

August 23, 2009
Bulletin # 34

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

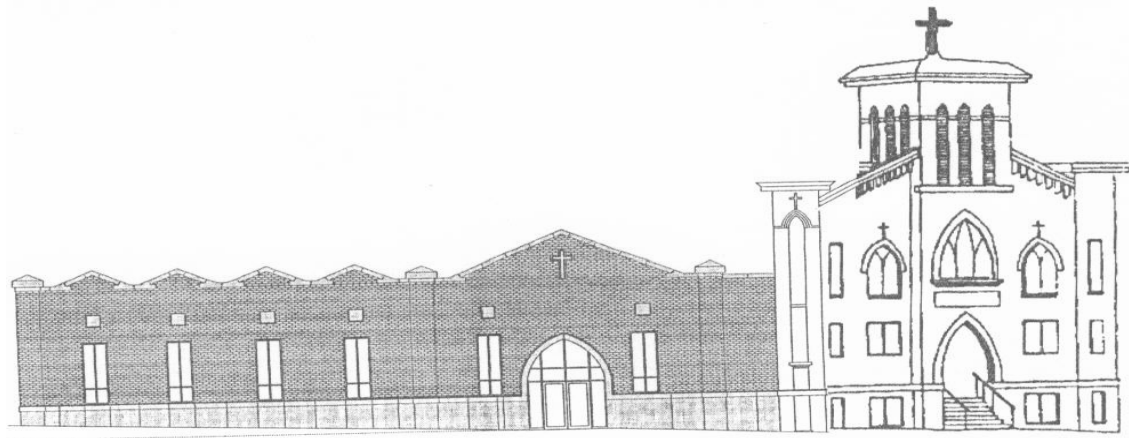
E-Mail: ololwv@Comcast.net • Web Site: www.ololwv.com

Rev. Bakhos Chidiac (Pastor)

Evelyn Ghaphery (Organist)

Charlotte Khourey & Thomasina Geimer (Secretaries)

13th Sunday of Pentecost



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
 - *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 304-277-3230, Linda Duffy 304-242-6853, Tom George 304-336-7142, P.J. Lenz 304-242-5606 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 304-242-6853
 - *Women's Society: Sandra Dusick, President 304-232-7395
- ☩ ☩ ☩ ☩ ☩ ☩ ☩
- *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: 13th Sunday of Pentecost

Readings: 1Cor 3:1-11 & Lk 8:1-15

Jesus' use of parables was no innovation in the context of his time and environment: there are many instances in the Old Testament of this way of teaching and the rabbis of Jesus' time used it continuously. However, Jesus' method undoubtedly did cause surprise. It followed a sermon which he began by plainly proclaiming that the Kingdom of Heaven was at hand, and therefore that all must turn from sin to the Lord. With the teaching in parables, it is not the subject matter which is different, but his hidden way of making it understood.

Suffice to say that Jesus did not make use of parables as a more expressive or clearer way of teaching. Doubtless the images clarify and are an aid to understanding, but they also puzzle. Only the one who begins to search, to ponder, to inquire, spurred on by a narrator who challenges his hearers to the utmost, will be in a position to understand. Each evangelist in his own way gives the reasons for the parables. For Matthew, understanding the parables presupposes a heart open to revelation, sincerely desiring to welcome the Word and to put it into practice – in spite of the obstacles it meets and its apparent setbacks.

Is it not true for us also that at certain times, everything conspires to prevent us from receiving this Word and to make us doubt its coming into the world? It is two thousand years since 'the Sower went out to sow, and sometimes it is very tempting to say: what a mess he made of it, how much has been lost! And does our own reaction to the wild extravagance of God consist of grasping without delay the word which we hear, so that we, in our turn, are possessed by it, caught up in the way of obedience and missionary zeal for his service? If so, then we too understand the parables!

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Before I met our Bishop Robert Shaheen last week, I put myself in the hands of God and asked the Blessed Mother if she needed me to continue serving her house here in Wheeling or if she needed me to move somewhere else. The Bishop told me he needs me to stay in Wheeling stating that: "the people love you and you have brought stability to the church there, so what would they say about me if I move you now?" I told him that I am under obedience and if God and the Blessed Mother and the love of parishioners need me to stay here, I will stay for as long as you need me to stay.

I am happy to extend my service to this parish as long as I am needed. I am happy in my assignment even in my innermost being I like to change parishes every six years. But this doesn't mean that another parish or other people are better than what I have here. All parishes are similar but the people of Wheeling and the surrounding area are the friendliest people I ever met in my life.

I thank all those who expressed their joy and relaxation that I am staying. I pray for more zeal and strength to serve you with all my heart. I need you to know that the stability of the church is very important in the long run and it requires lot of planning. This stability depends upon the pastor who plans with the parish council ways to secure the attendance and the finances to support the church. But most of all, dedicated parishioners can make the whole difference by donating generously toward covering the monthly expenses of the church (\$1,100 gas, \$500 electricity, \$125 water, \$5,000 building and health insurance, warranties, phone, equipment and building maintenance, office and church supplies, pastor's salary, and other expenses).

You have been so generous so far even in the midst of this current economic crisis. You can see and enjoy the fruit of your donations. I assure you that not one penny was spent on the rectory or on any luxury whatsoever. I have tightened my belt and administered the church to the best of my ability with the least expenses possible, and I will continue to do that with the intention not adding any extra burden on your shoulders.

I encourage you to donate to the church knowing in your heart that God will reward you many folds. If you used to put one dollar in the collection in the 50's, please know that the inflation is more than five times greater now. I ask you, brothers and sisters, to increase your weekly donations so that together we can meet the challenge of the time. The Bishop will be happy to see our church secured financially so that he will be able to keep a pastor here to serve you and never worry about the need to close the church you love. –Fr. Bakhos

Mass Intentions

THIS WEEKEND, August 22-23: 13th Sunday of Pentecost

Saturday, August 22 At 4:00 p.m.:

Andrew Demsko (on his 11th Anniversary) by his daughter Rosemary Cormich
Joseph Lavoie & Sue Kerry by Lou, Charlotte, Emmalena & Louie Khourey

Sunday, August 23 at 10:30 a.m.:

Shipleigh Shipley by Lou, Charlotte, Emmalena & Louie Khourey

Weekday Masses

Monday, August 24: No Mass. Pastor's Day Off

Tuesday, August 25: No Mass. Pastor's Day Off

Wednesday, August 26 at Noon:

Roger Henning by Don & Roberta Henning & Family
Deceased members of the Chidiac Family by Fr. Bakhos

Thursday, August 27 at Noon:

Special intention of Richard & Mary Ryncarz
Deceased members of the Chidiac Family by Fr. Bakhos

Friday, August 28 at Noon:

E. Bandi by Liz George
Deceased members of the Chidiac Family by Fr. Bakhos

NEXT WEEKEND, August 29-30: 14th Sunday of Pentecost

Saturday, August 29 At 4:00 p.m.:

Roger Henning by Jim & Sue Brubach
Lou Elias (on his Birthday) by his daughter Debbie Kull & Family

Sunday, August 30 at 10:30 a.m.:

Adib & Sadie Chidiac & their daughter Mona by Fr. Bakhos
Intentions of my parishioners by Fr. Bakhos

Donate to the Church Maintenance Fund

Help with the Endowment Fund to Keep Our Church Open and Active (Total Raised: \$1,189.00)

An Endowment Fund CD account meant exclusively for our church maintenance for the years to come has been opened. 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 the following 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 (\$275), Sylvia Long (\$100), Catherine Arthur (Memorial) (\$100), Women's Society total Fundraising (\$514),*

Donate toward Our Parish Families Assistance Fund

A special account called “**Parish Families Assistance Fund**” had been opened to help exclusively the families of our parish who are in dire need. You can make a donation to the church earmarked toward the “Poor of the Parish” or drop your donation in the Poor Box located at the back of the church. The Poor Box money will be divided between the poor of our parish and the “Poor of Wheeling” through cooperative effort with the 18th Street Catholic Neighborhood Charity center. All donations are tax exempt and if you wish to include your name with your payment, it can be added to your annual contributions for a deduction on your income taxes. May God reward those who share their blessings with the brothers and sisters of the Lord.

Our Lady of Lebanon Community Calendar

Date	Event
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
Monday, September 14	Cedar Club Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – in our church Basement Hall
Wed or Thur, Sept 16 or 17	Bible Study <u>or</u> First Communion <u>or</u> Confirmation Classes – Call Fr. for info
Wed or Thur, Sept 16 or 17	Arabic Language Classes – Call Fr. for information & times
Sunday, September 27	Women’s Society 50/50 Monthly Raffle Drawing – after 10:30 a.m. Mass
Sunday, October 4	Spaghetti Dinner – 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Future 4 Mahrajan Dates	August 15, 2010; August 14, 2011; August 12, 2012; August 11, 2013



Other Church Events

Women’s Society Meeting (Sunday, August 30, after Mass)

Plan to join the Women's Society for their first meeting this fall which is scheduled for Sunday, August 30th, after Mass. We will make plans for this fall’s events.

Women’s Society Monthly 50/50 Raffle (after Mass: Sun., Aug. 30 & Sept. 27)

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 August 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, August 30**.

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 July 50/50 winner of \$54: Anthony Lallone of Wellsburg (ticket was purchased by Mary Lish).

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.

Cedar Club News (Meeting: Monday, September 14th, at 7:00 p.m.)

The Cedar Club meetings will resume on Monday, September 14th, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the old Basement Hall. Our mission is to organize and provide family fun-filled events that foster a spirit of fellowship and friendship within the parish community.

We welcome new members (both male and female) to join us as we start planning the activities schedule for the upcoming year. Refreshments will be served.

Officers are: President – Linda Duffy; Vice President – Luane Frazier; Secretary – Shirley George; Treasurer – Nini Miller; Special Events Coordinators – Nini Miller and Danielle Lavoie; The Cedar Club Newsletter Editor – Susan John.

Bible Study, 1st Communion, Confirmation Classes (September 16th or 17th)

Fr. Bakhos will give the following classes this Fall: Bible Study (adults); First Communion (over 7 years old), and Confirmation (over 13 years old). Classes will take place weekly on either Wednesdays or Thursday evenings starting September 16th or 17th to accommodate the majority of those who can attend. Please call Fr. Bakhos at 304-233-1688 to register.

Arabic Language Classes (September 16th or 17th)

Upon request, Fr. Bakhos will give spoken Arabic language classes weekly to those who are interested on either Wednesday or Thursday evenings every week starting on September 16th or 17th to accommodate the majority of those who can attend. Please call Fr. Bakhos at 304-233-1688 to register.

Lebanese Folklore Dance Troupe "Dabke" Classes Forming

Our Lady of Lebanon Church is willing to establish a Lebanese Folkloric Dance Troupe under the guidance of trainer, Natalie Committee. The troupe will be able to perform at our 2010 Mahrajan and at local events in the greater Wheeling area. Fr. Bakhos is willing to order a traditional folkloric costume from Lebanon for each age. Please register first. The day and time will be decided when 6 or more have expressed interest.

Fall Spaghetti Dinner (Sunday, October 4th, from 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

Save Sunday, October 4, on your calendar so you can come to enjoy the Fall Spaghetti Dinner at our beautiful Cedar Hall. 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. ***Please note that this fall the dinner will end at 5:00 p.m.***

Menu: spaghetti & meatballs or marinara sauce, salad, roll, dessert & choice of coffee, ice tea or lemonade. **Tickets:** \$7.00 – adults or \$4.00 – children under 12. To purchase tickets in advance, contact one of our parishioners or mail your payment and ticket(s) request to the church. Only a limited number of tickets will be available at the door.

Advance Ticket Sales by Parishioners: If you are able & willing to help sell tickets to make our dinner a success, please pick up a packet of tickets from our Church office. **Unsold tickets & payments must be returned by–Sunday, September 27.**

Baked Goods Needed for Sale: Parishioners are 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, Lebanese specialty, etc.

Desserts Needed for Eat-In Dinners: Parishioners are being asked to also bake and donate a dessert for use at the dinner so that we may offer a variety of choices to go with the meal (*take-out desserts are already arranged*). **Drop off of Baked Goods and Eat-In Desserts:** Saturday, October 3th, before 4:00 p.m. Mass or Sunday, October 4th, after 10:00 a.m.

Please Pray for Those on Our Prayer List

Please Remember Those Hospitalized Recently In Your Prayers:

Greg Thomas, Frank Lish, Millie Hoskinson, Larry Gibbons, Peggy Justice, Mary Piko, Pat McNeil (FL) niece of Kay Garvey

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

August 23:	Georgene Weisner Manning, Emily John, Bill Daniel
August 26:	Phillip Geimer
August 27:	LuAnn Truelove, Mike Voellinger
August 29:	Debbie Elias Davis
August 31:	Martha Ruggiero, Joseph Simon
September 1:	Janet Wilson
September 4:	Kitty Ackermann
September 5:	Sam Zinn
September 8:	Carol Dougherty
September 9:	Gary Weisner, Barb Sobota, Patrick Stees
September 10:	Christopher R. George

Your Church Support Last Week

\$1,056	Collection
55	Candles
20	Utilities
60	Parking
20	Reimbursement
597	Mahrajan (food sales after Mahrajan)
\$1,808	Total. May God reward you many fold

What's New?

Parish Condolences: Roger Henning

The pastor and the parishioners of Our Lady of Lebanon Church, Wheeling, offer their heartfelt sympathy to the **Henning** family on the loss of their beloved **Roger** who passed away in Pennsylvania, last week. Roger was the brother of our parishioners Don & Roberta Henning.

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

Lamb Shish Kebob and Other Mahrajan Food for Sale

Shish Kebob is available for sale at **\$17 for a package of 5 skewers** – each with 1/3 pound of delicious, tender Lamb. The Shish Kebob was prepared onto skewers a couple weeks before the Mahrajan and immediately frozen. It was never thawed at the festival. If you would like to purchase some and at the same time help our church recover the expense for this food item, please ask Fr. after Mass or call the church office at 304-233-1688.

Other items available for sale include: **Cabbage Rolls** (extra lg.): \$8.00 pkg. of 6 or \$15.00 a dozen; **Spinach Pies**: \$2.00 each or \$7.00 pkg. of 4; **Zattar Bread**: \$1.50 pkg. of 2; **Pita Bread**: \$3.00 pkg. of 10 lg.

Thanks for the following Gifts ...

...P.J. & Nikki Lenz for donating the labor for and the landscaping of shrubs planted around our new parking lot just north of our Cedar Hall. We could not thank you enough for your generosity of spirit and heart. May the Blessed Mother continue to bless your hands and grant you a long, healthy life.

...the silk, custom-made Lebanese Flag on the altar of our church was donated by Dr. Adel & Diane Frenn.

Additional Mahrajan Thank You

--A note of THANKS to the Site One Kitchen yearly, stand-by workers – Bob and Fran Saseen, Anna Jalad, Sandra Dusick, Ted Olinski and Maryann Carl; to the relief crew – Mary Stees, Loretta Roman and Tricia Committee; to our new helpers this year – Judy Bedway, Jill Magers, Bob Pockl, Henry & Jack Koussa; to our returning workers – Mike Voellinger, Rita Strawn, Julia Tappe and Shirley George; and to MaryAnn Cater who also drafted her niece Joyce to help during the afternoon; to Susan and Cecilia John for preparing the delicious hummus; to my husband Mickey and daughter Allison for their behind-the-scene chores.

THANK YOU EVERYONE for your time, effort and working hands that made the Oglebay kitchen work flow smoothly.

--Chairperson, Linda Fadoul Duffy

--Opps...additional thanks for workers who prepared food for the Mahrajan at the Church the week before the festival: Rex Strawn, Roberta & Don Henning, Dolores Joseph and Nancy Joseph. --Carol Dougherty

--Thanks also from Charlotte Khourey to: Thomasina Geimer, Kay Garvey and Emmalena Khourey who returned again this year to help those who attended the Mahrajan purchase tickets and a Big Thank You to Marc Abraham, Sue Brubach, MaryAnn Cater and Jean Weisner (who pitched in to help replace John & Roxanne who were out-of-town this year). Everything went very smoothly – thanks for your time.

--Also, on behalf of all the other chairpersons, THANKS TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS! We could not have succeeded without your generous donation of time and talent.

Please Sponsor Me

--Our kitchen needs an extra back-up freezer which we purchased for \$607. (We have enough refrigerators but only one freezer.) If anyone's heart is filled with generosity and if you are able to sponsor it and offer it to the Blessed Mother, it will be very appreciated. A plaque will be affixed to the freezer listing the name of the benefactor. Thank you.

--Our restrooms need two automatic hand dryers to cut on the cost of expensive rolls of paper towels. Every restroom will have one paper towel dispenser and one electric automatic, hands-free dryer. Each hand dryer costs: \$250 installed. If you can be generous enough to sponsor one or both, please call Fr. Bakhos at 304-233-1688. Thank you.

Wisdom: Coffee Addiction

You Know You Are Addicted to Coffee If:

- 1- You sleep with your eyes open.
- 2- The only time you're standing still is during an earthquake.
- 3- You can take a picture of yourself from ten feet away without using the timer.
- 4- You've worn out your third pair of tennis shoes this week.
- 5- Your eyes stay open when you sneeze.
- 6- The nurse needs a scientific calculator to take your pulse.
- 7- You're so jittery that people use your hands to blend their margaritas.
- 8- You can type sixty words per minute with your feet.
- 9- You can jump-start your car without cables.
- 10- You don't sweat, you percolate.
- 11- You walk twenty miles on your treadmill before you realize it's not plugged in.
- 12- You've built a miniature city out of little plastic stirrers that you have used.
- 13- People get dizzy just watching you.
- 14- Instant coffee takes too long.
- 15- You channel surf faster without a remote.
- 16- You have a picture of your coffee mug on your coffee mug.
- 17- You can outlast the Energizer bunny.
- 18- You short out motion detectors.
- 19- Your nervous twitch registers on the Richter scale.
- 20- You help your dog chase its tail.
- 21- Your first-aid kit contains two pints of coffee with an I.V. hookup.
- 22- You ski uphill.
- 23- You get a speeding ticket even when you're parked.
- 24- You haven't blinked since the last lunar eclipse.

Maronites = Catholics of the East

Lebanese Americans and Canadians: Making a Difference

The Pulitzer Prize for biography ("Jackson Pollack: An American Saga") was shared by the author of three other national bestsellers -- writer-publisher Steven Naifeh of South Carolina.

In science and medicine, one of America's most famous pioneers is Houston surgeon Dr. Michael DeBakey, who invented the heart pump. Today he's chancellor of Baylor University's College of Medicine.

Winner of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry Lebanese American. The 1990 winner is Harvard's Dr. Elias Corey.

Geologist George A. Doumani's explorations helped prove the theory of continental drift; he has a mountain peak named after him in Antarctica. Another American geologist, Dr. Farouk el-Baz, a Lebanese born in Egypt, helped plan all the Apollo moon landings and later pioneered the use of space photography to study the Earth.

Finally, the courageous astronauts who lost their lives aboard the space shuttle Challenger represented several racial and ethnic groups: African-American, Hispanic-American, Asian-American, Anglo-American, Jewish-American -- and Maronite Lebanese American: schoolteacher Christa McAuliffe.

We've all heard this quote before: "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country" ... a famous quote by an Irish-American President -- John F. Kennedy -- that inspired an entire generation.

These words were first written by, among others, the Maronite-Lebanese American author of "The Prophet," Kahlil Gibran. And that sentiment, so beautifully expressed by Gibran more than 70 years ago, has inspired Americans of all heritages.

We are Lebanese Americans and Canadians and our families are proud of our heritage and proud to be Americans. It's this pride that keeps us all asking, "What can we do for our country?"-- the good old U.S.A. and Canada.
(End of study)

Story: Three Little Stories

Ice Cream Sundae

In the days when an ice cream sundae cost much less, a 10-year-old boy entered a hotel coffee shop and sat at a table. A waitress put a glass of water in front of him. "How much is an ice cream sundae?" he asked.

"Fifty cents," replied the waitress. The little boy pulled his hand out of his pocket and studied the coins in it. "Well, how much is a plain dish of ice cream?" he inquired.

By now, more people were waiting for a table and the waitress was growing impatient. "Thirty-five cents," she brusquely replied." The little boy again counted his coins. "I'll have the plain ice cream," he said. The waitress brought the ice cream, put the bill on the table and walked away. The boy finished the ice cream, paid the cashier and left.

When the waitress came back, she began to cry as she wiped down the table. There, placed neatly beside the empty dish, were two nickels and five pennies. You see, he couldn't have the sundae, because he had to have enough left to leave a tip.

Sticking Together

A flock of wild geese had settled to rest on a pond. One of the flock had been captured by a gardener, who had clipped its wings before releasing it. When the geese started to resume their flight, this one tried frantically, but vainly, to lift itself into the air. The others, observing his struggles, flew about in obvious efforts to encourage him; but it was no use.

Thereupon, the entire flock settled back on the pond and waited, even though the urge to go on was strong within them. For several days they waited until the damaged feathers had grown sufficiently to permit the goose to fly.

Meanwhile, the unethical gardener, having been converted by the ethical geese, gladly watched them as they finally rose together and all resumed their long flight.

Little Bunnies...and Their Protector!

These little bunnies, about 6 days old, were attacked by a dog and orphaned. Two out of the litter of five did not survive, and these three were not doing very well.

Noah is a non-releasable, one-legged homing pigeon that we have here in rehab. Noah kept going over to the bunny cage and looking in... even sleeping in front of the door to the cage.

Then, 2 days ago, I only counted 2 bunnies in the cage, so I hurriedly picked Noah up from the front of the cage so I could look inside. And to my surprise... there was the tiny bunny... under Noah's wing... sound asleep! The bunny had crawled through the cage... preferring a featherbed, no doubt.

Now, they are all together, and the bunnies are doing GREAT. When the bunnies scoot underneath Noah's feathers, he extends his wings out to surround them, and they snuggle. When one of them moves and they start sticking out here and there, he gently pushes them back under him with his beak! This is amazing!!! "He will cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you will find refuge."

Psalm 91:4 'IN GOD WE TRUST'

Joke (555)

Old Fashioned Customer Service

During a shopping trip to a department store, I was looking around for a salesperson so I could pay for my purchase. Finally I ran into a woman wearing the store's ID tag. "Excuse me," I said. "I'm trying to locate a cashier."

"I can't help you," she briskly replied, barely slowing down. "I work in customer service." And she walked away.

Do You Want To Go To Heaven?

Father Murphy walked into a pub in Donegal, and said to the first man he meets, "Do you want to go to heaven?" The man said, "I do Father."

The priest said, "Then leave this pub right now!" and approached a second man. "Do you want to go to heaven?" "Certainly, Father," was the man's reply.

"Then leave this den of Satan," said the priest, as he walked up to O'Toole.

"Do you want to go to heaven?" "No, I don't Father," O'Toole replied. The priest looked him right in the eye, and said, "You mean to tell me that when you die you don't want to go to heaven?"

O'Toole smiled, "Oh, when I die, yes, Father. I thought you were getting a group together to go now."

Blonde Horseback Riding

A blonde decides to try horseback riding, even though she has had no lessons, nor prior experience. She mounts the horse unassisted, and the horse immediately springs into motion. It gallops along at a steady and rhythmic pace, but the blonde begins to slide from the saddle.

In terror, she grabs for the horse's mane, but cannot seem to get a firm grip. She tries to throw her arms around the horse's neck, but she slides down the horse's side anyway. The horse gallops along, seemingly impervious to its slipping rider.

Finally, giving up her frail grip, the blonde attempts to leap away from the horse and throw herself to safety. Unfortunately, her foot has become entangled in the stirrup; she is now at the mercy of the horse's pounding hooves as her head is struck against the ground over and over.

As her head is battered against the ground, she is mere moments away from unconsciousness when to her great fortune Frank, the Wal-Mart greeter, sees her dilemma and unplugs the horse.

And you thought all they did was say Hello.