

November 23, 2008
Bulletin # 47

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

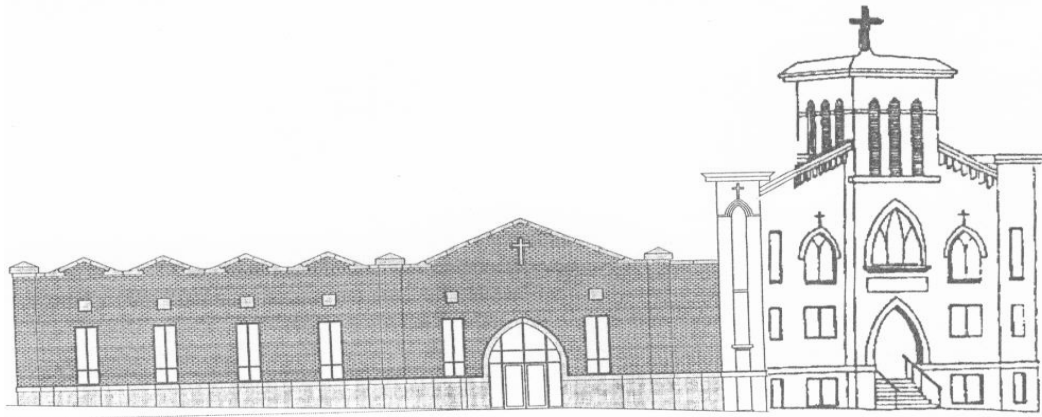
E-Mail: ololwv@Comcast.net • Web Site: www.ololwv.com

Rev. Bakhos Chidiac (Pastor)

Evelyn Ghaphery (Organist)

Charlotte Khourey & Thomasina Geimer (Secretaries)

Christmas Season *Announcement to Mary*



Schedule of Divine Liturgies

- *Weekend Masses: Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m.
Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. [Rosary & Litany start at 10:10 a.m.]
- *Weekday Masses: **At Noon.** Please refer to the Mass schedule on page 3 of this bulletin for Mass times and changes due to special events. Thank you for your cooperation.
- *Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament: Every 1st Saturday of the month at 3:30 p.m. & 1st Sunday after Communion
- *Miraculous Medal Novena: Every 2nd 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: Announcement to Mary

Readings: Gal 3:15-22 and Lk 1:26-38

David's House Not Powerful in Jesus' Day

“The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David.” What does “the house of David” imply? Do we know anything about David's ancestors living in Jesus' day?

No. The last explicit reference to descendants of David appears in a genealogical list some four and a half centuries before Jesus. What is noteworthy is that these Davidic Jews enjoy no special distinction in this list. This contrasts sharply with the situation half a century earlier, when Zerubbabel, grandson of the last Davidic king, governed Judah on behalf of his Persian masters, and was himself the focus of messianic expectation (Hag 2:20-23; Zec 6:9-13).

The fact of the matter is that David's descendants –his “house” – lacked any discernible importance, political or religious, in the minds of most Jews throughout much of the Second Temple period. The main reason for this was that the political function of the Davidic line was now performed by foreign rulers (e.g., Is 45:1).

All this changed when, in the course of the 2nd century BC, a priestly family, the Hasmoneans (also known as the “Maccabees”), gained independence for their country and proclaimed themselves kings. Jews critical of Hasmonean pretensions sought to impugn their legitimacy by reviving the tradition that God had chosen only the house of David to rule over Israel.

Still, as far as we know, this resurgent commitment to a Davidic messiah did not translate into an interest in any of David's actual descendants. Consequently, no one bothered to write about them.

Prayers: The “Hail Mary” in 19 Languages

English

Hail Mary, full of grace, The Lord is with thee;
Blessed art thou among women
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Latin

Ave Maria, grati plena, Dominus tecum,
benedicta fu in mulieribus,
et benedictus fructus ventris tui Iesus.
Sancta Maria mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus,
nunc, et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

Italian

Ave Maria, piena di grazia, il Signore e con te.
Tu sei benedetta fra le donne
e benedetto è il frutto del tuo seno, Gesu.
Santa Maria, Madre di Dio, prega per noi peccatori,
adesso e nell'ora della nostra morte. Amen

Spanish

Dios te salve, Maria, llena eres de gracia, el Senor es contigo.
Bendita tu eres entre todas las mujeres,
y bendito es el fruto de tu vientre, Jesus.
Santa Maria, Madre de Dios, ruega por nosotros, pecadores,
ahora y en la hora de nuestra muerte. Amen

French

Je vous salue, Marie, pleine de grace. Le Seigneur est avec vous.
Vous etes bénie entre toutes les femmes,
et Jesus, le fruit de vos entrailles, est béni.
Sainte Marie, Mere de Dieu, Priez pour nous, pauvres pécheurs,
Maintenant et a l'heure de notre mort. Amen.

Portuguese

Ave Maria, cheia de gracia, o Senhor é convosco.
Bendita sois vós entre as mulheres;
bendito é o fruto do vosso ventre, Jesus.
Santa Maria, mae de Deus, rogai por nós, pecadores,
agora e na hora da nossa morte. Amen

Lebanese

As-Salam Alayke ya Mariam, Ya mumtaliat Nehmat Arraboo Maakee
Mobarakat antee fin-nisa
Wa mobarakon thamrat batneke saydna Yasoo almaseeh.
Ya qaddisa Mariam ya waledat Allah sallee le ajlina nahno Albashar
Alaan wafe saat maotena. Amen.

Malta

Sliem ghalik Maria, bil-grazzja mimlija, il-Mulej mieghek
Mbierka inti fost in-nisa
u mbierka il-frott tal-guf tieghek, Gesu.
Qaddisa Maria, ommo Alla, itlob ghalina l-midinbin
issa u fis-siegħa tal-mewt tagħna. Amen.

Polish

Zdrowas Maryjo, laski pelna, Pan z Toba,
blogoslawionas Ty miedzy niewiastami
I blogoslawiony owoc zywota Twojego Jezus.
Swieta Maryjo Matko Boza, modl sie za nami grzesznymi
teraz i w godzine smierci noszej. Amen.

German

Gegrübet seist du, Maria, voll der Gnade, der Herr ist mit dir.
Du bist gebenedeit unter den Frauen, und gebenedeit
ist die Frucht deines Leibes, Jesus.
Heilige Maria, Mutter Gottes, bitte für uns Sunder
jetzt und in der Stunde unseres Todes. Amen

Dutch

Wees gegroet, Maria, vol van genade, de Heer is met u.
Gij zijt de gezegende onder de vrouwen,
en gezegend is Jezus, de vrucht van uw schoot.
Heilige Maria, Moeder van God. Bid voor ons zondaars,
nu en in het uur van onze dood. Amen

Finnish

Terve, Maria, armoitettu, Herra sinun kanssasi;
Siunattu sina naisten joukossa ja
siunattu kohtusi hedelma Jeesus.
Pyha Maria, Jumalan aiti, rukoile meidan syntisten puolesta
nyt ja kuolemamme hetkella. Aamen

Danish

Hit dig, Maria, fuld af nade! Herren er med dig!
Velsignet er du iblandt kvinder,
og velsignet er dit livs frugt, Jesus.
Hellige Maria, Guds Moder, Bed for os syndere,
nu og i vor dodstime. Amen

Norwegian

Hill deg, Maria, full av nade, Herren er med deg,
Velsignet er du blant kvinner,
Og velsignet er ditt livs frukt, Jesus.
Hellige Maria, Guds Mor, Be for oss syndere,
Na og i var dodstime. Amen.

Swedish

Hell dig Maria, full av nad. Herren ar med dig.
Valsignad ar du bland kvinnor
och valsignad ar din livsfrukt Jesus.
Heliga Maria Guds Moder bed for oss syndare
nu och i var dodsstund. Amen

African

Wees gegroet, Maria, vol genade, die Here is met u.
Geseën is u onder die vroue
en geseën is Jesus die vrug van u skoot.
Heilige Maria, Moeder van God, bid vir ons sondaars,
nou en in die uur van ons dood. Amen.

Magyarul

Udvozlégy Maria, malasztal teljes, Az Ur van Te veled.
Aldott vagy Te az asszonyok között
Es aldott a Te méhednek gyümölcse Jézus,
Asszonyunk Szüz Maria, tstennek szent anyja, Imádkozzál érettünk bünösökért,
Most és halalunk óraján. Amen.

Philippines

Aba Ginoong Maria, napupuno ka ng grasiya,
Ang Panginoong Diyos ay sumasaiyo.
Bukod kang pinagpala sa babaeng lahat
At pinagpala rin naman ang anak mong Si Hesus.
Santa Maria, Ina ng Diyos Ipanalangin mo kaming makasalanan
Ngayon at kung kami'y mamamatay. Amen

Indonesian

Salam Maria penuh rahmat Tuhan besertamu,
Terpujilah engkau diantara wanita,
dan terpujilah buah tubuhmu Yesus.
Santa Maria Bunda Allah, Doakanlah kami yang berdosa ini,
sekarang dan selama-lamanya. Amin.

Reflection: Begin Again

Every day is a fresh beginning; every morn is the world made new.
You who are weary of sorrow and sinning; here is a beautiful hope for you.
A hope for me and a hope for you.
Every day is a fresh beginning; listen, my soul, to the glad refrain.
And, spite of old sorrow and older sinning, and puzzled forecasted and possible pain.
Take heart with the day, and begin again.

Mass Intentions

THIS WEEKEND, November 22-23: "Announcement to the Virgin Mary"

Saturday, November 22 at 4:00 p.m.:

Betty Francis by Susie Fadoul
Special Intention

Sunday, November 23, at 10:30 a.m.:

Helen Fielding by her husband Don Fielding (FL) & his special intentions
Betty Joseph by Jean & George Weisner

Weekday Masses

Monday, November 24: No Mass

Tuesday, November 25: No Mass

Wednesday, November 26 at 7:00 p.m.: Thanksgiving Eve Mass

Helen Fielding by her husband Don Fielding (FL) & his special intentions
Betty Joseph by Patti Smith

Thursday, November 27 at 9:00 a.m.: Thanksgiving Day Mass

Helen Fielding by her husband Don Fielding (FL) & his special intentions
Betty Joseph by Michaeline Custer

Friday, November 28 at Noon:

Helen Fielding by her husband Don Fielding (FL) & his special intentions
Betty Joseph by Gerard Joseph & Family

NEXT WEEKEND, November 29-30: "Mary visits Elizabeth"

Saturday, November 29 at 4:00 p.m.:

Betty Joseph by M/M Fred Shia
Sadie Chidiac by Veronica Mushet

Sunday, November 30, at 10:30 a.m.:

Helen Fielding by her husband Don Fielding (FL) & his special intentions
Betty Shia by Josephine Joseph

Church Painting Fund Update

Dear parishioners, upon request of all our devoted generous parishioners, the Parish Council and Fr. Bakhos decided to obtain estimates and raise funds to paint the inside of the church. It has been about 20 years since the church was last painted and needs done at this time. The scaffolding, patching and painting will start when we raise the cost of painting which is \$30,000 according to the estimate we have received. The Blessed Mother will help us once more to raise funds to brighten her church (we hope by May or June 2009) as we raised the \$1.5 million to construct our new hall. All donations will be earmarked toward the "Church Painting Fund." A special plaque will be mounted in the church stating: **"Please remember in your prayer these benefactors who painted the church in 2009"**. Please make a generous contribution and become a member of this prayer list. Thank you for your cooperation and generosity.

Generous Donors & Benefactors toward the "Church Painting Fund": Nancy Joseph (\$100), Manell Brice (\$500), Mike Sobota [Memorial] (\$635), Paul & Irene Schuler (\$100), Charles Mattes [brother of Betty Shia] (\$500), Betty Shia (\$500), Cedar Club [Pre-Holiday Sales] (\$1,050),

May all generous parishioners, friends and benefactors be rewarded in good health and heavenly bliss.

Building Project Update

Donations toward the Building Project

Donations to the Building Project during October 2008: \$35,221.00

Generous Donors & Benefactors of this month toward the Building Project:

Donations Received	Item Sponsored	Donor's Name & Date
\$25	Memorial	Lucille Gibbons in Memory of Betty Joseph (11.1.2008)
\$25	Memorial	Eva Moffat (FL) in Memory of Betty Joseph (11.1.2008)
\$392	Fundraising	Women Society Fundraising Gift Basket (11.2.2008)
\$50	Memorial	Charles Spadafore, D.D.S., in Memory of Betty Joseph (11.6.2008)
\$250	Topaz	Paul Shaker (Canada) in Memory of Genevieve Nader Shaker (11.8.2008)

May all generous parishioners, friends and benefactors be rewarded in good health and heavenly bliss.

Our Lady of Lebanon Community Calendar

Sunday, November 23	Women's Society Meeting – <i>after 10:30 a.m. Mass</i>
Thursday, November 27	Thanksgiving Eve Mass on Wed. Evening at 7:00 pm and Thanksgiving Day Mass on Thursday at 9:00 a.m. (no noon Mass both days)
Sunday, November 30	Women's Society 50/50 Building Fund Raffle Drawing – <i>after 10:30 a.m. Mass</i>
Sunday, December 7	Parish Christmas Party – <i>5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome</i>
Sunday, December 7	Cedar Club YMCA Raffle Drawing – <i>after 10:30 a.m. Mass</i>
Sat. & Sun., Dec. 13-14	Christmas Cookie, Candy, etc., Exchange & Sale
Sunday, December 14	Parish Children's Christmas Party – <i>11:30 a.m.</i>
Sunday, December 14	Deadline to Sponsor a Christmas Poinsettia
Sunday, December 14	Deadline to Donate Non-perishable Food
Sunday, December 21	Fr. Bakhos' 18 th Anniversary to the Priesthood Luncheon
Sunday, December 28	Women's Society 50/50 Building Fund Raffle Drawing – <i>after 10:30 a.m. Mass</i>
Coming in February	Soup & Hoagie Sale (<i>look for more information in upcoming bulletins</i>)

Women's Society November Meeting (*Sunday, November 23, after 10:30 a.m. Mass*)

Plan to join the Women's Society at our November meeting to finalize plans for our Parish Christmas Party and the Children's Christmas Party as well as other upcoming events. Everyone is welcome to join.

Thanksgiving Mass Schedule (*Wednesday & Thursday, November 26th & 27th*)

Thanksgiving Eve Mass: Wednesday, November 26th, at 7:00 p.m. (No Noon Mass)

Thanksgiving Day Mass: Thursday, November 27th, at 9:00 a.m. Mass. (No Noon Mass)

Thanksgiving and Divorce?

A man in Phoenix calls his son in New York the day before Thanksgiving and says, "I hate to ruin your day, but I have to tell you that your mother and I are divorcing; forty-five years of misery is enough."

"Pop, what are you talking about?" the son screams.

"We can't stand the sight of each other any longer," the father says. "We're sick of each other, and I'm sick of talking about this, so you call your sister in Chicago and tell her." Frantic, the son calls his sister, who explodes on the phone.

"No way they're getting divorced!" she shouts, "I'll take care of this." She calls Phoenix immediately and screams at her father, "You are not getting divorced. Don't do a single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back, and we'll both be there tomorrow. Until then, don't do a thing, DO YOU HEAR ME?" and hangs up.

The old man hangs up his phone and turns to his wife. "Okay," he says, "they're coming for Thanksgiving and paying their own way."

Monthly 50/50 Building Fund Raffle (Drawing: Sunday, November 30)

The Women's Society continues to sponsor the Monthly 50/50 Building Fund Raffle. Tickets cost \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Proceeds will benefit the Building Fund.

The drawing from entries received **from the November tickets** (printed on green paper) are provided at the church entrance and in the weekly church bulletin and will take place in the Social Hall following Mass on **Sunday, November 30**.

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.

Congratulations to the October 50/50 winner of \$100: Nancy Joseph who donated her prize to the Sanctuary Painting Fund.

Special Thanks from all the members of the Women's Society to every one of you who weekly or monthly support Our Lady of Lebanon Church by purchasing chances on the two raffles we sponsor: the 50/50 Monthly Raffles and the occasional Gift Basket Raffles. Since we began sponsoring these fundraising raffles in October of 2002, Fr. Bakhos accounts reflect that the Women's Society has raised \$16,422 and donated all this amount toward the new kitchen equipment in the new hall. Many people who won cash prizes also donated their prize back to the building project, the poor box or made some other type of contribution from their winnings. Even the smallest donations have increased many times over to help make these improvements for our church. Your generosity and support through the years has improved our Church tremendously. We could not have had this success without YOU! May the Blessed Mother reward you manifold and we ask for your continued support.

YMCA Raffle Drawing Date Changed (Drawing Moved to Sunday, December 7)

The Cedar Club has changed the date of the drawing for the YMCA 1-Year Membership Raffle to Sunday, December 7th following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. For more information, call Linda Duffy at 242-6853.

Parish Christmas Party at Our New Hall (Sunday, December 7, 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.)

Set aside the date and plan to attend our Christmas Party here at Our Lady of Lebanon Church in our new Cedar Hall on Sunday, December 7th. The ever-popular singer **George Suhon** will provide the evening's entertainment and everyone in attendance will be entered for Door Prizes. (Women's Society members may bring Door Prizes any time and leave them at the church office.)

All parishioners and guests are welcome to attend and join together for a great time! The menu will be: *Baked Steak, Mashed Red-skinned Potatoes, Gourmet Green Beans, Tossed Salad, Rolls & Butter, a choice of Pies for Dessert and Beverage.*

Tickets are only \$10.00 each for the complete meal, entertainment and door prizes. **Advance Payment is appreciated.** If you have not paid or made a reservation to be included in the fun and festivities yet, call the church office at 233-1688 or contact Sandra Dusick at 232-7395. **Reservations are required and should be made by Sunday, November 30th**, to guarantee that enough food may be ordered. Make checks payable to: Our Lady of Lebanon Church and clearly mark the Memo line "Christmas Party." Please include the names of each person attending (*names are needed for the table setting*). Join us to celebrate this year of blessings in our new Cedar Hall.

Christmas Cookie, Candy, etc., Sale & Exchange (Sat.-Sun., Dec. 13-14)

Ladies and gentlemen of our parish, don't miss out! Our parish's second Christmas Cookie, Candy, etc., Sale & Exchange has been scheduled for Saturday & Sunday, December 13-14. Here's how it works:

--Make and bring extras of your favorite Christmas treats so that plenty will available for sale.

--You may then buy goodies that another person brings **OR**

--You may choose to "exchange" half your treats for an equal amount that another person brings. (If you wish to take home 2 dozen treats, please bring 4 dozen – **half for you to exchange and half for others to buy**; if you want to take home 3 dozen, bring 6 dozen, etc.)

Donated cookies or other treats may be dropped off beginning at 9 a.m. on Saturday, December 13th; however, those who wish to “exchange” half their cookies donated should plan to come between 10 and 11 a.m.

Any goodies remaining after the “exchange” will be available for anyone to buy by the half dozen. You do not have to bring any goodies in order to make a purchase. Just remember to come during the sale hours: **Saturday, December 13, from 3:00-4:00 p.m. and immediately following the 4 p.m. Mass; and Sunday, December 14, following 10:30 Mass.**

Can you help make some goodies? Any holiday treat will be welcomed: Lebanese specialty (Baklava, Mamouls, Sesame Twist Cookies, Namoura, Makaroons, Ghroubeh), Biscotti, Pizzelles, Nut Horns, Pecan Sandies, Thumbprint Cookies, Chocolate Chip Cookies, Peanut Butter Blossoms, Oatmeal Cookies, Raisin Cookies, Chocolate Peanut Butter Cookies, Shortbread Cookies, Russian Tea Cookies, Snicker Doodle Cookies, 7 Layer Bar Cookies, Anise Cookies, Feniki Cookies, Coconut Bon Bons, Truffles, Hard Tack Candy, Buckeyes, Fudge (chocolate, peanut butter, maple, vanilla, brown sugar, etc.), Nut Rolls, regular or mini-size quick breads with or without nuts (pumpkin, zucchini, banana, blueberry, cranberry, lemon, poppy seed), etc.

If you plan to participate by preparing your favorite goodies for this fundraiser, please let us know what you might make so we can tempt people by printing a list of items. *So far, donations this year will include: Buckeyes, Pecan Tassies, Call the Church office at 233-1688 or Charlotte at 277-2320.*

Children’s Christmas Party (after Mass on Sunday, December 14)

The Women’s Society invites all who attend Our Lady of Lebanon Church to bring their children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews to the Children’s Christmas Party planned for Sunday, December 14th, following 10:30 a.m. Mass. Santa will come to the party to visit with each child.

Christmas Barrel of Non-perishable Food (Deadline: December 14th)

A barrel has been placed in the back of the Church for non-perishable food items to be given to those who are in need this Christmas Season. Our church will give a monetary gift from the “poor box” donations along with the food items to families with children. Please be generous if you can share your blessings.

Christmas Poinsettias (Deadline: Sunday, December 14)

Every Christmas our church looks beautiful when decorated with poinsettias grown by Nikki’s Garden Center, \$25.00 each. Your generosity contributes to the beauty of the church.

2008 Christmas Poinsettias are offered in Memory of:

- \$25 *Louise N. & Louis H. Khourey Sr. and Gladys Howard by Lou, Charlotte Khourey & Family*
- \$30 *The Habdo and Dougherty Families by Carol & Bill Dougherty*
- \$30 *Special Intention*
- \$25 *Barkett & Sadie Coury by their children*
- \$20 *Mary K. Ferris by Tom and Denise Ferris*
- \$25 *Mike Sobota by Peggy Justice and Ann Bauduin*
- \$25 *George & Rose Fadoul by the Family*
- \$25 *Danny and Milly Manners by Nini Miller*
- \$25 *The Schlog and Saseen Families by Bob & Fran Saseen*
- \$25 *Deceased of the Popovich Family by Joe & Nikki Popovich*
- \$25 *Ida Shia Lewis by her husband George and children Cynthia and George Jr. and Families*

Luncheon to Honor Fr. Bakhos’ 18th Priesthood Anniversary

Join the members of the Women’s Society at a light luncheon to honor Fr. Bakhos’ 18th Anniversary to the Priesthood on Sunday, December 21, after Mass.

Gift Basket Raffle Drawing (Sunday, December 21, after Mass)

A “Christmas Gift Basket” of Christmas gift items and CHOCOLATE will be the theme for our next Gift Basket Raffle (on cherry paper). The drawing will be held following Mass on Sunday, December 21. This basket will contain: *1 bottle Riunite, 3 Christmas hand towels, Christmas tree ornament, 2 Christmas*

placemats, 2 Christmas dish cloths, 1 Christmas oven mitt, 1 Christmas pot holder, 2 ceramic Christmas picture frames, 1 ceramic candle lamp, 1 Santa candle holder 2 packages of Lindt Truffles, 1 box of DeMet's Milk Chocolate Turtles, 1 box of Donckels Belgian Truffles, 1 box of Soho assorted chocolates, 1 tin of Stockmeyer Shortbread Cookies, and more. ??

The Gift Baskets Raffle is sponsored by the Women's Society and tickets are available now at \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Or, if you want a better bargain, **triple your chances of winning** and **send in 18 ticket stubs at one time for only \$10.00** (3 sheets of tickets) at the church entrance, in our weekly Bulletin and at our upcoming Spaghetti Dinner (or call the church office at 233-1688 or call Kay at 232-0492).

Buy or sell the tickets, and return the completed stubs as soon as possible in the collection or by mail to: Our Lady of Lebanon Church, 2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003. Please write: Gift Basket Raffle on the "Memo" line if you pay by check (or write it on the envelope if you return your payment in the weekly collection). Look for more information in upcoming bulletins.

For more information, contact the church office at (304) 233-1688. Your generosity and cooperation enhances our Church. Congratulations to November's "Wine & Kisses" Gift Basket winner: Jean Weekly the sister of Mary Custer & Helen Benline.

Happy Birthday

November 26:	Mary Lish
December 1:	Jenna Brown
December 3:	Joey John
December 7:	Christina Committee
December 12:	Lou Kourey
December 14:	Joe Betras, Donnie Musilli
December 15:	Lottie Elwartoski
December 18:	Ronni Burns
December 20:	Julia John-Tappe, Emily Stephens
December 21:	Domenique George
December 22:	Millet C. Fadoul
December 23:	Alyce Zekas
December 27:	Gloria Sterling
December 28:	Luke Lenz
December 29:	Jeff Bentz, Tom John, Thomas Simon

Please Pray for Those on Our Prayer List

Please Remember Those Hospitalized Recently In Your Prayers:

Bill Daniel, Sam Elias, Betty Shia, John Shibben, Jean Weekly, Catherine Arthur

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

John John, Laura & Marion Wellman, Bonnie Shaw, Lucia Shinsky, Rose Vargo, Amy Dunbar, Gene Singleton (Parkersburg), Chelsea Bleifus, Jean Weisner, Rosella Saseen, Josephine Joseph, Jerry Saseen, Laura Hunter, Jim & Judy Miller, Mary Piko, Theresa Sofka, Joe Linton, Bernard Olako, Kathy Siebieda (daughter of our architect), Andy Kaminski (San Diego), Ervin Splatt (WI), Debbie Laughlin (Columbus), Jennie Bedway (PA), Virginia Kourey Bryan (aunt of Lou Kourey in Toledo, OH), 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

1,029	Collection
10	Utilities
106	Candles
200	Endowment Fund
1,475	Painting Fund
80	Parking
227	Christmas Flowers
571	Refunds
120	Ads
3,818.00	Total. May God reward you many fold

*What's New?****Sound System Installed***

The sound system installation has been completed this week. We will be able to use Power Point presentations, and watch TV or movies on a large screen.

Cedar Tree of Life Installed

Many thanks to Randy Weisner and Janet Shutler for helping Fr. Bakhos install the Cedar Tree of Life. It is our exclusive design and it looks like a beautiful piece of art. Brass leaves will be imprinted locally and installed as soon as they are ready.

Spirituality

Fr. Bakhos is willing to enhance the spiritual life in the parish. The day of the week and time is flexible: Please call Fr. Bakhos at 233-1688 to register for the following: Bible Study, First Communion Class (age 7 or older), Confirmation Class (ages 12-15). Classes will start if enough candidates are interested.

Many Thanks...

...To the workers of our Pre-Holiday Gift Sale: Roxanne Wurtzbacher, Mary Stees, Linda King, Nini Miller, Mickey Duffy, Bill and Lou Anne Blazier and Jim George. Also, thank you to the members and parishioners who donated the baked goods, food, soft drinks and the many new gift items.

The profit of \$1,050.00 will go toward the Church Painting Fund. --Luane Frazier & Linda Duffy

For Sale: Car from Our Church

The church's car is now for sale. It is a Silver 1999 Mercury Grand Marquis GS, V8, with 108,000 miles, power windows, a CD player, and is in excellent shape. We are asking \$2,500 or best offer. Contact Fr. Bakhos at 233-1688 or any of the Parish Council Members for more information.

A Note of Congratulations about Our Dedication

Dear Fr. Bakhos, I was very impressed with and proud of the work of the church community. There is a comfortable sense – a hospitality in the traditions of our ancestors. I look forward to attending future functions. Blessings,

--Theresa Gain

Endowment Fund to Keep Our Church Open and Alive**Enroll yourself with the benefactors in the daily Mass intentions**

Fr. Bakhos, on behalf of Our Lady of Lebanon Church, will establish an Endowment Fund CD account to support and maintain our church for the years to come. Many parishioners –mainly 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 the 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 will bring stability and security to the church in the long run for its future. All benefactors will be enrolled in the daily Mass offering.

Please put it in 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 Bill & Mary Stees for kicking off this Endowment Fund recently with their generous contribution.

Bill & Mary Stees (200), ...

Special Contributions at the End of the Year

Please consider a special year-end tax deductible gift to your church this year. During the last few years, all donations toward the building project have made the difference. Without your generosity we would not be enjoying our new facility now. Please be one of the donors and gain build treasures for yourself in heaven. May the Lord God reward you one hundred fold.

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

Benefactor Gary West to Be Honored at Dinner (Sunday, November 30th)

Cost & What: \$25.00 each; Dinner & refreshments followed by Induction of 6 honorees including Gary West
When: Beginning at 5:30 p.m. at WesBanco Arena
Contact: Call our Church at 233-1688. Join Fr. Bakhos & honor one benefactors of our new Cedar Hall

Church Women United Annual Meeting & Luncheon (Tue., Dec. 9)

What: Annual Meeting & Luncheon at Noon on Tuesday, December 9 (Reservations Due Dec. 3)
Where: Roney's Point United Presbyterian Church, Dallas Pike
Contact: Peggy Blatt at 242-7683 or Doris Mitchell at 238-0166; Cost \$4.00
Program: "Heavenbound Ministries" singing Christmas & Gospel songs, Installation of Officers
Project: Bring items for the Salvation Army

Christmas Prayer

Jesus' Birth

"My Lord, this day gladdens kings, priests and prophets, for on it were fulfilled and realized all their words. Since today the Virgin has given birth to Emmanuel in Bethlehem, the word Isaiah spoke was accomplished. He who registers the people was born there; the psalm that David sang has been fulfilled today.

The word that Micah spoke was realized today; a shepherd went out from Ephrata, and his staff herded souls.

"Behold, a star shone forth from Jacob, and a prince arose from Israel."

The prophecy that Balaam spoke found its meaning today.

The hidden light descended, and its beauty shone forth from a body; the dawn of which Zechariah spoke lights up Bethlehem today."

Glory to You, Son of our Creator!

--Saint Ephrem

Maronites = Catholics of the East

History of the Maronites (30)

(2) The Episcopate

The bishops are nominated by the patriarch. The title of *Archbishop* (metropolitan), attached to the Sees of Aleppo, Beirut, Damascus, Tyre and Sidon, and Tripoli, is purely honorary. A bishop without a diocese resides at Ehden. It has been said above that the patriarch nominates a certain number of titular bishops. The bishop, besides his spiritual functions, exercises, especially outside of the Vilayet of the Lebanon, a judicial and civil jurisdiction.

The bishops are assisted by chorepiscopi, archdeacons, economi, and periodeutes (*bardût*). The chorepiscopus visits, and can also consecrate, churches. The chorepiscopus of the episcopal residence occupies the first place in the cathedral in the absence of the bishop. The periodeutes, as his name indicates, is a kind of vicar forane who acts for the bishop in the inspection of the rural clergy. The economus is the bishop's coadjutor for the administration of church property and the episcopal mensa.

(3) The Clergy

Of the 300 parishes some are given by the bishops to regulars, others to seculars. Priests without parishes are celibate and dependent on the patriarch. The others are married -- that is to say, they marry while in minor orders, but cannot marry a second time. There are about 1100 secular priests and 800 regulars. The education of the clergy is carried on in five patriarchal and nine diocesan seminaries. Many study at Rome, and a great number in France, thanks to the "Œuvre de St Louis" and the burses supported by the French Government. The intellectual standard of the Maronite clergy is decidedly higher than that of the schismatical and heretical clergy who surround them. The married priests of the rural parishes are often very simple men, still more often they are far from well-to-do, living almost exclusively on the *honoraria* received for Masses and the presents of farm produce given them by the country people. Most of them have to eke out these resources by cultivating their little portions of land or engaging in some modest industry.

(4) The Religious

These number about 2000, of whom 800 are priests. They all observe the rule known as that of St. Anthony, but are divided into three congregations: the oldest, that of St. Anthony, or of Eliseus, was approved in 1732. It was afterwards divided into Aleppines and peasants, or Baladites, a division approved by Clement XIV in 1770. In the meantime another Antonian congregation had been founded under the patronage of Isaias, and approved in 1740. The Aleppines have 6 monasteries; the Isaiaans, 13 or 14; the Baladites, 25. The Aleppines have a procurator at Rome, residing near S. Pietro in Vincoli. The lay brothers give themselves up to manual labour; the priests, to intellectual, with the care of souls, having charge of a great many parishes. The monastic habit consists of a black tunic and a girdle of leather, a cowl, mantle, and sandals.

There are also seven monasteries, containing about 200 religious, under a rule founded by a former Bishop of Aleppo. At Aintoura, also, there are some Maronite sisters following the Salesian Rule.

Christmas Story: Thank You, Jesus

I hurried into the local department store to grab some last-minute Christmas gifts. I looked at all the people and grumbled to myself. I would be in here forever, and I just had so much to do. Christmas was beginning to become such a drag. I wished that I could just sleep through Christmas. But I hurried the best I could through all the people to the toy department. Once again, I kind of mumbled to myself at the prices of all these toys. And I wondered if the grandkids would even play with them. I found myself in the doll aisle. Out of the corner of my eye I saw a little boy, about 5 years old, holding a lovely doll. He kept touching her hair, and he held her so gently. I could not seem to help myself. I just kept looking over at the little boy and wondered who the doll was for.

I watched him turn to a woman; and he called his aunt by name and said, *"Are you sure I don't have enough money?"* She replied a bit impatiently, *"You know that you don't have enough money for it."* The aunt told the little boy not to go anywhere – that she had to go get some other things and would be back in a few minutes. And then she left the aisle.

The boy continued to hold the doll. After a bit, I asked the boy who the doll was for. He said, *"It is the doll my sister wanted so badly for Christmas. She just knew that Santa would bring it."* I told him that maybe Santa was going to bring it. He said, *"No, Santa can't go where my sister is. I have to give the doll to my Mamma to take to her."* I asked him where his sister was? He looked at me with the saddest eyes and said, *"She has gone to be with Jesus."* *"My Daddy says that Mama is going to have to go be with her."*

My heart nearly stopped beating. Then the boy looked at me again and said, *"I told my Daddy to tell Mama not to go yet. I told him to tell her to wait till I got back from the store."*

Then he asked me if I wanted to see his picture. I told him I would love to. He pulled out some pictures he had taken at the front of the store. He said, *"I want my Mamma to take this with her so she don't ever forget me. I love my Mama so very much, and I wish she did not have to leave me. But Daddy says she will need to be with my sister."* I saw that the little boy had lowered his head and had grown so very quiet. While he was not looking, I reached into my purse and pulled out a handful of bills. I asked the little boy, *"Shall we count that money one more time."* He grew excited and said, *"Yes, I just know it has to be enough."*

So I slipped my money in with his, and we began to count it. Of course, it was plenty for the doll. He softly said, *"Thank you, Jesus, for giving me enough money."* Then the boy said, *"I just asked Jesus to give me enough money to buy this doll so Mama can take it with her to give to my sister. And He heard my prayer. I wanted to ask Him for enough to buy my Mamma a white rose, but I didn't ask Him; but He gave me enough to buy the doll and a rose for my Mama. She loves white roses so very, very much."*

In a few minutes the aunt came back, and I wheeled my cart away. I could not keep from thinking about the little boy as I finished my shopping in a totally different spirit than when I had started. And I kept remembering a story I had seen in the newspaper several days earlier about a drunk driver hitting a car and killing a little girl, and the Mother was in serious condition. The family was deciding on whether to remove the life support. Now surely this little boy did not belong with that story. Two days later, I read in the paper where the family had disconnected the life support; and the young woman had died. I could not forget the little boy and just kept wondering if the two were somehow connected. Later that day, I could not help myself; and I went out and bought some white roses and took them to the funeral home where the young woman was. And there she was, holding a lovely white rose, the beautiful doll, and the picture of the little boy in the store. I left the funeral parlor in tears ... my life changed forever. The love that little boy had for his little sister and his mother was overwhelming.

Joke (516)

Strategic Name Change

I had just put my little boy to bed for the umpteenth time and my patience was running out. When I heard him cry "Mama" again, I yelled to him, "If I hear you say 'Mama' one more time, I'm going to spank you." For a little while, all was quiet. Then I heard a little voice whisper, "Mrs. Green, can I have a drink?"

Tie Up Loose Ends

A guest speaker was speaking at a small church. Prior to the adult sermon, he gave the children's message. He asked the children to tell some of the ways they were disciplined when they misbehaved.

The speaker was not sure what one of the boys in the group said, but it may have been "time out." At the time, however, it sounded like the boy said, "They tie me up."

The speaker was taken by surprise by what he thought he had heard. He turned to the boy and gasped, "What? – They tie you up?"

The congregation was laughing so loudly that the speaker never did learn what the boy really said. Maybe the boy did get tied up.