

November 29, 2009
Bulletin # 48

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

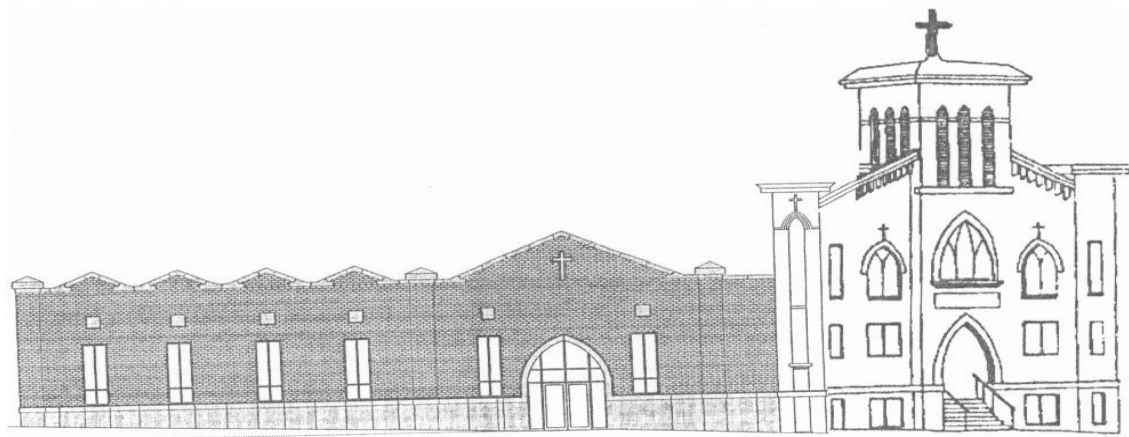
E-Mail: ololwv@Comcast.net • Web Site: www.ololwv.com

Rev. Bakhos Chidiac (Pastor)

Evelyn Ghaphery (Organist)

Charlotte Khourey & Thomasina Geimer (Secretaries)

Mary Visits Elizabeth



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
- ***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: Mary Visits Elizabeth

Readings: Eph 1:1-14 and Lk 1:39-45

“Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.” (Lk 1:39)

A seemingly minor event is so filled with meaning for us. The angel told Mary of her cousin’s conception. And Mary, setting aside all the concerns that her own pregnancy brought into her life and the life of others dear and near to her, immediately -”with haste”- made the long and difficult journey into the hill country. Her concern was all for her aged cousin. And because she had said a complete “YES” to God and was indeed filled with God himself, her very presence brought such blessings that her little cousin began to dance in his mother’s womb.

At the same time, Mary herself received great blessings in this visit. Her cousin, with prophetic insight, was able to confirm all that the angel had said to her. The two women found in each other one who could be fully with her in the wondrous experience they were each going through. For us, this event is a wonderful promise, a sacramental witness to the role of Mary in our lives and in the lives of all in need. She will come, bearing her Son. The Spirit will be poured out. And in this light we will understand far better and know more fully the joy of our mission in God’s Slavic plan. In the liturgical mystery of the season, Jesus is now hidden again in the womb of Mary. Let us welcome them into our lives this day that they may bring us the joy of Advent and prepare us for the even greater joys of Christmas.

Come, Lord Jesus. Come, Mary. Bring your Son into my life.

Christmas Reflection: Pilgrimage

Pilgrim: “Person who travels to a sacred place as an act of religious devotion.”

Pilgrimage: “A journey, especially a long one, made to some sacred place as an act of religious devotion.”

During the entire history of Christian Europe, its roads have been dotted with pilgrims making their way to one of the great holy shrines of the day. These shrines were often housed within grand cathedrals and contained holy relics like the bones of a saint

The motives for pilgrimages were manifold. Some pilgrims wanted to pay homage to a particular saint, some wanted to give thanks for healing or for a good fortune, or took the journey to educate themselves, grow deeper in their faith, and pray with the other faithful. Other pilgrims wanted to experience physical and spiritual healing or listen more closely to the lessons of scripture or the messages of apparitions. There were also those pilgrims who went on pilgrimages to do penance, oftentimes barefoot or dressed in sackcloth searching forgiveness for their wrongdoing.

The journeys would usually begin with the blessing from the local priest. Pilgrims would then set out with their stout staffs, usually traveling in groups for protection from outlaws or wild animals. Along the way they stayed in special pilgrim rest houses, and when they arrived at their destinations, a number of inns, taverns, and hostels were available for the rich and poor alike.

During medieval times, the most popular pilgrimages were to Rome, the Holy Land, Santiago de Compostela, and Constantinople (today Istanbul), and remain so in the present day.

Throughout history, Our Lady appeared to numerous people asking them to turn away from sin and come closer to God, therefore making the sites of the apparitions popular destinations as well. Fatima and Lourdes became well known for the miraculous events and healings that have occurred there and have been approved by the Church. Other apparitions, like Medjugorje, are currently under investigation, and the Church has yet to give a final opinion on the phenomena happening there.

Finally, pilgrimages to Turkey, Greece, Malta, and Cyprus, the sites where St. Paul lived and preached, have also become classic destinations for pilgrims from the world over.

Prevent H1N1 by Dr. Vinay Goyal is an MBBS, DRM, DNB

The only portals of entry are the nostrils and mouth/throat. In a global epidemic of this nature, it's almost impossible not to come into contact with H1N1 in spite of all precautions. Contact with H1N1 is not so much of problem as its proliferation is.

While you are still healthy and do not show any symptoms of H1N1 infection, you can take some very simple steps, not fully highlighted in most official communications, to prevent proliferation, aggravation of symptoms and development of secondary infections., instead of focusing on how to stock N95 or Tamiflu:

- 1- Frequent hand-washing (well highlighted in all official communications).
- 2- "Hands-off-the-face" approach. Resist all temptations to touch any part of face (unless you want to eat or bathe).
- 3- Gargle twice a day with warm salt water (use Listerine if you don't trust salt). H1N1 takes 2-3 days after initial infection in the throat/nasal cavity to proliferate and show characteristic symptoms. Simple gargling prevents proliferation. In a way, gargling with salt water has the same effect on a healthy individual that Tamiflu has on an infected one.
- 4- Similar to 3 above, clean your nostrils at least once every day with warm salt water. Blowing the nose hard once a day and swabbing both nostrils with cotton swabs dipped in warm salt water is very effective in bringing down a viral population.
- 5- Boost your natural immunity with foods that are rich in Vitamin C. If you have to supplement with Vitamin C tablets, make sure that it also has Zinc to boost absorption.
- 6- Drink as much of warm liquids (tea, coffee, etc) as you can. Drinking warm liquids has the same effect as gargling, but in the reverse direction. They wash off proliferating viruses from the throat into the stomach where they cannot survive, proliferate or do any harm.

Mass Intentions

NEXT WEEKEND, November 28-29: Mary visits Elizabeth

Saturday, November 28 at 4:00 p.m.

Special Intention

Special prayer for Maya's success

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

ShIPLEY ShIPLEY by Gene Botizan

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

Weekday Masses

Monday, November 30: No Mass. Pastor's Day Off

Tuesday, December 1: No Mass. Pastor's Day Off

Wednesday, December 2: No Mass. Pastor's Day Of vacation

Thursday, December 3 at noon:

Sadie Chahine Boulos by the Boulos Family

Adib and Sadie Chidiac (parents) & Mona (sister) by Fr. Bakhos

Friday, December 4 at Noon:

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

Adib & Sadie Chidiac (parents) & Mona (sister) by Fr. Bakhos

NEXT WEEKEND, December 5-6: Birth of John the Baptist

Saturday, December 5

3:30 p.m.: Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

4:00 p.m.: Mass

Cathy (Sharp) Howard (on her Birthday) by the Sengewalt Family

Special Prayer for Maya's success

Sunday, December 6 at 10:30 a.m.:

Living & Deceased members of the Nicholas & Nimnoom Ghaphery Family & the David Abraham Ghaphery Family by the Ghaphery Family
Deceased Family members of the Habib Khourey Family by Virginia Khourey Bryan

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 18th 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

Date	Event
Sunday, November 29	50/50 Monthly Raffle – <i>Please Note Change:</i> Drawing will be at Christmas Party
Sunday, November 29	Parish Christmas Party – 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. – Deadline: Monday, November 23
Monday, November 30	Bulletin Ad Page – Payment Due
Monday, November 30	Bulletin Mailing Subscription – Payment Due
Thursday, December 3	Bible Study – from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. Lebanese Language – from 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.
Sat. & Sun, Dec. 5 & 6	Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
Tuesday, Dec. 8	Immaculate Conception – Day of Obligation. Mass at 5:00 pm
Sat. & Sun., Dec. 12-13	Christmas Cookie, Candy, etc., Exchange & Sale
Sunday, December 13	Parish Children's Christmas Party – following Sunday Mass
Sunday, December 13	Christmas Poinsettia – Deadline
Sunday, December 20	Donation of Non-Perishable Food – Deadline
Sunday, December 20	Women's Society Gift Basket Drawing – at Fr. Bakhos' Anniversary Luncheon
Sunday, December 20	Fr. Bakhos' Anniversary to the Priesthood Luncheon – following Sunday Mass
Sunday, December 27	50/50 Monthly Raffle Drawing

Community Events

Parish Christmas Party (Sunday, November 29th, 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 29th, 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 23rd, to guarantee that enough food may be ordered. (No tickets will be available to be sold after November 23rd; 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's, Nov. 29 & Dec.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."

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.**

The drawing from entries received for the **December 50/50 Raffle Tickets** which can be found at the church entrance in the Weekly Church Bulletins, will take place in the Cedar Hall after Mass on **Sunday, December 27.**

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 30th)

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 30th.

2010 Bulletin Mail Subscription Now Due (Monday, November 30th)

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.

Immaculate Conception Feast Day (Tuesday, December 8)

On the occasion of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception which is a day of obligation, we will have a Mass at 5:00 p.m.

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:

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

2--**So your donated items will be ready for another person to enjoy and to avoid contamination, please plate or package them by the half dozen.**

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

4--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 12th; 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 13th)

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 13th, following 10:30 a.m. Mass. Santa will come to the party to visit with each child.

Christmas Poinsettias (Deadline: Sunday, December 13th)

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*
 \$25 *Mike Sobota Sr. by his wife Barbara Sobota*
 \$25 *Helen Bauerle & John & Sophie & Steve Olako by Bernard & Elizabeth Olako*
 \$25 *Deceased members of the McCutcheon family by Peggy Justice & Ann Lee Bauduin*
 \$25 *Deceased members of the Jalad Family by the Schuler family*
 \$25 *Deceased members of the Schlog & Saseen Families by Bob & Fran Saseen*
 \$25 *Deceased of the Shiben & McFarland Families by John & Dee Shiben*

Christmas Barrel of Non-perishable Food (Deadline: December 20th)

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' 18th Anniversary to Priesthood Luncheon (Sun., Dec. 20th)

Plan to join the members of the Women's Society at a luncheon to honor Fr. Bakhos' 18th 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 20th)

The Women's Society's next Gift Basket Raffle drawing will be held on Sunday, December 20th, 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:

Dolores Oser, Rosella Saseen, Sam Elias, Justin Frenn, Gary West, Louis John, Dick Shiben (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

December 1:	Jenna Brown, Cathy Kukula Gerhart
December 3:	Joey John
December 4:	Todd Gerhart
December 7:	Christina Committee
December 12:	Lou Khourey
December 14:	Joe Betras, Donnie Musilli
December 15:	Lottie Elwartoski
December 18:	Ronni Burns
December 20:	Julia Tappe, Emily Stephens
December 21:	Domenique George
December 22:	Millet C. Fadoul

Your Church Support Last Week

1,510	Collection
73	Candles
60	Utilities
160	Parking
273	Christmas Flowers
20	Spaghetti Dinner
370	Christmas Dinner Party
240	Bulletin Ads
2,706.00	Total. <i>May God reward you many fold</i>

What's New?

From Our Mailbox

Dear Rev. Bakhos Chidiac,

We "Thank You" so much for your concern, support and prayers for Gary. With the "World of Prayers," flooding the Heavens our prayers were answered. The family also "Thanks You" and especially or the Mass that was offered in Gary's honor.

Your friendship is very special to us and it is our privilege to know you as a very "Special Vessel" of God. "My Miracle Man."
--Warmest regards, Gary & Flip

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 18th 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

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

Parishioner Profile: Jean Weisner

“Parishioner Profile,” written by Carol Dougherty, is a feature in our Weekly Bulletin planned for publication approximately once-a-month. It will introduce one or more of our parishioners and include their life’s reflections, memories, etc. – each as unique as the individual. Please allow yourself to be interviewed when called upon by Carol so others may get to know you better.

Our November “Parishioner Profile” is about our wonderful parishioner Jean Weisner. Jean was born in Wheeling to Mariam and Nimon Joseph. Jean’s father Nimon was introduced to her mother Mariam by an uncle named David Coury. At the time, Mariam was living in Clarksburg and moved to Wheeling upon her marriage. When Mariam married Nimon, he was a widower with six children, the youngest being five years old. Jean’s half brothers were twins Mike and George and her half sisters were Kay, Mary, Mildred and Ann. Kay is the only one that is currently surviving. Mariam, being a wonderful woman, was a terrific wife and mother to those children. Together Mariam and Nimon also had five children: Betty Abraham, Jean, Kenny, Clara who is now deceased and Evelyn Goodson. They all live locally except Betty who lives in Cleveland. Betty was married to Fr. Abraham’s nephew Pete Abraham and she also served as the organist at OLOL church for many years. Nimon took care of the maintenance of OLOL church from 1934 to 1942 when he died.

Jean attended school here at OLOL and then graduated from St. Joseph’s Academy here in Wheeling. After her graduation, she went to work in the office of Sealtest Ice Cream. Jean had to keep the tally of ice cream that was sold and returned by the drivers. It was here that she met her wonderful husband George. George had previously worked at Sealtest but left to serve in the military Korea during the Korean War. Upon returning from the military he was once again employed at Sealtest where he was placed in charge of packing and distribution. It was upon his return to work at Sealtest that he met his Jean. They were married in OLOL church by Fr. Abraham’s nephew, Fr. Paul Coury, on June 7, 1954.

After George left Sealtest he worked for the United States Postal Service in Wheeling for 42 years until his retirement in 1999. He is a captain for the Bethlehem Volunteer Fire Department and has unselfishly donated his time there for approximately 65 years. We would also like to mention that Gary and Randy, like their father, volunteer for the Bethlehem Volunteer Fire Department as did John before he moved to Reynoldsburg, Ohio. George loves to read and enjoys doing jigsaw puzzles. Jean says the reason he looks so well is because she takes such good care of him.

Together George and Jean they gave the world eight terrific children.

David who is single lives in New Jersey and has a degree in landscape architecture. He builds displays for a company in New Jersey.

Georgene, a nurse who lives in Columbus, Ohio, is married to Michael Manning, an insurance agent and the mother of four boys, David, Patrick, Joseph and Thomas. Prior to moving to Columbus, Georgene was a nurse at Wheeling Hospital for twelve years.

Ronald of Murrysville, Pennsylvania, is single and an electrical engineer.

Randy of Bethlehem is single and a computer analyst for Reynolds Memorial Hospital in Glen Dale, West Virginia.

Ann Marie, a substitute teacher and private tutor, is married to Richard Serafin who is a quality controller for pharmaceutical companies. They reside in Richmond, Virginia, with their three sons Andrew, Michael and Daniel and one daughter, Julie Ann.

Gary of Bethlehem is also single and works as the director of maintenance for West Liberty University.

Mary Beth of Reynoldsburg, Ohio, is a microbiologist for the state of Ohio.

Last but not least is John who lives in Reynoldsburg, Ohio, with his wife Tina. He is a sales person for Hilliard Industrial Supplies.

Jean was a member of Our Lady of Lebanon Church Christian Mothers and the Blessed Virgin Mary’s Sodality for several years. She also assisted in assembling and mailing the church bulletins. Jean loves to read and she used to like to crochet. I call her everyone’s best friend.

What a treasure to have such a fine family amongst us.

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

D. Lebanon and the Temple

The Old Testament refers to the wood of the cedars of Lebanon in particular in connection with the Temple built by Solomon (cf. 1 Kings 5:16-25.27f., 7.2f.) and Serubbabel (Ezra 3:7). When Solomon built the Temple, he was supplied with cedars from Lebanon by his ally Hiram, king of Tyre (1 Kings 5:15-24), who sent the logs in floats to a harbor near Jaffa (2 Chronicles 2:15). When the Second Temple was being constructed, the same procedure was repeated. This time, however, the forests belonged to the king of Persia (Ezra 3:7).

One of Solomon's palaces in the neighborhood of the Temple was named the "House of the Forest of Lebanon" or the "Hall of the Forest of Lebanon" (1 Kings 10:17.21 par.; 2 Chronicles 9:16.20; cf. Isaiah 22:8; Jer 22:23). The "House of the Forest of Lebanon" (1 Kings 7:2-5) was a special building, in that it was constructed only of cedar wood. Its interior is described in 1 Kings 7:2 and its interior in 1 Kings 7:3 ff.

The "House of the Forest of Lebanon" was used by Solomon as a kind of reception hall for public functions and it was accessible to a variety and multitude of people. The architecture of the building seems to have been unique. Whereas adjacent buildings were constructed from both stone and wood, the "House of the Forest of Lebanon" was built solely using the wood of the cedars of Lebanon. Three rows of fifteen pillars made of cedar divided the interior of the hall into four naves. The hall had an imposing height of about 25 meters. For Solomon's contemporaries and people of later ages, the "House of the Forest of Lebanon" bore witness to Solomon's exquisite taste.

Over the years, scholars have compared the architecture of various ancient temples and buildings all throughout the Middle East with the biblical description of Solomon's Temple and the "House of the Forest of Lebanon." Davey found that the Phoenician temple at Kition had certain structural similarities with the "House of the Forest of Lebanon," but was not related to Solomon's Temple, whereas long-room temples in northern Syria appear to be antecedents to Solomon's temple building.

Vermes and Gordon have pointed out that in the Old Testament, the Targums and the texts found at Qumran, the word "Lebanon" had "a number of midrashic equivalences" that were associated with it in ancient times. The three most common associations were "temple," "nations," and "king." --To be continued

Christmas Story: Jesus & Shopping

'T'was the night before Christmas, and all through the town
Not a sign of Baby Jesus, was anywhere to be found.
The people were all busy, with Christmas time chores
Like decorating, and baking, and shopping in stores.
No one sang "Away in a manger, no crib for a bed."
Instead, they sang of Santa, dressed-up in bright red.
Mama watched Martha Stewart, Papa drank beer from a tap.
As hour upon hour, the presents they'd wrap
When what from the T.V., did they suddenly hear?
'Cept an ad ... which told, of a big sale at Sears.
So away to the mall, they all flew like a flash...
Buying things on credit... and others with cash!
And, as they made their way home, from their trip to the mall,
Did they think about Jesus? Oh, no... not at all.
Their lives were so busy, with their Christmas time things
No time to remember, Christ Jesus, the King.
There were presents to wrap, and cookies to bake.

How could they stop and remember, who died for their sake?
 To pray to the Savior... they had no time to stop.
 Because they needed more time, to "Shop 'til they dropped!"
 On Wal-Mart! On K-Mart! On Target! On Penney's!
 On Hallmark! On Zales! A quick lunch at Denny's
 From the big stores downtown, to the stores at the mall
 They would dash away, dash away, and visit them all!
 And up on the roof, there arose such a clatter
 As grandpa hung icicle lights, up on his brand new step ladder.
 He hung lights that would flash. He hung lights that would twirl.
 Yet, he never once prayed to Jesus... the Light of the World.
 Christ's eyes... how they twinkle! Christ's Spirit... how merry!
 Christ's love... how enormous! All our burdens... He'll carry!
 So instead of being busy, overworked, and uptight
 Let's put Christ back in, Christmas and enjoy some good nights!

Joke (569)

Skinny Dipping...

An elderly man in West Virginia had owned a large farm for several years. He had a large pond in the back. It was properly shaped for swimming, so he fixed it up nice with picnic tables, horseshoe courts and some apple, and peach trees. One evening the old farmer decided to go down to the pond, as he hadn't been there for a while, and look it over. He grabbed a five-gallon bucket to bring back some fruit.

As he neared the pond, he heard voices shouting and laughing with glee. As he came closer, he saw it was a bunch of young women skinny-dipping in his pond. He made the women aware of his presence and they all went to the deep end. One of the women shouted to him, "We're not coming out until you leave!"

The old man frowned, "I didn't come down here to watch you ladies swim naked or make you get out of the pond naked." Holding the bucket up he said, "I'm here to feed the alligator."

Some old men can still think fast.

Irish Lent

An Irishman moves into a tiny hamlet in County Kerry, walks into the pub and promptly orders three beers. The bartender raises his eyebrows, but serves the man three beers, which he drinks quietly at a table, alone. An hour later, the man has finished the three beers and orders three more. This happens yet again. The next evening the man again orders and drinks three beers at a time, several times. Soon the entire town is whispering about the Man-Who-Orders-Three-Beers.

Finally, a week later, the bartender broaches the subject on behalf of the town. "I don't mean to pry, but folks around here are wondering why you always order three beers?" "'Tis odd, isn't it?" the man replies. "You see, I have two brothers, and one went to America, and the other to Australia.... We promised each other that we would always order an extra two beers whenever we drank as a way of keeping up the family bond."

The bartender and the whole town were pleased with this answer, and soon the Man-Who-Orders-Three-Beers became a local celebrity and source of pride to the hamlet, even to the extent that out-of-towners would come to watch him drink.

Then, one day, the man comes in and orders only two beers. The bartender pours them with a heavy heart. This continues for the rest of the evening. He orders only two beers. The word flies around town. Prayers are offered for the soul of one of the brothers. The next day, the bartender says to the man, "Folks around here, me first of all, want to offer condolences to you for the death of your brother. You know-the two beers and all.

The man ponders this for a moment, then replies, "You'll be happy to hear that my two brothers are alive and well. It's just that I, myself, have decided to give up drinking for Lent.