



August 31, 2025
Bulletin #35

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

2216 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003

Rectory: 304-233-1688 • Fax: 304-233-4714

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

Monsignor Bakhos Chidiac, Pastor

Mary Lee Porter, Ed.D. Organist



13th 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.

13th Sunday of Pentecost

Readings: Gen 2:8-17; 1Cor 3:1-11 and Lk 8:1-15

Jesus' use of parables was no innovation in the context of his time and environment: there are many instances in the Old Testament of this way of teaching and the rabbis of Jesus' time used it continuously. However, Jesus' method undoubtedly did cause surprise. It followed a sermon which he began by plainly proclaiming that the Kingdom of Heaven was at hand, and therefore that all must turn from sin to the Lord. With the teaching in parables, it is not the subject matter which is different, but his hidden way of making it understood.

Suffice to say that Jesus did not make use of parables as a more expressive or clearer way of teaching. Doubtless the images clarify and are an aid to understanding, but they also puzzle. Only the one who begins to search, to ponder, to inquire, spurred on by a narrator who challenges his hearers to the utmost, will be in a position to understand. Each evangelist in his own way gives the reasons for the parables. For Matthew, understanding the parables presupposes a heart open to revelation, sincerely desiring to welcome the Word and to put it into practice — in spite of the obstacles it meets and its apparent setbacks.

Is it not true for us also that at certain times, everything conspires to prevent us from receiving this Word and to make us doubt its coming into the world? It is two thousand years since 'the Sower went out to sow, and sometimes it is very tempting to say: what a mess he made of it, how much has been lost! And does our own reaction to the wild extravagance of God consist of grasping without delay the word which we hear, so that we, in our turn, are possessed by it, caught up in the way of obedience and missionary zeal for his service? If so, then we too understand the parables!

From the desk of the pastor

Dear parishioners,

--If you have any 7-year-old child or grandchild ready to be prepared for First Communion, please call Msgr Bakhos at 304-233-1688. Courses may start soon.

--Please call the church office at 304-233-1688 every time you are unable to attend the church for a long period of time because of surgery or illness. We will be happy to mail you the weekly bulletin so that you keep informed about the life of the community.

--Msgr Bakhos

Mahrajan Updating

Diamond Sponsors needed

We are going to self-sufficiency in affording EZ pop up tents for our booths. Most of our festival profit is going towards the tents rental. Msgr. Bakhos ordered five tents for \$200.00 each. If you can sponsor one tent, your name will be listed as a "Diamond Sponsor" in the next year Ad Book. May the Blessed Mother reward you many fold in this life and in the next and bless the work of your hands. --Msgr. Bakhos

--1st tent sponsored by: Ron & Kim Gibbons (they will be Diamond Sponsors in next year Ad Book)

--2nd tent sponsored by: Janet Shutler (she will be a Diamond Sponsor in next year Ad Book)

--3rd tent sponsored by: Chris & Jeannette Wakim (they will be Diamond Sponsors in next year Ad Book)

--4th tent sponsored by: **(Please sponsor me)**

--5th tent sponsored by: **(Please sponsor me)**

--6th tent sponsored by: **(Please sponsor me)**

--7th tent sponsored by: **(Please sponsor me)**

--Arch for Mahrajan entrance sponsored by: **(Please sponsor me)**

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!

Financial Report

Like every year, 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.

Mass Schedule, this Weekend: Sat.-Sunday, August 30-31

Saturday, August 30, Mass at 4:00 p.m.:

✠ Shirley Elias Nickerson by her daughter Tammy Strong

✠ Kenny Joseph by Janet Shutler

✠ Noel Foreman by his wife Anne & Family

Sunday, August 31, Mass at 10:30 a.m.:

✠ Kenny Joseph by Jack Fahey

✠ Mary Zaid Stees, Elizabeth A. Magnone, Tom Ferris by Libby G. Magnone

✠ Noel Foreman by his wife Anne & Family

Weekdays Mass Schedule

Monday, September 1: No Mass. Pastor's day off.

Tuesday, September 2, Mass at Noon:

✠ Denise Bartolovich (Anniversary) by his wife Debbie and mother-in-law Helen Benline

✠ Shirley Elias Nickerson (Birthday) by her daughter Tammy Strong

✠ Rosella Saseen, parents Nancepe & Helen, grandparents Shikrey & Helen Saseen by her last Will

Wednesday, September 3: No Mass. Office Work.

Thursday, September 4, Mass at Noon:

✠ Kenny Joseph by Sandra Tucker DiPaolo

✠ Sylvia Long, her husband Arthur, and her son Mark by her last will

✠ Tom Ferris (Birthday) by his niece Libby G. Magnone

Friday, September 5: No Mass. Office Work.

Mass Schedule, next Weekend: Sat.-Sunday, September 6-7

Saturday, September 6, Mass at 4:00 p.m.: Mass will be followed by Benediction

✠ Kenny Joseph by Janet Shutler

✠ Tom and Mary K. Ferris by their daughter Denise

✠ Noel Foreman by his wife Anne & Family

Sunday, September 7, Mass at 10:30 a.m.: Mass will be followed by Benediction

✠ Elias and Fouad Frenn (Anniversary) by Dr. Adel, Diane, Justin Frenn and Andreah, Zack and Christian Riedel

✠ John F. Kukula (Anniversary) by his wife Mary Rose Kukula

✠ Susie, Betty Jean, George and Rose Fadoul, Joe & Nell Duffy by Mickey & Linda Duffy

Coming Parish Events

Sunday, September 21	Volunteers appreciation dinner after 10:30 Mass
November 2 thru 8	Fall Bake Sale. Orders due Saturday, November 8

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month

September 1: Janet Fadoul Wilson

September 8: Carol Dougherty

September 9: Gary Weisner, Patrick Stees, Lorenzo Ferrera

September 10: Chris George

September 18: Michael Duymich

September 20: Regina Hancher, Gavin Hancher

September 24: Luane Frazier

September 26: Mary Rose Kukula

October 4: Leo Bleifus

October 6: Joe Popovich, Frank Duymich

Your Church Support Last Week

\$1,181.00	Sunday Collection
567.00	2 nd collection toward the humanitarian crisis in Gaza
70.00	Candles
17.00	Coffee hour
122.00	Donation to the church
2,500.00	Mahrajan
\$4,457.00	Total Deposits: May God reward you abundantly for supporting your spiritual home! Finance Committee: Lou Kourey, 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)

Nini Miller, 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,

Question & Answer (#30)

Question #30: "Why was Jesus killed on the cross?"

Answer: Because many of the Jewish priests and elders at that time, as well as pagan Roman leaders, were greatly disturbed and threatened by His message. The Jewish leaders saw Him as a threat to the Jewish Law. The Roman leaders were concerned that He would cause a political uprising.

Spirituality: I am the Bible

I am the Bible, God's wonderful library.

I am always — and above all — the truth.

To the weary pilgrim, I am a strong staff.

To the one who sits in darkness, I am glorious light.

To those who stumble beneath heavy burdens, I am sweet rest.

To him who has lost his way, I am a safe guide.

To those who are sick in sin, I am healing strength and forgiveness.

To the discouraged, I am a glad message of hope.

To those who are distressed and tossed about by the storms of life, I am an anchor, sure and steadfast.

To those who search for salvation, I reveal the Savior of the world. I am the Bible.

-Author Unknown

Wisdom: I wish you enough

Recently, I overheard a father and daughter in their last moments together at the airport. As the daughter's plane departure was announced, they hugged near the security gate where they were standing. He said, *"I love you. I wish you enough."* She said, *"Daddy, our life together has been more than enough. Your love is all I ever needed. I wish you enough, too, Daddy."* They kissed, and she got on the plane. He walked over to the window where I was seated.

Standing there, I could see he wanted and needed to cry. I tried not to intrude on his privacy, but he welcomed me in by asking, *"Did you ever say good-bye to someone, knowing it would be forever?"* *"Yes, I have,"* I replied. Saying that brought back memories I had of expressing my love and appreciation for all my Dad had done for me. Recognizing that his days were limited, I took the time to tell him face to face how much he meant to me. So, I knew what this man was experiencing.

"Forgive me for asking, but why is this a forever good-bye?" I asked. *"I am old, and she lives much too far away. I have challenges ahead, and the reality is, her next trip back will be for my funeral,"* he said. *"When you were saying good-bye, I heard you say, 'I wish you enough.' May I ask what that means?"*

He began to smile. *"That's a wish that has been handed down from other generations. My parents used to say it to everyone."* He paused for a moment and, looking up as if trying to remember it in detail, he smiled even more. *"When we said 'I wish you enough,' we were wanting the other person to have a life filled with enough good things to sustain them,"* he continued. Then turning toward me, he shared the following as if he were reciting it from memory:

"I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright, enough rain to appreciate the sun more, enough happiness to keep your spirit alive, enough pain so that the smallest joys in life appear much bigger, enough gain to satisfy your wanting, enough loss to appreciate all that you possess, and enough "Hello's" to get you through the final "Good-bye."

He then began to sob and walked away saying; *"I wish you ENOUGH."*

Story

Mother's Escort

Although Mother raised two children during the fifties and sixties, there was another child she could never forget. Mark was a beautiful red-headed baby who entered the world a month prematurely. He struggled to breathe from the beginning. Six hours after his birth, he gasped his last breath.

One of Mother's greatest regrets was never having held her baby son while he was alive. She was still in the hospital on the day of Mark's funeral, so my dad carried the little coffin into her hospital room for her to say goodbye. A mother can never forget the love of her child, and so it was with my mother. She got on with her life, but when people asked her how many children she had, she usually answered "three." So as teenagers, when my brother and I bought her a mother's ring, we made sure there were three stones surrounding her ruby birthstone; two diamonds, to represent the April birthdays of her living children and the "aquamarine" for Mark's March birthday.

When my mother was ninety-four, she broke her hip. She stayed in the hospital three weeks, but then returned home, living independently by late April. In early May, she called me one day, her voice full of joy.

"Margaret, when I woke up this morning, there was a tall, handsome, red-haired man standing beside my bed," she said. I was immediately flooded with peace and joy. I knew instantly that it was Mark. He told me, 'It won't be long. I will be coming for you.'" She repeated the story to my brother a few weeks later while they visited Mark's grave at the cemetery on Memorial Day.

Mother steadily improved, and I forgot about Mark's visit. Mother, however, started putting her affairs in order, wanting to sell her rental property, emptying closets, and repeatedly saying she wanted to clean out her house and have a rummage sale.

In mid-August, Mother fell and needed hospitalization; in early September she experienced a stroke. When she could not speak, she would often gaze upon the mother's ring we had given her. On December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, she was humming "Joy to the World with some carolers as she sat eating supper at 6 p.m. Within the hour, she had passed away.

The next day at the funeral home, the funeral director handed me a small black bag containing Mother's jewelry. As I opened the bag and her Mother's ring fell into my hand, all at once I remembered Mother's visitor. I realized Mark had come for her. It was a comfort to know she did not leave this world alone.

Jokes (181)

Education

Mother: “Did you know that God was present when you stole that cookie from the kitchen?” “Yes.”
 “And he was looking at you all the time?” “Yes.” “And what do you think he was saying to you?” “He was saying: ‘There’s no one here but the two of us – take two.’”

Alleluia!!!

When Handel’s MESSIAH was first performed in London, the King who was present, was so carried away by religious sentiment during the Alleluia chorus that, against all convention, he stood up in silent respect for the masterpiece he was hearing.

When they saw this, all the nobles present followed the example of the King and stood up too. That was the signal, of course, for everyone in the audience to stand up!

Since then it is considered de rigueur to stand up each time the Alleluia is sung regardless of one’s inner disposition or the quality of the performance.

Parrot & Cough

An old sailor gave up smoking when his pet parrot developed a persistent cough. He was worried that the pipe smoke that frequently filled the room had damaged the parrot’s health.

He had a vet examine the bird. After a thorough check-up the vet concluded that the parrot did not have psittacosis or pneumonia. It had merely been imitating the cough of its pipe-smoking master.

Oops!!!

Uncle Joe had come for the weekend and little Jimmy was ecstatic that his great hero was going to share his room and bed. Just after lights out Jimmy remembered something. “O0ps!” he cried, I nearly forgot!!”

He jumped out of bed and knelt down beside it. Not wishing to set a bad example to the little fellow, Uncle Joe heaved himself out of bed and knelt down on the other side.

“Boy!” whispered Jimmy in awe. “When mom finds out tomorrow, you’ll get it! The pot’s on this side.”

Famous Quotes (72)

--Do you want many graces? Go and visit the Blessed Sacrament often.

Do you want few graces? Visit the Blessed Sacrament rarely.

Do you want none at all? Then never pay a visit to the Blessed Sacrament. (St. John Bosco)

All I was doing was trying to get home from work. Rosa Parks

I came, I saw, I conquered. Julius Caesar

I think, therefore I am. René Descartes

Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect. Mark Twain

Be yourself; everyone else is already taken. Oscar Wilde

The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step. Lao Tzu

I’ve failed over and over and over again in my life and that is why I succeed. Michael Jordan

It does not matter how slowly you go so long as you do not stop. Confucius

It’s not whether you get knocked down, it’s whether you get up. Vince Lombardi

Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined. Henry David Thoreau

You miss 100 percent of the shots you never take. Wayne Gretzky

Nonviolence is a weapon of the strong. Mahatma Gandhi

Peace begins with a smile. Mother Teresa

Stay hungry, stay foolish. Steve Jobs

Good artists copy, great artists steal. Pablo Picasso

Big Brother is watching you. George Orwell

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. Nelson Mandela

The only thing that interferes with my learning is my education. Albert Einstein

Genius is one percent inspiration, ninety-nine percent perspiration. Thomas A. Edison

If you think you can do a thing or think you can't do a thing, you're right. Henry Ford

Better to die standing than to live on your knees. Ernesto "Che" Guevara

It always seems impossible until it's done. Nelson Mandela (wikipedia.org)

Try not to become a man of success but rather to become a man of value. Albert Einstein

Insanity: doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. Albert Einstein

Our life is frittered away by detail... simplify, simplify. Henry David Thoreau

The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong. Mahatma Gandhi

The unexamined life is not worth living. Socrates

Turn your wounds into wisdom. Oprah Winfrey

I don't think of all the misery but of the beauty that still remains. Anne Frank

I fear not the man who has practiced 10,000 kicks once, but I fear the man who has practiced one kick 10,000 times. Bruce Lee

A man who stands for nothing will fall for anything. Malcolm X

Love all, trust a few, do wrong to none. William Shakespeare (wikipedia.org)

Do what you can, with what you have, where you are. Theodore Roosevelt

Little by little, one travels far. J.R.R. Tolkien

Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible. 14th Dalai Lama

I have a dream that one day little black boys and girls will be holding hands with little white boys and girls. Martin Luther King Jr

God helps those that help themselves. Benjamin Franklin

By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail. Benjamin Franklin