

# 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

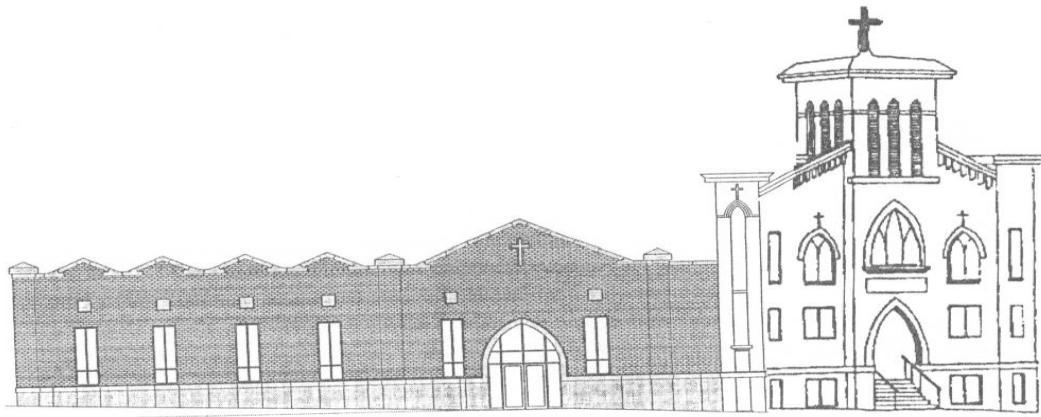
E-Mail: [ololwv@Comcast.net](mailto:ololwv@Comcast.net) • Web Site: [www.ololwv.com](http://www.ololwv.com)

**Rev. Bakhos Chidiac (Pastor)**

Evelyn Ghaphery (Organist)

Charlotte Khourey & Thomasina Geimer (Secretaries)

## [Season of Pentecost] 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Pentecost



### 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 pm & 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
- \*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 for parishioners; Monday through Friday—park ONLY in the 3 ALLEY spaces

## ***Gospel Reflection: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Pentecost***

*Readings: 1Cor 2:1-10 & Jn 14:21-27*

As we move toward our future with God, we struggle to be faithful to what was handed on to us from the past. We cannot do this on our own. We need the vision of those who stood closest to Jesus. We need the Spirit to guide and direct our decisions and judgments. We need the entire people of God: both priests and lay people to work to bring about God's reign. With Christ in our midst, we have a light to guide us on our way.

Jesus promised to dwell forever with those who live in love and fidelity to his word, but he did not leave a blueprint as to how this would be done. Though he is removed from our sight, we must not be distressed. We are at peace, for we have another "Advocate, the Holy Spirit" (Jn 14:26a), whom God has sent in Christ's name. The Spirit will teach us everything and remind us of all that Christ has said. When we struggle to comprehend the lessons of the past, we can say with the apostles, "It has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us" (Acts 15:28a). Led by the Spirit, we will continue to celebrate the living Christ among us.

### ***Mass Intentions***

#### **THIS WEEKEND, May 24-25: "3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Pentecost"**

##### **Saturday, May 24, at 4:00 p.m.:**

Special Intention

Ray McLaughlin & his brother Gary by Patti & Kevin Duffin

##### **Sunday, May 25, at 10:30 a.m.:**

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

Clara "Rohanna" Sinila by her sister Mary Lish & Family

#### **Weekday Masses**

##### **Monday, May 26: No Mass**

##### **Tuesday, May 27: No Mass**

##### **Wednesday, May 28, at Noon:**

Louis Elias by Breeci Peckens & Family

Sadie Chidiac by Sr. Mary Thomasina John (Columbus, OH)

##### **Thursday, May 29, at Noon:**

Louis Elias by the Helms Family

Sadie Chidiac by Barbara Hecimovich (St. Paul, MN)

##### **Friday, May 30, at Noon:**

Louis Elias by M/M Fidelis Shutler

Sadie Chidiac by Roxanne & John Wurtzbacher

#### **NEXT WEEKEND, May 31 - June 1: "4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost"**

##### **Saturday, May 31:**

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

4:00 p.m.: Mass

Fred Oser (on his Anniversary) by his daughter Deborah Oser Huffman

Sadie Chidiac by Bob & Dolores Oser

##### **Sunday, June 1:**

10:30 a.m.: Mass

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

Gladys Howard (Anniversary & Birthday) by Charlotte, Lou, Emmalena & Louie Khourey

11:30 a.m. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

## ***Donations Toward the Building Project***

**Donations to the Building Project during April 2008: \$11,345.00**

### **Building Project Items to Be Sponsored:**

Every little bit helps! We ask all parishioners and friends of our parish to make a generous sacrifice and now commit to sponsor some of the items listed below. The names of those who sponsor the tables, chairs and bricks will be written in the Golden Cedar Book displayed next to the Cedar Tree of Life. If you or your family members are able to sponsor an item, please contact any member of the parish council or the pastor.

<i><b>Items to Be Sponsored</b></i>	<i><b>Value</b></i>
1 Table for new Cedar Hall (need 25 tables)	\$300.00
4 Chairs for new Cedar Hall (need 200 chairs)	\$300.00
100 bricks in the new façade (need 20,000 bricks)	\$300.00
50 bricks in the new façade (need 20,000 bricks)	\$150.00
25 bricks in the new façade (need 20,000 bricks)	\$100.00
10 bricks in the new façade (need 20,000 bricks)	\$50.00

### **Generous Donors of This Month:**

<b>Donations Received</b>	<b>Gem Level Requested</b>	<b>Donor's Name &amp; Date</b>
\$25	Donor	Jody Seabright (Memorial for the Chidiac Family) (5.1.2008)
\$200	Donor	Paula Shia Hundley (TX) (Memorial for the Chidiac Family) (5.1.2008)
\$10	Donor	Florence Monsour (MN) (Memorial for the Chidiac Family) (5.2.2008)
\$25	Donor	Patti DiBartolomeo (Memorial for the Chidiac Family) (5.2.2008)
\$200	Donor	Anonymous (Memorial for the Chidiac Family) (5.2.2008)
\$200	Donor	Kenny & Nancy Joseph (Memorial for the Chidiac Family) (5.2.2008)
\$50	Donor	Joe & Patty Pagendarm (Memorial for the Chidiac Family) (5.6.2008)
\$25	Donor	Mike & Barb Sobota (Memorial for the Chidiac Family) (5.6.2008)
\$5,000	Ruby	“The Celebrate Foundation” established by Bob & Joan McGrath of San Francisco. This gift was made possible through the friendship with the above generous benefactors by our beloved parishioner A.D. Ghaphery, M.D. (5.6.2008)
\$200	Donor	Ray & Sonia Garnem (AL) (Memorial for the Chidiac Family) (5.8.2008)
\$50	Donor	Bassam & Jodi Deeb (NY) (Memorial for the Chidiac Family) (5.9.2008)
\$100	Donor	Sam & Della Nazzaro (Memorial for the Chidiac Family) (5.9.2008)
\$500	Topaz	In Memory of Alma Elias by Barbara Joseph (FL) (5.9.2008)
\$100	Donor	Art Bedway Jr. & his Mom Jennie (PA) (Memorial for Chidiac Family) (5.10.2008)
\$100	Donor	Mary & Frank Lish (Memorial for the Chidiac Family) (5.11.2008)
\$50	Donor	Rita George (Memorial for the Chidiac Family) (5.13.2008)
\$50	Sponsor	Seth George & Jackie Klein sponsor <b>10 Bricks</b> in Memory of their grandfather Mike George (5.13.2008)
\$50	Sponsor	Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Maroon (PA) sponsor <b>10 Bricks</b> in Memory of Mariana Khoury & Eva Coury (5.13.2008)
\$50,125	Foundation	Last will gift of Fr. Eugene Jacobs to our Lady of Lebanon (5.15.2008)
\$100	Donor	Kay Garvey (Memorial for the Chidiac Family) (5.15.2008)
\$100	Donor	Latif Thomas (PA) (Memorial for the Chidiac Family) (5.15.2008)

<b>Donations Received</b>	<b>Gem Level Requested</b>	<b>Donor's Name &amp; Date</b>
\$100	Donor	William Hogan (Memorial for the Chidiac Family) (5.17.2008)
\$200	Donor	Larry & Lillian Siebieda (Memorial for the Chidiac Family) (5.18.2008)
\$25	Donor	Esther Khoury (Memorial for the Chidiac Family) (5.18.2008)
\$25	Donor	Nini Miller (Memorial for the Chidiac Family) (5.18.2008)
\$333		Women Society Fundraising (Basket Raffle) (5.18.2008)

May all generous parishioners, friends and benefactors be rewarded in good health and heavenly bliss. Note: When my family mailed letters to let parishioners and friends know that Fr. Bakhos' mother had died in Lebanon, we had no idea how well this correspondence would be received. Many people have asked, "Is there is a deadline to make a contribution to the 'Chidiac Memorial'?" Donations to the Building Project may be made as soon as you are financially able.

Fr. Bakhos and our family have been very proud of the quick response by so many of you in making a contribution for the "Chidiac Memorial." We feel confident that through the generosity of all of you we will be able to reach our goal raising enough to sponsor the \$10,700 dishwasher in the kitchen of our new church hall. If you wish to receive more information about the "Chidiac Memorial" please call us at home: 304-277-3230. If we're not home, leave a message and we will be happy to call you back. --Lou & Charlotte Khourey

### *Upcoming Calendar of Events*

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Event:</b>
Sunday, May 25	Women's Society 50/50 Building Fund Raffle Drawing – <i>after 10:30 a.m. Mass</i>
Saturday, May 31 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament</b> – <i>at 3:30 p.m.</i>
Sunday, June 1	<b>Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament</b> – <i>after 10:30 a.m. Mass</i>
Mon. & Tue., June 2 & 3	Rummage Sale Drop-off – <i>from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.</i>
Wed. to Fri., June 4, 5, 6	Rummage Sale Drop-off – <i>from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.</i>
Saturday, June 7	<b>Parish Rummage Sale</b> – <i>from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.</i>
Monday, June 9	Cedar Club Meeting – <i>7:00 p.m.</i>
Sat.-Fri., June 14 thru 20	<b>Father's Day – Week of Masses</b>
Friday, June 20	Picnic in the Parking Lot – <i>6:30-9:00 p.m.</i>
Sunday, June 29	Women's Society 50/50 Building Fund Raffle Drawing – <i>after 10:30 a.m. Mass</i>
Sunday, August 10	<b>2008 Mahrajan at Oglebay Park</b>

### *Flowers for Blessed Mother in May*

The flowers for the Blessed Mother on the side altar at the left are donated during the Sundays of May by:

Sunday, May 25	Rosella, Marge & Frances Saseen
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### *Monthly 50/50 Building Fund Raffle* (Drawings: *Sundays, May 25<sup>th</sup> & June 29<sup>th</sup>*)

The Women's Society continues to sponsor the Monthly 50/50 Building Fund Raffle. The drawing – from entries received from the **May "salmon" tickets provided at the entrance of the church**, and in the weekly church bulletin– will take place in the Social Hall following Mass on **Sunday, May 25**. The drawing – from entries received from the **June "cherry" tickets provided at the entrance of the church**, and in the weekly church bulletin–will take place in the Social Hall following Mass on **Sunday, June 29**.

Proceeds will benefit the Building Fund. Raffle Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. 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.*

For more information or additional tickets, contact the church office at (304) 233-1688. Your generosity and cooperation enhances our Church. Congratulations and many thanks to Mary Custer of West Liberty who won \$102 from the April 50/50 Raffle. She graciously donated her prize back to our church.

## ***Memorial Day: A Poem for Memorial Day***

Lord, let me not in service lag, Let me be worthy of our flag.  
Let me remember, when I'm tried, The sons heroic who have died.  
In freedom's name, and in my way, Teach me to be as brave as they.  
In all I am, in all I do, Unto our flag I would be true;  
For God and country let me stand. Unstained of soul and clean of hand.  
Teach me to serve and guard and love, The Starry Flag which flies above.  
Endear A. Guest

### ***Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament***

*Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, at 3:30 p.m.*

*Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, after 10:30 a.m. Mass*

Pope John Paul II said, "The Church lives by the Eucharist and knows that this truth is not expressed only in a daily experience of faith, but contains in a synthetic fashion the kernel of the mystery which she is herself. (...) The Church cannot realize her own vocation without cultivating a steadfast relationship with the Eucharist." *(Please plan to set aside a few minutes to enjoy this blessed time.)*

### ***Parish Rummage Sale*** *(Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.)*

"Help Needed." Some strong hands to help move boxes from the garage to the hall on Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, after Mass. Please see or call Linda at 242-6853. Set up for the Rummage Sale will be the same day.

"Rummage Sale Drop-Offs – to church Hall" on Monday and Tuesday, June 2 and 3, from 6 to 9 p.m. and Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, June 4, 5, and 6 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The sale is set for Saturday, June 7, from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Cedar Club. Lunch, baked goods and soft drinks will be available. For information call Linda at 242-6853 or Luane at 242-7437.

### ***Cedar Club Meeting*** *(Monday, June 9, at 7:00 p.m.)*

Last meeting until fall. Please come and enjoy the party.

### ***Father's Day Masses*** *(Saturday, June 14, to Friday, June 20)*

#### ***Would You Want Your Son to Be Just Like You?***

The title startled me as it came across the car radio: "Runaway fathers, throwaway kids." I believe it was the commercial for a CBS radio program, and it had a special impact on me because I was at that very moment thinking of Father's Day. I don't know the "Promise Keepers" movement except by way of media reports, but if its goal is to help men be better husbands and fathers, I'm grateful. The Lord knows how tough is it to be a good husband and father in our culture. I'm not speaking of the physical "runaways" who "throw away" their kids. I'm speaking of those who stay right at home, but abandon their kids morally and spiritually. It's frighteningly easy to do. Indeed, it takes a concerted effort not to do it. It takes time, thought, prayer, and, above all, courage, not to.

How can fathers abandon their kids, even while physically present to them? Simply by going along with the culture. One could see signs of it some thirty years ago or more. It became difficult to distinguish between father and son in styles of haircuts and clothing, except that the father looked sillier. Kids began setting the pace and the pattern. As recently as ten years ago, when I preached about the harmful effects of a lot of hard rock music, by way of both sounds and lyrics, I was roundly excoriated by fathers who liked it as much as their sons and daughters; laughed at the "pot" smoking, if they did not, indeed, join in.

The devaluation of fatherhood has been a stock-in-trade of our modern culture, from comic strips depicting “cave men” as predictably stupid brutes, dragging their wives by the hair with one hand, wielding a massive club in the other, all the way to the ooh’s and ah’s over “hunks” bare-chested to prove the manly prowess of pectoral muscles! Periodically the nonsense becomes “theological”: “In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” becomes “In the name of the Creator, and of the Redeemer and of the Sanctifier,” if you please.

The conspiracy against fatherhood ranges from the most radical form of machoism, such as the idolatry accorded a male athlete who boasts of the number of women who have slept with him, to the most radical form of feminism that would leave Freud himself scratching his head in bewilderment. This is to say nothing, of course, of the men’s shirts and jeans and underwear ads, the movie and television idols interviewed on big-time talk shows trying to prove, not *evolution*, but *devolution*, that any man truly gifted by nature can become hairier than any ape. Are young boys, young men, immune from all this? Do they see their fathers almost literally “aping” such folly, or, at least, laughing along, failing to reflect the slightest revulsion?

Countless numbers of parents make indescribable sacrifices for their kids, working almost unbelievable numbers of hours to provide for them, particularly to assure a college education. How many, however, are bewildered by what their youngsters are taught or not taught in college, or which values prevail and which are ridiculed. Many parents awe me by what they do for their kids, but I am saddened by the way their best efforts can be undermined by the culture. Who *says* kids have to go to Florida on Easter breaks? Who *says* high schoolers have to have sophisticated graduation proms and all-night parties? Talk to high-school principals who try to curb some of these activities and they’ll tell you that some parents become their worst enemies. “Who do you think you are, telling my own son or daughter what to do?” Sadly, in too many cases honesty would compel them to add: “I, myself, never tell them what to do.” Oscar Wilde’s silly maxim is, indeed, taken more seriously in our culture than we might like to believe: “Fathers should be neither seen or heard. That is the only proper basis for married life.”

As I am neither husband nor father, it’s easy for me to talk, I know. And I know, too, that I might well do a miserable job as either. I ask no one to listen to me, however, but rather to the Lord: “Would any of you fathers give your son a snake when he asks for a fish... a scorpion when he asks for an egg?” (Lk 11:11-12). Or when he says to Job: “Stand up now like a man and answer the questions I ask you” (38:3). Aren’t an awful lot of kids looking to their fathers to give them not what they, the kids, think they want, but what their fathers believe is best for them? Don’t countless numbers of kids want their fathers to be real men, not machos, but men who stand up to the culture, instead of being overwhelmed by it? What did our Lord ask the people about John the Baptist: “What did you go out into the desert to see, a reed shaken by the wind, a man clothed in soft garments?... Yet I tell you no man born of woman is greater than John the Baptist.” Unless, perhaps, Jesus might have added, Joseph, my foster father, that “just man.”

I have often asked myself: “If you had a son, would you want him to be just like you? If not, why not?” Once again, it’s an easy question for me to ask, but if I had the responsibility, it would be a tough question to answer. One of my greatest privileges as a priest and as archbishop of New York, however, is to meet on a daily basis and to have come to know in a personal way countless numbers of fathers about whom I could answer without the slightest hesitation: “Would you want your son to be just like them?” The answer? “Thank God, I certainly would.” (by Archbishop of New York)

### *Masses for Our Fathers & Grandfathers*

We are offering a week Masses for Deceased and Living fathers and grandfathers. Please remember the souls of those who hold you on their shoulders when you were a child.

#### **Remembered Deceased Fathers and Grandfathers:**

*Deceased fathers & grandfathers of the Chidiac Family by Fr. Bakhos*

*Habib & Louis Khourey, Sr., & Nassif Nader by Lou & Charlotte, Emmalena & Louie*

*Frank Gray & Abraham George by Jim & Shirley George*

*John Dusick (father) and John Jacob (grandfather) by Sandra Dusick*

*Charles Przelenski and John Jalad, Sr., by Darlene Vasiliatis & John Jalad, Jr.*

*Joseph J. John by the John Family*

**Remembered Living Fathers and Grandfathers:**

*Living fathers & grandfathers of the Chidiac Family by Fr. Bakhos Lou Khourey by his children Emmalena & Louie & wife Charlotte*

***Picnic in the Parking Lot*** (Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-9:00 p.m.)

Mark your calendars now for this highlight of our spring activities. The Cedar Club will provide hot dogs, buns and soft drinks. Please bring a covered dish to share and a beverage of your choice. In case of rain the event will be in the church hall. Bring family and friends. Come and enjoy. For more information call Linda at 242-6853, Nini at or Danielle at

***75<sup>th</sup> Mahrajan Update: Sunday, August 10***

**Chairpersons of the 75<sup>th</sup> Mahrajan**

<b>Booth</b>	<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Activities - Adult -- Hi-Lo	“Mickey” Earl Duffy	304 242-6853
Activities - Adult -- Instant Bingo	Millet Fadoul	304 277-2161
Activities - Children -- Clown	By Contract	
Activities - Children -- Face Painting	By Contract	
Activities - Children – Games	????	???
Activities - Children – Inflatables	By Contract	
Activities - Children -- Pony Rides	By Contract	
Activities – Entertainment	Fr. Bakhos Chidiac	304 233-1688
Beverages – Beer	Barry Carter	304 242-2506
Beverages - Pop & Water	Mike & Sue Linton	304 242-6969
Food – Cashiers	Randy Weisner	304 242-6508
Food – Children	Peggy Justice & the Lish	304 571-0638
Food – Falafel	Don & Roberta Henning	304 277-3398
Food - Serving Lines	P.J. Lenz Al Depto	304 242-5606 304 547-0332
Food – Pastry & Coffee	Kathleen George Nini Miller	304 336-7142 304 243-0057
Food - Prepared at OLOL	Linda Duffy	304 242-6853
Food - Prepared in Pittsburgh	Carol Dougherty	740 782-0146
Food - Shish Kebab	Tom John	304 232-4931
General - Ad Book	Fr. Bakhos Chidiac	304 233-1688
General – Cultural	Bassam & Jodi Deeb	716 639-0510
General - Equipment Rental	Tom George	304 336-7142
General - Oglebay Park	Tom George	304 336-7142
General – Printing	Fr. Bakhos Chidiac	304 233-1688
General – Publicity	Lou Khourey Sheila Saab	304 277-3230 304 599-4144
General - Raffle Tickets	Kim Gibbons	304 233-4854
General – Souvenirs	Nikki Popovich	304 243-1199
General - Table Reservations	Tammy Porter & Fr. Bakhos Chidiac	304 233-1688
General - Tickets, Cash, Ticket Trailer / Table	Charlotte Khourey	304 277-3230

## **Ad Book in Progress**

Dear Parishioners,

We are looking forward to celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival (*Mahrajan*) this summer at Oglebay Park, Wheeling, on Sunday, August 10, 2008. We are appealing to you for your participation in our Mahrajan Souvenir Book. This Book is filled with information about businesses that support the community, warm messages, greetings, and memorials and tributes for loved ones from parishioners and friends such as you.

One thousand copies of this "Souvenir Book" will be printed and distributed on the site of the Festival at Oglebay Park and mailed throughout the United States upon request (to those who place ads but cannot attend). Proceeds of this Book reinforce our efforts to preserve the deep faith and rich heritage of our church established in Wheeling over 100 years ago. They also benefit our new Building Project—currently in progress—that will include a social hall and modern kitchen, an elevator, handicapped accessible restrooms and a ramp for easy access into the church.

Please sponsor or sell an ad in our Souvenir Book. Complete the form attached in our Bulletin and return it in the collection basket or mail to the church. Thank you for your dedication to the church. --Fr. Bakhos

## **Raffle Tickets**

Two sets of Raffle Tickets (1 set for the \$1,000 Grand Prize and 1 set for the Afghan Grand Prize) have been mailed to many of you as in previous years. Additional tickets are available from Chairperson Kim Gibbons and at the church office for those who wish to make a purchase to support the church. Be sure to return your ticket stubs and payment before Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, when an Early Bird \$100 winner will be drawn for each raffle. If you are able to sell tickets to your friends and family members to help the church raise funds for the Building Project, please call the church at 233-1688.

## **Table Reservations**

To guarantee a reservation at the Mahrajan for a banquet-style table under the tent or an open-air picnic table, mail your request to the church along with your payment of \$30 each or call the church at 233-1688 for more information.

## **Enjoy Delicious Mahrajan Food and Support Our Church**

The Mahrajan is our major fundraising event to support the church. The cost of sponsoring on the Mahrajan is over \$25,000, including major expenses for food, park and tent rental, and entertainment. Our goal is to continue the high quality of this event that you have experienced, to maintain our traditions, and to continue to create memories for future generations. We would like you to attend the Mahrajan in a spirit to enjoy every bit of it and to support our church through your fraternal generosity and bounty of heart.

We know that many of you have traditionally brought your own "picnic" meals to the Mahrajan. While we value the traditions of all the families who have made the Mahrajan what it is today, we would ask you to consider supporting our efforts by limiting what you bring onto the festival grounds, and by enjoying the food and drink served at our booths by our hard-working parishioners and volunteers. Your purchases will help to defray the increasing overhead of this wonderful event, and to insure its continuation. In addition to supporting the church, we want to avoid being held liable for food transported and consumed at the Mahrajan which may not have been stored properly.

Since our church is required to purchase a Special Events Beer License from the State of West Virginia, it is our responsibility to monitor the consumption of alcohol at the Mahrajan. We request (1) that you not bring any alcoholic beverages onto the Mahrajan grounds at the Oglebay Site One and (2) that you limit your consumption of alcoholic drinks to only those sold at the festival.

## *Happy Birthday to Those Born in May/June*

May 27: Emmalena Khourey, Brad McLaughlin  
 May 30: Josie Stees Fertig  
 May 31: Bill Dougherty  
 June 1: Billy Committee, Sebastian George  
 June 2: Debbie Sengewalt  
 June 5: Earl Duffy, Mary Stees, Kenly George  
 June 8: Patty Olinski  
 June 11: Allison Duffy  
 June 12: Marcia Laughlin  
 June 14: P.J. Lenz  
 June 15: Becky Joseph Ferrera  
 June 20: Nick Ghaphery, Jr.  
 June 22: Michael Carl  
 June 23: Laura Wellman, Mary Beth Weisner, Dave Laughlin  
 June 27: Fred Shia, Lindsay Lenz, Peggy Justice, Seth George  
 June 29: Phyllis Lewandowski

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

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

Earl Duffy, Mary Piko, Sam Elias, Paul Schuler

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

Helen Kloss (sister of Chester Kloss), Habib Alahmar (the father of Nesrin AlKhouri – overseas), Louis John, Mike Sobota, John John, Rosella Saseen, Betty Jo & Joseph Perry (parents of Danielle Lavoie), Morgan Harris, Bob Wiles, Shipley Shipley, Mary Thomas, Katherine Siebieda, Theresa Sofka, Martha Ruggiero and her son Philip, Jennie Bedway, Betty Joseph, Joe Linton, Bernard Olako, Sr., Debbie Laughlin (Columbus), Virginia Khourey Bryan (aunt of Lou Khourey), Mary Ryncarz (Shadyside), Alice (Thomas) Holmes, Manell Brice (Arlington), Rose Mary Bris-Roybal (Albuquerque), Clara Joseph-Malone (Josephine Joseph's daughter), John Vawter and his mother (brother and mother of Dr. Rob Vawter)

## *Your Church Support Last Week*

1,025	Collection
240	Parking
15	Utilities
38	Candles
50	Donation to Church
190	Refunds
433	Building Fund
400	Building Fund in Memory of the Parents of Fr. Bakhos Chidiac, Pastor
150	Mahrajan (Raffle for the \$1,000 prize)
110	Mahrajan (Raffle for the Afghan prize)
875	Mahrajan (Ad Book)
240	Mahrajan (Table Reservations)
3,766	Total. May God reward you many fold

## *What's New?*

***Many Heartfelt Thanks to...***

...To all the ladies and gentlemen from our parish who worked so hard with such generous, friendly hearts and made this Spaghetti Dinner the best one in the memory of most of our parishioners. Along with all who were listed in last week's bulletin, we thank our volunteer hostess Jody Seabright and give a special thanks to Patti DiBartolomeo who helped sell beverages and sell Basket Raffle Tickets (who was drafted as a volunteer after she enjoyed her meal) We have received many compliments on the delicious food as well as all the friendly people who helped make everyone feel so welcome and at home here. Job well done.

### ***Congratulations to Winners at the Spaghetti Dinner***

- To Megan Ritts of Bridgeport who won \$130 – the 50/50 prize
- To Mary Custer of West Liberty who won the Women's Society "Wine & Dine" Gift Basket
- To Bill Blazier, George Kutrovac, Bob Kupchak, Dorothy Bartlett & Larry Breiding who won Door Prizes

### ***Spaghetti Dinner Profit***

Income	\$3,282
Expenses	\$ 752
Profit	\$2,530

Total meals served: 425

Please Note: In addition to the Profit above, the Women's Society sold Basket Raffle tickets totaling \$213 at the Spaghetti Dinner which was added to prior sales of \$120 bringing the total raised to \$333, which they then donated to the Building Fund. Thanks to all the Ladies for your continued thoughtfulness and generosity.

### ***Congratulations to Graduates***

Please inform us about your family members who will graduate this year so that we publish their names in our bulletin and wish them good luck and a bright future with our prayers.

- Congratulations to Natalie M. Seabright who will be graduated from Brooke High School on May 29, 2008. Natalie has been accepted at West Virginia University this fall. She is the granddaughter of Frank & Mary (Seabright) Lish.
- Congratulations to Lucas T. Long, grandson of our parishioner Sylvia Long, who will be graduated from Loyola High School, Los Angeles, CA. He will attend UCLA to study computer science.

### ***Around Us***

***Rummage Sale*** (Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup> at St. Alphonsus from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.)

***Boatsie's Boxes*** (Deadline to Order Tickets is June 15<sup>th</sup>; Drawings will be on Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>)

**Operation Beat the Heat: Raffle/Fund Raiser:** Raffle tickets are now on sale; June 28<sup>th</sup> we draw the winners, Honor Our Heroes. Have a wonderful day!!! 4 Raffles: 1) "The Traveler" value over \$800; 2) "Just the Two of Us" value over \$900; 3) "Summer of Fun" value over \$600; 4) "Let's Eat Out" value over \$500; 5) "50/50" and more. (see [www.boatsie.com](http://www.boatsie.com) home page/news/events for details) Donations welcome.

### ***Wisdom: God, Speak to Me***

The man whispered "God, speak to me"

And a meadowlark sang but the man did not hear.

So the man yelled "God speak to me!"

And the thunder rolled across the sky. But the man did not listen.

The man looked around and said "God let me see you"

And a star shone brightly. But the man did not notice.

And the man shouted "God show me a miracle" And a life was born. But the man did not know.

So, the man cried out in despair. "Touch me God and let me know that you are here!"

Whereupon God reached down and touched the man.

But the man brushed the butterfly away and walked on.

### ***Famous Quotes: Bank***

Last night I read a book that brought tears to my eyes – it was my bankbook.

If money doesn't grow on trees, how come banks continue to sprout branches?

I know of a bank that is so big that they even have a special window for hold-ups.

Banks are peculiar institutions that urge you to save as much as possible of what you earn and urge you to borrow as much as you can spend, so you can spend more than you make.

It is easier to rob by setting up a bank than by holding up a bank clerk.

--Bertolt Brecht

## ***Maronites = Catholics of the East***

### *God and Lebanon*

Lebanon holds a very prominent and unchallenged place in the Bible. In chapter after chapter, we find references which reveal the eternal inseparable bond that exists between God and Lebanon.

The testimony of the Holy Bible, the most distinguished of all mankind's books of faith, is everlastingly present in the human consciousness of people in every corner of the world. And Lebanon, which is mentioned seventy times in the Bible, remains as everlastingly present in human consciousness as does the Holy Book itself.

It was in Lebanon that Christ performed "the first of His miraculous signs" and "thus revealed His glory" (John 2:11). It is in this chapter that we follow the footsteps of Christ in Galilee, where He attended a wedding in Cana (in south Lebanon) and, upon the request of His mother, "transformed water into wine." At first, He refused, saying "My time has not yet come," but then He accepted, realizing that the time had indeed come for Him to reveal himself as God. It was here and on that day that the Church of Christ on earth was established, transforming the wedding celebration of Cana into a celebration of salvation for all mankind.

It was also in south Lebanon, near Sidon, that Christ decided to extend his ministry of salvation beyond the house of Israel to become the Savior God of the universe. This happened in his encounter with the Canaanite (Lebanese) woman, who pleaded for His help on behalf of all those with no hope for salvation and to whom He replied, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel" (Matthew 15: 21-28 ), ( Mark 7:24-30 ). In that moment, the God of the universe responded to the Canaanite: "O woman great is your faith", and decided to take the bread destined for the children of Israel and cast it out across the entire world to all nations. It was as though Christ had remembered His Phoenician ancestry -- through Athlia who was the wife of Joram, the son of Joshafat, King of Judea, and the daughter of Isabel who was the daughter of Ethbaal, King of Tyre --and chose to launch His universal mission of salvation from the same land.

The most beautiful transformation, viewed as an event where heaven and earth embraced, occurred on Mount Hermon in Lebanon, known as Jabal El Sheikh. There, Christ was transfigured. His face, glowing as brilliantly as the sun, suddenly appeared to all as the incarnate light of the Lord of Heavens and Earth and Savior of Mankind. On this mountain in Lebanon, from a voice in the clouds, came this glorious confirmation to all those who denied Christ as God: "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased; listen to Him." (John 12:25 ), (Luke 9:28-43 ), (Matthew 17:1-8 ).

When Christ sent His disciples out into the world to spread His Word, it was in Lebanon - in the diocese of Marjayoun in Caesarea Philippi - that He handed over the Keys of the Church, "the keys of the kingdom of heaven" to Peter (Matthew 16:13 ), (Mark 8:27 ).

All this has made Lebanon a blessed and sacred land. Christ lived His most gratifying, pleasant and significant days during His missions of preaching in Lebanon. In contrast, He endured the bitterness of exile as a child, the suffering of persecution and finally the profound pain of crucifixion and death in Palestine.

We invite you to come to Lebanon, to the land sanctified by the presence of Christ, to the country where the early Church was founded and where the enduring sounds of its bells still mingle with the eternal and glorious chants of angels.

The land and people of Lebanon open their arms to your visit and promise you a warm welcome in every way. We invite you to come and greet the third millenium amid its verdant mountains and alongside its glistening sea. Come and follow in the footsteps of Christ. Come and make a spiritual pilgrimage to His many

sanctuaries and renew your faith. And when you leave, take with you a handful of Lebanon's sacred earth to cherish as a token of Christ's eternal blessings upon your home.

--Original text in Arabic written by Dr. Nasr Audi

## *Story: The Three Sons*

There was once a village chief with three sons. Each of them had a special talent. The oldest had the talent of raising olive trees and would trade the oil for tools and cloth. The second was a shepherd; when the sheep were ill he had a great talent for making them well again. The third was a dancer; when there was a streak of bad luck in the family or when everyone was bored during the hard winters and tired of work, this son would cheer them up and dance.

One day the father had to go away on a long journey, so he called his Sons together and said, "My sons, the villagers are depending on you. Each of you has a special talent for helping people. So, while I am gone, see to it that you use your talents as wisely and well as possible so that, when I return, I will find our village even more happy and prosperous than it is now. He embraced his sons and departed.

For a while things went well. Then the cold winter winds began to blow, and the blizzards and snows came. First, the buds on the olive trees shrank and cracked, and it would be a long time before the trees could recover. Then the village, because of the especially long winter, ran out of firewood. So the people began to cut down the trees but in the process they were denuding and destroying the village. Even though the first son did not want to see the trees cut down, he knew the villagers needed heat to survive, and so he helped them make firewood from the olive trees.

Then, too, the snow and ice made it impossible for the traders to come up the river or over the mountain pass. So the villagers said, "Let us kill the sheep and eat them so we do not starve to death." The second son refused for a time, but finally had to give in to the hungry villagers. His remark was, "What good would it be to spare the sheep only to have the villagers perish?"

In this way, the villagers had just enough wood for their fires and food for their tables, but the bitter winter had broken their spirits. They began to think that things were really worse than they were, and they even began to lose all hope. So much so, that family by family they deserted the village in search of a more hospitable environment.

As spring began to loosen the icy grip of winter, the village chief, the father of the three sons, returned only to find smoke rising from his own chimney. "What have you done?" he asked when he reached his house and spoke to his sons. "What has happened to the villagers?"

"Oh, father, forgive me," said the oldest son. "The people were freezing and begged me to cut down the olive trees and so I did. I gave away my talent. I am no longer fit to be an orchard keeper." "Don't be angry, father," said the second son. "The sheep would have frozen to death anyway, and the people were starving, and I had to send my flock to the slaughter."

But the father understood and said, "Don't be ashamed, my sons, you did the best you could and you acted rightly and humanely. You used your talents wisely in trying to save the people. But, tell me, what has become of them? Where are they?"

The two brothers fixed their eyes on the third son who said, "Welcome home, father. Yes, it has been a hard time. There was so little to eat and so little firewood, I thought that it would be insensitive and improper to dance during such suffering. Besides, I needed to conserve my strength so that I could dance for you when you came home.

"Then, dance, my son," said the father, "for my village is empty and so is my heart. Fill it with joy and courage once again. Yes, please dance!" But as the third son went to get up, he made a face of pain and fell down. His legs were so stiff and sore from sitting that they were no longer fit for dancing. The father was so sad that he could not even be angry. He simply said to the third son: "Ours was a strong village. It could have

survived the want of fuel and food, but it could never survive without hope. And because you failed to use your talent wisely and well, our people gave up what little hope they had left. So now? Now the village is deserted and you are crippled. Your punishment has already fallen upon you.

And with these words he embraced his two sons and wept.

## ***A Time to Laugh (490)***

### ***Ole & Clarence***

Ole lived across the Mississippi from Clarence who he didn't like at all.

All the time they were yelling across the river at each other.

Ole would yell to Clarence, 'If I had a way to cross dis river, I'd come over dere an beat you up good, yeah sure, ya betcha by golly!'

This went on for years. Finally the state built a bridge across the river right there by their houses. Ole's wife, Lena, says, 'Now is your chance, Ole, vhy don't you go over dere and beat up dat Clarence like you said you would.'

Ole says, 'OK, by yimny I tink I vill do yust dat'

Ole started for the bridge but he sees a sign on the bridge an he stops to read it, then he turns around and comes back home.

Lena asked, 'vhy did you come back?'

Ole said, 'Lena, I tink I change my mind 'bout beatin' up dat larence, you know, dey put a sign on da bridge dat says 'Clarence is 13 ft. 6 in.' You know, he don't look near dat big when I yell at him from across da river'.

### ***You Know You Are Living in 2008 When...***

1. You accidentally enter your PIN on the microwave.
2. You haven't played solitaire with real cards in years.
3. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of three.
4. You e-mail the person who works at the desk next to you.
5. Your reason for not staying in touch with friends and family is that they don't have email addresses.
6. You pull up in your own driveway and use your cell phone to see if anyone is home to help you carry in the groceries.
7. Every commercial on television has a web site at the bottom of the screen.
8. Leaving the house without your cell phone, which you didn't even have the first 20 or 30 (or 60) years of your life, is now a cause for panic and you turn around to go and get it.
10. You get up in the morning and go on line before getting your coffee.
11. You start tilting your head sideways to smile.
12. You're reading this and nodding and laughing.
13. Even worse, you know exactly to whom you are going to forward this message.
14. You are too busy to notice there was no #9 on this list.
15. You actually scrolled back up to check that there wasn't a #9 on this list.

NOW U R LAUGHING at yourself

### ***On the Losing Side***

A ten-year-old boy answered the doorbell at his home one day. When he opened it, he discovered a strange man on the porch.

The man said, "Son, you don't know me, do you?"

The boy agreed that he did not know the man.

The man replied, "Well, I am your uncle on your father's side.

To this the young fellow replied, "Well, I'm glad to meet you, but you are certainly on the losing side."

## ***Her Own Way***

Only two things are necessary to keep one's wife happy: One is to let her think she is having her own way; the other is to let her have it.