

June 27, 2010
Bulletin # 26

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003

Rectory: 304-233-1688 • Fax: 304-233-4714

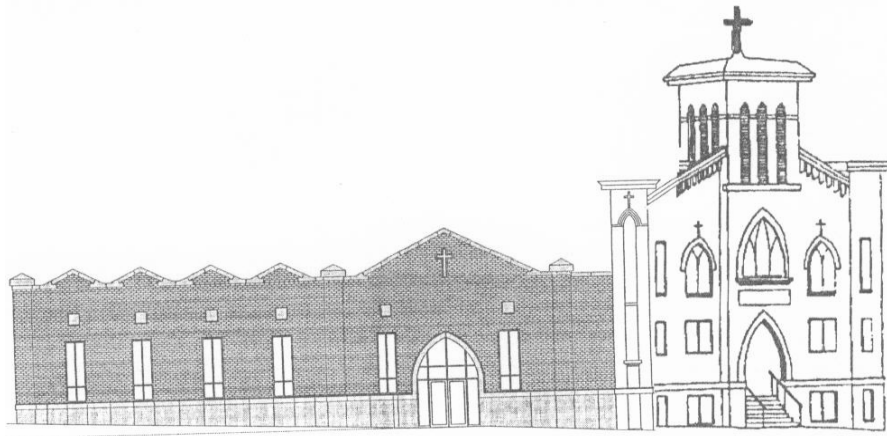
E-Mail: ololwv@comcast.net • Web Site: www.ololwv.com

Fr. Bakhos Chidiac Pastor

Evelyn Ghaphery (Organist)

Charlotte Khourey & Thomasina Geimer (Secretaries)

Saints Peter & Paul



Schedule of Divine Liturgies

- ***Weekend Masses:** Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m.
Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. [Rosary & Litany start at 10:00 a.m.]
- ***Weekday Masses:** Wednesday, Thursday, Friday at 9:00 a.m. [Rosary & Litany start at 8:40 a.m.]
- ***Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament:** 1st Saturday of the month at 3:30 p.m. & 1st Sunday after 10:30 a.m. Mass
- ***Confession:** Saturday: 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. or any other time by appointment
- ***Baptism:** Please phone the Pastor as soon as a baby is born; at least one Godparents must be Catholic
- ***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 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 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

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- ***Bulletin Announcements:** Submit all Bulletin Information by Tuesday Noon every week.
- ***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, parishioners may park in both lots; Monday-Friday, park ONLY in the 3 ALLEY spaces
- *Remember the Church in your Last Will & Testament – Her prayers will accompany you to heaven
- *Please support Our Lady of Lebanon Church by patronizing our Benefactors and Advertisers
- *If you support the Church and need a Bulletin mailed to you, please call the church office

Gospel Reflection

Readings: 2 Cor 11:21-30 and Mt 16:13-20

No wonder Our Divine Lord, who knows all souls in their inner being, chose as the head of His Church not John who had never denied, and who alone of all the apostles was present on the hill of Calvary, but rather chose Peter who fell and then rose again, who sinned and who then was forgiven amidst lifelong penance, in order that His Church might understand something of human weakness and sin, and bear to the millions of its souls the gospel of hope, the assurance of divine mercy.

Fittingly, then, when Peter came to the end of his lease on life, he asked not to be crucified as was Our Blessed Lord with head upright, but with head downward in the earth. Our Lord had called him the Rock of His Church, and the rock was laid where it should be –deep in the roots of creation.

On that very spot where the man of courage was crucified upside down, with his stumbling feet toward heaven, there now rises the greatest dome that was ever thrown against the vault of heaven's blue, the dome of the Basilica of St. Peter in Rome. Around it in giant letters of gold, we read the words Our Lord spoke to Peter at Caesarea Philippi: "... you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Mt 16:18)

Bishop Fulton Sheen, Lessons on Faith & Truth, p.23.

Saint Peter

Peter Returns to Rome, and to the Glory of Martyrdom

It was no time for anyone who called himself a Christian to be in Rome. It was the year 64, in the time of the Emperor Nero, a madman who was intent on making followers of Jesus the scapegoats for the fire that had devastated the city in July. The warning signals were all up, and some Christians were making their way out of the city. One of them was their leader, Peter, yielding to the pleas of friends to save himself.

He was barely two miles from Rome, on the old Appian Way, when who should appear before him but the Lord himself. Peter was dumbfounded.

"*Domine, quo vadis?*" he stammered. "Lord, where are you going?" "I am going to Rome," Jesus replied sadly, "to be crucified a second time."

In an Instant, Peter understood the Lord's message. He knew he must quickly return to Rome. There he resumed his teaching and his ministry to all, his life in constant danger. The atrocities Roman officials committed against the Christians –on Nero's direct orders– defied belief. Some were sewn inside animal skins to be torn to pieces by dogs. Some were crucified. Still others were covered with tar and then set afire –simply to provide torchlight for the emperor's garden. Nero himself drove through this mad scene, disguised as a charioteer.

Finally Peter was captured, along with Paul, and thrown into the Mamertine Prison. Even there he continued to preach the message of salvation through Jesus –so convincingly that his two guards, as well as many fellow prisoners, were converted.

Finally he was sentenced to death by crucifixion in the Circus of Callgula, at the foot of the Vatican. At the last moment, Peter hesitated.

"I cannot meet death as the Master did," he told his executioners. "Place the cross upside down." The guards agreed to this last request, and in that cruel fashion Peter went in glory to rejoin the Lord.

Saint Paul

St. Paul's Biography "He Dedicated Himself to the Proclamation of the Gospel"

The extraordinary event that occurred on the road to Damascus, Paul's conversion, an essential change in his life that followed from his meeting with Christ.

Saint Paul was born in Tarsus in Cilicia. The city was the administrative headquarters of the region and in 51 B.C. It had as proconsul none other than Marcus Tullius Cicero, while ten years later, in 41, Tarsus was the site of the first meeting between Mark Anthony and Cleopatra.

A Jew of the Diaspora, he spoke Greek although having a name of Latin origin, derived by assonance from the Hebrew original Saul/Saulos, and he held Roman citizenship. Paul seems to be situated, therefore, on

the border of the various cultures— Roman, Greek, Hebrew –and perhaps also because of this was disposed to fruitful universal openness, to a mediation between cultures, to a true universality.

He also learned manual work, perhaps from his father, consisting of the work of "tent maker," to be understood probably as laborer of coarse goat's wool or linen fibers to make mats or tents. Toward the year 12-13, the age in which a Jewish boy becomes "bar mitzvah" (son of the precept), Paul left Tarsus and went to Jerusalem to be educated at the feet of Rabbi Gamaliel the Elder, nephew of the great Rabbi Hillel, according to the most rigid norms of Pharisasim and acquiring a great zeal for the Mosaic Torah.

On the basis of this profound orthodoxy that he learned in the school of Hillel in Jerusalem, he saw in the new movement of Jesus of Nazareth a risk, a menace for Jewish identity, for the fathers' true orthodoxy. This explains the fact that he had fiercely "persecuted the Church of God," as he admitted three times in his Letters. Even if it is not easy to imagine specifically in what this persecution consisted of, his had, in any case, an attitude of intolerance.

It is here that the event of Damascus is situated, to which we will return in the next catechesis. It is certain that, from that moment on, his life changed and he became a tireless Apostle of the Gospel. In fact, Paul passed into history more as a Christian, what is more, as an Apostle, than as a Pharisee. His apostolic activity is subdivided traditionally on the basis of three missionary journeys, to which is added a fourth – his journey to Rome as a prisoner. All are narrated by Luke in the Acts. In regard to the three missionary journeys, however, it is necessary to distinguish the first from the other two.

First Missionary Journey

For the first, in fact, Paul did not have direct responsibility, as it was entrusted instead to the Cypriot Barnabas. Together they departed from Antioch on the Oronte, sent by that Church, and later, having set sail from the port of Seleucia on the Syrian coast, they traversed the island of Cyprus from Salamis to Paphos; from here they reached the southern coasts of Anatolia, today's Turkey, and stopped at the city of Attalia, Perga of Pamphilia, Antioch of Pisidia, Iconium, Lystra and Derbe, from which they returned to the point of departure.

Thus was born the Church of the people, the Church of the pagans. In the meantime, above all in Jerusalem, a harsh discussion arose as to what point these Christians from paganism were obliged to participate in the life and laws of Israel – all the observances and prescriptions that separated Israel from the rest of the world – to be truly participants of the promises of the prophets and to enter effectively into Israel's the heritage.

To resolve this fundamental problem for the birth of the future Church, Paul met in Jerusalem with the so-called Council of the Apostles, to resolve this problem on which the effective birth of the universal Church depended. It was decided not to impose on converted pagans the observance of the Mosaic Law; that is, they were not obliged to observe the norms of Judaism. The only need was to belong to Christ, to live with Christ and according to his words. Thus, being of Christ, they were also of Abraham, of God and participants of all the promises.

Second Missionary Journey

After this decisive event, Paul left Barnabas, chose Silas and began his second missionary journey. Going beyond Syria and Cilicia, he again saw the city of Lystra, where he took with him Timothy – a very important figure of the nascent Church, son of a Jewess and a pagan – and had him circumcised, he went across central Anatolia and reached the city of Troas on the northern coast of the Aegean Sea. And here another important event took place: In a dream he saw a Macedonian from the other side of the sea, namely in Europe, who said, "Come and help us!"

It was the future Europe that requested the help and light of the Gospel. Spurred on by this vision, he entered Europe, sailing from Macedonia and thus entering Europe. Disembarking in Neapolis, he arrived in Philippi, where he founded an admirable Christian community. Then he went to Thessalonica, and left the latter because of difficulties caused by the Jews, traveled to Beroea, and then continued to Athens.

In this capital of ancient Greek culture he preached to pagans and Greeks, first in the Agora and then in the Areopagus. And the speech in the Areopagus, referred to in the Acts of the Apostles, was a model of how to translate the Gospel into Greek culture, and of how to make the Greeks understand that this God of Christians and Jews was not a God who was foreign to their culture, but the unknown God awaited by them, the true answer to the most profound questions of their culture.

After Athens he arrived in Corinth, where he stayed for a year and a half. And here we have a very certain chronological event, the most certain of his whole biography, because during this first stay in Corinth he had to appear before the governor of the senatorial province of Achaia, Proconsul Gallione, on accusations of illegal worship.

Regarding Gallione, there is an ancient inscription found in Delphi where it is said that he was proconsul of Corinth between the years 51 and 53. Hence, here we have an absolute certain fact. Paul's stay in Corinth took place in those years. Hence we may suppose that he arrived more or less in the year 50 and stayed until the year 52. Then, from Corinth, passing through Cencre, the city's eastern port, he went to Palestine reaching Caesarea Maritima, and from there he left for Jerusalem to return later to Antioch on the Oronte.

Third Missionary Journey

The third missionary journey began as usual in Antioch, which had become the point of origin of the Church of the pagans, of the mission to the pagans, and was also the place where the term "Christians" was born. Here for the first time, St. Luke tells us, Jesus' followers were called "Christians."

From there Paul went directly to Ephesus, capital of the province of Asia, where he stayed for two years, carrying out a ministry that had fruitful returns for the region. From Ephesus, Paul wrote the Letters to the Thessalonians and Corinthians. The population of the city, however, was incited against him by the local silversmiths, who saw their income diminish given the decline of the worship of Artemis. The temple dedicated to her in Ephesus, the Artemision, was one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. Because of this he had to flee to the north. Having crossed Macedonia once more, he went down again to Greece, probably to Corinth, staying there for three months and writing the famous Letter to the Romans.

From here he retraced his steps: Passing back through Macedonia, he sailed to Troy, and then, briefly visiting the islands of Miletus, Chios, Samos, he reached Miletus where he gave an important address to the elders of the Church of Ephesus, sketching a portrait of the true pastor of the Church.

From here he set sail for Tyre, from where he reached Caesarea Maritima to go once again to Jerusalem. Here he was arrested because of a misunderstanding: Some Jews had mistaken other Jews of Greek origin for pagans, introduced by Paul in the Temple area reserved only for the Israelites. The planned sentence to death was avoided by the intervention of the Roman tribune guarding the area of the Temple. This occurred while the imperial Procurator Anthony Felicius was in Judea. After spending a period in prison – whose duration is debatable – Paul, being a Roman citizen, appealed to Caesar – who at the time was Nero – and the subsequent Procurator Porcio Festo sent him to Rome under military custody.

Journey to Rome

The journey to Rome touched the Mediterranean islands of Crete and Malta, and then the cities of Syracuse, Rhegium and Puteoli. The Christians of Rome went to meet him on the Via Appia at the Appia Forum (south of the capital) and others at the Three Taverns.

In Rome he met with delegates of the Jewish community, to whom he confided that it was for "the hope of Israel" that he endured his chains. However, Luke's account ends with the mention of two years in Rome under house arrest, without reference either to a sentence of Caesar (Nero), or even less so to the death of the accused.

Subsequent traditions speak of a liberation, which would have favored a missionary journey to Spain or an eventual short trip to the East, specifically to Crete, Ephesus and Nicopolis in Epirus. Always on a hypothetical basis, a new arrest is conjectured and a second imprisonment in Rome – from where he would have written the three so-called pastoral letters, namely the two to Timothy and the one to Titus, with a second trial that turned out to be unfavorable to him. However, a series of reasons induce many scholars of St. Paul to end the Apostle's biography with Luke's account in the Acts.

Paul dedicated himself to the proclamation of the Gospel without sparing his energy and facing a series of grave trials, of which he has left us an account in the second Letter to the Corinthians. Of the rest, he writes: "I do it all for the sake of the Gospel", exercising with absolute generosity what he calls his "anxiety for all the Churches." We see a determination that is explained only by a soul truly fascinated by the light of the Gospel, enamored of Christ, a soul sustained by a profound conviction: That it is necessary to take the light of Christ to the world, to proclaim the Gospel to all.

Happy 4th of July

Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence?

Five signers were captured by the British as traitors, and tortured before they died. Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons serving in the Revolutionary Army; another had two sons captured. Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War. They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

What kind of men were they? Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants, nine were farmers and large plantation owners; men of means, well educated, but they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured. Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags. Thomas McKeam was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward. Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of Dillery, Hall, Clymer, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge, and Middleton. At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson, Jr., noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt. Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months. John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and his gristmill were laid to waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished.

Some of us take these liberties so much for granted, but we shouldn't. So, take a few minutes while enjoying your 4th of July holiday and silently thank these patriots. It's not much to ask for the price they paid.

Remember: freedom is never free! It's time we get the word out that PATRIOTISM is NOT a sin, and the Fourth of July has more to it than beer, picnics, and baseball games. I hope you all feel that we live in the BEST country there is and that our Heavenly Father is guiding and protecting us. God Bless America!!!

Mass Intentions

Next WEEKEND, June 26-27: Saints Peter and Paul

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

Joseph & Rosaline Saseen by Dr. Joe & Susie Saseen

Cathy Sharp Howard (on her Anniversary) by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt & Family

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

Sam Elias by Lori Mahely (FL)

Rita DiNicola by Anna Jalad

Weekday Masses

Monday, June 28: No Mass. Pastor's Day Off

Tuesday, June 29: No Mass. Pastor's Day Off

Wednesday, June 30 at 9:00 a.m.:

Sam Elias by Tom & Carol Flateley

Memorial of their 60th wedding anniversary of Joe & Frances Linton

Thursday, July 1 at 9:00 a.m.:

Richard Gilmour by Liz George

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

Friday, July 2 at 9:00 a.m.:

Good health & speedy recovery of Ron Rahall by Liz George

Edith Fahey by Katie & Jack Fahey

Next WEEKEND, July 3-4: 7th Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday, July 3rd:

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

At 4:00 p.m.:

Freddie Oser (on his Anniversary) by his sister Debbie Huffman

John J. Thomas (on his Anniversary) by Rex & Rita Strawn

Sunday, July 4th at 10:30 a.m.: Mass will be followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

--Living & Deceased members of the Nicholas & Nimnoom Ghaphery Family & the David Abraham Ghaphery Family by the Ghaphery Family

--Dale Seidler Sr., by his wife Nettie & Family

Our Lady of Lebanon Calendar of Parish Events

Date	Event
Monday, July 5 to 11	NAM Convention & Clergy Conference in Birmingham, Alabama – no Mass July 5-8
Mon.-Wed., July 12-14	Mahrajan Baking Days – starting daily at 9:00 a.m.
Monday, July 19 to 24	MYO Workshop in Latrobe, Pennsylvania –see information at www.maroniteyouth.com
Sunday, July 25	Women’s Society 50/50 Monthly Raffle – following Mass
Sunday, August 1	Mahrajan Raffle – Early Bird Drawing – from all entries received by Saturday, July 31
Sunday, August 15	Feast of the Assumption & Mahrajan – at Oglebay Park
Sunday, October 3	Fall Spaghetti Dinner

Cedar Hall Rental Calendar

Our Cedar Hall is reserved by individuals for events on the following dates and some individuals may have requested to come the day before the event to set up for it:

Date	Set-up Day	Event	Booking Is:
Sunday, July 11	Same Day: Sunday, July 11	Baby Shower	confirmed
Saturday, July 31	Friday, July 30	Wedding Reception	confirmed
Saturday, August 7	Friday, August 6	Wedding Reception	confirmed
Saturday, August 21	Same Day: Saturday, August 21	Wedding Reception	confirmed
Sunday, October 10	<i>Undecided</i>	Wedding Reception	confirmed
Saturday, October 16	<i>Undecided</i>	50 th Anniversary	tentative

Heat System Fundraising to Replace Old Church Furnace

H.E. Newman Company did remove the old boiler. Gary Weisner power washed and is insulating that room for fire protection. The final installation of the new boiler will take place in the coming weeks. The whole project of heating and cooling the church and the rectory is \$32,850.00. We raised \$30,346.00 so far. We are short \$2,504.00 to finish this project. We need your help and donations to finish this job. A plaque will be installed in the church to commemorate all the donors toward this project on three levels: Diamond, Gold and Silver. If you would like to raise your level of donation or make a donation in any amount toward this project, please call Fr. Bakhos at 304-233-1688.

New donations after June 27, 2010: ??????????

Flowers for the Sacred Heart of Jesus in June

Sunday, June 27	In Thanksgiving from Mary Kukula & Family
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No Daily Mass (from Monday, July 5th, until Thursday, July 8th)

There will be no daily mass at our church from Monday, July 5th, until Thursday, July 8th. Fr. Bakhos will attend the NAM Convention with the Maronite clergy. Mass will resume on Friday, July 9th, at 9:00 a.m.

Mahrajan Baking Days Scheduled (Monday, July 12 thru 14, starting daily at 9:00 a.m.)

Pleas plan to join the Women’s Society to bake the various pastries which will be sold this year at our Mahrajan. Baking will begin Monday, July 12th, starting at 9:00 a.m. and will continue as needed through Wednesday, July 14th. Everyone is welcome to join us with their talented hands for this work and camaraderie.

Women’s Society Bi-Monthly 50/50 Raffle (Drawing: Sunday, July 25, after Mass)

Our next 50/50 Raffle drawing will take place in the Cedar Hall after Mass on **Sunday, July 25th**, from ticket entries received during **June and July**. Complete and return ticket stubs from those placed at the church entrance or printed in the Weekly Church Bulletins. Congratulations to Peggy Justice who won the April/May prize of \$55 and graciously donated it to the New Heat System. May the Blessed Mother grant her a long and healthy life.

Mahrajan (Sunday, August 15, at Oglebay Park)

Souvenir Ad Book: Remember to send in your payment and Green “Mahrajan Souvenir Book Form” as soon as possible so that your Memorial or Business Ad will be included in this year booklet. Mahrajan Donations in any amount will be appreciated and will contribute to the success of our Mahrajan. You may request that your donation be used to sponsor the singer for \$1,000; the Dance Troupe for \$500; be a Booth Sponsor for \$250 or other Donations will be recognized at the levels listed below. Thanks to the following individuals who have made donations toward our event:

--**Diamond Level (\$100-249):** *John & Dee Shiben, Dr. Rajai & Nahla Khoury, Dr. Adel & Dianne Frenn, Dr. MaryAnn Cater & Dr. Rob Vawter, Lou & Charlotte Khourey,*

--**Gold Level (\$50 to \$99):** *Esther Khoury*

--**Silver Level (up to \$49):** *Bob & Fran Saseen, Suzanne Crall, Rita Ann Castle,*

Raffle Tickets: This year, during the Mahrajan at Oglebay Park, in addition to having a chance to win the \$100 Early Bird Prize on Sunday, August 1, from all entries received by Saturday, July 31, your Raffle Tickets will also give you the chance to win one of the following prizes:

Grand Prize: \$1,000 Cash; 2nd Prize: 32” Plasma TV (donated by Drs. Rajai & Nahla Khoury, Dr. & Mrs. Adel Frenn and Drs. MaryAnn Cater & Rob Vawter); **3rd Prize: \$100 Gift Certificate** redeemable at **Nicky’s Garden Center; 4th Prize: Olympus 12 mega pixels Digital Camera** (donated anonymously); **5th Prize: beautiful hand-appliquéd, floral-patterned Quilt** (donated anonymously). A very BIG “Thank You” goes to Gold, Khourey & Turak for generously sponsoring our Mahrajan raffle tickets.

Table Reservations:

Under Tents: *Kay Garvey, Michael David, George Lewis, Tom Carroll, Don Ruch Jr., Dr. Adel Frenn, Sandra Dusick, Chamse Rahi, Dr. Rajai Khoury, Dr. Nabiel AlKhouri, the Prizinski Family, Dorothy Fenton, Angela Nagem, Dianna Vargo,*

Open-Air: *Kathleen Ackerman (2), Peggy Palmer (2), Fred Shia, Emily Vince, Jim George, Rita George, Eva Powell, George Taylor, Tom Brock, Lou Thomas, Lucille Gibbons, Duffy-Fadoul, Edward Bowman Sr. (3), Donna Wasemann,*

Attention last year’s Booth Chairpersons (listed below): Please contact Mahrajan Chairman Lou Khourey to confirm your willingness to continue in the same capacity for our 2010 Mahrajan via e-mail at lhk@gkt.com with your contact information (phone, address, etc.) to expedite communications. If you cannot e-mail, please phone him at home in the evenings at 304-277-3230.

Chairpersons are asked to begin contacting those who will be working for your booth at the Mahrajan. As soon as you have a list of workers, please give Lou Khourey a copy of their names and times they will work to both and also give copies to Fr. Bakhos and Charlotte for the office and computer.

Booth	Chairperson(s)	Booth	Chairperson(s)
Grape Leaves	Carol Dougherty	Ticket Trailer	Charlotte Khourey
Shwarma & Falafel	Adel & Diane Frenn with Pitaland Employees and Don & Roberta Henning	Raffles/Culture	Culture: Bassam Deeb Raffle Sales: Gary Dietz & Kim Gibbons
Children’s Food	Peggy Justice & Ann Lee Bauduin	Pop & Water	Mike Linton

Children's Activities	Christine Faulkner	Beer	Barry Carter
Food Lines	P.J. Lenz & Al Depto	Instant Bingo	Millet Fadoul
Inside Site 1 Kitchen	Linda Duffy	Hi-Lo	Mickey Duffy
Pastry & Coffee	Kathleen George	Cashiers	Randy Weisner
Grill & Shish Kebab	Tom John	Table Reservations	Janet Shutler
Souvenirs	Nikki Popovich	Booth Break-Down	(on Sunday Evening) ???

Please Pray for Those on Our Prayer List

Please Remember Those Hospitalized Recently in Your Prayers:

Eileen Foster and her mom Barb Sobota, John Ritts, Dorothy Kupchak, Mary Law Thomas, Pearl Shutler (mother of Janet), Louis Coury (brother of Lucille Gibbons),

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

William Calvert (cousin of Jim & Sue Brubach), Miah Downs, Tim Wrixon, Don Stoflinsky, Sylvia Long, Patty Billick, Charles and Donald Gibbons (sons of Lucille), Andy Kaminski, Frank Lish, Josephine Joseph, Theresa Snedeker, Dolores Palotay, Bob Dougherty (brother of Bill), Rosella Saseen, 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

June 27: Fred Shia, Lindsay Lenz, Peggy Justice, Seth George
 June 29: Phyllis Lewandowski
 July 5: Bill Committee
 July 9: Jerry Saseen
 July 11: Kenny DeMuth, Justin Wilson
 July 14: Chloe Imer
 July 15: Denny Albaugh
 July 16: Bob Kupchak, Payton Wilson
 July 17: Lucille Coury-Gibbons

What's New?

Natalie Committee to Volunteer in Uganda for a Year

Natalie Committee –daughter of Bill and Tricia John Committee- a long time parishioner, will be serving as a volunteer in Uganda for a year through a Christian organization called ChildVoice International. She will be teaching business development skills to young, war-affected women. Please consider supporting her in this journey and keep her in your prayers. If you are interested in making a donation, please contact Natalie at: 304-280-9304. For more information, pick up information at the entrance to the church or visit the websites: www.cildvoiceintl.org or www.ugandahope.blogspot.com or www.voices-rising.com.

Your Church Support Last Week

\$1,514	Collection
201	2 nd Collection
82	Candles
20	Utilities
200	Parking
400	Hall Rental
25	Flowers
375	Mahrajan (Ad Book)
155	Mahrajan (Tables)
1,071	Mahrajan (Raffles)
90	Donation to Church (Memorial Sam Elias)
250	Fundraising (New Church High-Efficiency Heat System)
\$4,383	Total Deposits. <i>May God reward you many fold</i>

Maronites! Who Are They?

***Maronites = Catholics of the East; Latins = Catholics of the West. We are all Catholics.
Antioch, Roots of the Maronites (4)***

Warding off lustful suitors, brutal soldiers, lions, bears, seals, raging bulls, and hostile officials, Thecla converted many in the city (especially among the women), baptized herself, cut her hair and dressed as a man, and set off, at last commissioned by Paul to work as a missionary throughout the eastern empire. A shrine built at her place of death in Seleucia (today Silifke in Cilicia) became a major pilgrimage center, as Thecla's cult grew to become one of the most popular in the Christian East. She was granted the title "Equal-to-the-Apostles" in the Orthodox Church, and her model was often called upon by women pursuing religious vocations within the church of late antiquity. Her shrine was a place of numerous miracles.

Although according to her legend, Thecla managed to escape martyrdom, she was counted among the great martyrs of Antioch because of her dazzling victory when the governor sought to execute her in the city's public stadium. Other martyrs both historical and legendary added to Antioch's luster as the church survived the great persecutions of the third and early fourth centuries, continuing a legacy identified with Ignatius and Thecla.

Babylas, bishop in Antioch between c. 237 and 251, was said to have required the emperor Philip himself to serve penance for the murder of his predecessor. Babylas was executed during the Decian persecution of 250-51, and his relics became a source of fame and glory for the city in the fourth and fifth centuries.

In the final persecutions that commenced under Diocletian early in the fourth century, Antioch was upheld as a place of extraordinary witness while its Christian population suffered torture and execution. Eusebius praises Antioch's women, above all, for their conduct during these dark times. A young virgin of the city named Pelagia, who jumped from a roof rather than allow soldiers to arrest her, to this day is venerated as one of the most beloved martyrs in the Orthodox Church.

To the authoritative fame of Antioch's bishops and the enormously popular cults of her martyrs must be added the far-reaching influence of Antioch's liturgical developments. For the rites of the eastern churches, save only Alexandria, all stem (to greater and lesser degrees but always distinctively) from the ancient liturgical usages of Antioch. It is clear that by the fourth century Antioch provided the basic pattern for the litanies, for antiphonal psalmody, and for the epiclesis, the consecratory invocation of the Holy Spirit prayed over the bread and wine in preparation for the Eucharist. But the earlier patterns for these reach all the way back to the church's first foundations in Antioch and the interaction between Christians of Jewish and gentile communities that characterized its emergence.

In the second half of the third century bitter controversy erupted in the church of Antioch and among bishops across the eastern empire over the teachings and practices of Paul of Samosata, bishop of Antioch from 260 to 268. It is interesting that the council of bishops that deposed him was as scandalized by his liturgical reforms as they were about his Christology; on both fronts, our evidence regarding Paul's "heretical" views is not unequivocal.

(To be continued)

Reflections: Kinder

I could have been kinder, it's easy to see.
I could have made time for just you and me.
You taught me a lesson I'll share if I may,
There are no second chances, do make use of today.
Go to your loved ones. Tell them you care.
Don't put off; they won't always be there.
It may not be easy, if may not seem right,
But I guarantee you'll sleep better tonight.

Question & Answer

Question #2: "Other than the Bible, how do we know God exists?" Travis C., 14

Answer: St. Thomas Aquinas says we can know of God by reason alone. He gives five proofs for the existence of God. I'll give you one of them and then challenge you to read his works to find out the other four. One proof or argument is from "design." This proof says the universe could not have just come together on its own any more than, say, a computer just comes together" on its own. The computer is a precise instrument that could not magically come together on its own. It is created and designed by something greater than itself –man. We know God exists by His handiwork. Only an all-powerful God could have orchestrated the creation of the universe the earth, man and everything else.

Story: Love Is Cure

Like most elementary schools, it was typical to have a parade of students in and out of the health clinic throughout the day. We dispensed ice for bumps and bruises, Band-Aids for cuts, and liberal doses of sympathy and hugs. As principal, my office was right next door to the clinic, so I often dropped in to lend a hand and help out with the hugs. I knew that for some kids, mine might be the only one they got all day.

One morning I was putting a Band-Aid on a little girl's scraped knee. Her blonde hair was matted, and I noticed that she was shivering in her thin little sleeveless blouse. I found her a warm sweatshirt and helped her pull it on. "Thanks for taking care of me," she whispered as she climbed into my lap and snuggled up against me.

It wasn't long after that when I ran across an unfamiliar lump under my arm. Cancer, an aggressively spreading kind, had already invaded thirteen of my lymph nodes. I pondered whether or not to tell the students about my diagnosis. The word breast seemed so hard to say out loud to them, and the word cancer seemed so frightening.

When it became evident that the children were going to find out one way or another, either the straight scoop from me or possibly a garbled version from someone else, I decided to tell them myself. It wasn't easy to get the words out, but the empathy and concern I saw in their faces as I explained it to them told me I had made the right decision. When I gave them a chance to ask questions, they mostly wanted to know how they could help. I told them that what I would like best would be their letters, pictures and prayers.

I stood by the gym door as the children solemnly filed out. My little blonde friend darted out of line and threw herself into my arms. Then she stepped back to look up into my face. "Don't be afraid, Dr. Perry," she said earnestly, "I know you'll be back because now it's our turn to take care of you."

No one could have ever done a better job. The kids sent me off to my first chemotherapy session with a hilarious book of nausea remedies that they had written. A video of every class in the school singing get-well songs accompanied me to the next chemotherapy appointment. By the third visit, the nurses were waiting at the door to find out what I would bring next. It was a delicate music box that played "I Will Always Love You." Even when I went into isolation at the hospital for a bone marrow transplant, the letters and pictures kept coming until they covered every wall of my room.

Then the kids traced their hands onto colored paper, cut them out and glued them together to make a freestanding rainbow of helping hands. "I feel like I've stepped into Disneyland every time I walk into this room," my doctor laughed. That was even before the six-foot apple blossom tree arrived adorned with messages written on paper apples from the students and teachers. What healing comfort I found in being surrounded by these tokens of their caring.

At long last I was well enough to return to work. As I headed up the road to the school, I was suddenly overcome by doubts. What if the kids have forgotten all about me? I wondered. What if they don't want a skinny bald principal? What if. I caught sight of the school marquee as I rounded the bend. "Welcome Back, Dr. Perry," it read. As I drew closer, everywhere I looked were pink ribbons – ribbons in the windows, tied on the doorknobs, even up in the trees. The children and staff wore pink ribbons, too.

My blonde buddy was first in line to greet me. "You're back, Dr. Perry, you're back!" she called. "See, I told you we'd take care of you!" As I hugged her tight, in the back of my mind I faintly heard my music box playing ... "I will always love you."

Wisdom: Clay Ball Treasures

I remember reading a story once about a man who was exploring some caves by the seashore. In one of the caves he found a canvas bag with a bunch of hardened clay balls. It was like someone had rolled up some clay and left them out in the sun to bake. They didn't look like much, but they intrigued the man so he took the bag out of the cave with him.

As he strolled along the beach, to pass the time, he would throw the clay balls one at a time out into the ocean as far as he could throw. He thought little about it until he dropped one of the balls and it cracked open on a rock. Inside was a beautiful, precious stone.

Excited the man started breaking open the remaining clay balls. Each contained a similar treasure. He found hundreds of dollars worth of jewels in the 20 or so clay balls he had left, then it struck him. He had been on the beach a long time.

He had thrown maybe 50 or 60 of the clay balls with their hidden treasure into the ocean waves. Instead of hundreds of dollars in treasure, he could have taken home thousands, but he just threw it away.

You know sometimes, it's like that with people. We look at someone, maybe even ourselves, and we see the external clay vessel. It doesn't look like much from the outside. It isn't always beautiful or sparkling, so we discount it, we see that person as less important than someone more beautiful or stylish or well known or wealthy. But we have not taken the time to find the treasure hidden inside that person by God.

There is a treasure in each and every one of us. The Bible says we are fearfully and wonderfully made. I don't think he means just our physical bodies. I think he means our spiritual selves, which are sometimes hidden from others by the "earthen vessel."

But if you take the time to get to know that person, and if you ask the Father to show you that person the way He sees them, then the clay begins to peel away and the brilliant gem begins to shine forth.

Don't come to the end of your life and find out that you threw away a fortune in friendships because the gems were hidden in bits of clay. Lord, let me see the people in my world as you see them today. Amen

Joke (586)

Prayer

When Brother Bruno was at prayer one night he was disturbed by the croaking of a bullfrog.

All his attempts to disregard the sound were unsuccessful so he shouted from his window, "Quiet! I'm at my prayer." Now brother Bruno was a saint so his command was instantly obeyed. Every living creature held its voice so as to create a silence that would be favorable to prayer.

But now another sound intruded on Bruno's worship, an inner voice that said, "Maybe God is as pleased with the croaking of that frog as with the chanting of your psalms."

"What can please the ears of God in the croak of a frog?" was Bruno's scornful rejoinder. But the voice refused to give up: "Why would you think God invented the sound?"

Bruno decided to find out why. He leaned out of his window and gave the order, "Sing!" The bullfrog's measured croaking filled the air to the ludicrous accompaniment of all the frogs in the vicinity. And as Bruno attended to the sound, their voices ceased to jar for he discovered that, if he stopped resisting them, they actually enriched the silence of the night.

With that discovery Bruno's heart became harmonious with the universe and, for the first time in his life he understood what it means to pray.

Marriage Percentage

A group of a hundred lumberjacks worked in the forest for six months and two women did their cooking and laundry for them. At the end of that period two of the men married the two women. What the local newspaper said was that **"two per cent of the men married a hundred per cent of the women."**