

December 20, 2009
Bulletin # 51

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

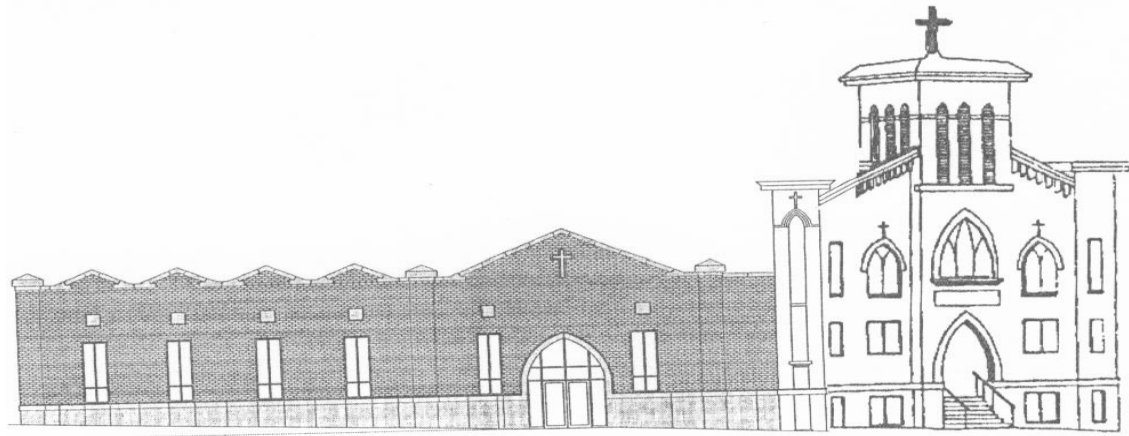
E-Mail: ololwv@Comcast.net • Web Site: www.ololwv.com

Rev. Bakhos Chidiac (Pastor)

Evelyn Ghaphery (Organist)

Charlotte Khourey & Thomasina Geimer (Secretaries)

Genealogy Sunday



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, 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.
- ***Cedar 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: Genealogy Sunday

Readings: Rom 1:1-12 and Mt 1:1-17

What is going on here? The genealogy of Jesus traced through Joseph? But Mary conceived as a virgin; Joseph had nothing to do with it. The blood of King David flowed through Mary's veins and flowed from her into the veins of her only-begotten Son. He is, indeed, the Son of David. But God's ways are not our ways. The wondrous thing is that Jesus' legal title to the throne of King David comes to him through a humble, small-town carpenter named Joseph. This "just man," about whom we know so little, carried the royal line within him. He knew it. Every Jew knew well his lineage. That is why the Romans found that the best way to enroll these people was to have them return to their ancestral towns. But little did Joseph ever expect that he would be the immediate link to the fulfillment of his royal line in the Messiah.

Most of us, living quiet, everyday sort of lives would not find it easy to be suddenly called upon to play a uniquely significant role in salvation history, especially one that not only seemed to contradict the way we thought we were being led by God, but that even defied the laws of nature. Because Joseph had lived a life of obedience to the will of God in all the little things of life, he was ready to say an immediate "YES" to his great call. By our daily fidelity to all the little leadings of grace, our daily docile listening to the Scriptures, we prepare ourselves best not only for the special graces that the coming Lord wants to bring to us this Christmas, but for whatever else God might want to accomplish in our Christ-like lives.

PRAYER: Lord, help me to live a daily "YES" so that I will be ready for the big "YES."

Christmas Reflection: Jesus Was Here

T'was the night Jesus came, and all through the house,
not a person was praying, not one in the house.
The Bible was left, on the shelf without care,
for no one thought, Jesus would come to be there.
The children were dressing, ready to crawl into bed,
not once ever kneeling, or bowing their head.
And Mom in the rocking chair, with a babe on her lap,
was watching the Late Show, as I took a nap.
When out of the east, there arose such a clatter,
I sprang to my feet, to see what t'was the matter.
Away to the window, I flew like a flash,
tore open the shutters, and lifted the sash.
When what to my wondering, eyes should appear,
but Angels proclaiming, that Jesus was here.
The light of His face, made me cover my head.
was Jesus returning, just like He'd once said.
And though I possessed worldly wisdom and an abundance of wealth,
I cried when I saw Him, in spite of myself.
In the Book of Life, which he held in his hand,
was written the name, of every saved man.
He spoke not a word, as he searched for my name,
when He said "It's not here," my head hung in shame.
The people whose names, had been written with love,
He gathered to take, to his Father above.
With those who were ready, He arose with no sound,
while all of the others, were left standing around.
I fell to my knees, but it was far too late,
I'd waited too long, and thus sealed my fate.
I stood and I cried, as they rose out of sight,
Oh, if only I'd known, that this was the night.

In the words of this poem, the meaning is clear,
the coming of Jesus, is now drawing near.
There's only one life, and when comes the last call,
We'll find out that the **Bible**, was true after all.

Mass Intentions

THIS WEEKEND, December 19-20: Genealogy Sunday

Saturday, December 19, at 4:00 p.m.:

Larry Gibbons by George & Patti Fahey

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

Sunday, December 20, at 10:30 a.m.:

Louise Bonahoom by Joe & Tatla Dager (Utica, OH)

John Saab by Lou & Charlotte Khourey & Family

2009 Christmas Schedule

Monday, December 21 at 5:00 p.m.:

Mass followed by Christmas Novena (*Rosary & Litany start 20 minutes before Mass*)

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

Sadie & Aggie & Khalil Harb by Al & Annette Togliatti

Tuesday, December 22 at 5:00 p.m.:

Mass followed by Christmas Novena (*Rosary & Litany start 20 minutes before Mass*)

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

Larry Gibbons by Nettie Seidler

Wednesday, December 23 at 5:00 p.m.:

Mass followed by Christmas Novena (*Rosary & Litany start 20 minutes before Mass*)

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

Sadie & Aggie & Khalil Harb by Al & Annette Togliatti

Thursday, December 24:

at 4:00 p.m.: (Christmas Eve Mass) (Choir will sing)

Steve & Margaret Schlog & the Living & Deceased of the Saseen Family by Bob & Fran Saseen

Special Intentions of Fr. Bakhos' benefactors by Fr. Bakhos

At 10:00 p.m.: Christmas Midnight Mass. (Choir will sing)

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

Special Intentions of Fr. Bakhos' benefactors by Fr. Bakhos

Friday, December 25 at 10:30 a.m.: (Christmas Day Mass): (Day of Obligation) (No choir)

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

Lou Elias by his daughter Debbie Kull & Family

NEXT WEEKEND, December 26-27: St. Steven

Saturday, December 26 at 4:00 p.m.:

40-Day Mass of Larry Gibbons by his mother Lucille Gibbons & Family

John F. Kukula by his wife Mary Rose Kukula

Sunday, December 27 at 10:30 a.m.:

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

Larry Gibbons by Rosella, Susan & Domenique George

New Year's Mass Schedule

Thursday, December 31st at 5:00 p.m.: **New Year's Eve Mass:** (No Midnight Mass)

Friday, January 1st, 2010, at 10:30 a.m.: **New Year's Day Mass:** (Day of Obligation)

Donate to the Church Maintenance Fund

Help with the Endowment Fund to Keep Our Church Open and Active (Total Raised: \$2,080.00)

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.)

Many thanks to December donors: Irene & Paul Schuler (\$53), A Friend (\$50),

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.

Many Thanks to December donors: Dennis Albaugh (\$100),

Our Lady of Lebanon Community Calendar

Date	Event
Sunday, December 20	Donation of Non-Perishable Food – <u>Deadline</u>
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 – following Sunday Mass in the Cedar Hall
Monday, January 11, 2010	Cedar Club Meeting – 7:00 p.m. in the old basement hall
Friday, January 15, 2010	Cedar Club after Holiday Dinner – 6:30 p.m.-?? at the Tikki Bar & Restaurant
Sunday, January 24, 2010	Women’s Society Meeting – following Sunday Mass
Thurs., February 11, 2010	Reverse Raffle & Dinner – cocktails & hors d’oeuvres at 6 & Dinner at 7 p.m.



Community Events

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. If you know of anyone in need this Christmas, please let Fr. Bakhos know their name.

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.) Bring your good wishes for him that we may continue to be blessed with many more years of his leadership as our pastor.

Women's Society Gift Basket Raffle *(Drawing on 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 & Valpolicello; Oak Leaf Shiraz & Merlot; Sutter Home White Zinfandel; Lindemans Cabernet Sauvignon; a four-bottle wine rack; two Italian-made wine goblets; a cheese cutting board, with cleaver, knife, & cheese plane – for Christmas & New Year's joy.

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 (note Gift Basket Raffle on "Memo" line of your check and front of envelope) or mail to: Our Lady of Lebanon Church, 2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003. Congratulations to October's winner – Richard Ryncartz.

Women's Society Monthly 50/50 Raffle *(Drawing: Sunday, December 27th)*

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 **December 50/50 Raffle Tickets**, which can be found at the church entrance and 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 Irene Schuler who won the December prize of \$53 and donated it to the Endowment Fund for the maintenance of our church.

Attention Bulletin Subscribers *(December 31st, 2009)*

The 2010 bulletin will be mailed weekly ONLY to those who renewed their subscriptions by sending \$50 to cover the cost of the stamps, envelopes, printing and related expenses. For those who did not renew their subscription, the last bulletin they receive will be that of **December 27, 2009.** Don't delay. Mail your payment today!

40-Day Mass of John Saab *(Saturday, January 2, 2010)*

The 40-Day Mass Memorial for John Saab of Morgantown will be celebrated at our church on Saturday, January 2nd, 2010. His family will attend the Mass.

Cedar Club Meeting *(Monday, January 11, in old basement hall)*

The next Cedar Club meeting is scheduled at 7 p.m. in the old hall. Try to attend. Hostesses will be Alison Duffy & Nini Miller.

Cedar Club "After Holiday Dinner" *(Friday, January 15, at Tikki Bar Restaurant)*

The Cedar Club "After Holiday Dinner" starts at 6:30 p.m. at the Tikki Bar & Restaurant. Everyone is welcome. Wear your Hawaiian attire and order from the menu – pay as you go. Reservations required; call Nini 304-243-0057 or Allison at 304-242-6853.

Women's Society Meeting *(Sunday, January 24th, after Mass)*

Plan to join the Women's Society for their next meeting scheduled for Sunday, January 24th, after Mass. We will complete our plans for the upcoming events.

Second Maronite Reverse Raffle Dinner (Thursday, February 11, 2010)

Our 2st Maronite Reverse Raffle and Dinner scheduled for Thursday, February 11, 2010, at the Wheeling Country Club. Cocktails and Hors D'oeuvres begin at 6:00 p.m.; a sit-down dinner at 7:00 p.m. (each dinner purchase includes 2 drink coupons). Come and experience the excitement of the night. Winners need not be present.

Deadline to purchase tickets is: Sunday, February 7, 2010. Costs are:

- \$ 50.00 1 Raffle Ticket **only**
- \$ 75.00 1 Raffle Ticket & 1 Dinner (with 2 drink coupons)
- \$100.00 1 Raffle Ticket & 2 Dinners (with 2 drink coupons for each dinner)

For tickets call Mickey (Joseph) Morgan at 304-277-1642, Lois Rutter at 304-242-3922;

Linda Duffy at 304-242-6853 **or**

- 1) complete the attached order form
- 2) Make your check payable to: **Our Lady of Lebanon Church** with "Memo Line:" ***Reverse Raffle***
- 3) Mail both the form and the check to:

Our Lady of Lebanon Church
"Attention, Reverse Raffle"
2216 Eoff Street
Wheeling, WV 26003

Please Pray for Those on Our Prayer List

Please Remember Those Hospitalized Recently In Your Prayers:

Josephine Joseph, Theresa Snedeker,

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

Barb Sobota, Mary Custer, Joe Gonot, Bob Dougherty (brother of Bill), Edith Fahey, Frank Lish, Dolores Oser, Rosella Saseen, Sam Elias, Justin Frenn, Gary West, Louis John, 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 20: Julia Tappe, Emily Stephens
- December 21: Dominique George
- December 22: Millet C. Fadoul
- December 23: Alyce Zekas
- December 27: Gloria Sterling, Luke Lenz
- December 29: Jeff Bentz, Tom John, Thomas Simon

Your Church Support Last Week

1,571	Collection
56	Candles
10	Utilities
75	Christmas Flowers
1,712	Total. <i>May God reward you many fold</i>

What's New?

A Very Special Thank You

Fr. Bakhos and the parishioners of Our Lady of Lebanon Church cannot find enough words of gratitude to thank Maryann and Mike Carl for their thoughtfulness and support of our church. The church is grateful for

the Carl's who have sponsored many valuable items and most recently for their donation of \$1,000 toward the utilities of our church. May the Lord and the Blessed Mother reward you and each of your family members according to the goodness of your hearts.

Many Thanks...

...To our architect Larry Siebieda for donating a box of replacement 2' x 4' feet ceiling tiles for our Cedar Hall. May you be rewarded with good health and success.

Additional Thanks...

...To all generous parishioners and admirers of the Blessed Mother who helped to decorate her church and the altar with garlands, trees and beautiful flowers. You make the world of difference to our parish. The church looks absolutely beautiful. May the Blessed Mother decorate heaven for you and your beloved ones. Additional Poinsettia payments received this week:

The 12-inch White Poinsettia in front of the Main Altar was donated in memory of George & Mary Popovich, Augie Montalbano and Helen Fielding by P.J., Nikki, Lindsay & Luke Lenz

\$25 *In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. James Ghaphery & Dr. J. Ghaphery by Virginia Ghaphery Cox*

\$25 *In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Joe Joseph by Joseph M. Joseph Jr. (Aliquippa, PA)*

Offering Envelopes 2010

Start using your 2010 Offering Envelopes on January 1, 2010. Offering Envelopes for 2010 will be distributed to those who have used them on a regular basis during 2009 and to those who have requested them. Use of Offering Envelopes allows the church to register your contributions and, at the end of the year, to issue a statement verifying your donations, based on the amount of cash or checks that you enclosed within the envelopes. This statement can be used for your income tax return. Please keep in mind that those who attend church regularly and support her financially without envelopes are parishioners too. However, we cannot identify donors who put loose cash in the collection basket and cannot, therefore, issue tax statements for those individuals. Remember that active parishioners are those who attend the church regularly and support the church financially via offering envelopes or other donations. Also, upon the discretion of the pastor and the parish council, those parishioners are eligible to receive reduced rates for rental of our Cedar Hall.

If you wish to use 2010 Offering Envelopes and do not see a box at the entrance of the church with your name on it, please let Fr. Bakhos know and one will be prepared for you as soon as possible.

Lower Your Income Tax before the End of the Year

One way to lower your income tax bill for this year is to make charitable contributions, which can be deducted from your income when you itemize deductions on your 2009 Income Tax Return. Gifts made to charities, such as Our Lady of Lebanon Church, are tax deductible. It is important that you keep in mind that in order for you to claim the deduction on your tax return for 2009, **your gift must be received by the church and your check must be dated on or before December 31st, 2009.**

By the end of January 2010, those who made donations of \$250 or more will automatically receive from Our Lady of Lebanon Church a statement acceptable to the IRS stating the donor(s) name and the amount donated—through checks or weekly offering envelopes— from January 1st, 2009, through December 31st, 2009. This statement should be kept with your tax records, in case the IRS audits your return. *Note: The IRS will only accept cancelled checks or church statements as proof of your contributions.*

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" to assist the poor families in our parish; and the other half is given to Catholic Charity on 18th Street, in 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.

Maronites = Catholics of the East

Lebanon in the Holy Scriptures (12)

By Cornelia B. Horn

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

E. "Lebanon" in the Song of Songs

The Song of Songs is the only post-exilic book in the Bible in which the word "Lebanon" has special importance. "Lebanon" is mentioned seven times in the Song of Songs. Kinet pointed out that the mention of Lebanon has a special role in the amorous play between lover and beloved, or between bride and bridegroom, as found in the Song of Songs (Song of Songs 3:9, 4:8.11.15, 5:15, 7:5). Lebanon becomes the place from where the beloved, the desired one, is descending or to which the beloved is compared. "Lebanon" is synonymous with the peak of what is desired. In the words of the prophet Hosea, the cedar of Lebanon and the vine of Lebanon illustrate the ultimate stability and fullness of pleasure which God's people experience when they return to Him (Hosea 14:5-9).

The Song of Songs was inserted in the canon of the scriptures and became part of the Passover liturgy, most significantly because of its symbolic significance. The words Lebanon and lebonah, the Hebrew word for "incense," are derived from the same root. For example, this may explain why in Song of Songs 4:11 the bridegroom wishes to compare the fragrance of the garments of his bride to the fragrance of Lebanon.

According to Cogan, the biblical toponym "the top of Amana" or "Mount Amanah" (Song of Songs 4:8) can be identified with Mount Ammananu-Ammanu in cuneiform sources. This site is located on the Anti-Lebanon range overlooking Damascus from the west.

The following is a list of the passages where the scriptural book of the Song of Songs and the prophet Hosea make use of the word and images of "Lebanon."

Song of Songs 3:9 "King Solomon made himself a carriage of wood from Lebanon."

Song of Songs 4:8 "Come from Lebanon, my bride, come from Lebanon, come! Descend from the top of Amana, from the top of Senir and Hermon, from the haunts of lions, from the leopards' mountains."

Song of Songs 4:11 "Your lips drip honey, my bride, sweetmeats and milk are under your tongue; and the fragrance of your garments is the fragrance of Lebanon."

Song of Songs 4:15 "You are a garden fountain, a well of water flowing fresh from Lebanon."

--to be continued

Christmas Story: The Empty Glove

One day, an American student returned home from the University. He was pensive, taciturn, whereas his usual temperament was an openness to others and joy. He found himself confined to his room, not open to others.... His father worried, and after a few days, knocked on the door of his son's room.

"You are not yourself; you seem worried, what is the matter with you?" he asked. "Dad, I believe that the Lord is calling me to a consecrated life, that of a missionary!" "Wonderful," responded his father. "What a beautiful vocation! Why are you so anxious about it?" "Dad, what if I don't make it? What if I am not able to do this? I'm afraid...."

His father remained silent. He got up and grabbed his son's baseball glove and attached it to the wall. Then, he picked up a baseball and threw it to the glove. The ball fell to the floor and the father exclaimed dejectedly: "This glove is really worthless!" The son was astonished: "Stop your foolishness, Dad, the glove is empty; it cannot catch the ball!" "That's it, you have understood my message!"

We are like that glove: if there is no hand to animate it from within, it is good for nothing! My son, Jesus lives in your life. He is the one who will animate you from within for your mission. Your only task is to welcome him deep inside yourself without reserve and to be docile to Him. He will do the rest."

Without Jesus we can do nothing; that is very clear. Before Christmas, the stores are filled with the most refined material things. But, of Jesus who comes to save us, there is nothing. About the founding event of Christmas... nothing!

Before this plethora of materialism, I ask Jesus, "What have we done with You?" Without Jesus, we can do nothing; but we can deceive ourselves into thinking that we are doing something through our fascination with materialism.

Joke (572)

Quick Laughter

- ☺ 1 A guy spots a sign outside a house that reads "Talking Dog for Sale." Intrigued, he walks in. "So what have you done with your life?" he asks the dog. "I've led a very full life," says the dog. "I lived in the Alps rescuing avalanche victims. Then I served my country in Iraq. And now I spend my days reading to the residents of a retirement home." The guy is flabbergasted. He asks the dog's owner, "Why on earth would you want to get rid of an incredible dog like that?" The owner says, "Because he's a liar.' He never did any of that!"
- ☺ 2 A guy suffering from a miserable cold begs his doctor for relief. The doctor prescribes pills. But after a week, the guy's still sick. So the doctor gives him a shot. But that doesn't help his condition either. "Okay, this is what I want you to do," says the doctor on the third visit. "Go home and take a hot bath. Then throw open all the windows and stand in the draft." "I'll get pneumonia!" protests the patient. "I know. That I can cure."
- ☺ 3 Visiting a village in a Third World nation, an American dignitary tells the natives, "I bring you warm greetings from my people!" The natives respond, "Kazanga!" "We wish you prosperity!" "Kazanga!" they bellow. "I promise years of friendship and economic benefit!" "Kazanga! Kazanga!" As the dignitary leaves the podium, he tells the chief, "That went well." "Uh-huh," the chief replies, adding, "Look out! Don't step in the kazanga."

Tarzan and the Lion's Den

A little girl was getting quizzed by her Sunday school teacher to determine how well she knew the Bible. The teacher had asked several questions, and the poor girl had not answered any of the questions correctly. The sympathetic teacher, trying to come up with an easier question, asked the girl who had been thrown into the den of lions and had survived.

The girl paused and carefully thought for a moment. Her eyes brightened, and she then exclaimed, "Oh, I know that one; it was Tarzan!"

Presidents on the Flip Side

A low-achieving man was explaining why he was fired as an investigator for the treasury department. "I arrested a couple of alleged counterfeiters, but it turned out they were not counterfeiting at all."

His friend asked why he thought they were counterfeiting. He explained, "The bills they were passing looked suspicious."

"What was suspicious about them?" his friend asked.

He answered, "Some of the bills were printed upside down. So some of the presidents were on one side of the bills, and some were on the other side." No wonder the man was fired!

Whole East Coast

A churchgoing family took a girl who was visiting with them to church one Sunday. This girl had never gone to church in her life but seemed to enjoy the experience. When they returned home, they asked the girl what she thought about the experience. She said she liked it, but she was confused about one thing. She asked why the whole West Coast was not included. No one in the family knew what she was talking about.

She explained, "The man in the front kept talking about the Father, Son, and whole East Coast."