



August 17, 2025
Bulletin #33

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003

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Monsignor Bakhos Chidiac, Pastor

Mary Lee Porter, Ed.D. Organist



11th Sunday of Pentecost

- ***Weekend Masses:** Saturdays: Mass at 4:00 p.m. and Sundays: Mass at 10:30 a.m.
 - ***Weekday Masses:** Tuesdays and Thursdays Mass at 12:00 Noon
Mondays and Wednesdays and Fridays: No Mass. Pastor's office work.
 - ***Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament:** Every 1st Saturday and Sunday of the month after Mass.
 - ***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 Khourey, Susan (John) Burns, Mark McLaughlin, Liz Murad, Gary Weisner.
 - ***Choir Members:** Lou Khourey, Robert Harris, Joe Simon, Shelly Hancher, Holly Stahl.
 - ***Bulletin Coordinator:** Thomasina Geimer
 - ***Altar Servers:** Joe Roxby and Christopher AlKhouri
 - ***Cedar Club:** Linda Duffy, President
 - ***Women's Society:** Jeannette Wakim, President
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- ***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.

11th Sunday of Pentecost

Readings: Exek 18:21-28; Eph 2:17-22 and Lk 19:1-10

How can Jesus' predilection for publicans and sinners be explained, except that there is some divine link between salvation and that which is lost? Such, at least, is suggested by the story of Zacchaeus, this senior tax collector. A man rich, despised, but enterprising, dogged and straightforward, wholly devoid of caring about appearances. It is not every day that a senior tax collector climbs a tree like a schoolboy in order to see Jesus passing by, making a public show of himself while Jesus is visiting Jericho!

It is from his perch in the sycamore that the Lord's grace plucks Zacchaeus, with humor and gentleness: "COME DOWN, HURRY!" Zacchaeus responds promptly to the divine impatience. He hears the words which do away with his life as an outcast and fill him with joy: I must stay at your house today. Today you too can become a son of Abraham! This "TODAY" of salvation Jesus no doubt explained at length to Zacchaeus in his house, while the people of Jericho complained outside. The offer of grace, the decision to accept it by the obedience of faith, this is the "TODAY" of God and mankind.

Forthright even in his spectacular conversion, Zacchaeus opens at the same time his house, his heart, his life: the fiscal officer admits his income, and taxes it generously for the poor and any he may have wronged. Some may have thought he had lost his head, but his unusual generosity was the simple consequence of God's goodness to him, the outer sign of an inward change of heart. When one has really been forgiven, the desire is to give everything in return, for one has become a new person, a descendant of Abraham, saved and believing in the unexpected and surprising love God bears towards us. The Church, too, is the house of sinners: but are we sufficiently aware of that?

Mahrajan Updating

Many Many Thanks

Many Thanks to all the Chairpersons and volunteers and benefactors who contributed their talents, expertise, time and money towards the festival this year. It was a team effort working together to honor the Assumption of the Blessed Mother into heaven. All of us worked happily to send a prayerful message to the Blessed Mother that we are her children on earth working in the hope to see her beautiful face in heaven. We shared with the multitude who came from near and far our pilgrimage to the festival as she used to take our Lord to the festival in Jerusalem each year. We worked unceasingly without complaint because we believe that she is able to grant us the strength to keep going. We believe that from her fullness of grace we can benefit many blessings upon ourselves and our families.

I pray for each and every one of you that you get many folds of whatever you spent. Also that your reward will be when she welcomes you with open arms and lead you to her divine Son in heaven. I hope and pray that one day you hear from her these words, "Job well done, my beloved children. Come and enjoy my company in heaven."

Monsignor Bakhos

THANK YOU, Lebanese Festival Volunteer Angels!

The Lebanese Festival was a huge success thanks to the support of our volunteers. To all volunteers who assisted with preparing food, baking cookies, making chocolates, gathering inventory at church, transporting equipment and supplies to the park, tent and equipment set-up, preparations at the park (5-evenings), working the booths during the Festival, take-down at the park, transportation back to church, cleaning equipment, and overall clean-up THANK YOU! The Lebanese Festival is an enormous event that takes all year to plan and over 6-days to execute at the park. We appreciate the efforts of everyone involved who volunteered for 30-minutes, a few hours, many days, or all year. We could not host the Lebanese Festival without our volunteers! May God Bless your heart and hands!

--Susan John

50/50 Raffle winner

--The winner of the 50/50 Raffle was Mr. Jim Nolte, ticket # 633. His prize was \$9,680.00 Congratulations

Lebanese Festival Yard Signs:

THANK YOU to all who displayed a Lebanese Festival yard sign at their home and/or business. We appreciate your support.

Please remember to remove the sign from your yard and return the sign-holder to the church. All sign-holders can be left inside the church entrance for pickup. Thanks again for your support!

Lebanese Festival Cookies:

We have very few Lebanese Festival cookies remaining. We will be selling Pistachio Bird Nest and Burma for \$1 each after mass on Sunday, August 17th.

Financial Report:

We could not publish the festival financial report until we pay all the bills. Some businesses and companies mail their bills at the end of the month which is August 31st. After we pay all the bills, we will publish the financial report in the bulletin. It will be around September 15th.

This Weekend: Saturday-Sunday, August 16-17

Saturday, August 16, Mass at 4:00 p.m.:

- ✠ Bob Sengewalt by Dave & Debbie Sengewalt
- ✠ Nimon Joseph (Anniversary) by the Weisner and Joseph Families
- ✠ Special Intention

Sunday, August 17, Mass at 10:30 a.m.:

- ✠ John Miller (Anniversary) by Mark & Barb McLaughlin
- ✠ Mary Zaid Stees, Elizabeth A. Magnone, Tom Ferris by Libby G. Magnone
- ✠ Kenny Joseph by Earl & Linda Duffy

Weekdays Mass Schedule

Monday, August 18: No Mass. Pastor's day off.

Tuesday, August 19 Mass at Noon:

- ✠ Janis & George Thomas (Ohio) by their last will
- ✠ Sylvia Long, her husband Arthur, and her son Mark by her last will
- ✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her last Will

Wednesday, August 20: No Mass. Office Work.

Thursday, August 21 Mass at Noon:

- ✠ Kenny Joseph by Ray Tucker
- ✠ Deceased Members of the Roxby Family by Joe Roxby
- ✠ Noel Foreman by his wife Anne and Family

Friday, August 22: No Mass. Office Work.

Next Weekend: Saturday-Sunday, August 23-24

Saturday, August 23, Mass at 4:00 p.m.:

- ✠ Kenny Joseph by Ron Weisner
- ✠ Noel Foreman by his wife Anne and Family

Sunday, August 24, Mass at 10:30 a.m.:

- ✠ 40-Day Mass for Kenny Joseph by the Joseph and Tucker Families
- ✠ Noel Foreman by his wife Anne and Family

Coming Parish Events

Sunday, September 21	Volunteers appreciation dinner after 10:30 Mass
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Special Collection (weekends of August 24 and 31)

Dear Parishioners,

We received from our diocese the following:

“In light of the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza and the surrounding regions, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has reached out to request our support in providing much-needed aid. This appeal covers the affected areas of Gaza, the Holy Land, Lebanon, and Syria. We ask that you take up a **special collection** in your parish on either **Sunday, August 24 or August 31**, to assist in these relief efforts.

Please forward the collected funds to the **Chancery Office** at your earliest convenience so that we can promptly transmit the support to those in need.”

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month

August 17: Judy Bedway
 August 20: Tricia Committee
 August 23: Georgene Weisner Manning
 August 25: Al Depto
 August 26: Nathan Wakim, Jessica George
 August 31: Joseph R. Simon
 September 1: Janet Fadoul Wilson
 September 8: Carol Dougherty
 September 9: Gary Weisner, Patrick Stees, Lorenzo Ferrera
 September 10: Chris George

Your Church Support Last Week

\$2,916.00	Sunday Collection
44.00	Candles
400.00	Donation to the church
5,932.00	Mahrajan
\$9,292.00	Total Deposits: May God reward you abundantly for supporting your spiritual home! Finance Committee: Lou Khourey, Susan Burns, Liz Murad, Mark McLaughlin

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)

Becky Ferrera, Marge John, Earl & Linda Duffy, Julia Schiess (daughter of Leo Bleifus), Mary Ragase, Gavin Hancher, Monroe DeLuca, Sally Sengewalt, Mary Zigler (sister of Lillian Siebieda), Dolores and Bob Oser, Anthony Wakim, Fran Saseen, Sandra DeMuth, Justin Frenn, Elia Frenn, Patty Fahey, Patty Olinsky, Fred Schweizer (brother of our organist Mary Lee Porter), Denny Albaugh, Rita Rae Sage,

What's New?

Lebanese Election 2026

If you have a Lebanese Citizenship and you are willing to vote in the upcoming parliamentary election in Lebanon, please call Msgr Bakhos at 304-233-1688 for more details. A petition is available online: <https://chnng.itHnkf2bcvGL>

Around Us

Clothes Selling at St. Michael church

At St. Michael Church, clothes are selling for .50cents each, coats \$3.00, shoes \$2.00 and everything else is priced as marked. Clothes range from newborn to Adult sizes.

Question & Answer (#28)

Question #28: "Why are religion and church so boring?"

Answer #28: They're not. If God made all things and, subsequently, knows the meaning of all things, how could the study of God possibly be boring? We sometimes make them boring, but they are not boring when properly taught and seriously studied.

Sometimes we're addicted to superficial kinds of excitement -that's one drawback of so much television and its never-ending stimulation. When it comes to really important things like God, why we exist and where we're headed, we yawn and flip the TV channel to watch some mindless sitcom that has phony track laughter in the background.

But sooner or later, the realities of life catch up with us and we're forced to face the Really Big Questions. Then we see that religion and church are anything but boring because they help us answer these questions.

Spirituality: Atheist feast day

In Florida, an atheist created a case against Easter and Passover Holy days. He hired an attorney to bring a discrimination case against Christians and Jews and observances of their holy days. The argument was that it was unfair that atheists had no such recognized days.

The case was brought before a judge. After listening to the passionate presentation by the lawyer, the judge banged his gavel declaring, "Case dismissed!"

The lawyer immediately stood objecting to the ruling saying, "Your honor, How can you possibly dismiss this case? The Christians have Christmas, Easter and others. The Jews have Passover, Yom Kippur and Hanukkah, yet my client and all other atheists have no such holidays."

The judge leaned forward in his chair saying, "But you do. Your client, counsel, is woefully ignorant."

The lawyer said, "Your Honor, we are unaware of any special observance or holiday for atheists."

The judge said, "The calendar says April 1st is April Fools Day. Psalm 14:1 states, 'The fool says in his heart, there is no God.' Thus, it is the opinion of this court, that, if your client says there is no God, then he is a fool. Therefore, April 1st is his day. Court is adjourned."

Wisdom: Why me?

Arthur Ashe, the legendary Wimbledon player was dying of CANCER.

From world over, he received letters from his fans, one of which conveyed: "Why did GOD have to select you for such a fatal disease?"

To this Arthur, Ashe replied: The world over 5 billion children start playing tennis, 5 million learn to play tennis, 0.5 million learn professional tennis, 50,000 come to the circuit, 5000 reach the grand slam, 50 reach Wimbledon, 4 to semi final, 2 to the finals, When I was holding a cup I never asked GOD "Why me?"

And today in pain I should not be asking GOD "Why me?"

Happiness keeps you Sweet, Trials keep you Strong, Sorrow keeps you Human, Failure Keeps you Humble, Success keeps you glowing, but only God Keeps you going.

The way to love anything is to realize that it might be lost."

Story

Every Sunday afternoon, after the morning service at their church, the Pastor and his eleven-year-old son would go out into their town and hand out Gospel Tracts. This particular Sunday afternoon, as it came time for the Pastor and his son to go to the streets with their tracts, it was very cold outside as well as pouring down rain. The boy bundled up in his warmest and driest clothes and said, "OK dad, I'm ready." His pastor dad asked, "Ready for what?" "Dad, it's time we gather our tracts together and go out." Dad responds, "Son, it's very cold outside and it's pouring down rain." The boy gives his dad a surprised look, asking, "But dad, aren't people still going to Hell, even though it's raining?" Dad answers, "Son, I am not going out in this weather." Despondently the boy asks, "Dad, can I go? Please?" His father hesitated for a moment then said, "Son, you

can go. Here are the tracts; be careful son." "Thanks Dad!!!" And with that he was off and out into the rain. This eleven-year-old boy walked the streets of the town going door to door and handing everybody he met in the street a Gospel Tract. After 2 hours of walking in the rain he was soaking bone-chilled wet and down to his VERY LAST TRACT. He stopped on a corner and looked for someone to hand a tract to but the streets were totally deserted. Then he turned toward the first home he saw and started up the sidewalk to the front door and rang the doorbell. He rang the bell--but nobody answered. He rang it again and again but still no one answered. He waited but still no answer. Finally this eleven-year-old trooper turned to leave but something stopped him. Again, he turned to the door and rang the bell and knocked loudly on the door with his fist. He waited, something holding him there on the front porch. He rang again, and this time the door slowly opened. Standing in the doorway was a very sad looking elderly lady? She softly asked, *"What can I do for you son?"* With radiant eyes and a smile that lit up her world this little boy said, *"Ma'am, I'm sorry if I disturbed you, but I just want to tell you that JESUS REALLY DOES LOVE YOU, and I came to give you my very last Gospel Tract which will tell you all about JESUS and His great LOVE."* With that he handed her his last tract, and turned to leave. She called to him as he departed, *"Thank you son! And God Bless You!"*

Well, the following Sunday Morning in Church, Pastor dad was in the pulpit and as the service began he asked, *"Does anybody have a testimony or want to say anything?"* Slowly, in the back row of the Church, an elderly lady stood to her feet. As she began to speak a look of glorious radiance came from her face as she said, *"None of you in this church know me. I've never been here before. You see, before last Sunday I was not a Christian. My husband has passed on, some time ago, leaving me totally alone in this world. Last Sunday, being a particularly cold and rainy day, it was even more so in my heart as I came to the end of the line where I no longer had any hope or will to live. So I took a rope and a chair and ascended the stairway into the attic of my home. I fastened the rope securely to a rafter in the roof then stood on the chair and fastened the other end of the rope around my neck. Standing on that chair, so lonely and brokenhearted, I was about to leap off when suddenly the loud ringing of my doorbell downstairs startled me. I thought, 'I'll wait a minute, and whoever it is will go away.' I waited and waited, but the ringing doorbell seemed to get louder and more insistent and then the person ringing also started knocking loudly. I thought to myself again, 'who on earth could this be? Nobody ever rings my bell or comes to see me.' I loosened the rope from my neck and started for the front door, all the while the bell rang louder and louder. When I opened the door and looked I could hardly believe my eyes for there on my front porch was the most radiant and angelic little boy I had ever seen in my life. His smile, Oh, I could never describe it to you!!! And the words that came from his mouth caused my heart, that had long been dead, to leap to life as he exclaimed with cherub like voice, 'Ma'am, I just came to tell you that JESUS REALLY DOES LOVE YOU.'" Then he gave me this Gospel Tract that I now hold in my hand. As the little angel disappeared back out, into the cold and rain, I closed my door and read slowly every word of this Gospel Tract. Then I went up to my attic to get my rope and chair. I wouldn't need them any more. You see, I am now a happy child of the King, and since the address of your Church was on the back of this Gospel Tract I have come here to personally say thank you to God's little angel who came just in the nick of time and, by so doing, spared my soul from eternity in hell."* There were now no dry eyes in the Church. And as shouts of praise, and honor to the King, resounded off the very rafters of the building, Pastor dad descended from the pulpit to the front pew where the little angel was seated; he took him in his arms and sobbed uncontrollably. Probably no church has had a more glorious moment. And probably this universe has never seen a Papa that was more filled with love & honor for his son, except for one -- this Father also allowed His Son to go out into a cold & dark world. He received His Son back with joy unspeakable, and as all of heaven shouted praises and honor to the King. The Father sat His beloved Son on a throne far above all principalities and powers.... and every name that is named.... Whatever the case, and whatever the problem or situation you find yourself in, and no matter how dark it may seem, I want you to know that I just came to tell you, **JESUS REALLY DOES LOVE YOU.**

Jokes (179)

Grace

Goldberg had the loveliest garden in town and each time the Rabbi passed by he would call out to Goldberg: "YOUR GARDEN IS A THING OF BEAUTY. THE LORD AND YOU ARE PARTNERS!"

"THANK YOU, RABBI," Goldberg would respond with a bow.

This went on for days and weeks and months. At least twice a day the Rabbi, on his way to and from the Synagogue would call out: "THE LORD AND YOU ARE PARTNERS!" until Goldberg began to be annoyed at what the Rabbi evidently meant as a compliment.

So the next time the Rabbi said: "THE LORD AND YOU ARE PARTNERS," Goldberg replied: "THAT MAY BE TRUE. BUT YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN THIS GARDEN WHEN THE LORD HAD IT ALL ON HIS OWN!"

Love

A Sunday school teacher told her children she was going to write their names on the blackboard. After each name she would write the one thing that particular child was the most grateful for.

One little boy was thinking hard when his name went on the board. When he was asked what should go after his name, he finally said: "MOTHER."

So that's what the teacher wrote. She was starting to write the next name when the boy began to wave his hand frantically.

"YES?" said the teacher. "PLEASE CANCEL MOTHER," said the little boy, "AND WRITE DOG."

Think & Laugh

--"Smoking kills. If you're killed, you've lost a very important part of your life." (Brooke Shields, during an interview to become Spokesperson for federal anti-smoking campaign.)

--"I've never had major knee surgery on any other part of my body." (Winston Bennett, University of Kentucky basketball forward.)

--"Outside of the killings, Washington has one of the lowest crime rates in the country." (Mayor Marion Barry, Washington, DC.)

Just One Drink

A man went into the same bar every day and ordered two drinks. He'd drink one, then slide to the other side of the table and drink the other. When asked about this, the man told the bartender, "One drink is for me; the other I drink for my friend who lives in Texas." One day the man came into the bar but only ordered one drink.

"Oh," asked the bartender, "did your friend in Texas pass away?"

"No," the man responded, "I'm just on the wagon."

Addictions and Stopping Them

One day a mechanic was working late under a car and some brake fluid dripped into his mouth. *Wow! That stuff isn't too bad tasting*, he thought.

The next day he told his buddy about tasting the brake fluid. "Not bad," he said. "Think I'll have a little more today." His friend got a little concerned but didn't say anything.

The next day he told about drinking a cupful of the brake fluid. "Great stuff. Think I'll have some more today." And so, he did.

A few days later he was up to a bottle a day, and his friend was now very worried. "You know that brake fluid is poisonous and really bad for you. You had better stop drinking it."

"Hey, no problem," he said. "I can stop anytime."

Famous Quotes (70)

--Never discourage anyone who continually makes progress, no matter how slow. (Plato)

--Try to be open with your child, allowing her to express her ideas and to confide her experiences and desires. Some of what she says you may find objectionable, but remember that she is struggling to develop herself in an atmosphere that differs considerably from the one in which you grew up. Being open with your child does not mean you must accept whatever she says or does. Indeed, you have an obligation to offer your opinions but it will be more effective if you avoid lecturing or moralizing when you do. (Saul Kapel, M.D.)

- Don't limit a child to your own learning, for he was born in another time. (Rabbinical saying)
- You have heard that it had been said, you shall love your neighbor, and hate your enemy. But I say to you, Love your enemies... (Jesus Christ)
- Instead of loving your enemies, treat your friends a little better. (Edgar Watson Howe)
- Inflict not on an enemy every injury in your power, for he may afterwards become your friend.
- O wise man, wash your hands of that friend who associates with your enemies. (Saadi)
- Treat your friend as if he might become an enemy. (Publilius Syrus)
- Observe your enemies, for they first find out your faults. (Antisthenes)
- Use your enemy's hand to catch a snake. (Persian proverb)
- Be your enemy an ant, see in him an elephant. (Turkish proverb)
- Be master of your petty annoyances and conserve your energies for the big, worthwhile things. It isn't the mountain ahead that wears you out— it is the grain of sand in your shoe. (Robert Service)
- Don't spend ten dollars' worth of energy on a ten-cent problem. There are millions of want-to's and have-to's in life. Ultimately, these pressures create stress only when your time and energy-spending decisions aren't consistent with your goals, beliefs and values. (Dr. Donald A. Tubesing)
- Before undertaking any design, weigh the glory of the action with the danger of the attempt. If the glory outweigh the danger it is cowardice to neglect it; if the danger exceed the glory, it is rashness to attempt it; if the balances stand poised, let your own genius cast them. (Francis Quarles)
- Make the best use of what is in your power, and take the rest as it happens. (Epictetus)
- Don't be afraid of opposition. Remember, a kite rises against, not with the wind. (Hamilton Wright Mabie)
- What people say you cannot do, you try and find that you can. (Henry David Thoreau)
- Be a pianist, not a piano. (A. R. Orage)
- It is enough if you don't freeze in the cold and thirst and hunger don't claw at your sides. If your back isn't broken, if your feet can walk, if both arms can bend, if both eyes can see, and if both ears hear, then whom should you envy? And why? Our envy of others devours us most of all. Rub your eyes and purify your heart and prize above all else in the world those who love you and who wish you well. Do not hurt or scold them, and never part from any of them in anger. After all, you simply do not know; it might be your last act. (Alexander Solzhenitsyn)
- "Love truth, and pardon error." (Voltaire)
- "When the most insignificant person tells us we are in error, we should listen, and examine ourselves, and see if it is so. To believe it possible we may be in error, is the first step toward getting out of it." (Johann K. Lavater)
- "Keep five yards from a carriage, ten yards from a horse, and a hundred yards from an elephant; but the distance one should keep from a wicked man cannot be measured." (Indian proverb)
- So, act that your principle of action might safely be made a law for the whole world. (Immanuel Kant)