



February 5, 2023

Bulletin #6

## Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

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Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac, Pastor

Mary Lee Porter, Ed.D. Organist



## Sunday of the Righteous and Just

**\*Weekday Masses:** **Mondays and Wednesdays:** No Mass. Pastor's office work.  
**Tuesdays and Thursday at 12:00 Noon** [*Rosary & Litany start 20 minutes before Mass*]  
**Fridays:** No Mass. Pastoral visitations.

- \***Confession:** Saturday: 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. or any other time by appointment
- \***Baptism:** Please call the Pastor as soon as baby is born; at least one Godparent must be Catholic
- \***Weddings:** Please make arrangements at least **six** months in advance before any other plans are made
- \***Sick Calls & Anointing of the Sick:** Please notify the Pastor at 304-233-1688
- \***Parish Council:** Lou Kourey, Mary Stees, Susan (John) Burns, Mark McLaughlin, Liz Murad
- \***Choir Members:** Lou Kourey, Robert Harris, Joe Simon, Shelly Hancher, Holly Stahl
- \***Bulletin Coordinator:** Thomasina Geimer
- \***Altar Server:** Earl Duffy and Joe Roxby
- \***Altar Boy:** Christopher AlKhouri
- \***Cedar Club:** Linda Duffy, President
- \***Women's Society:** Jeannette Wakim, President



- \***Bulletin Announcements:** Submit all Bulletin Information to Msgr. Bakhos by Noon on Tuesday every week
- \***New Parishioners:** We welcome you with great joy & invite you to officially register as one of our parishioners
- \***Remember the Church in your Last Will & Testament:** Her prayers will accompany you to heaven

## *Sunday of the Righteous and Just*

Readings: Wis 5:1-8; Heb 12:18-24 and Mt 25:31-46

Usually, when we think of righteous and saints, we think of people of heroic, almost superhuman proportions. We think of miracles and acts of self-sacrificing charity. We place statues of saints with halos around their heads in shrines.

We also, almost always, think of saints in the past. But as I listened to the gospel reading, the “job description” of being a saint, it occurred to me how many real saints I have met in my first four months in the parish. I know people—and you probably know them, too—who live lives of sanctity. They don’t have halos and they are not called saints. They don’t attract any attention. They perform many good works of service that we would consider too ordinary to be “heroic.”

But they are among the “Blessed” of today’s gospel: “. . . Blest are the poor in spirit: the reign of God is theirs.” Blest are the parents who could have had all the luxuries and opportunities that life has to offer, but who sacrifice so much for their children. Blest is the lady with so little but who gives nevertheless to the poor and doesn’t want to be mentioned.

“Blest too are the sorrowing; they shall be consoled.” Blest is the wife who cares for her terminally ill husband, caring for him and loving him. Blest is the husband who faithfully goes to the nursing home every day to be with his wife, who is in a coma.

“Blest are the lowly; they shall inherit the land.” Blest is the cleaning woman who scrubs floors for minimum wage and is embarrassed to come to church because she doesn’t have a good dress to wear. Blest is the child who understands and loves his parents, even though his clothes aren’t as nice as his friends’ and his room is not stuffed with the toys other children have.

“Blest are they who hunger and thirst for holiness; they shall have their fill.” Blest are those people I have surprised in church, praying to God in a moment of quiet in their lives. Blest is the father and mother who spend time teaching their children what prayer is and how to pray. Blest is the elderly woman whose arthritic fingers can barely move along the beads of her rosary.

“Blest are they who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs.” Blest is that man who is watching his wife die of cancer and who cares for her with love and honor. Blest is the older sister who tries to explain to her younger brother that alcoholism is a disease, so he won’t think less of his father.

“Blest are the single-hearted for they shall see God.” Blest is the mother who sacrifices the years she should be enjoying in retirement to care for her crippled son, and who worries what will happen to him when she is gone.

“Blest too the peacemakers; they shall be called children of God.” Blest is that one person I know who is so kind, so gentle . . . who with a few words brings peace to all of us with a smile.

“Blest are those persecuted for holiness sake; the reign of God is theirs.” Blest is the middle-age woman who knows of her husband’s cheating, but who goes on loving him and praying for him and trying to forgive him. Blest is the girl who wanted to be a nun, but whose cerebral palsy rules out the life of a religious. Blest is the elderly priest, confused by the changes in the church, who is often the subject of ridicule and scorn, yet continues to try to adapt himself even though psychologists tell us not much can be expected from someone so advanced in years.

These are just some of the saints I have met in my life. There are so many more who have strengthened my faith, who have convinced me beyond any doubt of the existence of God’s grace and of the reality of goodness vanquishing evil.

I invite you to sit back and think of the saints you have met in your life.

Today we celebrate those saints—the ordinary, who have been neither canonized nor remembered in the church calendar. Yet their lives and their faith are as heroic as any of the great saints. In their simple loving, they point to God just as well as the most beautiful cathedral.

Through their example, may we live lives of sainthood in our homes and offices and schools and factories . . . that one day, All Saints’ Day becomes our feast, too.

## ***This Weekend: Feb.4-5: Sunday of the Righteous & Just***

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

- ✠ Bob Sengewalt by his grandchildren: Jeff, Courtney and Patrick Sengewalt
- ✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her last Will
- ✠ Janis & George Thomas by their last will
- ✠ Special Intention

### **Sunday, February 5 at 10:30 a.m.:**

- ✠ John Shiben by John & Tulane Mensore
- ✠ Mike & Sue Linton & their parents Joe & Frances Linton by Steve Linton

## ***Next Weekdays Mass Schedule***

**Monday, February 6:** No Mass. Pastor's Day off.

### **Tuesday, February 7 Mass at Noon:**

- ✠ John Shiben by Marion Drews
- ✠ Sylvia Long, her husband Arthur, & her son Mark by her last will
- ✠ Deceased of the Thomas, Splatt & Nutter Families by John & Kathy Thomas (MN)

**Wednesday, February 8:** No Mass. Office work.

### **Thursday, February 9 Mass at Noon: Feast of Saint Maron**

- ✠ Josephine Ferris (Anniversary and Isabel Ferris Wolfe (Birthday) by Mary Stees and Libby Magnone
- ✠ Mike & Sue Linton & their parents Joe & Frances Linton by Steve Linton
- ✠ John Shiben by William and Mary Beth Yaeger

**Friday, February 10:** No Mass. Visitation of the sick.

## ***Next Weekend: Feb.11-17: Week of the Faithful Departed***

### ***Week of the Faithful Departed*** (Saturday, February 11 until Friday, February 17)

Throughout the week of the faithful departed, offer prayers for the Repose of the Souls of your beloved ones. The Communion of Saints unites those working out their salvation here on earth -The Church Militant- with those being purified in Purgatory -The Church Suffering- and those Saints in Heaven who are the Church Triumphant.

#### **Special Mass:**

- ✠ **40-Day Memorial Mass for Jim Thomas (father of Mrs. Diane Frenn) by the Frenn Family**
- ✠ Deceased of the Kourey and Howard Families by Lou, Charlotte, Emmalena and Louie Kourey
- ✠ Catherine Arthue by her daughter Carol Burkhart
- ✠ Adib & Sadie Chidiac (parents), Nadim (brother) and Mona (sister) by Msgr. Bakhos
- ✠ Deceased of the Chidiac Family by Msgr Bakhos
- ✠ John Shiben by John & Tulane Mensore
- ✠ Mike & Sue Linton & their parents Joe & Frances Linton by Steve Linton
- ✠ Janis & George Thomas (Ohio) by their last will
- ✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her last Will
- ✠ Living & Deceased of Tom & Judy Brock, Jr.
- ✠ Khalil & Sadie & Maria Harb and Annette & Al Togliatti by Jamil Harb (Troy, MI)
- ✠ Deceased of the Thomas, Splatt & Nutter Families by John & Kathy Thomas (MN)

### ***Schedule of Coming Events:***

Monday, February 6	Cedar Club Meeting in Cedar Hall at 6:00 p.m. (Election of Officers)
February 11-17	Week of the Faithful Departed. Remember your parents and beloved ones.
Sunday, February 12	Valentine Dinner Dance at Noon in the Cedar Hall (parishioners only)

## ***2022 Ash Distribution Schedule***

Ash Monday, February 20:

**12:05 p.m.: Mass & Blessing with Ash**

**5:30 p.m.: Mass & Blessing with Ash**

Ash Wednesday, February 22:

**12:05 p.m.: Mass & Blessing with Ash**

**5:30 p.m.: Mass & Blessing with Ash**

## ***Stations of the Cross & Light Dinner*** (starting Friday, February 24)

Every Friday during Lent, we celebrate the Mass at 5:30 p.m. Mass will be followed by the Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Cross. The “*Stations of the Cross*” is a devotion which consists of following the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ by recalling the fourteen prominent events that took place from the time of the trial under Pontius Pilate until His death and burial on Mount Calvary. Many Thanks to these generous families who sponsored light meatless dinners after the Stations of the Cross. If any other family wants to participate in the social hour, please ask and join the families listed below.

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Volunteers Who Sponsor the Light Meals on Fridays during Lent:</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Friday, Feb. 24	Meal Sponsor: Dr. & Mrs Nabil Alkhouri
2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday, March 3	Meal Sponsors: Susan John
3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday, March 10	Meal Sponsors: Chris & Jeannette Wakim
4 <sup>th</sup> Friday, March 17	Meal Sponsor: Mary Stees and Libby Magnone
5 <sup>th</sup> Friday, March 24	Meal Sponsors: Liz & Jay Murad
6 <sup>th</sup> Friday, March 31	Meal Sponsor: George & Susan Saseen
<b>Good Friday, April 7</b>	Meal Sponsor: The Cedar Club & Parishioners

## ***Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month:***

February 9: Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac, Michael DiFabrizio

February 10: Sandra DeMuth

February 11: Charlotte Khourey

February 14: Diane Frenn

February 15: Nettie Seidler

February 16: Dave Sengewalt

February 17: Rebecca DiFabrizio

February 21: Louie Khourey, Dennis Porter

February 24: Mary Lee Porter

February 27: MaryAnn Carl

March 2: Ava Murad

March 4: Jeff Sengewalt

<b><i>Your Church Support Last Week</i></b>	
\$1,293.00	Sunday Collection
48.00	Candles
20.00	Coffee hour
465.00	Valentine Party
\$1,826.00	Total Deposits: <i>May God reward you abundantly for supporting your spiritual home!</i> Finance Committee: Lou Khourey, Mary Stees, Linda Duffy, Susan Burns, Liz Murad

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

*(Note: Please call Msgr. Bakhos if you need your name added to our Prayer List. HIPPA regulations)*

Patty Olinsky, Earl Ragase, Bettie Jane Fadoul, Patrick Sengewalt, Renee Beabout (daughter of Marge John), Mary Stees, Rex Strawn, Viola J. Yeater (mother of Jeannette Wakim), Mary Thomas, Jack Hogan (infant son of Mark & Michaela Hogan & great nephew of Lou Khourey), Justin Frenn, Elia Frenn, Patty Fahey, Fred Schweizer (brother of our organist Mary Lee Porter),

## ***What's New?***

### ***Parish Condolences: Bryan Joseph***

The pastor and the parishioners of Our Lady of Lebanon Church, offer their heartfelt sympathy to the Joseph Family on the loss of their beloved Bryan who passed away in Maperville, IL. Bryan was the grandson of our beloved parishioners Kenny & Nancy Joseph. May the Blessed Mother intercede for him and lead him to the light of Christ. We extend the parish's condolences to his Family in their time of sorrow.

### ***In our Mailbox***

Dear Msgr. Bakhos,

We received the donation of \$120.00 from your parishioners to be used toward the needs of the Daycare. We thank so much all the parishioners who contributed toward this donation. Their names will be known by God and, we are sure, He will reward them. Please be assured of our prayers for each one of them and for your parish and for your person as the leader of this church. All our donors are in our prayers daily. May God shower upon them with blessings of good health and peace. The Antonine sisters, Youngstown, Ohio

### ***Rummage Sale***

The ladies of the church would appreciate any items to be donated toward the coming rummage sale in June. Please bring your items with you to the church and we will open the basement door for you. Many Thanks.

### ***Discernment Weekend*** *(March 24-26, 2023)*

Wondering if the Lord is calling you to the priesthood in the Maronite church? Men aged 18-40 are invited for the weekend of fellowship, prayer, discussion and discernment on March 24-26, 2023 at the Maronite Seminary, Washington, DC. Information: 202-723-8831

### ***Mahrajan Update*** *(Sunday, August 13, 2023)*

**Next year's date:**Next year we will celebrate our 90<sup>th</sup> Lebanese Festival (Mahrajan) at Oglebay Park on Sunday, August 13, 2023.

#### **Mahrajan Mailing List:**

If you have a friend or know someone who would be interested in receiving correspondence about next year's Festival, please submit their addresses to Msgr. Bakhos.

#### **Welcome center tent needed**

We need a generous person to sponsor a tent to be used as the welcome center at the entrance of the Mahrajan (Festival) this year. It is a heavy duty 10x15 feet with skirts and back wall. It cost \$475.00. Your donation is tax exempt. May God reward you manyfolds.

## ***Spirituality***

“O Mary, make us understand, want and possess: purity of soul and body with the greatest tranquility.

Teach us recollection and interiority.

Give us the willingness to listen to the good inspirations and the Word of God.

Teach us the need for meditation, inner personal life, and the prayer that God alone sees in secret.

O Mary, teach us love, love for Christ, the only, the highest, the most complete love, the love that is sacrifice for our brethren.

Obtain for us O Mary, supernatural faith, simple faith, both full and strong, sincere faith drawn from the true source, the Word of God.

O Mary, you are the image and the beginning of the Church.

You now shine before the people of God as a sign of certain hope and consolation". --Pope Paul VI

### ***Wisdom: I shall not live in vain***

If I can stop one heart from breaking, I shall not live in vain.

If I can ease one life the aching, or cool one pain, or help one fainting robin unto his nest again, I shall not live in vain. --Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

### ***Story: Good Mood***

Michael is the kind of guy you love to hate. He is always in a good mood and always has something positive to say. When someone would ask him how he was doing, he would reply, "If I were any better, I would be twins!" He was a natural motivator.

If an employee was having a bad day, Michael was there telling the employee how to look on the positive side of the situation. Seeing this style really made me curious, so one day I went up to Michael and asked him, "I don't get it! You can't be a positive person all of the time. How do you do it?" Michael replied, "Each morning I wake up and say to myself, you have two choices today. You can choose to be in a good mood or ... you can choose to be in a bad mood. I choose to be in a good mood."

Each time something bad happens, I can choose to be a victim or...I can choose to learn from it. I choose to learn from it. Every time someone comes to me complaining, I can choose to accept their complaining or... I can point out the positive side of life.

I choose the positive side of life.

"Yeah, right, it's not that easy," I protested. "Yes, it is," Michael said. "Life is all about choices. When you cut away all the junk, every situation is a choice. You choose how you react to situations. You choose how people affect your mood. You choose to be in a good mood or bad mood. The bottom line: It's your choice how you live your life."

I reflected on what Michael said. Soon hereafter, I left the Tower Industry to start my own business. We lost touch, but I often Thought about him when I made a choice about life instead of reacting to it.

Several years later, I heard that Michael was involved in a serious accident, falling some 60 feet from a communications tower. After 18 hours of surgery and weeks of intensive care, Michael was released from the hospital with rods placed in his back.

I saw Michael about six months after the accident. When I asked him how he was, he replied, "If I were any better, I'd be twins Wanna see my scars?"

I declined to see his wounds, but I did ask him what had gone through his mind as the accident took place. "The first thing that went through my mind was the well-being of my soon-to-be born daughter," Michael replied. "Then, as I lay on the ground, I remembered that I had two choices: I could choose to live or...I could choose to die. I chose to live." "Weren't you scared? Did you lose consciousness?" I asked.

Michael continued, "...the paramedics were great. They kept telling me I was going to be fine. But when they wheeled me into the ER and I saw the expressions on the faces of the doctors and nurses, I got really scared. In their eyes, I read "He's a dead man."

I knew I needed to take action." "What did you do?" I asked.

Well, there was a big burly nurse shouting questions at me," said Michael. "She asked if I was allergic to anything. 'Yes, I replied.'

The doctors and nurses stopped working as they waited for my reply. I took a deep breath and yelled, 'Gravity.'" Over their laughter, I told them, "I am choosing to live. Operate on me as if I am alive, not dead."

Michael lived, thanks to the skill of his doctors, but also because of his amazing attitude.

I learned from him that every day we have the choice to live fully.

Attitude, after all, is everything.

Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." Matthew 6:34.

After all today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday.

## *A Time to Laugh (48)*

### *Glazier*

My son is the manager of a glass and window company and advertised in the paper for experienced glaziers. Since a good glass man is hard to find, he was pleased when a man who called about the job said he had over 20 years of experience.

"Where have you worked as a glazier?" my son asked.

The man replied, "Dunkin' Donuts."

### *A Friendly Church*

After the pastor preached a sermon, "Recognition of Friends in Heaven," the following note was found in the suggestion box:

"Dear Reverend, Could you preach a message on "Recognition of Friends on Earth?" I have been coming to your church for six months and nobody has taken notice of me yet."

### *Enlightenment*

Every month the disciple faithfully sent his Master an account of his spiritual progress. In the first month he wrote, "I feel an expansion of consciousness and experience my oneness with the universe." The Master glanced at the note and threw it away. The following month this is what he had to say; "I have finally discovered that the divine is present in all things." The Master seemed disappointed. In his third letter the disciple enthusiastically explained, "The mystery of the One and the many has been revealed to my wondering gaze." The Master yawned. His next letter said, "No one is born, no one lives and no one dies, for the self is not." The Master threw his hands up in despair. After that a month passed by, then two, then five; then a whole year. The Master thought it was time to remind his disciple of his duty to keep him informed of his spiritual progress. The disciple wrote back, "Who cares?" When the Master read those words a look of satisfaction spread over his face. He said, "Thank God, at last he's got it!"

(Even the hankering for freedom is a bondage. Are you ever truly free till it no longer matters to you if you are free or not? Only the content are free)

### *Relationships*

Nasruddin's wife wanted a pet, so she brought a monkey.

Nasruddin wasn't pleased. "What's it going to eat?" he asked.

"Exactly what we eat," said the wife.

"And where is it going to sleep?"

"Right in bed with us."

"With us? What about the smell?"

"If I can put up with it, I guess the monkey can too."

### *Easy vs. Hard*

Why is it so hard to tell the truth but ... Yet so easy to tell a lie?

Why are we so sleepy in church but ...

Right when the sermon is over we suddenly wake up?

Why is it so hard to talk about God but yet ...

So easy to talk about nasty stuff?

Why is it so boring to look at a Christian magazine,

But ... yet so easy to look at a nasty one?

Why is it so easy to delete a Godly e-mail but ...

Yet we forward all of the nasty ones?  
 Why are the churches getting smaller but yet ...  
 The bars and dance clubs are getting larger?

## *Famous Quotes (47)*

- The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes come close.  
 When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.
- Men's hearts ought not to be set against one another, but set with one another, and all against evil only.  
 (Thomas Carlyle)
- Human kindness has never weakened the stamina or softened the fiber of a free people. A nation does not have to be cruel in order to be tough. (Franklin Roosevelt)
- When the bridegroom arrived, those who were ready went in and the others met with a closed door. They missed their moment. We must not miss ours. Is it too late for us? Only if we let the oil run out. (Sr. Mary Krug)
- Stay optimistic and try to see an opportunity in every calamity; not pessimistic and see a calamity in every opportunity.
- The optimist sees the donut, the pessimist the hole.
- There is always a good side to every situation.
- View every problem as an opportunity.
- When it is dark enough, you can see the stars.
- "A man would do nothing, if he waited until he could do it so well that no one at all would find fault with what he has done." (Cardinal John NEWMAN)
- God cannot fill you unless you empty yourself.
- God cannot enrich you unless you impoverish yourself.
- God cannot exalt you unless you humble yourself. (Bishop Fulton SHEEN)
- If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich. (John F. Kennedy)
- A poet says: "Sit on the edge of dawn, the sun rises upon you. Sit on the edge of night, stars shine upon you. Sit on the edge of the river, the nightingale sings to you. Sit on the edge of silence, God talks to you".
- Who sits in solitude and is quiet has escaped three wars: hearing, speaking, seeing; yet against one thing shall he continually battle: that is, his own heart. (Abbot ANTHONY)
- Here on earth, we have already both Hell and Heaven -in our passions and in our experience of God. (Father YELCHANINOV)
- The Christian is far more pagan than he knows; the pagan is more Christian than he admits. (Rosalind MURRAY)
- "Nothing is more certain than that a general profligacy and corruption of manners make a people ripe for destruction. A good form of government may hold the rotten materials together for some time, but beyond a certain pitch, even the best constitution will be ineffectual, and slavery must ensue." (John Witherspoon)
- Good friends are like stars.... You don't always see them, but you know they are always there.
- Don't frown. You never know who is falling in love with your smile.
- What do you do when the only person who can make you stop crying is the person who made you cry?
- Nobody is perfect until you fall in love with them.
- Everything is okay in the end. If it's not okay, then it's not the end.
- Most people walk in and out of your life, but only friends leave footprints in your heart.
- Remember, every minute spent angry is sixty seconds of happiness wasted.
- May today there be peace within you. May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be.
- "I believe that friends are quiet angels who lift us to our feet when our wings have trouble remembering how to fly."
- If you have not chosen the kingdom of God first, it will in the end make no difference what you have chosen instead.
- "Don't be afraid of the space between your dreams and reality. If you can dream it, you can make it so."  
 (Belva Davis)