

April 11, 2010
Bulletin # 15

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

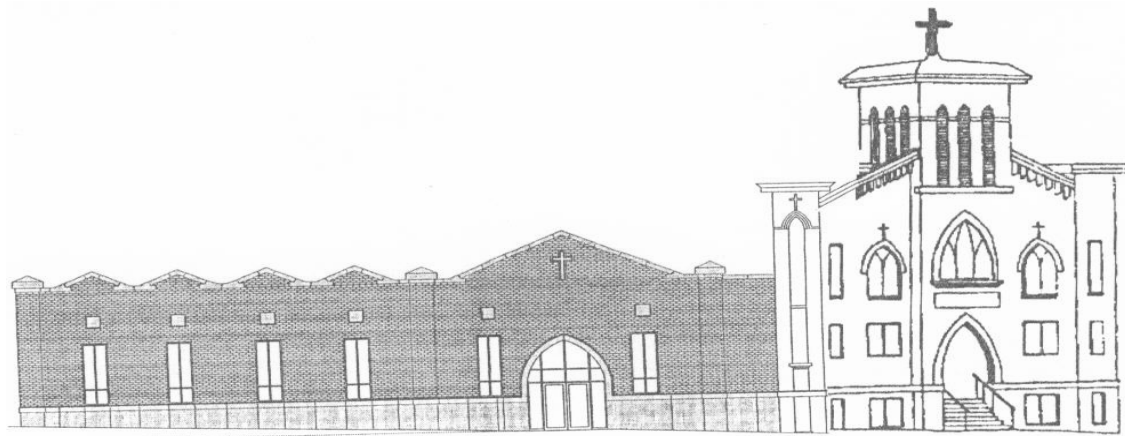
E-Mail: ololwv@Comcast.net • Web Site: www.ololwv.com

Rev. Bakhos Chidiac, Pastor

Evelyn Ghaphery (Organist)

Charlotte Khourey & Thomasina Geimer (Secretaries)

Sunday of Divine Mercy



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, Rita Strawn 304-547-1692, Mike Linton 304-242-6969
- ***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: Divine Mercy Sunday

Readings: 2Cor 5:11-21 and Jn 20:26-31

“We have seen the Lord!” The risen Christ had already appeared to the disciples in the absence of Thomas. He had shown the wounds of His passion and imparted to them His messianic peace. In anticipation of Pentecost He had given them the Holy Spirit –the Spirit who by their means would affect the work of salvation. Then came Thomas, and careless of what others thought, but true to himself, said flatly: **“Unless I see, I refuse to believe.”**

Thomas the apostle was a forthright and honest man: his mentality is revealed in various places in the Gospels. Here he shows us that in what concerns the adventure of faith, he is not easily convinced. How like ourselves he is in his pursuit of the real, the tangible, mistrustful of ideologies unless they are vouched for by everyday experience. Yet God is not displeased at this! The most amazing thing about faith is that one can believe. The Lord understands this, and a week later takes him at his word and submits to his demand: **“Give me your hand and put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.”**

And what about us, twentieth century believers: are we going to drift through the liturgical celebration of the Easter Season, repeating abstractedly: **“Happy are those who have not seen, yet believe?”** We ought rather to follow Thomas in trying to see the power of the Resurrection manifested in our lives –as individuals and as a community! We should wish to see this power healing the wounds of our brothers; undoing oppression; bringing back from the dead those men and women still engulfed in sin.

At least we can offer these a helping hand. Another amazing truth about faith is that we can believe in the impossible and do our utmost to achieve it. Then, and only then, dare we say, quite truthfully: **“My Lord and my God!”**

From the Desk of the Pastor

Fr Bakhos’ Motto: “Say your word and walk away”

The Final Good Bye!

Dear Friends and beloved Parishioners,

I will entrust you and your family members and our beautiful church to the care of the miraculous Blessed Mother. Her hands were working with us from day one and she will remain our protector and intercessor during this life and until she leads us to her Son, our Redeemer.

As I move to Michigan on April 12th, I will carry in my hearts the best memories of each and every one of you. Our parishioners are excellent people and I rate this parish as having “Zero Troubles.”

My friends, happy are we if we accept each other as we are. God created each of us different. As the brothers and sisters who came forth from the same womb are different, and as the fingers of the same hand are different, so the wise among us should never expect all people to be the same.

The pastor of the church is like a father of a large family. He loves equally all his parishioners and he tries his best to serve them all in the best way possible. The worst things he faces is when “few” people try to impose their legacy on the “majority” who are accustomed to coping with the normal way of life. Problems like this hurt the pastor and others. And, as the father or the mother of a family get hurt when they see their children fighting among themselves, the pastor feels the same hurt. When the children don’t know how to make peace among themselves, and when they don’t listen to the voice of the church, Christ himself who died for them is not happy to dwell among them.

In the last nine years, you proved to be the best people I met in my life. You are an example for others to follow. Your name is held high in Wheeling and in the surrounding area. Bow your head in humility and lift up your hearts to the Lord in thanksgiving. Pray for me as I pray for you. Love each other and keep the peace reign in this church as is now. For by working and praying together you secure the blessing and the grace of God upon you. Our love and dedication to the Blessed Mother brought forth fruit, stay devoted to her.

With my love and prayers, may the blessing of God be with you all.

--Fr. Bakhos Chidiac

Mass Intentions

THIS WEEKEND, April 10-11: Divine Mercy Sunday

Saturday, April 10:

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

4:00 p.m.:

Steve and Margaret Schlog (Birthday & Anniversary) by Bob & Fran Saseen
40-Day Mass for Louis John by Frank & Mary Lish and Family

Sunday, April 11, at 10:30 a.m.: Mass will be followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Helen Saseen (on her Birthday) by her daughter Rosella
Elias Louis George by the Ghaphery Family
Living & Deceased of the Poor Child Jesus sisters by Jean Weisner

Weekday Masses

Monday, April 12: No Mass. Pastor's Day Off

Tuesday, April 13: No Mass. Pastor's Day Off

Wednesday, April 14, at 5:30 p.m.:

Louis John by Jerry Gordon

Thursday, April 15, at 5:30 p.m.:

Lou Elias (on his Anniversary) by his Family
Louis John by Mike Fahey

Friday, April 16, at 5:30 p.m.:

Louis John by Bill & Tricia Committee

NEXT WEEKEND, April 17-18: 3rd Sunday of the Resurrection

Saturday, April 17, at 4:00 p.m.:

Louis John by Jeff Bentz

Sunday, April 18, at 10:30 a.m.:

Dale Seidler Sr., by his wife Nettie & Family
Louis John by Kay Garvey

Make Your Charitable Contributions Via the Church:

Please keep in mind that you can donate, at any time, to your choice of the following two funds:

--The "**Endowment Fund**" which will help with our church maintenance for years to come.

--The "**Poor Families of our Parish Fund**" which will be used in case of emergency to support exclusively the poor, active parishioners who belong to our church – those who have offering envelopes and who attend our church on a regular basis. Others are not intended to benefit from this fund.

Our Lady of Lebanon Community Calendar

Date	Event
<u>Lebanese Bake Sale</u>	
<i>Sunday, April 11</i>	<u>Order Deadline</u>
<i>Sunday, April 18</i>	<u>Work Day</u> – Spinach Preparation: <i>after Mass</i>
<i>Mon.-Thur., April 19-22</i>	<u>Work Days</u> – Baking to Fill Orders: <i>at 9:00 a.m.</i>
<i>Wed.-Thur., April 21 & 22</i>	<u>Order Pick-Up Days</u>
Sunday, April 12	Cedar Club Meeting – 7:00 p.m. in the old Basement Hall
Sunday, April 18	Work Concession Stand at Wheeling Airport – 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Sunday, April 25	Women's Society Next Meeting – <i>after 10:30 Mass</i> – <u>In Conference Room</u>

Sunday, April 25	Women's Society 50/50 Monthly Raffle – Following Mass
Sunday, May 23	Women's Society Gift Basket Drawing – at the Spring Spaghetti Dinner
Sunday, May 23	Spring Spaghetti Dinner 1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, June 5	Rummage Sale
Sunday, August 15	Mahrajan – at Oglebay Park

Spring Lebanese Bake Sale (Order by: Sunday, April 11; Pick Up Orders: April 21-22)

Order Deadline	Sunday, April 11
Work Days: Spinach Preparation	Sunday, April 18, 11:30 a.m.
Baking to Fill Orders	Monday to Thursday, April 19-22, 9:00 a.m.
Order Pick Up Dates	Wednesday & Thursday, April 21 & 22

Spring Lebanese Bake Sale Order Forms are now available in the bulletin and at the entrance to the church. The Women's Society of our Church has scheduled its Spring Lebanese Bake Sale. Items from which you may choose include Spinach Pies or Meat Pies at \$2.25 each or choose Sweet (Sesame) Bread or Zattar Bread at \$1.25 each. Payment and completed order forms should be returned by mail or place it in the collection basket. Make checks payable to Our Lady of Lebanon Church with *Memo: Lebanese Bake Sale*.

All those who helped in the past as well as any new volunteers are asked to help us on the baking days listed above. Please come and join in the camaraderie!

Cedar Club Meeting (Monday, April 12, at 7:00 p.m. in the old Basement Hall)

The next Cedar Club Meeting will be Monday, April 12, at 7:00 p.m. in the old Basement Hall. Discussions will be about the Final plans for the Airport Concession Stand and discussion for the upcoming Rummage Sale. The evening hostess will be Mary Stees and Mary Thomas. Hope to see you at the meeting.

Change of Weekday Mass Times in April (Wed., Thur., Fri., April 14, 15, 16)

To allow Fr. Gary George time to unpack and settle into the rectory, the time of the weekday Masses will be temporarily changed to 5:30 p.m. for the remaining Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays of April. Please be sure to refer to the Mass times listed on page 3 of the weekly Bulletins.

Wheeling Airport Concession Stand (Sunday, April 18, from 9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.)

The Cedar Club will again have a Concession Stand at the Wheeling Ohio County Airport on Sunday, April 18, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For this to be successful, we will need donations of one case Diet Pepsi, one case Diet Coke and one case of Regular Coke. This will be greatly appreciated. (If you are unable to shop for a donation, monetary donations will be accepted).

We are also asking all bakers of the parish to prepare some pastries or other baked goods for the concession stand. Your donations and baked goods can be brought to the Church Hall on Saturday, April 17 before or after 4:00 p.m. Mass. Remember this is for the parish and all funds raised will be designated for the New Heating System. If you have any questions in the meantime, please call Linda at (304) 242-6853)

Women's Society Next to Meet in April (Sunday, April 25, after 10:30 a.m. Mass)

Plan to join the Women's Society at our next meeting which is scheduled for Sunday, April 25th, **in the Conference Room** after Mass. Remember the March meeting was cancelled. We will discuss plans for our upcoming spring events. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Women's Society Monthly 50/50 Raffle (Sunday, April 25, after Mass)

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 **April 50/50 Raffle tickets** found at the church entrance and in the Weekly Church Bulletins will take place in the Cedar Hall after Mass on **Sunday, April 25th**.

Please check the ticket sheets carefully to be sure you are completing the correct ticket stubs. All raffle tickets are 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 Al Depto who won the March prize of \$50.

Spring Spaghetti Dinner (Sunday, May 23rd, from 11:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.)

Mark your calendars now and plan to enjoy our Spring Spaghetti Dinner served in our Cedar Hall following Mass Sunday, May 23. Chairperson Tom George and our parishioners invite you and your friends, co-workers and neighbors to attend to and enjoy our food and hospitality. Help our Church prepare the "best Spaghetti Dinner in the Ohio Valley."

Menu: Spaghetti and meatballs or marinara sauce, salad, roll, dessert with coffee, ice tea or lemonade.

Discounted Advance Ticket Price If PAID by May 16: \$7.00 Adults; \$4.00 (Child under 12)

Regular Ticket Price if PAID May 17 thru 23: \$8.00 Adults; \$5.00 (Child under 12)

Buy in advance and save! Tickets are available now from the Church office at: 304-233-1688. Tickets can be held at the door only if they are prepaid. **Payment in advance is greatly appreciated.**

Notes:

1. Advance Ticket Sales: If you are able & willing to help sell tickets to make our dinner a tremendous success, please call our Church office. Unsold tickets & payments must be returned by Sunday, May 16.
2. Parishioners are being asked to *please bake and donate a dessert for use at the dinner* so that we may offer a variety of choices to go with the meal.
3. Parishioners are also being asked to help make our *Baked Goods Sale* –held simultaneously with the dinner– a huge success. Please make and donate an item: cookies, cake, pie, fudge, candy, Lebanese treat, etc.
4. If you can volunteer to work for the Spaghetti Dinner or have questions, please call the Church office at 304-233-1688.

Women's Society Gift Basket Raffle (Sun., May 23rd, at the Spring Spaghetti Dinner)

The Women's Society's next Gift Basket Raffle drawing will be held at our Spring Spaghetti Dinner scheduled for Sunday, May 23. The "**Pastabilities**" Gift Basket will include a bottle of Oak Leaf Cabernet Sauvignon; a bottle of Pinot Grigio; a Perfect pasta cookbook; a spoon rest; a set of wooden spoons; a hand grater; a Farberware spatula and basting brush; a cheese shaker; 4 dishcloths, 2 dish towels and a pot holder, Italian salad dressing; a can of black olives; a jar of Dei Fratelli Traditional Sauce; a jar of Bertoli Alfredo Sauce; and a box of each of the following pastas: Delallo Linguine, Barilla Angel Hair pasta, Creamette Linguini, Tri-colored pasta, Barilla Fettucine.

The Gift Basket Raffle proceeds will 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 will be available at the entrance to the dinner in the church hall.

Heat System Fundraising to Replace Old Church Furnace

The installation of the central air heating and cooling system for the rectory is complete. This part of the job costs \$11,300. The second part of this project which is the replacement of the old furnace of the church with a new, high-efficiency one will start in June or July, when the heat is no longer needed so that we can turn off the heat in the church. The cost of the second part will be \$22,000. We need your help and donations to finish this job. A plaque will be installed in the church commemorating **ONLY the donors at the levels listed below.** Please be a part of the generous and proud flock of our church.

Silver (\$100-\$199)	<i>Mary Rose Kukula, Jonathan Turak, Jim & Rose Marie Carroll, Bill & Mary Daniel Jr., Salem J. David In memory of Sadie & Joseph Simon, Al Depto, Bob & Fran Saseen, Tom Ferris, Paul & Irene Schuler, Ferris Shia, Peggy Justice, Joseph & Carol Abraham, Elizabeth Abraham, Pagendarm & Moore Families, Chamse Rahi, Anna Jalad, Mark & Barb McLaughlin, Robert & Carolyn David, Barb Sobota, David Frey, Cecilia John, Donald Fielding (FL), Barb Sobota, Julia Tappe, Dr. & Mrs. Anwar, Dr. Joe Palmer, Denny Albaugh, Joe & Nikki Popovich, Joe Linton, Bernard & Liz Olako, Bob & Dottie Kupchak, Lois & Bob Hammond,</i>
Gold (\$200-\$499)	<i>Dr. Jack & Rose Palmer, Sylvia Long, Rosella Saseen, Altmeyer Funeral Home, Holly & Shirley Bine, Gary Weisner, Rex & Rita Strawn, Michael J. David, Earl & Linda Duffy, Carol & Bill Dougherty,</i>
Diamond (\$500 & over)	<i>Gary & Flip West, Fr. Bakhos Chidiac, Lou & Charlotte Khourey, Larry Breiding, Mark Alan Schroeder, Kenny & Nancy Joseph, Nick Ghaphery Jr., Louis & Marge John, John & Dee Shiben, Mike & Maryann Carl, Mike Linton, Dr. & Mrs. Anwar,</i>

Donations received under \$100.00. **The following donors names will NOT appear on the plaque:**
Peggy Palmer, Michael Caruso, Frank & Anna Marie Duymich, Al & Annette Togliatti, Michael & Vicky Joseph, Anonymous, Dr. Nabil & Nesrin AlKhouri, Bassam & Jodi Deeb, Emily Vince,

Total Raised so far: \$14,351.00 out of \$33,300.00

Please Pray for Those on Our Prayer List

Please Remember Those Hospitalized Recently in Your Prayers:

Ann Lee Bauduin, Zachary McKim, Pearl Shutler (mother of Janet), Louis Coury (brother of Lucille Gibbons),

Also Please Pray for Those Who Asked Us to Pray for Them:

Sylvia Long, Dorothy Kupchak, Virginia Porchiran, Sue Brubach, Donald Gibbons (son of Lucille), Eileen Foster and her mom Barb Sobota, Andy Kaminski, Sam Elias, Frank Lish, Josephine Joseph, Theresa Snedeker, Dolores Palotay, Bob Dougherty (brother of Bill), Edith Fahey, Rosella Saseen, Gary West, 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

April 11: Randy Weisner
April 12: Justin Frenn
April 13: Adel Frenn
April 14: Mark McLaughlin, Lori DeMuth
April 15: Megan Voellinger
April 20: Angela Petros
April 28: Ann Marie Weisner-Serafin
April 29: Linda Hostutler
April 30: Cecilia Ammar

Your Church Support Last Week

\$2,293	Collection
158	2 nd Collection – “Holy Land”
190	Diocesan Appeal
121	Candles
86	Utilities
320	Parking
444	Bake Sales

15	St. Maron Dinner
400	Special Event (Farewell Dinner for Fr. Bakhos)
400	Fundraising (New Church High-Efficiency Heat System)
1125	Mahrajan (Ad Book)
\$5,552	Total. <i>May God reward you many fold</i>

What's New?

Balance of the Church Accounts as of April 5, 2010

Bank	Account #	Balance as of 01.01.2010	Balance as of 4.5.2010	Surplus
Main St Bk.	Checking #220-1895	9,687.40	8,678.45	
Main St Bk.	Operating Account #116033	86,670.01	95,723.21	
Main St Bk.	Women Society #15 229	13,682.23	10,125.60	
Main St Bk.	Cedar Club Saving #68 500	2,606.40	2,712.84	
Main St Bk.	Cedar Club Checking #220-9802	41.75	48.62	
Main St Bk.	Endowment Fund CD# 21400	3,335.53	3,789.73	
Main St Bk.	Parish Families Ass. Fund #228877	2,088.02	2,857.70	
Marc Abr.	Brokerage Sun America #509843433	83.39	83.39	
	TOTAL	118,194.73	124,019.54	+5,824.81

Parish Condolences: Mary Custer

The pastor and the parishioners of Our Lady of Lebanon Church, Wheeling, offer their heartfelt sympathy to the **Custer** family on the loss of their beloved **Mary** who passed away in Wheeling on the morning of Easter Sunday. Mary is the sister of our parishioner Helen Benline. She will be missed by all of us.

Fr. Bakhos celebrated the Funeral Mass at Our Lady of Lebanon Church on Wednesday, April 7th, at 10:00 a.m. May the Almighty God grant repose of the soul to His handmaid **Mary** and we extend the parish's condolences to *her* family in their time of sorrow. May *her* Memory be eternal. Amen

Many Thanks:

--to Josephine Joseph, Sam & Bernadine Elias, Frank & Mary Lish and Sue Jochum for fulfilling their Easter Obligations

Items Available for Purchase

Please see one of the ladies of our parish to purchase any of the following items:

\$1.00	2 Orange Cookies – in cooler
\$2.00	Pkg. of Small Pita –frozen
\$2.00	1 Kibbee Patty – frozen
\$5.00	3 Kibbee Patties – frozen

In Our Mailbox

1) Dear Father Bakhos Chidiac,

Thank you for inviting us and welcoming us in your beautiful parish. We are sad to see you leave, but know you are in God's hands and will thrive in your new home. We will keep you in our prayers. Love,

--Hendrickson Family

2) Dearest Father Bakhos,

Thank you so much for giving Bob the cotton and oil for my hand ailment. It's getting better.

I want to wish you the very best on your new venture. Everyone in Wheeling is sad to see you go because you have given so much of yourself to this community. Mom and Bob are going to miss you so much. You have been a dear friend to them. But everyone is also happy that you are going on a new journey where

others need you. I will miss visiting and not seeing you. Please continue to watch over Mom and Bob for me. I know you will. Stay in touch and God Bless! Sincerely,

--Susan Shurko (Lois Hammond's daughter)

3) *Fr. Bakhos,*

Happy Easter – May our Lord and our Blessed Mother continue to bless you.

Thank you for all help, prayers and presence at Central Catholic High School. You have been a great blessing to the Wheeling community. We will miss you. Peace

--Jeff & Carol, Rachel, Martin & Austin

4) *Dear Fr. Bakhos,*

While it is a sad time for our family to see you leave Wheeling, we feel so fortunate to have had you as our pastor these past nine years. Not only have you done great things for our parish, you have also been a spiritual mentor to our family. We will always remember your friendship and your deep influence on all of us.

--Lou, Charlotte, Emmalena & Louie Khourey

5) *Dear Father Bakhos,*

God bless you and thank you for everything you have done for us. --Barb, Georgie & Philip Joseph

6) *Father Bakhos,*

I need not say I am truly going to miss you at Our Lady of Lebanon church. You have been the only true friend and understanding person I have had; and with your assistance, I have – without your knowledge – climbed a few mountains. Your support, kindness, understanding and compassion has meant the world to me. I can never thank you enough for what you have done for me and Helen these past five years.

I wish for you a world full of success and that when you grow old may you enjoy remembering all who you have so gently touched.

The enclosed ... comes from the heart with much joy for having had you in my life. I will tell you truly had it not been for you, I possibly would have carried out what many times entered my mind.

Your destination is not Detroit, for I see a great man who will one day rise to the very top and will sit by the side of our Lord. Thank you for all you have done for me. Respectfully,

--Don Fielding

7) *Fr. Bakhos,*

We will never forget you Father for your many acts of kindness to “Marie” our Mom and Grandmother. She loved you as we all do. We will miss you but we wish you happiness in your new parish. We wish you all the best. Keep in touch! Keep us in your prayers. Love and Blessings,

--Marcia, Dave & Debra Laughlin

Our Precious Father Bakhos,

Thank you for all your prayers and for helping our brother Paul carry his cross. We'll miss you so very much. You will be in all our prayers. Best wishes to you in Michigan. May God be with you. In Christ's Love

--Veronica Mushet, Dave Frey, Rich Frey, Paul Harris, Ann Robinson, Robert Harris

8) *Dear Father,*

My heart is sad that you are leaving us, but I am happy that you will be going to a parish that will give you the opportunity to utilize all the wonderful gifts and talents you possess. I will think of you often and keep you in my prayers. I will miss your warm and caring ways more than you can know. May God bless you and keep you safe always! Love and prayers,

--Janet

9) *Father,*

I am so sad to hear that you are leaving. You have meant so much to our family over the years. You have watched over my grandmother, Mom and Aunt Lottie and have held a special place in my heart for that.

I want to take the time to say thank you for all of the prayers, blessings and anointing during my battle with illness. I am winning that battle and you played an important role in that.

You are a gem and I am lucky to have been blessed by your friendship.

You will be missed. I wish you the very best this Easter and always. You are very special – God Bless You! Best wishes for your journey.

--Debby Laughlin

Maronites = Catholic of the East

Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (Lumen Gentium)

The mystery of the holy Church is already brought to light in the manner of its foundation. For the Lord Jesus inaugurated his church by preaching the good news of the coming of the kingdom of God, promised over the ages in the scriptures.... But principally, the kingdom is revealed in the person of Christ himself, Son of God and Son of Man, who came ***“to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.”*** (Mark 10:45)

When Jesus, having died on the cross for humanity, rose again from the dead, he appeared as Lord, Christ, and priest established forever, and he poured out on his disciples the Spirit promised by the Father. Henceforward the Church, equipped with the gifts of its founder and faithfully establishing his precepts of charity and self-denial, receives the mission of proclaiming and establishing among all peoples the kingdom of Christ and of God, and is, on earth, the seed and the beginning of that kingdom. While it slowly grows to maturity, the church longs for the completed kingdom and, with all its strength, hopes and desires to be united in glory with its king

In the human nature united to Himself, the Son of God, by overcoming death through his own death and resurrection, redeemed humanity and changed it into a new creation. (Gal 6:15; 2 Cor 5:17) For by communicating his Spirit, Christ mystically constitutes as his body his brothers and sisters who are called together from every nation.

In this body, the life of Christ is communicated to those who believe and who, through the sacraments, are united in a hidden and real way to Christ in his passion and glorification. Through Baptism, we are formed in the likeness of Christ: ***“For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.”*** (1 Cor 12:13) In this sacred rite our union with Christ’s death and resurrection is symbolized and effected: ***“For we were buried with him by Baptism into death”***; and ***“if we have been united with him in the likeness of his death, we shall so in the likeness of his resurrection also.”*** (Romans 6:4-5) Really sharing in the body of the lord in the breaking of the Eucharistic bread, we are taken up into communion with him and with one another....

As all the members of the human body, though there are many, form one body, so also do the faithful in Christ. (1 Cor 12:12) A diversity of members and functions is engaged in the building up of Christ’s body, too. There is only one Spirit who, out of his own richness and the needs of the ministries, gives his various gifts for the welfare of the Church. (1 Cor 12: 1-11)

The head of this body is Christ. He is the image of the invisible God and in him all things came into being. He is before all creatures and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body that is the Church. He is the beginning, the first-born from the dead, that in all things he might hold the primacy. (Col 1: 15-18) By the magnitude of his power he rules heaven and earth, and with his all-surpassing perfection and activity he fills the whole body with the riches of his glory. (Eph 1:18-23)

Collegiate unity is also apparent in the mutual relations of individual bishops to particular diocese and to the universal church. The Roman Pontiff, as the successor of Peter, is the perpetual and visible source and foundation of the unity both of the bishops and the whole company of the faithful. Individual bishops are the visible source and foundation of unity in their own particular churches, which are modeled on the universal church; it is in and from these that the one and unique Catholic Church exists. And for that reason, each bishop represents his own church, whereas all of them together with the pope represent the whole church in a bond of peace, love, and unity....

Famous Quotes: Appetite

He who cheats his appetite avoids debt.

--Chinese proverb

A stomach that is seldom empty despises common food.

--Horace

Seek an appetite by hard toil.

--Horace

Always rise from the table with an appetite, and you will never sit down without one.

--William Penn

The one thing bigger than my stomach is my appetite.

--Anonymous

Story: The Risk of Walking to Church

In many parts of Asia, walking to church is dangerous. Believers must consider the risk and take precautions to make it back home alive. This is K.P. Yohannan with Breaking News from Asia.

Pastor Suresh was walking home from church last August. As he passed through a certain village, a group of fanatic anti-Christians stood in his path. They slapped him across the face and warned him. "You must stop your Christian activities. If you refuse, we will throw a bomb into the church next Sunday." That same day, two other missionaries were beaten and sent to the hospital. Through the prayers of God's people, the next Sunday passed without incident. The police stood by and the anti-Christians did not even show up to bother the believers.

Persecution on Suresh's mission field is increasing. On Sundays, walking through the village in nice clothes can mark a person as a Christian. So many believers leave for church wearing work clothes, carrying their church clothes in a bag. And for the walk home, they change back into their work clothes. Let us join with these brave believers in praying for their persecutors. May each one find life in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Joke (588)

Tell Me this Won't Happen to Us!

Two elderly women were out driving in a large car – both could barely see over the dashboard. As they were cruising along, they came to an intersection, the stoplight was red, but they just went on through. The woman in the passenger seat thought to herself, "I must be losing it. I could have sworn we just went through a red light."

After a few more minutes, they came to another intersection and the light was red. Again, they went right through. The woman in the passenger seat was almost sure that the light had been red but was really concerned that she was losing it. She was getting nervous. At the next intersection, sure enough, the light was red and they went on through. So, she turned to the other woman and said, 'Mildred, did you know that we just ran through three red lights in a row? You could have killed us both!'

Mildred turned to her and said, "Oh, Gee! Am I driving?"

Tell Me this Won't Happen to Us!

Three sisters, ages 92, 94 and 96 live in a house together. One night the 96-year-old draws a bath. She puts her foot in and pauses. She yells to the other sisters, 'Was I getting in or out of the bath?'

The 94-year-old yells back, 'I don't know. I'll come up and see.' She starts up the stairs and pauses. 'Was I going up the stairs or down?'

The 92-year-old is sitting at the kitchen table having tea listening to her sisters. She shakes her head and says, 'I sure hope I never get that forgetful, knock on wood.' She then yells, 'I'll come up and help both of you as soon as I see who's at the door.'

Love

A man offered to pay a sum of money to his twelve-year-old daughter if she mowed the lawn. The girl went at the task with great zest and by evening the whole lawn had been beautifully mowed well, everything except a large uncut patch of grass in one corner.

When the man said he couldn't pay the sum agreed upon because the whole lawn hadn't been mowed, the girl said she was ready to forego the money, but would not cut the grass in the patch.

Curious to find out why, he checked the uncut patch. There, right in the center of the patch, sat a large toad. The girl had been too tender-hearted to run over it with the lawnmower.

(Where there is love, there is disorder. Perfect order would make the world a graveyard).