

**March 1, 2009**  
**Bulletin # 9**

## ***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

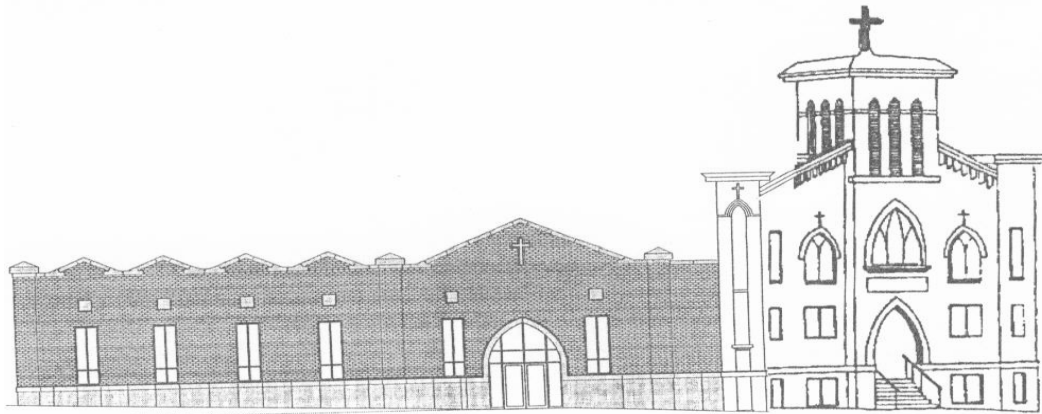
E-Mail: ololwv@Comcast.net • Web Site: www.ololwv.com

**Rev. Bakhos Chidiac (Pastor)**

Evelyn Ghaphery (Organist)

Charlotte Khourey & Thomasina Geimer (Secretaries)

### ***Cleansing of the Leper***



### ***Schedule of Divine Liturgies***

- \***Weekend Masses:** Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. [Rosary & Litany start at 10:10 a.m.]
- \***Weekday Masses:** **At Noon.** Please refer to the Mass schedule on page 3 of this bulletin for Mass times and changes due to special events. Thank you for your cooperation.
- \***Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament:** Every 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month at 3:30 p.m. & 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Communion
- \***Miraculous Medal Novena:** Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at 10:00 a.m.
- \***Reconciliation:** 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 277-3230, Linda Duffy 242-6853, Tom George 336-7142, P.J. Lenz 242-5606 and Carol Dougherty (740) 782-0146
- \***Choir Members:** Rita Thomas Strawn, Shirley George, Allison Duffy, George Thomas, Ted Olinski, Earl Duffy, Lou Khourey, Robert Vawter, Jody & Abbie Seabright, Tracey Dierkes
- \***Altar Boys:** Louie Khourey & Dalton Haas
- \***Cedar Club:** Linda Duffy, President 242-6853
- \***Women's Society:** Sandra Dusick, President 232-7395



- \*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
- \***Bulletin Announcements:** Submit all Bulletin Information to Fr. Bakhos. Deadline: Every Tuesday by Noon
- \***New Parishioners:** We welcome you with great joy and invite you to be officially listed as one of our parishioners
- \***Parking:** Saturday & Sunday – all spaces are for parishioners; Monday through Friday – park **ONLY** in the 3 ALLEY spaces

## ***Gospel Reflection: Cleansing of the Leper***

*Readings: Rom 6:12-23 & Mk 1:35-45*

When Jesus lived, leprosy was not just an incurable physical ailment: it amounted to social and religious death. Moreover, it was viewed as the severest sentence that God passed on the sinner. Isaiah depicts the guilty people of God as lepers, and he uses this imagery also to describe the mysterious servant who expiates Israel's sin. The meeting between Jesus and the leper thus becomes highly significant. Impurity meets up with the "Holy"; the outcast meets the Servant, Himself a future outcast; leprosy which defiles comes into contact with the one who makes pure. Here sin confronts its choicest victim, evil its cure. In the person of this leper the Savior touches and purifies the whole sinful world. Thus, in spite of the injunction to secrecy, the religious authorities to which Jesus sent the man He had just cured should have recognized that the Messiah had come and that through Him the social outcasts and the living-dead had rehabilitated.

In differing degrees the lepers of today are the various outcasts of our society. These are the incurable invalids we shut away in hospitals and forget about; they are those who live on the margins of our society in subhuman conditions, and the others rejected by our society for one reason or another. We must learn from Jesus. Each of us is leprous; each of us has a hidden uncleanness, which we need to reveal to Jesus, in order to obtain healing and wholeness from Him and to be readmitted into the society of the saved. Once we have been touched and cleansed, we must proclaim God's Word and, following Jesus' example, welcome in their human dignity those who before were cast out or rejected.

### ***Reflection for Lent: The Real Issue Is Mercy***

**"Stop judging and you will not be judged."** (Luke 6:37)

It would be a mistake to think our Lord does not want us to make judgments, even though this isolated sentence seems to say so. In the Gospel, it is quite clear that we are not to *condemn* others. Our willingness to pardon others is a sign of how much we appreciate being pardoned ourselves. The real issue is mercy and forgiveness, and mercy and forgiveness are meaningful only if we can judge that something is wrong. While we cannot know what the interior disposition of a person is -surely only God can know that- we can make judgments about actions and conditions. For example, Jesus instructs us not to behave like the Pharisees who "lord it over others" and crave honors. He presumes we can judge such a thing.

None of us can ever assume the role of being a judge over another's soul or destiny, but all of us are called to be men and women of Christian conscience, and conscience is nothing other than our own moral judgment. Its primary target, however, is not other people's behavior, but our own.

### ***Reflection for Lent: God Gives Us Love As We Need It***

**"But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, "You are my God." My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors."** (Psalm 31:14-15)

There are two realities to which you must cling. First, God has promised that you will receive the love you have been searching for. And second, God is faithful to that promise.

So stop wandering around. Instead, come home and trust that God will bring you what you need. Your whole life you have been running about, seeking the love you desire. Now it is time to end that search. Trust that God will give you that all-fulfilling love and will give it in a human way. Before you die, God will offer you the deepest satisfaction you can desire. Just stop running and start trusting and receiving.

Home is where you are truly safe. It is where you can receive what you desire. You need human hands to hold you there so you don't run away again. But when you come home and stay home, you will find the love that will bring rest to your heart.

*Lord, help me to learn from my boredom. Help me realize as St. Augustine did that I will be restless until my heart rests in You.*

## *Mass Intentions*

### **THIS WEEKEND, February 28 - March 1: "Cleaning of the Leper"**

#### **Saturday, February 28 at 4:00 p.m.:**

40-Day Mass for John John by Lou & Marge John & Family  
Tony Male (on his 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary) by Sue & Mike Linton

#### **Sunday, March 1 at 10:30 a.m.:**

Living & Deceased members of the Nicholas & Nimnoom Ghaphery Family & the David  
Abraham Ghaphery Family by the Ghaphery Family  
John John by George & Jean Weisner

### **Weekday Masses**

**Monday, March 2:** No Mass. Pastor's Day Off

**Tuesday, March 3:** No Mass. Pastor's Day Off

#### **Wednesday, March 4 at Noon:**

Millie Saab by Rex & Rita Strawn  
John John by Mrs. Lorraine Dakovic

#### **Thursday, March 5 at Noon:**

Jennie Bedway by George & Mary Thomas  
John John by Paul & Irene Schuler

#### **Friday, March 6 at 5:30 p.m.: Mass & Stations of the Cross & Benediction**

Jennie Bedway by Susan John  
John John by Frank & Mary Lish

### **NEXT WEEKEND, March 7-8: "Healing of the Hemorrhaging Woman"**

#### **Saturday, March 7 at 4:00 p.m.:**

Helen Fielding (on her Birthday) by her husband Don Fielding (FL) & his special intentions  
William Breit by the Ghaphery Family

#### **Sunday, March 8 at 10:30 a.m.:**

Tom Jalad by his wife Anna Jalad  
Clara Joseph Cater by her nieces and nephews  
Fr. William Maroon by Mary Beth Weisner

## *I Want to Help the Church – What Can I Do?*

### **1- Help painting the Church in May:**

The church needs to be painted and the cracks need to be fixed before they get worse. **Painting will start on May 1<sup>st</sup> and ends on May 31<sup>st</sup>.** During that time the Cedar Hall will be used for worship and the old basement for coffee and donuts and other events. No Cedar Hall rental during May. A special plaque will be mounted in the church stating: **"Please remember in your prayer these benefactors who painted the church in 2009."** Please check the list of donors below and see if your name is missed. Thank you for your dedication and generosity.

**The Generous Benefactors who painted the church in 2009: (Total Raised: \$19,954.00)**

**Memorials:** Mike Sobota (Memorial) (\$635), John John (Memorial) (\$530), Lena Joseph (Memorial) (\$100), Jennie Bedway (Memorial) (\$300),

**Donations:** Our Lady of Lebanon Church Women Society Fundraising (\$211), Nancy Joseph (\$100), Manell Brice (\$500), Paul & Irene Schuler (\$100), Charles Mattes (brother of Betty Shia) [MD] (\$500), Betty Shia (\$500), Cedar Club \$1,150, Rose Karsten (MN) (\$20), Bob & Fran Saseen (\$100), Millie & Sister Jeanne Vidonic (\$50), Rob & Mary Thomas (OH) (\$40), Robert & Virginia Pockl (\$100), Tom Ferris (\$125), Mary Custer (\$108), Denny Albaugh (\$25), Sylvia Long (\$100), Joseph & Carmella (Babe) Dallison (\$100), A Friend

(\$100), Anna Jalad (\$100), Shirley Dietz (\$500), Mike & Maryann Carl (\$1,000), Joe & Nikki Popovich (\$100), Kenny & Nancy Joseph (\$500), Evelyn Ghaphery (\$300), Mark & Barb McLaughlin (\$50), Dr. Joe Palmer (\$100), Joann Hill (\$50), Robert & Lois Hammond (\$100), Jim & Sue Brubach (\$100), Anonymous Parishioners (\$250), Fred & Debbie Shia (\$100), Rosella Saseen (3,000 PLEDGE), Annette Togliatti [OH] (\$20), Salem David [CT] (\$15), Susan & Dominique George (\$100), Lou & Marge John (\$200), Dr. Samy Sakla (\$100), Rose Mary White (\$25), Thomasina Geimer (\$100), Dr. & Mrs. Rajai Khoury (\$100), Mike & Nicole Breit [NC] (\$50), Donald Fielding [FL] (\$250), Randy Weisner (\$500), Barbara Joseph [FL] (\$500), Evelyn Goodson (\$100), Rose Vargo (\$100), Ron & Kim Gibbons (\$30), Mike & Sue Linton (\$150), Al & Josephine Weidman (\$25), Frank & Anna Marie Duymich (\$25), Charles Sleeme [FL] (\$25), Emily Vince (\$50), Youssef & Jocelyn Chahine [PA] (\$300), John & Dee Shiben (\$500), Jim & Shirley George (\$100), Bill Hogan (\$100), Kathy Maroon (\$25), Patti (Hage) Hirsh [TX] (\$70), Clara Morris (\$25), Rex & Rita Strawn (\$300), Bill & Carol Dougherty (\$1,500), Eleanor Thomas (\$25), Mary Beth Weisner [OH] (\$1,000), George & Jean Weisner (\$500), Philip & Robbie Saseen (\$100), Gary Weisner (\$800), Millet & Susie Fadoul (\$200), Patrick & Laurie Henry (\$200),

### **Help with the Endowment Fund to Keep Our Church Open and Alive (Total Raised: \$425)**

Fr. Bakhos opened at Main Street Bank an Endowment Fund CD account exclusively for our church maintenance for the years to come. Many parishioners –primarily those who have no one to inherit their property or money– are willing to donate all or part of their assets to the church. These earmarked donations will be saved in this Endowment Fund. Only the yearly interest will be withdrawn and spent to pay for church utilities and general maintenance.

We understand that some members of our community cannot support our church as they would like to because of the need to retain funds for their retirement years. But after their death, their donation can bring stability and security to the future of the church. All benefactors will be enrolled in the daily Mass offering. Please put into writing in your will as Fr. Eugene Jacobs did. The following is suggested 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. I want my donation to be deposited in the Endowment Fund account designated to maintain and support the church. I also wish to be enrolled as benefactor in the daily Mass intentions.)* We thank each of the following individuals for their generous contribution to this Endowment Fund.

*Bill & Mary Stees (\$200), Tom Ferris (\$125), Sylvia Long (\$100),*

### **2- Leave a Permanent Memorial on the Cedar Tree of Life & Golden Cedar Book**

The Cedar Tree of Life, designed by Fr. Bakhos and manufactured by the Baum Company of New Jersey, is a piece of art in the new building addition which allows you to permanently designate a memorial for you or a loved one for a donation of \$500 or more. It is made out of cedar wood that links us to the Cedar of Lebanon –used in the Temple of Solomon in Jerusalem. Most brass leaves are sold, only few are still available. Contact the parish office and engrave your Memorial on a brass leaf and you will also gain daily prayers from the altar of our church. Donations of lesser amounts will be listed in the Golden Cedar Book.

Donation	
\$500	<b>Topaz Leaf</b> in Memory of Minnie Shia Vargo by Ernest E. Vargo, Sr. & Family (2.3.2009)
\$500	<b>Pledge for a Topaz leaf</b> in Memory of Joe Bittengle (2.19.2009)
\$100	<b>Topaz</b> for Mark & Janet Fadoul Wilson (2.22.2009)

### **3- Wish List for Our Lady of Lebanon Church: Item Needed for the Church**

Please sponsor a commercial 5 gallon vegetable spinner to dry wet vegetables share your blessings.  
Cost: \$200.

May all the generous benefactors receive their reward many fold.

## *Our Lady of Lebanon Community Calendar*

<b>Fridays of Lent:</b> March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10	<b>Stations of the Cross, Benediction, Reflections, Light Dinner</b>
Monday, March 9	<b>Cedar Club Meeting – 7:00 p.m.</b>
Wednesday, March 11	<b>Night of Prayer with the Knights of Columbus – 6:00 p.m.</b>
Sunday, March 22	<b>St. Maron Lebanese Dinner – 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.</b>
Sunday, March 22	<b>Women's Society Gift Basket Raffle Drawing – at St. Maron Lebanese Dinner</b>
Sunday, March 29	<b>Bingo Night – 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.</b>
Sunday, March 29	<b>Women's Society 50/50 Maintenance Fund Raffle Drawing –after 10:30 a.m. Mass</b>
Sunday, March 29	<b>Women's Society Meeting – after 10:30 a.m. Mass</b>
Sunday, April 5	<b>Easter Lilies: Donation Deadline</b>
Sunday, April 5	<b>Palm Sunday</b>
Thursday, April 9	<b>Holy Thursday &amp; Washing of the Feet of the Apostles</b>
Friday, April 10	<b>Good Friday</b>
Sunday, April 12	<b>Easter Sunday</b>
Sunday, April 12	<b>Diocesan Appeal: Donation Deadline</b>
Sunday, April 12	<b>Spring Lebanese Bake Sale: Order Deadline</b>
Sun.-Thur., April 19-23	<b>Spring Lebanese Bake Sale – Work Days (11:30 a.m. Sun.; M-Th at 9:00 a.m.)</b>
Sunday, April 19	<b>Work Concession Stand at Wheeling Airport – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.</b>
Saturday, June 6	<b>Parish Rummage Sale – from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. – In Old Basement Hall</b>
Sunday, June 7– <i>New Date</i>	<b>Spring Spaghetti Dinner – 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. – In New Cedar Hall</b>
Sunday, August 9	<b>2009 Mahrajan</b>

### ***Stations of the Cross, & Light Dinner*** (Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>)

Every Friday during Lent, we celebrate the Mass at 5:30 p.m. and Stations of the Cross at 6:00 p.m., followed by Benediction of the Cross. We need one more generous family to host the light meal following the Friday prayers on March 20<sup>th</sup>. (Desserts each Friday will also be provided by the Cedar Club.)

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Volunteers:</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday, March 6 <sup>th</sup>	Light Meal Family Sponsor: Sandra Dusick, Kay Garvey, Julia Tappe
3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday, March 13 <sup>th</sup>	Light Meal Family Sponsor: MaryAnn Cater
4 <sup>th</sup> Friday, March 20 <sup>th</sup>	Light Meal Family Sponsor: ???
5 <sup>th</sup> Friday, March 27 <sup>th</sup>	Light Meal Family Sponsor: Carol Dougherty, Fran Saseen, Jean Weisner
6 <sup>th</sup> Friday, April 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Light Meal Family Sponsor: Anna Jalad, Rita Strawn, Mary Thomas
7 <sup>th</sup> Friday, April 10 <sup>th</sup>	Light Meal Family Sponsor: The Cedar Club

### ***Cedar Club Meeting*** (Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.)

### ***A Night of Prayer with the Knights of Columbus*** (Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>)

The Knights of Columbus will bring the statue of Our Lady of Charity to our church and they invite all parishioners to share one hour of prayer with them on Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

### ***40 Day Mass for Millie Saab*** (Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 p.m.)

### ***St. Maron Lebanese Dinner*** (Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.)

Mark your calendar with the date for our St. Maron Lebanese Dinner. Help is needed in many areas to make this Dinner a success. Please volunteer to work by calling Linda at 242-6853 or Carol at (740) 782-0146 or call the church office at 233-1688. Proceeds will benefit the Church Building Maintenance Fund. Tickets will be available soon.

**Menu:** *baked kibbee, stuffed grape leaves, luban, fasolia (Lebanese lima beans), chicken & rice, hummus, salad, pita bread, dessert and beverage (Beer & pop are available a la carte.)*

**Advance Ticket Sales: (If PAID by March 15<sup>th</sup>)**

\$ 7.00 ea. Child under 12

\$15.00 ea. Adult

(Adult Tickets are \$17.00 ea. if PAID March 16<sup>th</sup> thru 22<sup>nd</sup>)

**For Tickets call: (304) 233-1688. Buy your tickets in Advance and save!** Only a very limited number of tickets will be available at the door – **All Adult Tickets Sold Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> through Sunday March 22<sup>nd</sup>, including ALL “At-The-Door,” Payments will cost: \$17.00.** Take Out will be available. Bring your completed Ticket Stub to be eligible for **Door Prizes**, which will be drawn throughout the dinner. **Gift Basket and 50/50 Raffle Drawings** will take place at 5:15 p.m.

**St. Maron Dinner Baked Goods Sale:** A Baked Goods Sale will also be held featuring a variety of delicious homemade pastries and other baked goods (cakes, cookies, pies, candy, breads, Lebanese specialties, etc.) made by our parishioners. After you have enjoyed a wonderful meal, please plan to stop by our table at the Baked Goods Sale and purchase some fabulous treats to take home!

**Donations for the St. Maron Baked Goods Sale:** We are asking all our generous parishioners to help make this a successful dinner by preparing and donating one (or even two) of your favorite homemade pastries for our St. Maron Lebanese Dinner Baked Goods Sale (especially if you are talented with making Lebanese items). With your help, we will have another great bake sale this year! Thank you in advance for your generosity, effort and time! Please plan to drop-off your donation between 3:30 and 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 21<sup>ST</sup>, or between 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. If you would like to schedule an alternative drop-off time, please call the church at 233-1688.

**St. Maron Dinner Food Preparation:** Please plan to share your time and talent in service to our church the week beginning Monday, March 16 (*specific days and times will be listed in a future bulletin*). Please volunteer to work by calling Carol at (740) 782-0146 or Linda at (304) 242-6853 or the Church Office at 233-1688. We welcome everyone who is available to help and thank you in advance for your time.

## **Gift Basket Raffle Drawing** (*Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, at the St. Maron Dinner*)

A “Homemakers Gift Basket” of kitchen items is the theme of our next Gift Basket Raffle (printed on white paper). The drawing will be at the St. Maron Lebanese Dinner on Sunday, March 22.

The Gift Basket includes: *a salt mill, a pepper mill, an 8 oz. pkg. of chocolate raspberry decaf coffee, a sample-size pkg. of cinnamon hazelnut coffee, a bottle of Riunite Lambrusco, a filled decorative bottle, a Wilton metal bread dish, a chicken roasting stand, an apron, chopping mats, a Tupperware pitcher & tumbler set, 3 kitchen utensils, a dish washing brush, 4 place mats, 2 dish cloths, 2 potholders, 2 dish towels, 2 sets of plastic food storage containers, a package of green produce bags, a kitchen timer, a bread knife, a manual can opener, a vegetable peeler, 3 food storage bag clips, a magnetic to do list tablet, recipe cards, a bottle of Soft Soap, a bar of Swiss milk chocolate.*

The Gift Baskets Raffle is sponsored by the Women’s Society and tickets are available now at the church entrance, in our weekly Bulletin, at our upcoming St. Maron Dinner or call Kay at 232-0492. Tickets cost \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 or you can **triple your chances of winning by sending in 18 ticket stubs at one time for only \$10.00** (3 sheets of tickets).

Buy or sell the tickets, and return the completed stubs as soon as possible in the weekly collection (with Gift Basket Raffle noted on the front of the envelope) or write the notation on the “Memo” line of your check when you mail it to: Our Lady of Lebanon Church, 2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003.

For more information, contact the church office at (304) 233-1688. Your generosity and cooperation enhances our Church. Congratulations to the December “Christmas” Gift Basket winner: Mary Custer who supports both our raffles weekly.

## **Bingo Night** (*Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.*)

The Cedar Club is sponsoring a BINGO Night on Sunday, March 29, from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. The event will be held in our Old Basement Hall and will also include a “Cookie Jar” prize.

## **Women's Society March Meeting** (Sunday, March 29, after 10:30 a.m. Mass)

Plan to join the Women's Society at our March Meeting to discuss plans for our upcoming Easter, Bake Sale and our other upcoming events. Everyone is welcome to join us.

## **Monthly 50/50 Raffle** (Drawings: Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 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 will now be designated to the benefit the Church Maintenance Fund.

The drawing from entries received **from the March tickets** (printed on **canary** paper) are provided at the church entrance and in the weekly church bulletin will take place in the Cedar Hall after Mass on **Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>**.

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 the February 50/50 winner of \$53: Sandra Dusick.

## **Easter Lilies** (Deadline: Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>)

Dear Parishioners and friends of the Blessed Mother,

Every Easter the church looks beautiful decorated with the flowers donated from your hearts to the Blessed Mother in Memory of your beloved family members. Please be generous as usual and sponsor a \$20.00 Easter Flower by Sunday, April 5. The following Easter Flowers are donated in Memory of:

\$25 Gladys Howard & Louise N. & Louis H. Khourey Sr., by Lou, Charlotte Khourey & Family

\$20 John F. Kukula by his wife Mary Rose Kukula & Family

## **2009 Diocesan Appeal – Easter Obligation** (Due by Easter Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>)

Many Thanks for all the following faithful parishioners and good Christians who contributed \$50.00 each (unless otherwise marked) toward their Easter Obligation for the 2009 Diocesan Appeal. May your Easter bring more blessings to you and to your family members.

Lou & Charlotte Khourey (\$100), Lou & Marge John (\$50), Peggy Palmer (\$50), Patricia Smith (\$25), Dr. Adel & Diane Frenn (\$50), Mark & Barb McLaughlin (\$50), Tom Ferris (\$50), Dolores & Virginia Joseph (\$50), Peggy Justice (\$50), Barb Sobota (\$50), Bill & Tricia Committee (\$50), Tom & Michelle John (\$50), Larry Breiding (\$50), Gary Weisner (\$50), Anna Jalad (\$50), Earl & Linda Duffy (\$50), Randy Weisner (\$50), Paul & Irene Schuler (\$50), Drs. Rajai & Nahla Khoury (\$50), Larry & Lillian Siebieda (\$250), Louis & Joan Betras (\$50), Pearl Shutler (\$50),

## **Spring Lebanese Bake Sale** (Order By: Sunday, April 12; Pick Up Orders: April 22-23)

<b>Order Deadline</b>	Sunday, April 12
Spinach Preparation	Sunday, April 19, 11:30 a.m.
Baking to Fill Orders	Monday to Thursday, April 20-23, 9:00 a.m.
<b>Order Pick Up Dates</b>	Wednesday & Thursday, April 22 & 23

Spring Lebanese Bake Sale Order Forms will be available soon. The Women's Society of our Church has scheduled its Spring Lebanese Bake Sale of Spinach Pies, Meat Pies, Sweet (*Sesame*) Bread, and Zattar Bread. Completed order forms should be returned by mail or place it in the collection basket.

All those who helped in the past are asked to help us again on the baking days listed above. Please come and join in the camaraderie! **Note:** Please save large clean paper grocery bags for use in packing our orders.

## **Whg. Airport Concession Stand Work** (Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.)

The Cedar Club will work the Concession Stand at the Wheeling Ohio County Airport during a Swap Meet and Craft Sale being held on Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. ("rain date" is Sunday, April 26). For this to be successful, all food along with cases of cans of pop and cases of water (16 oz. size) will need to be

donated in order to make a profit. (If you are unable to shop for the pop and water, 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 pop, water and baked items can be brought to the Church Hall on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Remember this is for the parish and all funds raised will be designated for the Church Building Maintenance Fund. If you have any questions or need other information, call Linda Duffy at 242-6853 or Luane Frazier at 242-7437.

## ***Rummage Sale*** (Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.) – ***Held in the Old Basement Hall***

Start saving your household items that are in good condition and can be sold at our upcoming Parish Rummage Sale which will be **held in our Old Basement Hall**. There is always a profit on sales. Drop off times will be listed at a future date.

## ***Spaghetti Dinner – NEW DATE*** (Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 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, June 7. Chairperson Tom George and our parishioners invite you and your friends to come and enjoy our food and hospitality. Help our Church make this our best Spaghetti Dinner yet! Invite your friends, co-workers and neighbors to attend. Every dollar of profit earned will be used for our Church Building Maintenance Fund.

New this year: Students from the Lyceum School will be strolling through the hall during the Spaghetti Dinner to provide entertainment throughout the day.

### 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 31.
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. Please save large, clean paper grocery or shopping bags and bring them to the Church any weekend so that we may use them to pack bake sale and "to go" orders.
5. If you can volunteer to work for the Spaghetti Dinner or have questions, please call the Church office at 233-1688.

Menu: Spaghetti and Meatballs or Marinara Sauce, Salad, Roll, Dessert & choice of Coffee, Ice Tea or Lemonade. (Beer & pop are available a la carte.)

Tickets: \$7.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children under 12; will be available soon from the Church office at – 233-1688 or at the door. **Payment in advance is greatly appreciated.**

## *Happy Birthday*

March 1:	Linda Voellinger, Dottie Kupchak
March 4:	Jeff Sengewalt
March 5:	Philip Carl
March 6:	ShIPLEY ShIPLEY, Karen ShIPLEY, Kristen McLaughlin
March 15:	Shelby Imer
March 18:	Kenny Imer, Bill Stees, Patrick Petros, John Shiben
March 21:	Caroline Stees McDowell
March 22:	Jennifer Imer



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

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

Catherine Arthur

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

Barb Sobota, Rosella Saseen, Sam Elias, Laura & Marion Wellman, Eva Lee Powell, Jim & Judy Miller, Mary Piko, Theresa Sofka, Bernard Olako, Virginia Kourey Bryan (aunt of Lou Kourey in Toledo, OH), Richard & Mary Ryncarz (Shadyside, OH), Manell Brice (Arlington, VA), Rose Mary Bris-Roybal (Albuquerque, NM), John Vawter and his mother (brother and mother of Dr. Rob Vawter)

### *Your Church Support Last Week*

\$821	Collection
825	Diocesan Appeal
38	Candles
280	Utilities
40	Parking
280	Donation to Church
100	Endowment Fund
2,171	Soup & Hoagies
353	Painting Fund
\$4,908	Total. May God reward you many fold

### *What's New?*

#### *Condolences for Kim Gibbon's Aunt*

The pastor and the parishioners of Our Lady of Lebanon Church, Wheeling, offer their heartfelt sympathy to our parishioner Kim Gibbons on the loss of her aunt Margaret on her mother's side. Fr. Bakhos celebrated the Funeral Service at Our Lady of Lebanon Church on Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 a.m.

May the Almighty God grant repose of the soul to His handmaid **Margaret** and we extend the parish's condolences to *her* family in their time of sorrow.

#### *Congratulations on Your Baptism*

**Aaron & Cassie Olinski** granted to their boy Caleb Ryan the honor to be the adopted son of God through the sacrament of Baptism, last Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, at Our Lady of Lebanon Church. Caleb is the grandson of our beloved parishioner Ted Olinski. May **Saint Joseph**, the patron saint of **Caleb**, protect him and grant him along with his parents, godparents, and grandparents, good health and bright future.

#### *Congratulations Twice to ...*

... (1) Emmalena Kourey for being chosen by the Wheeling Area Chamber of Commerce and the Community Foundation of the Upper Ohio Valley as one of only 65 local high school students to participate in the 2009 Youth Leadership Wheeling Program. The program is designed to motivate promising youth to inspire to leadership positions in the community, to help them understand various community aspects (environment, structure, resources, heritage, future challenges), stimulate civic pride and to enhance self-esteem through mentorship programs. The program's first meeting was held at Oglebay Park recently.

(2) Emmalena was also inducted into The Linsly School's National Honor Society last Thursday on the basis of her superior cumulative academic record, her leadership, service, activities, character, and teacher recommendations. We are proud of you Emmalena, you are the fruit of the blessed Kourey tree.

## ***Soup & Hoagie Sale Is Another Huge Success – Thanks to...***

- ...Don Henning for coordinating our Hoagie sales and donating the cost of the Hoagie buns
- ...Riesbeck's Market – St. Clairsville, for donating a \$25 gift card toward our expenses.
- ...Mike Payne for donating the mayonnaise, ketchup & mustard condiments
- ...Carney and Sloan for the use of the Berkel Slicer
- ...All of our Soup Cooks: Marsha Dellget, Nick Ghaphery, Carol Dougherty, Linda Duffy, Sandra Dusick, Diane Frenn, Roberta Henning, Anna Jalad, Mary Lish, Nancy Joseph, Fran Saseen, Nettie Seidler, Rita Strawn, Julia Tappe, Mary Thomas, Jean Weisner, and Fr. Bakhos Chidiac.
- ... All of our Bakers Donors: Nesrin AlKhouri, Sue Brubach, Carol Dougherty, Suzie Fadoul, Kay Garvey, Roberta Henning, Anna Jalad, Nancy Joseph, Mary Lish, Sylvia Long, Frances Saseen, Nettie Seidler, and Rita Strawn
- ...George Thomas for lending Anna a helping hand with her soup
- ...Charlotte Khourey, Janet Shutler and Fr. Bakhos for coordinating our forms, notes, publicity, and advance orders
- ...Nettie Seidler for managing our dessert sales
- ...Diane Frenn, Kay Garvey, Kim Gibbons, Nancy Joseph for helping to coordinate and pack our orders
- ...To those parishioners and customers who made cash donations to our sale
- ...and to all the customers who placed orders and waited patiently while we filled their orders
- ... Everyone who helped in any way was an essential part of our success.

**Profit of the Soup & Hoagie Sale** (*This profit is almost twice as much as last year's profit*)

\$2,968.00	Total Income ( <i>to Date</i> )
- \$ 611.51	Total Expenses
<b>\$2,356.49</b>	<b>Profit (<i>to Date</i>)</b>

## ***In Our Mailbox***

*We have received many compliments and words of praise for this event including the following: The hoagies were out of this world and the Wedding and Lentil Soup was also good ... (Anonymous) The soups I ordered and the Italian Hoagie were the best. All the Baked Goods were wonderful. I enjoyed a taste of everything. (Teresa C.) Everything was very good and I look forward to the sale every year. (Anonymous) The Stuffed Pepper and Wedding Soups were excellent and the Italian Hoagie was also very good. Be sure to contact me for the next sale. (M. Klug) My mom really enjoyed the Wedding Soup (Anonymous)*

Moreover, two people did raise some concerns about the excess of salt, pepper, ... in some soups and they could not enjoy them because health reasons. We need to take their concerns into consideration for the next Soup & Hoagie Sale.

## ***Poor Box***

Please consider sharing your blessings with the brothers and sisters of Christ who knock at our door daily. Many people in the area need assistance in many ways. 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. Fr. Bakhos is using his judgment to help the poor on your behalf and asks each of them to pray for you.

## ***Around Us***

***St. Alphonsus Church Fish Fry*** (*Fridays during Lent, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.*)

Phone: 232-4353; Fax: 232-1993 ( Fax orders for Friday will be accepted only on Thursday.)

*Eat-in or take-out service is available, as well as delivery. (Delivery orders must be received from 8-10 a.m.)*

***Spaghetti Dinner*** (*Sunday, March 29 from noon to 5:00 p.m.*)

Where: Catholic Neighborhood Center, 18<sup>th</sup> street, Wheeling

Cost: Adult: \$6.00 – Child \$3.00 Information: 232-7157

## *Maronites = Catholics of the East*

### *The Identity of the Maronite Church (2)*

#### **The experience of the Maronite Church in the United States.**

Lebanon brings with it, through the long time immigrants of the United States almost fifteen-hundred years of a spiritual, social, cultural wealth and treasure in which our local church is identified with. These aspects made our local Maronite Church always positively envied by other local communities who always felt the need and the excitement when meeting with local Maronite Churches. Even though at least fifty percent of our people do not have Lebanese citizenship and have never seen Lebanon, especially our younger generations, still all our people regard Lebanon as “our Vatican,” our holy land, and the land of our ancestors and true faith. Therefore, the attachment of our local church to Lebanon is more uniquely identified beyond the regular patriotic feeling of citizenship.

It is indeed the living message that echoes a vital nostalgia to the land of Christ and the Apostles. It is the mark of our Apostolic Zeal, which our people experience and promote through practicing holy and evangelical virtues, which we express through the consistent celebration of our heritage. Dabke, food, love and care for family,

hospitality and warm welcoming, obedience to our Church’s leaders became the identity not only of Maronites of Lebanese decent, but also for Irish, German, French, Italian, Chinese, African and many other American Maronites.

Consequently, our local Maronite Church in the United States became wide open to others from different backgrounds, denominations, and ethnicity, without straying from its Apostolic and Lebanese Character. This is due to the inspired obedience of its founder Arch-Bishop Zayek. He heard the call of Blessed Pope John 23rd ordering him to go to America, specifically Brazil that at the time had the largest Maronite community, as a shepherd of his Maronite flock. He said, “Go and tell your people, they are a treasure and this treasure is to be shared with the Universal Church.”

According to this aspect, everyone seemed to be comfortably accepted as a part of the Maronite Church. It was due to those interested people who joined our Maronite Church, that our Church became aware of its Universal and Apostolic duty of Evangelization, through its particular Antiochene Tradition and sacred music. The Maronite Church in the United States flourished not only as a Church of Apostolic Zeal due to the mission statement given to her by Pope John 23<sup>rd</sup> but also as “a fine flower” as George T. Labaki expressed when comparing the richness and the accuracy of our Diocesan organization outside the Middle East.

Due to the factor of Apostolic Zeal, our local Maronite Church holds not only Maronites from Lebanon, but also other congregations and churchgoers from the Middle East, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia and America. They find in our church a safe harbor where they fit perfectly without losing their own culture. However, they become a part of the celebration of our Maronite heritage that gives them an authentic sense of being with Jesus Christ.

At the end, the Maronite church of the United States offers to our Maronite identity the Universal Character. That factor of universality and the diocesan organization of an Apostolic and Catholic Church that fits every culture and is at home in every land waiting the Lord’s Second Coming.

### *Reflection: A Friend*

When we honestly ask ourselves which person in our lives means the most to us, we often find that it is those who, instead of giving much advise, solutions, or cures, have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds with a gentle and tender hand. The friend who can be silent with us in a moment of despair or confusion, who can stay with us in an hour of grief and bereavement, who can tolerate not knowing, not curing, not healing and face with us the reality of our powerlessness, that is a friend who cares. -- Henri Nouwen

## ***Story: Isaiah 65:24***

*This beautiful story was written by a doctor who worked in Africa.*

One night I had worked hard to help a mother in the labor ward; but in spite of all we could do, she died, leaving us with a tiny, premature baby and a crying two-year-old daughter.

We would have difficulty keeping the baby alive as we had no incubator (we had no electricity to run an incubator). We also had no special feeding facilities. Although we lived on the equator, nights were often chilly with treacherous drafts.

One student midwife went for the box we had for such babies and the cotton wool that the baby would be wrapped in. Another went to stoke up the fire and fill a hot water bottle. She came back shortly in distress to tell me that in filling the bottle, it had burst (rubber perishes easily in tropical climates).

"And it is our last hot water bottle!" she exclaimed. As in the West, it is no good crying over spilled milk, so in Central Africa it might be considered no good crying over burst water bottles. They do not grow on trees, and there are no drugstores down forest pathways.

"All right," I said, "put the baby as near the fire as you safely can, and sleep between the baby and the door to keep it free from drafts. Your job is to keep the baby warm."

The following noon, as I did most days, I went to have prayers with any of the orphanage children who chose to gather with me. I gave the youngsters various suggestions of things to pray about and told them about the tiny baby. I explained our problem about keeping the baby warm enough, mentioning the hot water bottle, and that the baby could so easily die if it got chills. I also told them of the two-year-old sister, crying because her mother had died.

During prayer time, one ten-year-old girl, Ruth, prayed with the usual blunt conciseness of our African children. "Please, God" she prayed, "Send us a hot water bottle today. It'll be no good tomorrow, God, as the baby will be dead, so please send it this afternoon."

While I gasped inwardly at the audacity of the prayer, she added, "And while You are about it, would You please send a dolly for the little girl so she'll know You really love her?"

As often with children's prayers, I was put on the spot. Could I honestly say "Amen"? I just did not believe that God could do this. Oh, yes, I know that He can do everything; the Bible says so. But there are limits, aren't there? The only way God could answer this particular prayer would be by sending me a parcel from the homeland. I had been in Africa for almost four years at that time, and I had never, ever received a parcel from home.

Anyway, if anyone did send me a parcel, who would put in a hot water bottle? I lived on the equator! Halfway through the afternoon, while I was teaching in the nurses' training school, a message was sent that there was a car at my front door. By the time I reached home, the car had gone, but there on the verandah was a large 22-pound parcel. I felt tears pricking my eyes. I could not open the parcel alone, so I sent for the orphanage children. Together we pulled off the string, carefully undoing each knot. We folded the paper, taking care not to tear it unduly. Excitement was mounting. Some thirty or forty pairs of eyes were focused on the large cardboard box. From the top, I lifted out brightly-colored, knitted jerseys. Eyes sparkled as I gave them out. Then there were the knitted bandages for the leprosy patients, and the children looked a little bored. Then came a box of mixed raisins and sultanas – that would make a batch of buns for the weekend. Then, as I put my hand in again, I felt the.....could it really be? I grasped it and pulled it out. Yes, a brand new, rubber hot water bottle. I cried. I had not asked God to send it; I had not truly believed that He could. Ruth was in the front row of the children. She rushed forward, crying out, "If God has sent the bottle, He must have sent the dolly, too!" Rummaging down to the bottom of the box, she pulled out the small, beautifully-dressed dolly. Her eyes shone! She had never doubted!

Looking up at me, she asked: "Can I go over with you and give this dolly to that little girl, so she'll know that Jesus really loves her?" Of course, I replied! That parcel had been on the way for five whole months, packed up by my former Sunday school class, whose leader had heard and obeyed God's prompting to send a hot water bottle, even to the equator. And one of the girls had put in a dolly for an African child – five months before, in answer to the believing prayer of a ten-year-old to bring it "that afternoon." "Before they call, I will answer." (Isaiah 65:24)

## *Joke (531)*

### *ATM Winnings*

A young girl went with her mother to get some money from an automated teller machine. The mother helped her daughter push the correct account numbers and personal identification numbers. When she finished entering the numbers, the money came out of the tray.

This was the first time the young girl had seen this, and she was quite excited. She screamed, "Look, Mommy! We hit the jackpot!"

### *Men and Computers*

Men are like computers: hard to figure out and they never have enough memory.

### *Simply Irresistible*

A guy was walking along the beach when he came across a lamp. He picked it up, rubbed it, and, of course, a genie popped out. The genie told his new master he would grant the man three wishes.

"First," the guy began, "I'd like a million dollars." *Poof!* A million dollars was suddenly showing on his checkbook balance.

"Second," he continued, "I'd like a new Mercedes." *Poof!* A Mercedes appeared right in front of him.

"Third," the guy smirked, "I'd like to be irresistible to women." *Poof!* He turned into a box of chocolates.

### *Of Cats and Men*

I've never understood why women love cats. Cats are independent; they don't listen; and they don't come in when you call them. They like to stay out all night, and when they do come home, they expect to be fed; then want to be left alone to sleep. In other words, every quality that women dislike in a man, they love in a cat.

### *Better Verbal Skills*

A study in *The Washington Post* says that women have better verbal skills than men. I just want to say to the authors of that study: Duh! --Conan O'Brien

### *Quick Wit*

A tourist traveling down a country road in the Deep South passed a young boy walking down the road wearing only one shoe.

The tourist stopped the car and asked the boy, "You lose a shoe?"

"Nope," the boy replied, "just found one."

### *Gift Wrap It?*

After spending over three hours enduring the long lines, surly clerks, and insane regulations at the Department of Motor Vehicles, I stopped at a toy store to pick up a gift for my son. I brought my selection – a baseball bat – to the cash register.

"Cash or charge?" the clerk asked.

"Cash," I snapped. Then apologizing for my rudeness, I explained, "I've spent the afternoon at the Motor Vehicle Bureau."

"Shall I gift wrap the bat?" the clerk asked sweetly. "Or are you going back there?"

### *Looking for a Gun*

A woman went to a gun shop and told the clerk, "I'm looking for a gun for my husband."

The clerk asked the woman, "Did your husband tell you what kind of gun he wants?"

"Oh no," the woman answered, "He doesn't even know that I'm going to shoot him."

### *Give Them Our Aunt*

A mother appealed to her children to care for orphan children. "These poor children don't have a mother, a father, or even aunts and uncles. Would you children like to give anything to them?"

The children discussed this and then announced their decision: "Let's give them Aunt Martha!"