

July 19, 2009
Bulletin # 29

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

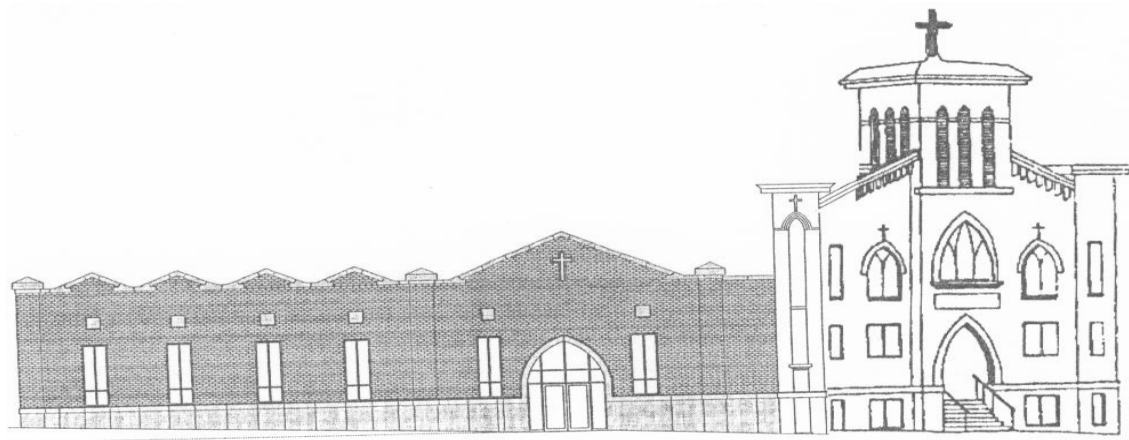
E-Mail: ololwv@Comcast.net • Web Site: www.ololwv.com

Rev. Bakhos Chidiac (Pastor)

Evelyn Ghaphery (Organist)

Charlotte Khourey & Thomasina Geimer (Secretaries)

Saint Sharbel



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 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 – both parking lots are for parishioners; Monday through Friday – park ONLY in the 3 ALLEY spaces

Gospel Reflection: Saint Sharbel

Readings: Rom 8:1-11 & Mt 12: 14-21

Saint Sharbel (1828 - 1898)

Youssef Antoun Makhloof was born in the North of Lebanon, at Beqaa'Kafra in the year 1828. As a result of his Christian upbringing and with the example of two uncles already hermits in the monastery of Saint Antoine Kozhaya, he dedicated himself to prayer and to the monastic life from an early age.

In 1851, at the age of 23, he left his family and village for his first year's novitiate at the monastery of Our Lady of Mayfooq. He then went to the monastery of Saint Maron of Annaya to join the order of Lebanese Maronite Monks where he took the name of Sharbel after a Second Century martyr of the Church in Antioch. It was there that he took his vows on November 1st, 1853, and then continued his theological studies at the monastery of Saint Cyprian of Kfeefan, Batroun.

He was ordained priest at Bekerke, the Maronite patriarchal seat, on July 23rd, 1859. The next sixteen years were spent at the monastery of Saint Maron of Annaya, after which he withdrew definitively to the hermitage of Saint Peter and Saint Paul attached to this monastery. Here he passed a life of constant prayer, rarely leaving the hermitage, and, in all things, he was an exemplary model of self-denial and sanctity. After 23 years at the hermitage, he died on Christmas Eve 1898 and was buried in the cemetery of Annaya.

Some months after his death, dazzling lights appeared around his tomb. His body was found to be still fresh, exuding blood and sweat, and so was transferred to a new coffin. Many pilgrims came to pray for his protection and received numerous physical cures and spiritual succor through his intervention.

The process for his canonization was opened in 1925. In 1950, his tomb was opened in the presence of doctors and the official committee, who proceeded to verify that the body was intact and free from corruption. With the opening of the tomb, the number of cures of all kinds abruptly multiplied and pilgrims of all confessions and from all parts of Lebanon came to pray the Holy Sharbel.

Within a short time, his miracles knew no frontiers. The thousands of letters and other evidence conserved in the archives at Annaya remain the best witness to the spread of his holy renown. This exceptional phenomenon was the immediate cause of a number of conversions and of a great renewal of virtue in the heart of the faithful.

Among the many miracles attributed to Saint Sharbel, the Church retained two for his Beatification and a third for his Canonization.

The Beatification and Canonization of St. Sharbel:

- 1- In 1954, Pope Pius XII signed the decision of the process for his beatification
- 2- On December 5th, 1965, Pope Paul VI presided over the ceremony of beatification which took place at the close of the Second Vatican Council
- 3- In 1976, Pope Paul VI signed the decision of the process for his canonization to be solemnly proclaimed in a pontifical Mass on October 9th, 1977

From the Desk of the Pastor

You can say, "With the grace of God, Mission Accomplished." The building and furnishing of the new addition, the painting of the church, the installation of the new chandeliers, the fixing of the roof of the church, the paving of the new parking lot, and lastly the sealing and striping of the old parking lot, are completed. This progress was made possible because the hand of God and the prayers of the Blessed Mother accompanied us from day one. It was also due to the generosity of most of our parishioners and many benefactors. In this economic time of crisis, we have to be very thankful to God and grateful to all our donors that we were able to raise the 1.6 million dollars and mark all the bills as PAID IN FULL. We should not, however, boast with pride lest we sin. Our church is in good shape financially and spiritually because of your attendance and support.

It has been eight years and two months since I started serving this parish. I don't like to serve more than six years in one place. However, when time comes, I will carry in my heart a great memory of this parish. I will preach of your goodness and dedication wherever I go. I wish you always happiness and peace. --Fr. Bakhos

Mass Intentions

THIS WEEKEND, July 18-19: Saint Sharbel

Saturday, July 18 at 4:00 p.m.:

Sue Linton by Pat Fahey

Kathleen Hogan Schenk by the parish of Our Lady of Lebanon Church

Sunday, July 19 at 10:30 a.m.:

Shipley Shipley by Bill & Carol Dougherty

Helen Fielding by her husband Don Fielding (FL) & his special intentions

Weekday Masses

Monday, July 20: No Mass. Pastor's Day Off

Tuesday, July 21: No Mass. Pastor's Day Off

Wednesday, July 22 at Noon:

Bernard Bukowski (St. Paul, MN) by his wife Helen and family

Shipley Shipley by Lou & Janet Thomas

Thursday, July 23 at noon:

Shipley Shipley by George & Mary Thomas

Mike & Sadie Thomas and deceased relatives (MN) by Ervin & Rosemary Splatt (WI)

Friday, July 24 at Noon:

Shipley Shipley by Ed & Mary McCinley & family

Helen Fielding by her husband Don Fielding (FL) & his special intentions

NEXT WEEKEND, July 25-26: 9th Sunday of Pentecost

Saturday, July 25 at 4:00 p.m.:

Special Intention

Shipley Shipley by Rose Vargo

Sunday, July 26 at 10:30 a.m.:

Shipley Shipley by Tom & Kathleen George

Helen Fielding by her husband Don Fielding (FL) & his special intentions

Donations to the Parking Paving Lot (Total Raised: \$20,684.00)

Many Thanks to the generous benefactors who have donated toward the Church Parking Lot Paving Fund (Total cost: \$25,000)

...John & Dee Shiben (\$100), Rob & Lois Hammond (\$78),

Donate to the Church Maintenance Fund

Help with the Endowment Fund to Keep Our Church Open and Active (Total Raised: \$1,085.00)

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, Phone (304) 233-1688. 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. They will be remembered in every Mass:

Bill & Mary Stees (\$200), Tom Ferris (\$225), Sylvia Long (\$100), Catherine Arthur (Memorial) (\$100), Women's Society Fundraising (\$460),

Our Lady of Lebanon Community Calendar

Date	Event
Sunday, July 26	Women's Society 50/50 Raffle Drawing – after 10:30 a.m. Mass Mahrajan Early Bird Drawing – after 10:30 a.m. Mass
Sunday, August 9	2009 Mahrajan – at Oglebay Park, Site One
Tuesday, August 11	Mahrajan Chairperson & Volunteer Appreciation Dinner – at 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, August 30	Women's Society Meeting – after 10:30 a.m. Mass
Sunday, August 30	Women's Society Gift Basket & 50/50 Raffle Drawing – after 10:30 a.m. Mass

2009 Mahrajan Update

Mahrajan Raffle Tickets & Early Bird Drawing (Sun., July 26, at 11:30 a.m.)

One Raffle Ticket will be drawn on Sunday, July 26th, after Mass for the \$100 Early Bird Winner. Be sure to return your ticket stubs and payment before Sunday, July 26th. Last chance entries are possible immediately before the drawing at the Cedar Hall on that day. The winning ticket will be re-entered in the drawing and will retain their same odds of being drawn for the Grand Cash Prize and the other prizes at the Mahrajan on Sunday, August 9th. If you are able to sell tickets to your friends and family members to help maintaining the church please call the church at (304) 233-1688.

Mahrajan Outdoor Mass (Sunday, August 9, at 10:30 a.m.)

Please remember that on Sunday, August 9th, there will be no Mass at our church. The Sunday Mass will only be celebrated at the beautiful outdoors setting at Oglebay Park – Site 1 at 10:30 a.m. Many thanks go to Dr. Al Ghaphery for sponsoring the Maronite Antonine nuns of Youngstown, Ohio, who will sing – along with our choir – at the Mahrajan Mass at the festival.

2009 Entertainment Schedule

Our musical entertainer this year is Ghada Haddad, the wife of our previous years singer Kamil, of Illinois. She will stimulate the audience and the dance floor will be filled with enthusiastic dancers. Sets of her performances will alternate with sets of the Alhambra Troupe of Cincinnati, which will perform Dance Shows according to the time schedule listed below. The seven dancers will perform their best and most memorable “Wings” show at 5:00 p.m. Don't miss that show. It is phenomenal and fantastic.

<i>Time</i>	Entertainment
Noon – 1:00	Entertainer Ghada: Lebanese Songs & Dabke
1:00 – 1:30	Alhambra Troupe Dance Show # 1
1:30 – 2:30	Entertainer Ghada: Lebanese Songs & Dabke
2:30 – 3:00	Alhambra Troupe Dance Show # 2
3:00 – 4:00	Entertainer Ghada: Lebanese Songs & Dabke
4:00 – 4:30	Alhambra Troupe Dance Show # 3
4:30 – 5:00	Intermission (Recorded Music)
5:00 – 5:30	Alhambra Troupe Final Dance Show # 4
5:30 – 7:00	Entertainer Ghada: Lebanese Songs & Dabke

Mahrajan Volunteers Sign-Up List

Attention Chairpersons: Please print a list of your workers (with work times if known) and give it to the church office as soon as possible. Chairperson names are underlined below. (Note: Volunteers for last year –2008– were printed in the July 12, 2009, Bulletin for your information)

All parishioners are each asked to volunteer at least 2 hours to work some area at the Mahrajan. **Please complete the “Volunteer Form” below & return it to the Church Office ASAP.**

2009 Mahrajan Volunteer Sign-Up Sheet

Date: Sunday, August 9th, from Noon to 7:00 p.m.

Place: Oglebay Park, Site 1

Please offer 2 hours minimum of your precious time to honor the Blessed Mother and to help the parishioners and volunteers at the Festival. Your participation makes the difference.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

I am volunteering to help from _____ a.m./p.m. until _____ p.m.

Note: Please complete this form and return it in the collection basket A.S.A.P.

The following people have confirmed that they will volunteer for the 2009 Mahrajan:

Camp Russell: **Carol Dougherty** (all day); Bill Dougherty (until 2:30 p.m.); Jim Brubach (2:30-5:00 p.m.); Janet Shutler (2:30 to closing)

Ticket Trailer: **Charlotte Khourey** (all day); Thomasina Geimer (9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.); Jean Weisner (all day); Sue Brubach (2:30-5:00 p.m.); Andreah Frenn (as Runner and as needed) and at **Ticket Table** – Kay Garvey (all day); Emmalena Khourey (all day)

Shwarma & Falafel: **Adel & Diane Frenn and Don & Roberta Henning**; Andreah Frenn & Pitaland Employees

Children’s Food: **Peggy Justice, Ann Lee Bauduin**, Justin & Elia Frenn

Pop & Water: **Mike Linton & Cathy Male**, Steve Linton, & Bruce Maguire

Souvenirs: **Nikki Popovich**, Nikki Lenz, Lisa & Dalton Haas

Raffles/Culture: **Bassam Deeb**, & Emily Deeb (maybe), Kim Gibbons & Gary Dietz

Table Reservations: **Fr. Bakhos** & Janet Shutler

Pastry & Coffee – **Kathleen George**, Nini Miller, Beth George, Marge Saseen & Pauline Krempasky

Food Lines – **P.J. Lenz & Al Depto**, Julia Tappe, Nettie Seidler, Mary Thomas, Kenny & Nancy Joseph, Cheryl Tucker and her son Nathan, Evelyn Goodson, Mary Beth Weisner, George & Patty Fahey, Emily Saseen

PLEASE VOLUNTEER TODAY!

The following people have not yet confirmed if they can work at the Mahrajan on Sunday, August 9. *Jude Bowman, Mary Ann Cater & Rob Vawter, Manuel & Pat Thomas, Maryann & Mike, Phil & Lindsey Carl&, Tom Ferris, Mike Voellinger, Shirley George, Tricia & Bill, Christina, Patricia & Billy Committee, Debbie Thomas, Linda King, Jennifer Imer, Susan & Tom DeMuth, Sandra & Natalie DeMuth, Judy Dierkes, Bill & Lou Ann Blazier, John & Tina Weisner, Gary Weisner, Linda Hostutler, Brian Ghaphery, David & Greg John, Tom & Nick John, Mary & Frank Lish, Jody & Abbie Seabright, Bill & Mary & Gina Stees, Jim & Cathy Goodson, Christian & Danny Carter, Maria Rayl, Sue Fadoul, Dave & Bob Sengewald, Sue Jochum, Chris T. George, Jim George, Jr., Paul George, & we need many more ??????* Contact the Church office or the chairperson whose name is underlined and in bold as soon as possible. **All the following areas need additional volunteers:**

Friday, August 7, 2009:

5:30 p.m. **Move items to Oglebay** (*need 8-10 strong volunteers*) ???

Saturday, August 8, 2009:

(at 10:00 am) **Set-Up Booths at Oglebay: Lou Khourey & Tom George**, (*need 4-5 volunteers*) ???

Noon **Hummus** (fill cups): fill Hummus cups (*need 4 volunteers*) ???

Sunday, August 9, 2009:

(at 8:00 am) **Set-Up Booths at Oglebay: Lou Khourey & Tom George**, (*need 7-8 volunteers*) ???

Inside Kitchen at Site 1 – Linda Duffy (7:15-closing)

Rice	8:00 – 2:30 2:30 – ???	Anna Jalad ?? (<i>need at least 1-2 volunteers</i>)
Oven & Steamer	8:00 – 2:30	Bob & Fran Saseen
Cutter	7:15-closing 8:00 – 10:00	Sandra Dusick Rita Strawn, Julia Tappe, (<i>need 2-3 more volunteers</i>)??
Tabouli	9:00 – 2:00 2:00 – ???	?? (<i>need at least 1-2 volunteers</i>) ?? (<i>need at least 1-2 volunteers</i>)
Salad	11:00 – 12:15 12:00 – 2:00 12:00 – 3:00 1:00 – 3:00 3:00 – 4:00 4:00 – 5:00 5:00 – 6:00	?? (<i>need at least 1-2 volunteers</i>) ?? (<i>need at least 1-2 volunteers</i>) ?? (<i>need at least 1-2 volunteers</i>) ?? (<i>need at least 1-2 volunteers</i>) ?? (<i>need at least 1-2 volunteers</i>) ?? (<i>need at least 1-2 volunteers</i>) ?? (<i>need at least 1-2 volunteers</i>)
Oven	3:00 – 6:00	Mary Stees
Steamer	3:30 – 6:30	Loretta Roman
Kitchen	5:00 – 8:00	?? (<i>need at least 1-2 volunteers</i>)

Cashiers – Randy Weisner (*need 3 volunteers*) ???

Grill & Shish Kabob – Tom John (*need 8-9 volunteers*) ???

Children's Activities – Christine Faulkner (*need 8-10 volunteers*) ???

Beer – Barry Carter: (*need 7-8 volunteers*) ???

Instant Bingo – Millet Fadoul

12-2 (*Need 2 volunteers*) ???

2-4 (*Need 2 volunteers*) ???

4-6 Rose Vargo, (*Need 1 more volunteer*) ???

Hi-Lo – Mickey Duffy, (*Need 4-5 volunteers*) ???

Sunday Evening – Break-Down of Booths: Booth Chairpersons, CCHS Football Team & (*need 10-12 additional volunteers*)

Other Helpers (where ever needed): (*need 2-4 volunteers*) ??

Mahrajan Food Preparation (*To Start: Monday, August 3rd*)

Monday, August 3	9 a.m. to ???	make meat pies & zattar bread
Tuesday, August 4	9 a.m. to ???	finish meat pies & prepare onions for kibbee
Wednesday, August 5	9 a.m. to ???	make kibbee, pick up parsley & green onions, clean vegetables
Thursday, August 6	9 a.m. to ???	finish kibbee, cut green onions & parsley finish cutting vegetable, wash tomatoes & pack cucumber

Mahrajan Sponsorships Encouraged

Read the list below of some of the items needed to run the Mahrajan. We know that you don't have the time to shop for the Festival and it is easier for you to send a donation of money to help us defray the expenses. Please remember, any donation great or small is deeply appreciated and the names of all the festival benefactors will be printed in our weekly bulletins.

Here are some of our major expenses if you can contribute: Tables Rental, Tents & Chair Rental (\$3,700), Site Rental at Oglebay Park (\$2,446), Ad Book Printing (\$1,100), Raffle Cash Prizes (\$1,100), Lebanese Singer (\$1,000), Alhambra Dance Troup (\$600), Licenses (\$500),), Instant Bingo Tickets (\$75), Children's Prizes (\$200) ...

Donations of any amount will be genuinely appreciated and will contribute to the success of our great festival. Gifts-In-Kind and Cash Donations will be recognized. Gifts of \$100 will be recognized at the **Diamond** Level. Gifts of \$26 to \$99 will be recognized at the **Gold** Level. Gifts of \$25 or less will be recognized at the **Silver** Level.

Items Needed for the Festival
<i>Children's Activities</i> – Candy, Lollipops, Tootsie Rolls, lg, med, sm Stuffed Animals, Small Toys, Games, Dolls, Trucks, Puzzles, Toy Soldiers, Hair Decorations, New T-Shirts (with various designs), Posters, Pictures, Mirrors, Colored Sand, etc.
<i>Beverages</i> – Coffee, Creamers
<i>Condiments</i> – Catsup, Mayonnaise, Mustard, Relish
<i>Food (Children's Booth)</i> – Ice Cream Sandwiches, Drumsticks, Push-Up Pops – 24/pkg. of each Jumbo Beef Hot Dogs, Hot Dog Buns, Hot Dog Chili Sauce
<i>Food Ingredients</i> – Chick Peas, Cream of Wheat/Farina, Flour Robin Hood, Meat (Ground Beef and Lamb), Milk, Evaporated Milk, Canola/Olive Oil Blend, Extra Virgin Olive Oil, ReaLemon Juice, Rice, Orzo, Sugar (Granulated, Individual Packets, Powdered), Sweetener (Equal, Splenda, Sweet & Low), Tahini, Tomato Sauce, Unsalted Butter, Cabbage Rolls, Grape Leaves, Pita Bread
<i>Food (Produce)</i> – Parsley, Salad Mix, Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Onions (chopped and sliced), Green Onions, Watermelons,
<i>Pastries:</i> Baklava, Mamoul, Twisty Cookies, Fenike Cookies, Lemon Butter Cookies, Bird Nests, Burma, Ghouribeh, Namoura, Zattar Bread, Meat Pies, Spinach Pies
<i>Spices/Seasoning</i> – Garlic Powder, Paprika, Salt, Pepper, Baking Powder, Baking Soda, Cinnamon, Mint (crushed and fresh), Lemon Flavoring, Vanilla, Orange Blossom Water, Rose Water
<i>Supplies</i> – Aluminum Foil, Aluminum Foil Sheets, Aluminum Disposable Baking Pans, Plastic Wrap, Wax Paper Sheets, Plastic Bags, Zip (snack size, sandwich size and gallon size), Napkins, Plastic Cutlery Sets (with napkins and salt & pepper), Paper Towels, Bleach, Dawn Dish Detergent, Cupcake Papers (large and medium), Plastic Gloves (small, medium, large and extra large), Plastic Table Cover, Plastic Table Skirts, Sterno, Styrofoam Serving Dishes (Bowls, large and small Plates, large and small Take-Out Containers, Hummus Cups and Lids, Various-size Trays for Cookies)

Generous Mahrajan Benefactors & Supporters

- 1- **Dr. Al Ghaphery** for sponsoring the **Maronite Antonine Nuns** from Youngstown, Ohio, so they may join with our choir at the Outdoor Mass at Oglebay Park
- 2- **Janet Shutler** for the **Mahrajan Ad Book design and Art work**
- 3- **Tom George of Sledd Co.** for sponsoring the **Refrigerated Truck**
- 4- **McKeen Security** for sponsoring the **Security Guards**
- 5- **Chamse Rahi** for sponsoring some **Rice & Lemon Juice**
- 6- The **Nagem Family** for donating the **Altar Flowers** in Memory of Dr. Tom Nagem
- 7- **Gold Khourey & Turak** for sponsoring the **\$1,000 Cash Grand Prize Raffle Tickets** and the **Billboard** (just North of Moundsville),
- 8- Cash Donors:
 - Diamond Sponsors** (\$100 & over): Donald Fielding, Sylvia Long, John & Dee Shiben, Earl & Linda Duffy, Lou & Marge John, Mike Linton (In Memory of Suzanne Linton)
 - Gold Sponsors** (\$26-\$99): Julia Tappe,

--**Silver Sponsors** (under \$25): Cecilia Ammar, Gary Lewis, Chamse Rahi, Bob & Fran Saseen, Anonymous, Emily Vince,

Mahrajan Table Reservations

All 24 under tent tables had been rented on the first come first serve basis. Only few open-air picnic tables (\$30 each) are still available. Call the church at (304) 233-1688 for your reservation as soon as you can.

Mahrajan Dinner for Chairpersons & Volunteers (Tue., Aug. 11, 6 p.m.)

We deeply appreciate all the sacrifices of time, talent and treasure that each person who helps us with the mountain of work involved with the Mahrajan each year – both in advance of the event and on the day of the festival. This year, for the first time, all Mahrajan Chairpersons and volunteers are invited to attend an Appreciation Dinner at the Cedar Hall on Tuesday, August 11th, at 6:00 p.m.

Other Church Events

Women's Society Monthly 50/50 Raffle (Drawings: Sundays, July 26 & August 30)

The Women's Society continues to sponsor the Monthly 50/50 Raffle. Tickets cost \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Proceeds now will benefit the maintenance of our church through the "Endowment Fund."

The drawing from entries received **for the July 50/50 Raffle Tickets**, which are provided at the church entrance and in the Weekly Church Bulletins, will take place in the Cedar Hall after Mass on **Sunday, July 26**.

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 June 50/50 winner of \$78: our parishioners Mr. & Mrs. Hammond of Wheeling donated back their prize to be used toward the parking lot paving. It is highly appreciated.

Women's Society Gift Basket Raffle (Drawing: After Mass on Sunday, August 30)

The Women's Society's next Raffle will feature a "Gardner's" Gift Basket contains: *a gift certificate from Klug's Greenhouse, a watering hose extender attachment, a frog statue, a bear statue, 2 gardening books, 2 sets of gardening gloves, a bulb planter, shears, a kneeling pad, a note pad, a garden marker and various other items.* **Won't you take a chance ... or two ... or eighteen!**

The Gift Basket Raffle proceeds benefit the maintenance of our church through the "Endowment Fund." 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.**

All Gift Basket and 50/50 Raffle Tickets are now printed on white paper in the bulletins so please check the ticket sheets carefully to be sure you are completing the correct ticket stubs. Buy or sell the tickets, and return the completed stubs as soon as possible in the weekly collection (with Gift Basket Raffle noted on the front of the envelope) or write Gift Basket Raffle on the "Memo" line of your check when you mail it to: Our Lady of Lebanon Church, 2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003. Tickets are available now at the church entrance and in our weekly Bulletins or call Kay at 304-232-0492.

Please Pray for Those on Our Prayer List

Please Remember Those Hospitalized Recently In Your Prayers:

Joseph Gonot, Peggy Justice, Nancy Shalvey, Josephine Joseph, Anna Jalad, Mary Piko, Pat McNeil (FL, niece of Kay Garvey), Donald Gibbons,

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

Rosella Saseen, Barb Sobota, Laura Wellman, 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

July 18: Lois Hammond
 July 20: Shirley George
 July 24: Robert Hammond, Ron Burns
 July 26: Mary Daniel
 July 30: Dee Shiben, Susan John
 August 2: Douglas Bratton
 August 3: Jim George, Sr.
 August 5: Mary Piko
 August 7: Rita Thomas
 August 10: Kory Douglas Bratton, Thomasina Geimer

Your Church Support Last Week

1,188	Collection
176	2 nd Collection "Catholic University"
34	Candles
40	Utilities
160	Parking
250	Donations to Church
81	Reimbursement
78	Fundraising "Endowment Fund"
600	Mahrajan (Ad Book)
150	Mahrajan (Donations)
30	Mahrajan (Table Reservations)
852	Mahrajan (Raffle Tickets)
\$3,639	Total. May God reward you many fold

What's New?

Many Thanks

To all wonderful parishioners who prepared the pastry for the Mahrajan this week. May your hands be blessed.

Congratulations...

...to Janet & Ray Fadul who celebrated their 40th anniversary on June 28. They were united in marriage at Our Lady of Lebanon Church in 1969. Ray is the brother of our beloved parish council member Linda Duffy.

Use Both Parking Lots on Saturdays and Sundays

Both parking lots are available for our parishioners who attend Mass on Saturdays and Sundays. They are rented during weekdays but not on weekends. Please fill them up.

Around Us

Assumption Pilgrimage to the National Shrine

When: Friday – Sunday: August, 13 thru 16, 2009, from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.
 Where: Shrine of our Lady of Lebanon, North Jackson, Ohio. (Phone 330-538-3351)
 Program: 7:00 p.m. daily – Divine Liturgy followed by candle light procession

Famous One Liner Quotes

- Life is 10% what happens to us, and 90% how we respond to it!
- Learn from the mistakes of others, you can't live long enough to make them all yourself.
- Following the path of least resistance is what makes people and rivers crooked!
- Sometimes the majority only means that all the fools are on the same side.

Maronites = Catholics of the East

Lebanese Americans and Canadians: Making a Difference (1)

There are about 3 million Lebanese and Maronite Americans, and as a community, we've been demonstrating our loyalty, inventiveness and courage on behalf of the United States for over 100 years. Here are just a few of the more famous ones -- people you may know!

You talk about courage ... How about America's and the world's first jet ace? He was the Korean War hero, U.S. Air Force Col. James Jabara. In World War II, Army officers like Maj. Gen. Fred Safay fought alongside Gen. Patton, and Brig. Gen. Elias Stevens served on Gen. Eisenhower's staff.

And in 1944, one of our Navy's ships, the destroyer escort USS Naifeh was named in honor of an Lebanese American hero, Navy Lt. Alfred Naifeh of Oklahoma. More recently, West Point graduate and four-star Gen. George Joulwan commanded both the U.S. and NATO forces in Europe.

Some of us work in our nation's capital, like veteran Congressman Nick Joe Rahall II of West Virginia, and Congresswoman Pat Danner (Missouri), Congressmen Ray LaHood (Illinois), John Baldacci (Maine), John E. Sununu (New Hampshire) and Chris John (Louisiana).

There's also U.S. Senator Spencer Abraham of Michigan. The First Lebanese American ever appointed to a U.S. Cabinet position is the secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala.

Former Governor of New Hampshire, John Sununu, became the White House Chief of Staff and later a political commentator on CNN-TV. America's longest-serving White House Chief of Protocol was Ambassador Selwa Roosevelt. Thomas A. Nassif, her assistant, also served as U.S. Ambassador to Morocco, a post currently filled by Edward Gabriel. Our Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates is Theodore Kattouf.

A special Presidential envoy was the late ambassador Philip. C. Habib. A 50-year veteran with United Press International was the dean of the White House press corps: feisty Helen Thomas, who covered eight presidents since 1961. She was twenty five honorary degrees and is columnist for the Hearst News Service. In a class by himself, the late, warm-hearted Robert George portrayed Santa Claus year's round for nearly 50 years and as the official Presidential Santa at the White House through eight administrations, from Eisenhower to George W. Bush.

Others who have served in high effective office are U.S. Senate majority Leader George Mitchell (D-ME), former U.S. Senators James Abourezk and James Abdnor, both of South Dakota; former Congressional members Mary Rose Oakar of Ohio, George Kasern of California, Abraham Kazen Jr. of Texas, and Toby Moffet of Connecticut. Victor Atiyeh was the popular governor of Oregon.

Lebanese Americans are grocers and governors, physicians and farmers, Indy 500 champs and taxicab drivers, financiers and factory workers, bakers and bankers, salesmen and senators, TV stars and TV repairmen, teachers and preachers, Heisman Trophy-winning quarterbacks and neighborhood sandlot heroes. Name it, and a Maronite and Lebanese-American has probably done it. *(To be continued)*

Story: Saint Sharbel Phenomenon in Russia

By Anatoli B. Bayukanski, Russian writer and Editor of "The Folk Physician"

Translated from Russian into English by Natalia Sotnikova

This article embodies first hand testimonies on the miracles that occurred in Russia at the intercession of Saint Sharbel. The bimonthly newspaper "Lekar" (The Folk Physician) which is published in Lipetsk, Russia, was the first to introduce Saint Sharbel to the Russian readers. Subscribers of this publication reported hundreds cures and healings obtained through Saint Sharbel.

I. INTRODUCTION

Together with my wife and son, I have been editing and publishing an all- Russia medical newspaper entitled "Lekar" (The Folk Physician) since 1996. The newspaper is published once a fortnight in the city of Lipetsk (500 km southeast of Moscow) and is distributed in 75 of the 89 regions of Russia with a population of about 100 million people. The newspaper has a modest circulation due to the unusual character of its contents which deal with unconventional methods of medical treatment. As editorial staff of "The Folk Physician" we boast of being the first to have introduced the phenomenon of Saint Sharbel to the Russian people.

Saint Sharbel has been healing and curing people for one hundred years or so. Through prayers and belief one could be granted health with Saint Sharbel's intercession. Hundreds of thousands of people have received grace through this Maronite Lebanese Saint. We at the "The Folk Physician" wanted to make known to the Russian people this "means" of getting well.

In 1997, we printed a photo of Saint Sharbel with information about his life and sainthood. We asked our readers to share information in case the Saint helped them get rid of their ailments. Frankly speaking, there was hardly any belief in this miraculous power of healing, especially that the Russian people have become alien to such belief due to the years of religious oppression. However, we were in for a surprise, soon letters started pouring in from all corners of Russia, from Voronezh, Tambov, Penza, Moscow, Ekaterinburg, Kamchatka, Perm, Yakutia, Tatarstan, Bashkortostan, Tomsk, Novosibirsk, Mahachkala, Kaliningrad, and Tula to name only a few even from the city of Vladivostok which is 12,000 km from the city of Lipetsk. The newspaper received thousands of letters with a request for a picture of Saint Sharbel. In response to this outpouring of demand, Saint Sharbel's portrait was produced five times in the newspaper and three times in a booklet with either five or seven pictures. The booklet contained excerpted translations from letters received by the editorial staff.

People are quite right in saying that facts are more eloquent than pretty words. The following is a translation of selected letters written by Russians describing their own testimonies of cures obtained through the intercession of Saint Sharbel. The Folk Physician received over 5000 letters concerning Saint Sharbel and have documented 100 cures through the end of 1999. Even those few which are included in this article present ample proof that Saint Sharbel is capable of relieving any disease.

II. TESTIMONIES OF MIRACLES IN RUSSIA

The file cabinet has a file labeled "They to whom Sharbel has Rendered Assistance." In this file there are thousands of letters from Russia, the Ukraine and Belarus. Probably, we could compile a thrilling book of letters written by the newspaper's readers and telling about miraculous healings through Saint Sharbel of Lebanon. The geographical origins of the letters to the editorial office from thousands of miles away is very impressive. The writers live in places as far away as the shores of the Pacific Ocean and the icy Barents Sea, the Peninsula of Kamchatka and the Caucasus Mountains. It is very likely that the saint monk really was enchanted by God because he was endowed with such a sacred power to heal people irrespective of their place of residence, nationality, or religious convictions. The following testimonies are picked randomly.

"I'm a retired teacher. I'm eager to tell you in what way Saint Sharbel helps me and my family. The saint monk has become a kind of relative of ours. His image is of particular help in relieving pains, and when applied to an aching pancreas, the pains disappear in a matter of a few minutes. Recently, I happened to hurt my hand and a blue swollen mark appeared. I applied the image, prayed, and it was gone in a few minutes. It was a pure miracle. The portrait of Saint Sharbel is also of use with my neurosis. Sometimes I contemplate his image for some time, murmur the Lord's Prayer, appeal to Saint Sharbel for help, beg Jesus to forgive my sins and then thank God and Saint Sharbel for the deliverance from pain." --Mrs. V .V. Antoniak, Lipetsk

"... Recently, the doctors began considering amputation of my leg which is highly undesirable because of my advanced age. As a long standing subscriber to 'The Folk Physician', I have decided to submit myself to the reviving power of the Lebanese saint. It was with profound faith in a successful outcome that I applied his picture to my sore leg at length, patiently pleading with God and Saint Sharbel to spare me from surgery. Believe me, the non-healing [open] wounds began skinning over [scabbing]. There's no talk of amputation any more. This is why I'm making it public to 'The Folk Physician' that Saint Sharbel whose body is to be found so far from Russia is relieving the sufferings of the Russian people at such a long distance."

--Ivan G. Pokrovsky (a World War II veteran, retired secondary school director, and chairman of the local branch of the disabled persons' organization association gave a public testimony about his miraculous recovery)

"I'm so very grateful to you for the Lebanese saint's image. Thanks to it, I've got rid of nutritional allergy."

--Tatiana Taganova, City of Tambov, Karbyshev

"I, Vasina Liubov Petrovna, write this letter on behalf of the inhabitants of our block of flats. I have a daughter twenty years old, who was suffering with severe headaches and I suggested that she should apply the image of the saint which was published in the newspaper 'The Folk Physician.' At first my daughter refused point blank to do so, because she believed neither Tchumak, nor Kashpirovsky who are popular Russian mass media psychotherapists, and she was quite right in doing so. But then she agreed since the headaches became intolerable. Soon she informed me: 'Mummy, I'm feeling warmth in the back of my head as if some evaporation has started'. A half an hour later, the headaches disappeared.

Later, the bottom of my belly ached. I also applied the picture of the saint to the spot and prayed, pleading with God for help by means of Saint Sharbel. The pain lessened and went away. My husband was always mocking me but recently he was experiencing pains in his knee cap. I suggested that he apply the image of Saint Sharbel. Soon the pain subsided. I also would like to add that with the blessed help of the saint, I succeeded in bringing my elevated blood pressure down to normal. On the very day I intended to post this letter to you, my daughter started to feel pain in her left side. You may believe it or not, but our saint helped. I was told that it is not recommended to pass the image of Saint Sharbel on to other sick persons for it is likely to loose its power because diseases heap up – one upon another. Nonetheless, once I lent this 'medicine' to my neighbor Mrs. Yakovleva. And it did help her as well."

--A. Yakovleva, S. Diakonova, O. Gorbunova, T. Pyatich, Town of Tchapyghin, Lipetsk region

"My dear Folk Physician: Thanks to your assistance, I provided four families with pictures of Saint Sharbel and they proved to be very helpful in treatment of different ailments. Here's just an example: "My child was running high temperature. A doctor was not available. I applied Saint Sharbel's portrait and, believe me, in some fifteen minutes the temperature was down. If it is possible, send us one and a half dozens of images of Saint Sharbel from Lebanon."

--Nina Plotnikova, Matyrsky Settlement, Lipetsk region

"My mother is 72 years old but she finds help and solace only in the image of Saint Sharbel. The great Sharbel has become her irreplaceable doctor."

--Mrs. Valentina P. Pisareva, Voronezh

"The photo of Saint Sharbel has assisted me in recovering from a medium degree brain concussion. It helps relieve heart pain and colds. I have a profound belief in the saint's power."

--Lykova Raissa Semyonovna, Kirovsk region

"Last year my daughter-in-law started bleeding. Her hands and feet grew cold. I knelt beside her bed and began praying. Then I placed an image of the saint from Lebanon upon her breast. In half an hour the young woman grew warm. The next morning, she told me that Sharbel's image radiated a powerful stream of warmth...."

--Tyrina Valentina Michailovna, Matyrsky Settlement, Lipetsk region

From time to time to come across letters which tell about unusual cases of recovery by virtue of the saint's image. This letter tells of a kid who died. The husband told his wife to leave the body laying until tomorrow morning when he would bury it. The woman stayed next to the body and prayed over it and finally placed Saint Sharbel's image upon it and went to bed. In the morning the kid ran up to her bed and woke her.

--Anna Kiseleva from the ancient Russian town of Elets

"Saint Sharbel rendered assistance to my father who was going to be operated on to remove a malignant tumor. Now he is still with us although his condition seemed hopeless. My daughter suffered from inflammation of the lymph nodes. After applying Saint Sharbel's image, she recovered completely. But I would like to tell in what way the Lebanese saint saved even our tomcat. It was dying. The veterinarian said that there was no sense in treating it. But I laid the cat upon the Saint's image, covered it with another image and sat down beside it while praying for about three hours. The breathing of the animal became regular. That night, our pet ran and climbed up into my bed. The tomcat is still alive. Thank God, Saint Sharbel and you, the employees of the newspaper, which introduced this phenomenon to us, the Russians. God bless you!"

--Mrs. Natalia Kudiaeva, the Settlement of "Vesyoly", the Rostov region

"Recently, when I was staying at the hospital, I came across the image of Saint Sharbel in a newspaper. The nurses showed it to us. We became convinced in the healing power of this photo in which Saint Sharbel looked as if he were sleeping. I am writing about what I witnessed. An acquaintance of mine who was very nearsighted (she was not able to read at all without glasses) applied the photo her eyes and, after returning home, she was able to read without her glasses.

Another friend of mine developed a lump from an injection that accidentally struck the bones. She applied the photo to the lump that, in the course of two days, had disappeared. Another friend, who was having acute pains in the arm above the elbow and was not able to raise her arm, hired two girls to put wallpaper on the walls of her room. However, the night before she applied the photo of Saint Sharbel to her arm. The next morning she was surprised to have been healed and she able to work herself. A fourth friend could not practically see anything from one of his eyes. It was as if a mist covered it. After having applied the photo of the Saint, she can now look out and see with her defective eye. I burst out crying on hearing this from her."

--Evgenia Nickolaevan Vachrushina, Bashkortostan

"I intended to take some holy water from the springs in our park, but slipped, fell on my arm and could not get up. The pain was so intense and I became frightened that I might have broken my arm. It took great effort to get home. I was given injections for a few days, the painful area was massaged and ointments were applied. Unfortunately, the pain did not subside. Then a strange feeling came over me, as if someone prodded my memory of the newspaper at home with Saint Sharbel's picture in it. I applied the picture to the painful spot a few times and I definitely felt better. Soon the pain disappeared completely."

--Mrs. Tchovzhik Irina Petrovna, Shevtchenko, Lipetsk

"I would like to tell about the miracle associated with Saint Sharbel's picture which happened to me. All of a sudden I literally lost the power to use my legs. Namely my left leg was encased in a plaster cast following the surgery performed for transverse platypodia on my big toe. My right foot was sutured after the removal of part of a nail and this foot supported me with the aid of crutches. The sutured area of my right foot became inflamed, swelled, grew red, and started to ooze fluid. It was painful to touch and even more painful when I walked on it. I could only be patient and continue treating it. I covered the suture area with ointment and a piece of paper and then tied the Saint's image to that spot. I fell asleep and awoke at daytime, a couple hours later. I removed the newspaper with the Saint's picture and the paper wrapping from my foot. I was stunned to see that there were no redness, no swelling, and no discharge. I had not felt any pain as well. I thanked God and Saint Sharbel with all my heart. From that moment on, I have never parted with Saint Sharbel's image."

--Mrs. Ivanova, Moskovskaya, Lipetsk

We debated whether to publish this letter or not. It seemed to us improbable, however we decided to make it public on the basis that if an adult person, especially a professional nurse, had wished to share it with us, what right have we to reject? The following is the content of that letter:

"I have been working as a nurse for many years and have seen a lot in my professional life. I have always believed only in conventional medicine, particularly in surgery. Forgive me, but I have never believed in cures by saints, and even believed less in cures by their images. Nevertheless, I am a believer and I often attend church. Quite by chance, a fibroid nodule was detected in my breast. I was sent urgently to the oncologist. Perhaps you understand how one feels when facing such a news and challenge. By accident – an probably not by accident because nothing in our lives happens by chance – I came across Saint Sharbel's portrait published in a booklet written by A. Bayukansky. I read it and decided that there was nothing to lose and no harm in trying this remedy. I started placing the picture on the nodule and prayed zealously. For a month, I kept Saint Sharbel's image near as I slept. I pleaded with God and appealed to the Saint for help. Believe me or not, a genuine miracle took place. I could hardly believe it myself when I was medically reexamined by ultrasound and various analysis. I heard the doctors exchanging opinions in an agitated way. The senior doctor said: "We are unable to understand what has happened. There is no tumor any more, it has resolved itself." I said nothing to the doctors. But on my return home, I thanked God and Saint Sharbel with all my heart. It is obvious that not everyone is likely to believe me, but this has happened. Maybe the tumor was affected by psychotherapy, but most probably it was removed by the monk Sharbel whose power I now trust infinitely."

--Ms. Natalia Lependina of Voronezh

"Thank you very much indeed for bringing to our knowledge the phenomenon of Saint Sharbel, for your sympathy with humanity. I have already written telling you how helpful the Saint's portrait is to me, but I have to add something. I had been undergoing treatment for my eyes – I was suffering from an opaque lens. Upon completion of the treatment, I visited the doctor. During the examination, I learned that vision in the left eye had improved and the cataract had disappeared. The doctor was at his wits' end. He said: "I really don't know to what I should ascribe this spectacular improvement. You have not got a cataract at all, you are just myopic!" I said nothing to the doctor about the portrait of the Saint which had initiated this miracle. "

--Ivalentina Ivanovna, Tambov

"Saint Sharbel helped me immensely. I was suffering with acute pains in the foot. I did not know in what way to mitigate the pain when quite by chance I came across a picture of Saint Sharbel. The Pain subsided after a single application of the picture on the painful area. I felt better. Consequently, I have applied the picture to my foot for long periods with that the swelling lessened and the pain disappeared. It do not know how explain it but I am thankful with all my heart to Saint Sharbel. His dead body perceives the plight of the sick as well. Accept my gratitude for publishing the photo of hermit who after his death is still doing good for people. God bless you for this act of kindness?"

"I am a retired colonel of the space forces. When I was still in the military service, I took part in the creation of the "Soyuz-Apollo" space systems and the spaceship "Buran." Now, I carry out a treatment of numerous diseases by means of Saint Sharbel's image. I even managed to develop my own techniques to treatment. First I concentrate upon one disease, pray to God and plead with him to aid me through Saint Sharbel. Then I proceed with another disease. It is the only way for me because neither medicine nor doctors proved to be any use. I have deep gratitude for this Lebanese monk who is still aiding people after his death."

--A. N. Besedin, Town of Tchaplgyyn.

III. CONCLUSION

Three lessons we have learned through this wonderful experience. One is that people will not reveal their ailments openly, however when it is healed, the joy and blessedness urge them to share their miracles with friends and even with strangers.

The second lesson concerns a bit of hype on behalf of some Orthodox Christians in Russia who were disturbed about promoting a Catholic Saint while the Orthodox Church has plenty of its own. The lesson was that God's gifts of healing are for everyone and that we need to pray and work for the unity of the Church. Maybe Saint Sharbel is uniting the Church in his own way.

Third lesson is that Saint Sharbel emanates power and healing energy and that with faith and prayer one could be healed though his intercession.

Joke (550)

Bearly Hunting

Two men were on an Alaskan bear hunt. On opening morning a light snow fell, and one man stayed in the cabin while the other went out hunting.

The one who went out to hunt found a huge grizzly bear, shot at it, but only wounded it. The enraged bear charged toward him, and the man dropped his rifle and started running for the cabin as fast as he could. He ran fast, but the bear was faster and gained on him with every step. Just as he reached the open cabin door, he tripped and fell flat on his face. Too close behind to stop, the bear tripped over him and went rolling into the cabin.

The man jumped up, closed the cabin door, and yelled to his friend inside, "You skin this one while I go and get another!"

First Baby or Husband

The phone in the maternity ward rang, and a very excited voice came through: "This is Harold Smith, and I'm bringing my wife in-she's about to have a baby!"

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"Calm down," the nurse said. "Tell me, is this her first baby?"

"No," the frantic voice replied, "this is her husband!"