

**November 22, 2009**  
**Bulletin # 47**

## ***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

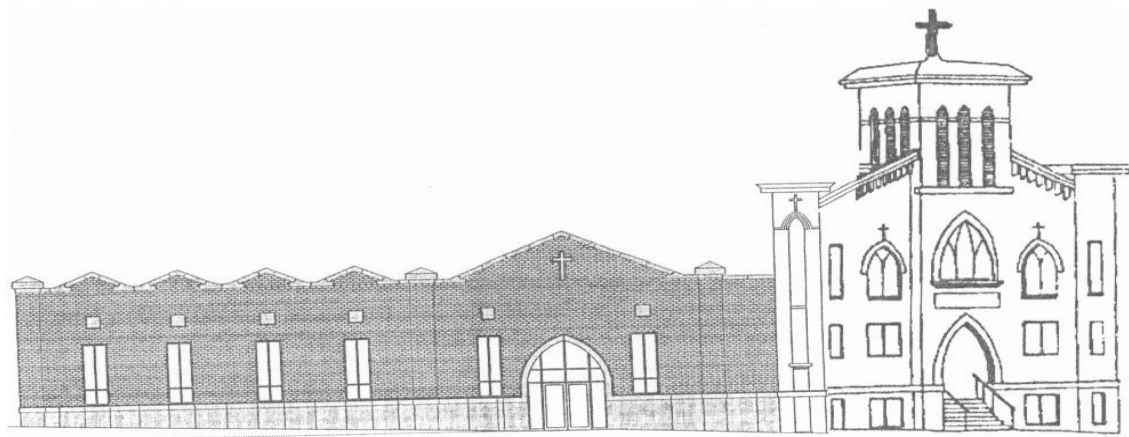
E-Mail: ololwv@Comcast.net • Web Site: www.ololwv.com

**Rev. Bakhos Chidiac (Pastor)**

Evelyn Ghaphery (Organist)

Charlotte Khourey & Thomasina Geimer (Secretaries)

## ***Announcement to the Virgin Mary***



## ***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
- \*Confession: 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



- \***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
- \***Hall Rental Fees**: Call the Church Office 304-233-1688
- \***Parking**: Saturday & Sunday – both parking lots are for parishioners; Monday through Friday – park ONLY in the 3 ALLEY spaces
- \*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

## *Gospel Reflection: Announcement to the Virgin Mary*

*Readings: Gal 3:15-22 and Lk 1:26-38*

The lingering question, as we honor the Lord on his birthday, is why was he accepted by so few? Was he so strange that they could not recognize him? Was he so different that he was beyond their expectations? No. The problem was that he was too much like them. So many had already decided how God should act, how He should come among them. They had forgotten that the Lord had spoken through Isaiah: “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways.” (Isaiah 55:8)

Nazareth, The Annunciation, The Incarnation, they are our warnings to keep ourselves open to the Lord, wherever and however He may manifest Himself. He is the God of surprises who comes in amazing ways. The apostle Nathaniel wondered, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” He was told, “Come and see.” Be surprised, be amazed, and be open. He is Emmanuel – God with us. But in ways we did not expect.

## *Reflection of the life of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

She became the most revered of all women in the history of Christianity. The Archangel Gabriel came to her, a meek frightened maid, with the awesome message that she would give birth to the Savior of the world! Mary the mother of Jesus, was like any ordinary mother. She cradled gently in her own warm arms the little boy as He looked up smilingly into her fair face and she told Him vividly the stories in the Scriptures, sweetly sang to Him the Psalms, and devoutly taught to Him His people’s prayers.

During the Middle Ages, people as sinners prayed to her as intercessor to have pity on them and avert the wrath of God. There developed at that time the cult of the Virgin with the building of cathedrals named after her, like Chartres and Notre Dame, and the recitation of the prayer, “Ave Maria, ora pro nohis.” Little appears to be known historically about the life of Mary, except for the brief references to her in the Gospels and Acts of the Apostles.

Mary, the Virgin Mother of Jesus, was the daughter of Joachim and Anne, and cousin of Elizabeth. When Jesus was dying on the cross, He recommended his mother to the care of John, author of the Fourth Gospel, who accompanied Mary to the Ionian city of Ephesus, where she spent her last days on earth.

In the Gospel of St. Mark, after Jesus ordained the twelve Apostles and sent them forth to preach, to have power to heal the sick and to cast out devils, Mark describes Mary’s appearance thus: “And they went into a house, and the multitude came together again, so that they could not so much as eat bread. And when His friends heard of it, they went out to lay hold on Him: for they said, ‘He is beside Himself’. There came then, His brethren and His mother, and standing outside, sent unto Him, calling Him. And the multitude sat about Him, and they said unto Him, behold your mother and your brethren outside seeking you. And He answered them, saying,

“Who is my mother, or my brethren?” And He looked around about on them which sat about Him and said: “Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister and mother.”

In the Gospel according to Matthew, this is how the appearance of Mary and the birth of Jesus are described: “Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: when as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privately.

But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, fear not to take unto you Mary your wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she shall bring forth a son, and you shall call His name Jesus: for He shall save His people from their sins.

And Matthew further states, after the Wise Men departed from Bethlehem, where they saw the Christ Child with Mary His mother: “And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, ‘Arise, and take the young child and His mother, and flee into Egypt, and be there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young child to destroy Him.

“When he arose, he took the young child and His mother by night and departed into Egypt; and was there until the death of Herod; that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, ‘Out of Egypt have I called my son...’

“But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, ‘Arise, and take the young child and His mother, and go into the land of Israel; for they are dead which sought the young child’s life.

“And he arose, and took the young child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel... And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, ‘He shall be called a Nazarene.’”

This is how the beautiful Gospel of Luke describes the Virgin birth: “And in the sixth month the Angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin’s name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, you that are highly favored, the Lord is with you; blessed art you among women.

And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said to her, ‘Fear not, Mary, for you has found favor with God. And, behold, you shall conceive in your womb, and bring forth a son, and shall call His name Jesus.

He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David; and He shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of His kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, ‘How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?’

“And the angel answered and said unto her, ‘The Holy Spirit shall come upon you, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow you; therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of you shall be called the Son of God. And, behold, your cousin Elizabeth, she has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. For with God nothing shall be impossible. And Mary said, ‘Behold the handmaid of the Lord: be it unto me according to your word.’ And the angel departed from her...”

And again in Luke, after the child Jesus was lost for three days and His parents found Him in the temple preaching to the Elders, His mother said to Him, “Son, why had you thus dealt with us? Behold, you father and I have sought you sorrowing.” And Jesus said to them, “How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be about my Father’s business?” “And they understood not the saying which He spoke unto them. And He went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them; but His mother kept all these sayings in her heart.”

In the Gospel of John, the mother of Jesus appears at the marriage feast in Cana and says to Him, when they ran out of wine. “They have no wine.” Jesus said to her, “Woman, what have I to do with you? My hour has not yet come. His mother then said to the servants, “Whatsoever He says unto you, do it.” After Jesus performs the miracle of turning the water into wine, John states, “This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth His glory, and His disciples believed in Him.”

At the crucifixion John describes the scene as follows, “Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple standing by, whom He loved, He said unto His mother, “Woman, behold your son!” Then he said to the disciple, ‘Behold your mother!’ And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home.”

At the last supper John further relates, “And when they had come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James.

These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brethren.”

In all pages of the Gospels Mary is portrayed, whenever she appears, as the unselfish, humble and pure handmaiden of God, content with the call to be the mother of the Savior. Mary’s greatest attainment was the glory of motherhood.

## ***The History of Thanksgiving and Its Celebrations***

Throughout history mankind has celebrated the bountiful harvest with thanksgiving ceremonies. Before the establishment of formal religions many ancient farmers believed that their crops contained spirits which caused the crops to grow and die. Many believed that these spirits would be released when the crops were harvested and they had to be destroyed or they would take revenge on the farmers who harvested them. Some of the harvest festivals celebrated the defeat of these spirits. Harvest festivals and thanksgiving celebrations were held by the ancient Greeks, the Romans, the Hebrews, the Chinese, and the Egyptians.

### **The Greeks:**

The ancient Greeks worshipped many gods and goddesses. Their goddess of corn (actually all grains) was Demeter who was honored at the festival of Thesmophoria held each autumn. On the first day of the festival married women (possibility connecting childbearing and the raising of crops) would build leafy shelters and furnish them with couches made with plants. On the second day they fasted. On the third day a feast was held and offerings to the goddess Demeter were made –gifts of seed corn, cakes, fruit, and pigs. It was hoped that Demeter's gratitude would grant them a good harvest.

### **The Romans:**

The Romans also celebrated a harvest festival called Cerelia, which included music, parades, games, sports, a thanksgiving feast and honored Ceres their goddess of corn (from which the word cereal comes). The festival, held each year on October 4<sup>th</sup>, includes offerings to Ceres of the harvest's first fruits and pigs.

### **The Chinese:**

The ancient Chinese celebrated their harvest festival, Chung Ch'ui, with the full moon that fell on the 15th day of the 8th month. This day was considered the birthday of the moon and special "moon cakes", round and yellow like the moon, would be baked. Each cake was stamped with the picture of a rabbit –as it was a rabbit, not a man, which the Chinese saw on the face of the moon. The families ate a thanksgiving meal and feasted on roasted pig, harvested fruits and the "moon cakes." It was believed that during the 3-day festival flowers would fall from the moon and those who saw them would be rewarded with good fortune.

According to legend Chung Ch'ui also gave thanks for another special occasion. China had been conquered by enemy armies who took control of the Chinese homes and food. The Chinese found themselves homeless and with no food. Many starved. In order to free themselves they decided to attack the invaders. The women baked special moon cakes which were distributed to every family. In each cake was a secret message which contained the time for the attack. When the time came the invaders were surprised and easily defeated. Every year moon cakes are eaten in memory of this victory.

### **The Hebrews:**

Jewish families also celebrate a harvest festival called Sukkoth. Taking place each autumn, Sukkoth has been celebrated for over 3000 years. Sukkoth is known by 2 names: Hag ha Succot (the Feast of the Tabernacles) and Hag ha Asif (the Feast of Ingathering). Sukkoth begins on the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Tishri, 5 days after Yom Kippur the most solemn day of the Jewish year. Sukkoth is named for the huts (succots) that Moses and the Israelites lived in as they wandered the desert for 40 years before they reached the Promised Land. These huts were made of branches and were easy to assemble, take apart, and carry as the Israelites wandered through the desert. When celebrating Sukkoth, which lasts for 8 days, the Jewish people build small huts of branches which recall the tabernacles of their ancestors. These huts are constructed as temporary shelters, as the branches are not driven into the ground and the roof is covered with foliage which is spaced to let the light in. Inside the huts are hung fruits and vegetables, including apples, grapes, corn, and pomegranates. On the first 2 nights of Sukkoth the families eat their meals in the huts under the evening sky.

### **The Egyptians:**

The ancient Egyptians celebrated their harvest festival in honor of Min, their god of vegetation and fertility. The festival was held in the springtime, the Egyptian's harvest season. The festival of Min featured a parade in which the Pharaoh took part. After the parade a great feast was held. Music, dancing, and sports were also part of the celebration. When the Egyptian farmers harvested their corn, they wept and pretended to be grief-stricken. This was to deceive the spirit which they believed lived in the corn. They feared the spirit would become angry when the farmers cut down the corn where it lived.

**The United States:**

In 1621, after a hard and devastating first year in the New World the Pilgrim's fall harvest was very successful and plentiful. There was corn, fruits, vegetables, along with fish which was packed in salt, and meat that was smoke cured over fires. They found they had enough food to put away for the winter. The Pilgrims had beaten the odds. They built homes in the wilderness, they raised enough crops to keep them alive during the long coming winter, and they were at peace with their Indian neighbors. Their Governor, William Bradford, proclaimed a day of thanksgiving that was to be shared by all the colonists and the neighboring Native American Indians.

The custom of an annually celebrated thanksgiving, held after the harvest, continued through the years. During the American Revolution (late 1770's) a day of national thanksgiving was suggested by the Continental Congress. In 1817 New York State adopted Thanksgiving Day as an annual custom. By the middle of the 19th century many other states also celebrated a Thanksgiving Day. In 1863 President Abraham Lincoln appointed a national day of thanksgiving. Since then each president has issued a Thanksgiving Day proclamation, usually designating the fourth Thursday of each November as the holiday.

**Canada:**

Beginning in 1879, Thanksgiving in Canada has been celebrated on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in October.

## *Mass Intentions*

<b>NEXT WEEKEND, November 21-22: Announcement to the Virgin Mary</b>
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**Saturday, November 21 at 4:00 p.m.**

Mariam & John Keegan by Marge & Louis John

Martha Ruggiero by Agnes DiChianzza

Good health & speedy recovery of all those on our prayer list

**Sunday, November 22 at 10:30 a.m.:**

Dale Seidler Sr., by his wife Nettie & Family

Harry Seabright, Ernie Truelove & Edwin Sinila by the Family

Good health & speedy recovery of all those on our prayer list

<b>Weekday Masses</b>
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**Monday, November 23:** No Mass. Pastor's Day Off

**Tuesday, November 24:** No Mass. Pastor's Day Off

**Wednesday, November 25: at 5:00 p.m.: Thanksgiving Eve Mass**

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

Intentions of the benefactors of Fr Bakhos & of the church

**Thursday, November 26 at 9:00 a.m.: Thanksgiving Day Mass**

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

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

**Friday, November 27 at Noon:**

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

Deceased members of the Chidiac Family by Fr. Bakhos

Good health & speedy recovery of all those on our prayer list

<b>NEXT WEEKEND, November 28-29: Mary visits Elizabeth</b>
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**Saturday, November 28 at 4:00 p.m.**

Special Intention

Special prayer for Maya's success

**Sunday, November 29 at 10:30 a.m.:**

Shipleigh Shipley by Gene Botizan

Good health & speedy recovery of all those on our prayer list

## **Donate to the Church Maintenance Fund**

### **Help with the Endowment Fund to Keep Our Church Open and Active (Total Raised: \$1,854.00)**

Please donate toward the Endowment Fund CD account that is meant exclusively for our church maintenance for the years to come. Only the yearly interest will be withdrawn and spent to pay for church utilities and general maintenance. 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. Deposit my donation in the Endowment Fund account designated to maintain and support the church. Also, I wish to be enrolled in the daily Mass intentions as a benefactor.)*

We thank the following individuals for their generous contribution to this Endowment Fund. They will be remembered in every Mass: *Bill & Mary Stees (\$250), Tom Ferris (\$325), Sylvia Long (\$100), Catherine Arthur (Memorial) (\$100), Women's Society Fundraising total (\$964), Donation (\$67), Mary Custer (48),*

## **Donate to 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 located at the back of the church will be divided between the poor of our parish and the "Poor of Wheeling" through cooperative effort with the 18<sup>th</sup> Street Catholic Neighborhood Charity Center. All donations are tax deductible. May God reward those who share their blessings with the brothers and sisters of the Lord.

### **Our Lady of Lebanon Community Calendar**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Sunday, November 22	<b>Women's Society Meeting</b> – following Sunday Mass
Saturday, November 28	<b>Decorate Hall for Christmas Party</b> – beginning at 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, November 29	<b>50/50 Monthly Raffle</b> – <u>Please Note Change:</u> Drawing will be at Christmas Party
Sunday, November 29	<b>Parish Christmas Party</b> – 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. – <b><u>Deadline:</u> Monday, November 23</b>
Monday, November 30	<b>Bulletin Ad Page</b> – <b><u>Payment Due</u></b>
Monday, November 30	<b>Bulletin Mailing Subscription</b> – <b><u>Payment Due</u></b>
Thursday, December 3	<b>Bible Study</b> – from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. <b>Lebanese Language</b> – from 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.
Sat. & Sun., Dec. 12-13	<b>Christmas Cookie, Candy, etc., Exchange &amp; Sale</b>
Sunday, December 13	<b>Parish Children's Christmas Party</b> – following Sunday Mass
Sunday, December 13	<b>Christmas Poinsettia</b> – <b><u>Deadline</u></b>
Sunday, December 20	<b>Donation of Non-Perishable Food</b> – <b><u>Deadline</u></b>
Sunday, December 20	<b>Women's Society Gift Basket Drawing</b> – at Fr. Bakhos' Anniversary Luncheon
Sunday, December 20	<b>Fr. Bakhos' Anniversary to the Priesthood Luncheon</b> – following Sunday Mass



### **Community Events**

#### **Bible Study & Lebanese Language Classes** *cancelled Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>*

Because of Thanksgiving, we will not have classes on Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. The next class will be Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## **Thanksgiving Mass Schedule** (Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>)

Thanksgiving Eve Mass: Wednesday, November 25<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. (No Noon Mass)

Thanksgiving Day Mass: Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 a.m. Mass. (No Noon Mass)

## **Parish Christmas Party** (Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30 until 9:30 p.m.)

Singer George Suhon is booked to provide the entertainment for our parishioners at our Parish Christmas Party sponsored by our Women's Society members on Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30 until 9:30 p.m. Come celebrate this year of blessings in our Cedar Hall. All parishioners and their guests are welcome to attend and join together for a great time! The menu will be: *Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans Almandine, Mixed Greens Salad, Rolls & Butter, a choice of Pies for Dessert and Coffee, Iced Tea or Lemonade*. Pop, beer and wine will be available a la carte. Everyone who attends is eligible for Door Prizes. (Women's Society members may bring door prizes anytime – they can be stored in the church office).

**Reservations are required and must be made by Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>**, to guarantee that enough food may be ordered. (No tickets will be available to be sold after November 23<sup>rd</sup>; none available at the door.) To be included in the fun and festivities, call the church office at 304-233-1688. Remember to bring your ticket with the attached, completed Door Prize Stub to the Dinner so that you can be entered for the Door Prizes (or to avoid forgetting them and let us hold your ticket(s) at the door). **Advance Payment is requested. Tickets are \$10.00 each.** Write checks to: Our Lady of Lebanon Church & mark the Memo line: "Christmas Party."

## **Women's Society Monthly 50/50 Raffle** (Drawing: Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>)

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

**November 50/50 Raffle Tickets** can be found at the church entrance and in the Weekly Church Bulletins. Please Note: The drawing from entries received will take place in the Cedar Hall at the Parish Christmas Party on **Sunday, November 29**.

**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 Mary Custer who won the November prize of \$48. She donated her prize toward the Church Endowment Fund. Many Thanks to you Mary.

## **2010 Ad in Bulletin Now Due** (Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>)

If you wish to purchase an ad on the back of our popular weekly bulletin, please contact the church office at 304-233-1688 to see if any space is still available. Your payment should be received by Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **2010 Bulletin Mail Subscription Now Due** (Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>)

If you are unable to attend the church and wish to receive the Weekly Bulletin by mail, please send your subscription payment of \$50 to cover the cost of mailing it to your home throughout the year 2010.

## **Christmas Cookie, Candy, etc., Sale & Exchange** (Sat.-Sun., Dec. 12-13)

Our parish's third Christmas Cookie, Candy, etc., Sale & Exchange has been scheduled for Saturday & Sunday, December 12 & 13. Here's how it works:

--Make and bring extras of your favorite Christmas treats so that plenty will available for sale.

--You may then buy goodies that another person brings **OR**

--You may choose to "exchange" half your treats for an equal amount that another person brings. (If you wish to take home 2 dozen treats, please bring 4 dozen – **half for you to exchange and half for others to buy**; if you want to take home 3 dozen, bring 6 dozen, etc.)

*Donated cookies or other treats may be dropped off beginning at 9 a.m. on Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>; however, those who wish to “exchange” half their cookies donated should plan to come between 10 and 11 a.m.*

Goodies remaining after the “exchange” are available for sale by the half dozen. Anyone can buy our treats (you do not have to bring anything to exchange). Just remember to come during the sale hours:  
**Saturday, December 12, from 3:00-4:00 p.m. and immediately following the 4 p.m. Mass; and Sunday, December 13, following 10:30 Mass.**

Please make some goodies – any holiday treat will be welcomed: Lebanese specialty (Baklava, Mamouls, Sesame Twist Cookies, Namoura, Makaroons, Ghroubeh), Biscotti, Pizzelles, Nut Horns, Pecan Sandies, Thumbprint Cookies, Chocolate Chip Cookies, Peanut Butter Blossoms, Oatmeal Cookies, Raisin Cookies, Chocolate Peanut Butter Cookies, Shortbread Cookies, Russian Tea Cookies, Snicker Doodle Cookies, 7 Layer Bar Cookies, Anise Cookies, Feniki Cookies, Coconut Bon Bons, Truffles, Hard Tack Candy, Buckeyes, Fudge (chocolate, peanut butter, maple, vanilla, brown sugar, etc.), Nut Rolls, regular or mini-size quick breads with or without nuts (pumpkin, zucchini, banana, blueberry, cranberry, lemon, poppy seed), etc.

If you plan to participate by preparing your favorite goodies for this fundraiser, please let us know what you might make so we can tempt people by printing a list of items. *So far, donations this year will include: Buckeyes, Pecan Tassies, Call the Church office at 304-233-1688 or Charlotte at 304-277-2320.*

## ***Children’s Christmas Party*** (following Mass on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>)

The Women’s Society invites all who attend Our Lady of Lebanon Church to bring their children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews to the Children’s Christmas Party planned for Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, following 10:30 a.m. Mass. Santa will come to the party to visit with each child.

## ***Christmas Poinsettias*** (Deadline: Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>)

Every Christmas our church looks beautiful when decorated with poinsettias grown by Nikki’s Garden Center, \$25.00 each. Your generosity contributes to the beauty of the church.

### **2009 Christmas Poinsettias are offered in Memory of:**

- \$25 *Louise N. & Louis H. Khourey Sr. & Gladys Howard by Lou, Charlotte Khourey & family*
- \$25 *Fred Oser by Dolores Oser*
- \$25 *Freddie Oser by Dolores Oser*
- \$25 *Ron Canestraro by the Oser family*
- \$25 *The deceased members of the Oser & Gongola families*
- \$25 *In honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary by Dolores Oser*
- \$30 *For a Special Intention by “a Friend”*
- \$25 *John F. Kukula by his wife Mary Rose Kukula & family*
- \$25 *Helen Fielding by her husband Don Fielding (FL)*
- \$25 *Joseph, Victoria & Minnie John by Marge & Lou John*
- \$25 *Gloria & John J. John by Marge & Lou John*
- \$25 *Marian & John Keegan by Marge & Lou John*
- \$25 *Mary K. Ferris by her husband Tom & her daughter Denise*
- \$25 *Ed Shia & Helen Mattes by Betty Shia*
- \$25 *Arthur & Mark Long by Sylvia Long*
- \$25 *Suzanne Linton by her husband Mike Linton*
- \$25 *Frances Linton by her son Mike Linton*
- \$25 *Parents of Bob & Virginia Pockl by Bob & Virginia Pockl*
- \$25 *Barkett & Sadie Coury by Lucille Gibbons*
- \$25 *George & Rose Fadoul by the Family*
- \$25 *For the Habdo & Dougherty Families by Bill & Carol Dougherty*

## ***Christmas Barrel of Non-perishable Food*** (Deadline: December 20<sup>th</sup>)

A barrel has been placed at the upper lobby where we enter the Church for non-perishable food items to be given to those who are in need this Christmas Season. Our church will give a monetary gift from the “poor box” donations along with the food items to families with children. Please be generous if you can share your blessings.

## ***Fr. Bakhos’ 18<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to Priesthood Luncheon*** (Sun., Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>)

Plan to join the members of the Women’s Society at a luncheon to honor Fr. Bakhos’ 18<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to the Priesthood on Sunday, December 20, after Mass. (He was ordained on December 21, 1991.) May we continue to be blessed with many more years of his leadership as our pastor. Look for more information in upcoming bulletins.

## ***Women’s Society Gift Basket Raffle*** (Drawing, Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>)

The Women’s Society’s next Gift Basket Raffle drawing will be held on Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, at the luncheon to honor Fr. Bakhos’ anniversary to the priesthood. The “Wine & More for the Holidays” Gift Basket includes one bottle of the following wines: Bolla Chianti and Valpolicello; Oak Leaf Shiraz and Merlot; Lindemans Cabernet Sauvignon; Sutter Home White Zinfandel; one four-bottle wine rack; two Italian-made wine goblets; and a cheese cutting board, with a cleaver, knife, and cheese plane – all to help make your Christmas and New Year’s holidays merrier.

The Gift Basket Raffle proceeds benefit the maintenance of our church through the “Endowment Fund.” **Won’t you take a chance ... or two ... or eighteen!** Tickets cost \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 **or 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. Tickets are available in our weekly bulletin and at the entrance to the church at that time also.

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 “Memo” line of your check and on the front of the envelope) or mail it to: Our Lady of Lebanon Church, 2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003. Congratulations to Richard Ryncartz who won the October Gift Basket.

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

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

Rosella Saseen, Sam Elias, Justin Frenn, Gary West, Louis John, Dick Shibben (brother of John), Bob Dougherty (brother of Bill), Edith Fahey, Frank Lish,

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

Christine Solberg (MN), Barb Sobota, Laura Wellman, Virginia Khourey Bryan (aunt of Lou Khourey in Toledo, OH), Manell Brice (Arlington, VA), Rose Mary Bris-Roybal (Albuquerque, NM), Pat & John Vawter (mother & brother of Dr. Rob Vawter)

## ***Happy Birthday***

November 22:	Cecilia John
November 24:	Jim Brubach, Mick Kukula
November 26:	Mary Lish
December 1:	Jenna Brown, Cathy Kukula Gerhart
December 3:	Joey John
December 4:	Todd Gerhart
December 7:	Christina Committee
December 12:	Lou Khourey

## *Your Church Support Last Week*

1,161	Collection
42	Candles
140	Parking
200	Christmas Flowers
53	Reimbursement
50	Christmas Dinner Party
30	Donation to Church
480	Bulletin Ads
2,156.00	Total. <i>May God reward you many fold</i>

### *What's New?*

#### ***Parish Condolences: John Saab and Larry Gibbons***

--John Saab of Morgantown, the father of Sheila who helps us with our advertizing the Festival, died in Morgantown on Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>.

--Larry Gibbons, the son of our parishioner Lucille Gibbons also died in Wheeling on Tuesday.

We offer our heartfelt sympathy to both families and pray to the Blessed Mother to intercede for them and lead him to the light of Christ.

#### ***Congratulations on Your Baptism***

Chris and Lori DeMuth granted to their daughter Eden Victoria the honor to be the adopted daughter of God through the sacrament of Baptism, last Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, at Our Lady of Lebanon Church.

Godparents were: Jordan and Jennifer DeMuth. After the Baptism, a reception was held at the parents' house for the family and friends. May Saint Catherine, the patron saint of Eden, protect her and grant her along with her parents, godparents, and grandparents, good health and bright future.

#### ***Cedar Hall Rental Fees - Policy Revised***

Taking into consideration the many expenses related to heating, cooling, cleaning, maintenance, insurance, etc. ... of the Cedar Hall, the Parish Council of Our Lady of Lebanon Church has agreed to rent the Cedar Hall at the following revised rates:

	<b>Active Parishioner Fees:</b>		<b>Non-Parishioner Fees:</b>	
	<b>Mon.-Thu</b>	<b>Fri.-Sun.</b>	<b>Mon.-Thu.</b>	<b>Fri.-Sun.</b>
Rental Fee ( <i>up to 4 hours</i> )	\$150.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$300.00
Damage Deposit	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Video Equipment Fee	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Additional per hour Fee	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$50.00

Hall Rental Notes:

- 1- Active parishioner means someone who attends the church regularly and supports the church financially via offering envelopes.
- 2- When the **Application for Hall Rental** is completed, the **Hall Rental Fee** and the **Damage Deposit** must be paid to confirm the hall rental date.

#### ***New CD by Amanda Borkoski***

The beautiful hymns you are hearing before Mass are for the soloist Amanda Borkoski who served in many funeral Masses at our church. Recently Amanda recorded her 1<sup>st</sup> CD and Fr. bought a few of them for the church use and will make some available for those who wish to purchase one. Cost is \$15.00. To order a CD contact Fr. Bakhos.

## ***New Articles for Bulletin***

If you come across an interesting or beneficial article which is appropriate for our church bulletin and parishioners interest, please submit a copy to Fr. Bakhos (or Charlotte) or email it to: [ololwv@comcast.net](mailto:ololwv@comcast.net). Thank you.

## ***New Parking Lot***

Dear Parishioners, On Saturday or Sunday if you are the first to arrive at the entrance to the parking lot which you enter off of 22<sup>nd</sup> Street and you find the yellow chain across the entrance, please open it so you and others can park inside. (Fr. Bakhos might be busy preparing for the Mass at that time.) Both parking lots are for use by our parishioners on the weekends.

## ***Lamb Shish Kebab and Other Mahrajan Food for Sale***

If you would like to purchase some frozen food items, and at the same time help our church recover the expense for these items, please ask Fr. after Mass or call the church office at 304-233-1688. Items available for sale include: **Shish Kebob**: \$17 pkg. of 5 skewers; **Zattar Bread**: \$1.50 pkg. of 2; **Wheat (#1 fine and #2 medium)**: \$3.50 pkg. of 2 lb. and **Pita Bread**: \$3.00 pkg. of 10 large.

## ***Poor Box***

Please consider sharing your blessings with the brothers and sisters of Christ. Some are in dire need some are not, but God alone knows what's in each one's heart. The Poor Box is located at the rear of the church near the Holy Water Font. Half of the money from that box is deposited in our "Parish Families Assistance Fund" and the other half is given to the nun at the Catholic Charity on 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Wheeling to be used for the poor and homeless. May your good deeds toward the brothers and sisters of Christ shine in the kingdom of God.

## ***Around Us***

### ***Do You Remember Fr. Eugene Jacobs?***

If you remember Fr. Eugene Jacobs who served as pastor on Wheeling Island from 1981-1987, please write an article about him and submit it to Fr. Bakhos. His family in Pittsburgh wants to write a book about him. Remember that through his will he donated \$50,000 to Our Lady of Lebanon Church for the Cedar Hall Building Project. To help you write your article, try to answer these questions: Was he your favorite priest? Why are you grateful to him? How did he fulfill your ideas of what a priest should be? Has he made a difference in the Church or your life?

### ***Wheeling Park Presents Play*** (Sunday-Tuesday, November 22-24, at 7 p.m.)

What: Park Players present – *The Butler Did It* Sunday-Tuesday, November 22, 23 & 24, at 7 p.m.  
Tickets: \$7.00 in advance; \$8.00 at the door; \$6.00 for groups of 10 or more if attending on same night  
Information: 304-243-0417 between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. weekdays or [wphsparkplayers@yahoo.com](mailto:wphsparkplayers@yahoo.com)

### ***Pierogi Sale*** (Orders accepted until December 6)

What: Precooked Homemade Potato & Cheese Pierogi  
Where: St. John Church, Benwood. Cost: \$6.00 per dozen. Information: 304-232-7558

## ***Christmas Prayer: A Prayer for Giving***

Dear God, At this Christmas season, please open my heart, may I learn to be a giver, not a taker; for only thus can I feel blessed. Make of me an instrument of Your peace, that peace might fill my world. May Your abundant mercy touch my life. May my heart so give and so receive as to expend to touch the stars. May I so learn to live with love, that I might know of heavenly bliss while still on earth. May the miracle of Christmas be a miracle in my heart. Amen --by Marianne Williamson

## ***Wisdom: Benefits of Honey and Cinnamon***

### **Facts on Honey and Cinnamon:**

It is found that a mixture of Honey and Cinnamon cures most diseases. Honey is produced in most of the countries of the world. Scientists of today also accept honey as a "Ram Ban" (very effective) medicine for all kinds of diseases. Honey can be used without any side effects for any kind of diseases. Today's science says that even though honey is sweet, if taken in the right dosage as a medicine, it does not harm diabetic patients.

Weekly World News, a magazine in Canada, in its issue dated Jan 17, 1995, has given the following list of diseases that can be cured by honey and cinnamon as research by western scientists:

#### **HEART Diseases:**

Make a paste of honey and cinnamon powder, apply on bread, instead of jelly or jam, and eat it regularly for breakfast. It reduces the cholesterol in the arteries and saves the patient from heart attack. Also, for those who have already had an attack, if they do this process daily, they are kept miles away from the next attack. Regular use of the above process relieves loss of breath and strengthens the heart beat. In America and Canada, various nursing homes have treated patients successfully and have found that as you age, the arteries and veins lose their flexibility and get clogged. Honey and cinnamon revitalize the arteries and veins.

#### **ARTHRITIS:**

Arthritis patients may take daily, morning and night, one cup of hot water with two spoons of honey and one small teaspoon of cinnamon powder. If taken regularly, even chronic arthritis can be cured. In a recent research conducted at the Copenhagen University, it was found that when the doctors treated their patients with a mixture of one tablespoon of Honey and a half teaspoon of Cinnamon powder before breakfast, they found that within a week, out of the 200 people so treated, 73 patients were totally relieved of pain, and within a month, mostly all the patients who could not walk or move around previously because of arthritis started walking without pain.

#### **BLADDER INFECTIONS:**

Take two tablespoons of Cinnamon powder and one teaspoon of Honey in a glass of lukewarm water and drink it. It destroys the germs in the bladder.

#### **CHOLESTEROL:**

Two tablespoons of Honey and three teaspoons of Cinnamon Powder mixed in 16 ounces of tea water, given to a cholesterol patient, was found to reduce the level of cholesterol in the blood by 10% within two hours. As mentioned for arthritic patients, if taken three times a day, any chronic cholesterol is cured. According to information received in the said Journal, pure honey taken with food daily relieves complaints of cholesterol.

#### **COLDS:**

Those suffering from common or severe colds should take one tablespoon of lukewarm honey with 1/4 spoon of cinnamon powder daily for three days. This procedure will cure most chronic coughs, colds, and clear the sinuses.

#### **UPSET STOMACH:**

Honey taken with cinnamon powder cures stomach ache and also clears stomach ulcers from the root.

#### **IMMUNE SYSTEM:**

Daily use of honey and cinnamon powder strengthens the immune system and protects the body from bacterial and viral attacks. Scientists have found that honey has various vitamins and iron in large amounts. Constant use of honey strengthens the white blood corpuscles, enabling them to fight bacterial and viral diseases.

**INDIGESTION:**

Cinnamon powder sprinkled on two tablespoons of honey taken before food relieves acidity and digests the heaviest of meals.

**GAS:**

According to the studies done in India and Japan, it is revealed that if Honey is taken with Cinnamon powder, the stomach is relieved of gas.

**INFLUENZA:**

A scientist in Spain has proved that honey contains a 'Natural Ingredient' which kills the influenza germs and saves the patient from flu.

**LONGEVITY:**

Tea made with honey and cinnamon powder, when taken regularly, arrests the ravages of old age. Take four spoons of honey, one spoon of cinnamon powder, and three cups of boiling water to make a tea. Drink 1/4 cup, three to four times a day. It keeps the skin fresh and soft and arrests old age. Life spans also increase and even a 100-year old starts performing the chores of a 20-year-old.

**PIMPLES:**

Three tablespoons of honey and one teaspoon of cinnamon powder paste. Apply this paste on the pimples before going to bed and wash it off next morning with warm water. If done daily for two weeks, it removes pimples from the root.

**SKIN INFECTIONS:**

Applying honey and cinnamon powder in equal parts on the affected parts cures eczema, ringworm and all types of skin infections.

**WEIGHT LOSS:**

Daily, in the morning, one half hour before breakfast, on an empty stomach, and at night before sleeping, drink honey and cinnamon powder in one cup of boiled water. If taken regularly, it reduces the weight of even the most obese person. Also, drinking this mixture regularly does not allow the fat to accumulate in the body even though the person may eat a high calorie diet.

**CANCER:**

Recent research in Japan and Australia has revealed that advanced cancer of the stomach and bones have been cured successfully. Patients suffering from these kinds of cancer should daily take one tablespoon of honey and one teaspoon of cinnamon powder for one month three times a day.

**FATIGUE:**

Recent studies have shown that the sugar content of honey is more helpful rather than being detrimental to the strength of the body. Senior citizens, who take honey and cinnamon powder in equal parts, are more alert and flexible. Dr. Milton, who has done research, says that a half tablespoon of honey taken in a glass of water and sprinkled with cinnamon powder, taken daily after brushing the teeth, and in the afternoon about 3:00 p.m., when the vitality of the body starts to decrease, increases the vitality of the body within a week.

**BAD BREATH:**

People of South America, first thing in the morning, gargle with one teaspoon of honey and cinnamon powder mixed in hot water, so that their breath stays fresh throughout the day.

**HEARING LOSS:**

Daily morning and night, honey and cinnamon powder, taken in equal parts, restores hearing. Remember when we were kids? We had toast with real butter and cinnamon sprinkled on it!

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

### ***Lebanon in the Holy Scriptures (9)***

**By Cornelia B. Horn**

Ph. D. candidate in Early Christian Studies Program, The Catholic University of America

From the following list of scripture passages, one can see how often greed and desire has caused harm, both to the cedar forests of Lebanon which were exploited and to the exploiters themselves.

2 Kings 19:23 "Through your servants you have insulted the Lord. You said: With my many chariots I climbed the mountain heights, the recesses of Lebanon; I cut down its lofty cedars, its choice cypresses; I reached the remotest heights, its forest park."

Psalms 37:35 "I have seen a wicked man overbearing, and towering like a green cedar."

Isaiah 2:13 "Against all the cedars of Lebanon, lofty and lifted up; and against all the oaks of Bashan."

Isaiah 10:34 "He will cut down the thickets of the forest with an axe, and Lebanon with its majestic trees will fall."

Isaiah 14:8 "The very cypresses rejoice over you, and the cedars of Lebanon: "Now that you are laid to rest, there will be none to cut us down."

Jeremiah 22:6 "For thus says the Lord concerning the palace of the king of Judah: Though you be to me like Gilead, like the peak of Lebanon, I will turn you into a waste, a city uninhabited."

Jeremiah 22:20 "Go up to Lebanon, and cry out, and lift up your voice in Bashan; cry from Abarim, for all your lovers are destroyed."

Jeremiah 22:23 "You who dwell on Lebanon, who nest in the cedars, How you shall groan when pains come upon you, like the pangs of a woman in travail!"

Ezekiel 27:5 "They made all your planks of fir trees from Senir; they took a cedar from Lebanon to make a mast for you."

Habakkuk 2:17 "For the violence done to Lebanon shall cover you, and the destruction of the beasts shall terrify you; because of men's bloodshed, and violence done to the land, to the city and to all who dwell in it."

Because of its unique and precious quality, builders wanted to use cedar for special projects. One of the most outstanding constructions in the history of God with His people was King Solomon's building of the Temple. To provide a proper dwelling-place for God, Solomon chose the wood of the cedars of Lebanon as one of the building materials.

--(To be continued)

## ***Story: God Searches for Us***

You may remember the story of Helen of Troy. According to legend this beautiful queen was captured and carried away and became a victim of amnesia. She became a prostitute in the streets. She didn't know her name or the fact that she came from royal blood. But back in her homeland, friends didn't give up hope for her return. An old friend believed she was alive and went to look for her. He never lost faith.

One day while wandering through the streets, he came to a waterfront and saw a wretched woman in tattered clothes with deep lines across her face. There was something about her that seemed familiar, so he walked up to her and said, "What is your name?" She gave a name that was meaningless to him. "May I see your hands?" he pursued. She held her hands out in front of her, and the young man gasped, "You are Helen! You are Helen! Do you remember?"

She looked up at him in astonishment. "Helen!" he yelled out. Then the fog seemed to clear. There was recognition in her face. The light came on! She discovered her lost self, put her arms around her old friend and wept. She discarded the tattered clothe and once more became the queen she was born to be God searches for you in the same way. He uses every method possible to look for you and try to convince you of your worth to him.

***Joke (568)******A Polish Divorce***

Although his English was far from perfect, they got along very well until one day he rushed into a lawyer's office and asked the lawyer if he could arrange a divorce for him. The lawyer said that getting a divorce would depend on the circumstances, and asked him the following questions:

L: Have you any grounds?

P: Yes, an acre and half and nice little home.

L: No, I mean what is the foundation of this case?

P: It made of concrete.

L: I don't think you understand. Does either of you have a real grudge?

P: No, we have carport, and not need one.

L: I mean. What are your relations like?

P: All my relations still in Poland.

L: Is there any infidelity in your marriage?

P: We have hi-fidelity stereo and good DVD player.

L: Does your wife beat you up?

P: No, I always up before her.

L: Is your wife a nagger?

P: No, she white.

L: Why do you want this divorce?

P: She going to kill me.

L: What makes you think that?

P: I got proof.

L: What kind of proof?

P: She going to poison me. She buy a bottle at drugstore and put on shelf in bathroom. I can read, and it say, "Polish Remover."

***Only the Irish Have Jokes Like These***

--An Irishman who had a little too much to drink is driving home from the city one night and, Of course, his car is weaving violently all over the road. A cop pulls him over. 'So,' says the cop to the driver, "Where have ya been?" "Why, I've been to the pub of course," slurs the drunk. 'Well,' says the cop, 'it looks like you've had quite a few to drink this evening.' 'I did all right,' the drunk says with a smile. 'Did you know,' says the cop, standing straight and folding his arms across his chest, 'that a few intersections back, your wife fell out of your car?' Oh! Thank heavens,' sighs the drunk. 'For a minute there, I thought I'd gone deaf.'

--Brenda O'Malley is home making dinner, as usual, when Tim Finnegan arrives at her door. 'Brenda, may I come in?' he asks. 'I've somethin' to tell ya.' 'Of course you can come in, you're always welcome, Tim. But where's my husband?' That's what I'm here to be telling ya, Brenda.' There was an accident down at the Guinness brewery....' 'Oh, God no!' cries Brenda. 'Please don't tell me.' I must, Brenda. Your husband Shamus is dead and gone. I'm sorry. Finally, she looked up at Tim. 'How did it happen, Tim?' It was terrible, Brenda. He fell into a vat of Guinness Stout and drowned.' 'Oh my dear Jesus! But you must tell me truth, Tim. Did he at least go quickly?' "Well, Brenda..., no. In fact, he got out three times to go to the bathroom.

--Mary Clancy goes up to Father O'Grady after His Sunday morning service, and she's in tears. He says, 'So what's bothering you, Mary my dear?' She says, 'Oh, Father, I've got terrible news. My husband passed away last night.' The priest says, 'Oh, Mary, that's terrible. Tell me, Mary, did he have any last requests?' She says, "That he did, Father." The priest says, 'What did he ask, Mary?' 'She says, he said, 'Please Mary, put down that damn gun.'

--A drunk staggers into a Catholic Church, Enters a confessional booth, sits down, but says nothing. The Priest coughs a few times to get his attention but the drunk continues to sit there. Finally, the Priest pounds three times on the wall. The drunk mumbles, 'ain't no use knockin', there's no paper on this side either!'