. Lebanon and the Maronites are linked by history and faith with an indelible seal. The Maronites have known great persecution as well as great success in Lebanon. Before the days of the modern republic, they were persecuted and ostracized by the majority religion of the region, as practiced by the Byzantine Empire, for their loyalty to the Pope. They were persecuted by the Arabs at the time of the Islamic conquest of the region (600's AD) and subjugated by the Turks for nearly the entire 500-year life of that empire (900's AD). However, they knew freedom during the time of the Crusades and later were given almost total autonomy within the context of the Ottoman Empire (1400-1900's AD). They had their first taste of political freedom in their land of refuge, Lebanon, but always tempered by the reality that they lived in an occupied land in which they could be persecuted and massacred because of the simple fact of the manner in which they worshipped God.

#### **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

*Colonial Period Following World War I.* Through these centuries of trial, the Maronites of Lebanon were always able to survive. In 1919 at the end of the First World War and the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire, the Maronite Patriarch, Huyaic, traveled to Versailles, the site of the peace conference, to inveigh upon the French, one of the victorious Allied Powers, to petition for Lebanese independence. This was a historic time following the end of the war of carving states from the old colonial order, according self-determination to indigenous peoples. The Patriarch was determined that Lebanon should emerge as an independent viable state. He therefore petitioned that the new Lebanon, to be carved from the old Ottoman Empire, have boundaries that extended beyond Mount Lebanon, the Grand Liban, in order to reflect the ancient boundaries of this ancient land. Lebanon was thus established under the French Mandate to include Mount Lebanon, the coastal cities of Tripoli, Beirut, Sidon and Tyre, as well as south Lebanon and the fertile Bekaa Valley. Under the French Mandate, which ran from the early 1920's until November 22, 1943, the date of Lebanese Independence, the Lebanese Christians, in particular the Maronites, held a favored position due to the demographic majority of Christians in the country and the Maronite affiliation with the French colonial power.

*(To be continued in the next bulletin)*

## ***Religious Story: Saint Chrysostom***

*[The saints kept God first in their lives]*

He was the golden-tongued preacher of the word of God, and was acknowledged as the greatest and saintliest man that ever graced the pulpit and episcopal chair of Constantinople.

In the Fourth Century after Christ, Antioch, where St. John Chrysostom was born and whose citizens honored him with the surname Chrysostom (Golden-Mouth), was one of the great cities of the Roman Empire along with Alexandria, Constantinople and Rome. Antioch was in the Orontes Valley, the original home of Syro-Lebanese Christians, and was a delightful place of residence, with abundance of pure water, location in a fertile plain, access to marine commerce, stately buildings of Asiatic, Greek and Roman architectural design, luxuriant gardens, numerous baths, and colonnaded, well paved, and brightly lighted streets. Good schools and beautiful churches were plentiful, many of which were built by the Emperors beginning with Constantine.

The city's inhabitants included many Greeks, Romans, Jews and native Antiochians who were the preponderant element. Half of the population of about 200,000 was Christian. In fact, the early followers of Christ in Antioch were the first to be called 'Christians.' Later, in the 7<sup>th</sup> Century, during the Arab invasion, these Christians fled to the safety of Mt. Lebanon. Despite the large numbers of Christians in Antioch, all the vices of the declining Roman civilization prevailed there: avarice, luxury, sensuality and an inordinate love of the circus and theatre.

Antioch's warm climate contributed to the soft and licentious natives' enjoyment of idleness and opulence, and passion for fashionable dress and splendid furniture. The arts of luxury were ardently pursued while virtuous living was shamelessly ridiculed. Female modesty and reverence for elders were held in contempt. Finally, the natives' passionate love of public spectacles, particularly the games of the circus and the theatre, spelled out the universal corruption of the capital of the East.

This is the Antioch – half Christian, half pagan – in which St. John Chrysostom was born in 347 AD., the son of a pagan father who was a military officer in the imperial army of Syria. He died when John was quite young, leaving his widow Anthusa to bring up the fatherless boy and an older sister. Anthusa, a professed Christian and an exemplary mother, refused further marriage and devoted herself totally to the upbringing and education of her two children.

Chrysostom received his chief literary training from Libanius, the foremost classical scholar and rhetorician of his age, who introduced him to and gave him a sound grounding in the Greek classics and the rhetorical arts, with an emphasis on Demosthenes, Isocrates, Thucydides and Plato. After completing his rhetorical studies with Libanius, John commenced the practice of law. While he displayed talent in the law-courts, he was not satisfied and felt a sense of guilt about the sophistic nature of law - making the worse cause appear the better.

About this time John, influenced by his pious mother and his acquaintance with Bishop Meletius of Antioch, undertook the quiet study of the Scriptures and entered a class of catechumens. After three years, at the age of 23, he was baptized by Bishop Meletius. This was a turning point in his life since he now renounced the worldly life entirely and dedicated himself to the service of Christ. From this time on, he lived a rigidly ascetic life, never swearing, defaming, speaking falsely, cursing, nor even tolerating facetious jokes. He ate sparingly and plainly, slept on the bare floor, and kept an almost unbroken silence.

After his mother died in 374, John retired to a monastic life in the mountains south of Antioch, where he spent six years in study, meditation and prayer. In 380 he returned to Antioch, where he was ordained a deacon by Bishop Meletius. A few years later, in 386, he was ordained a priest by Bishop Flavian. John now entered upon the real work of his life as golden-tongued preacher of the word of God. He preached regularly on Sundays and during Lent on the duties of Christians and undauntedly flayed the immorality of the citizens of Antioch. He scored with special severity the chariot races and the theater. At the same time he lived a blameless Christian life, practicing what he preached. He won the love and esteem of the crowds who flocked to his church to hear his golden oratory. It was during this period of his life that he acquired the surname Chrysostom (Golden Mouth). One of the important results of his sermons in Antioch was the conversion of a large number of heathens.

In 397, after the death of Bishop Nectarius, Chrysostom was chosen, despite his protestations, Bishop of Constantinople. Chrysostom's eloquence at first gained the admiration of the populace of Constantinople, the Emperor Arcadius and even the Empress Eudoxia, with whom later he waged a bitter feud. He took under his special care the heathen Goths, who were migrating in great numbers to Constantinople, and had parts of the Bible translated for them. He often preached to them himself through an interpreter and sent missionaries to the Gothic tribes on the Danube.

However, Chrysostom made enemies in Constantinople by his strong denunciation of the vices and transgressions of the aristocracy and of the clergy. He reprimanded the rich for luxurious habits of feasting and dressing and disciplined immoral clergymen. Thus he increased his unpopularity with the rich and powerful and in particular he antagonized the Empress Eudoxia who was jealous of his influence over her husband, the Emperor Arcadius. Before long the Empress, secretly aided and abetted by Theophilus, the rival Bishop of Alexandria, and disaffected clergy of Constantinople, formed a conspiracy to depose Chrysostom. At a secret synod held in a suburb of Chalcedon on the Bosphorus, Chrysostom was deposed and banished on false charges of treason and immorality. Shortly thereafter the city of Constantinople experienced an earthquake. Eudoxia felt it in her bedroom and appealed to Arcadius to avert the wrath of God and to recall the exiled bishop. Chrysostom returned in triumph to Constantinople.

Chrysostom's reconciliation with Eudoxia was brief, however. On the occasion of the dedication of a silver statue of the Empress with boisterous revelry in the forum before St. Sophia cathedral disturbing his church services, Chrysostom thundered against all who participated in the statue's dedication –the populace, the city prefect and especially Eudoxia, comparing her to Herodias and himself to John the Baptist. Regarding this as an insult, Eudoxia asked the Emperor to punish Chrysostom. Chrysostom was banished to the remote mountain village of Caucasus on the border of Armenia. His power and influence, however, continued through his many visitors at Caucasus and his correspondence with many notables and clergy.

Included in this correspondence is a letter by Chrysostom from his place of exile in Caucasus, written in 405 and addressed to "Maron, priest and hermit." There are extant 242 letters from this 3-year period of exile.

In September, 407, while he was being transferred, on orders of Eudoxia, to a new place of exile in the Caucasus, Chrysostom died from the rigors of the journey. Thirty-one years later, his remains were brought to Constantinople to the Church of the Holy Apostles. The young Emperor Theodosius II and his sister met the procession at Chalcedon, kneeled before the coffin and implored heaven to forgive their guilty parents for the grave injustice they committed against the greatest and saintliest man that ever graced the pulpit and episcopal chair of Constantinople.

Chrysostom was the most prolific author among the Greek fathers. Among his many writings, which included moral and ascetic treatises, homilies and commentaries, orations, letters, and his liturgy, his most important are his Homilies and Commentaries, which deal with Genesis, Isaiah, the Psalms, the Gospel of Matthew, the Gospel of John, the Acts, and the Pauline Epistles. The homilies on the Pauline Epistles are considered his best, especially those to the Corinthians. The 80 homilies on Matthew are also very valuable. The Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom is an abridgment and improvement of the Liturgy of St. Basil, both of which are descended from the Liturgy of St. James.

The historian Edward Gibbon's assessment of Chrysostom is aptly phrased. He writes that Chrysostom had "the happy art of engaging the passions in the service of virtue, and of exposing the folly as well as the turpitude of vice, almost with the truth and spirit of a dramatic representation."

## *Joke (541)*

### *Happiness and Marriage*

At a wedding reception a woman and her friend watched the newly married couple cut their cake. As they watched, the woman remarked to her friend, "I never knew what true happiness was until I got married, but by then it was too late."

### *Man without Mirth*

A man without mirth is like a wagon without springs: He is jolted disagreeably by every pebble in the road.  
--Henry Ward Beecher

### *Make Someone Happy*

The late Congressman Sol Bloom would habitually drop a coin into the street. When someone asked why, he said, laughingly, "Oh, somebody is sure to find it and be happy the rest of the day."

### *Too Much Good*

Excess: Too much of a good thing is wonderful!

### *Delighted Lightning Bug*

Here is a "bright" opening: "I am delighted to speak to you today. Like the lightning bug who backed into a fan."