



September 7, 2025  
Bulletin #36

## ***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



### ***Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary***

- \***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 1<sup>st</sup> 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



#### \***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.

## *Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

Readings: Deut 6:4-9; 1Thess 2:1-13 and Lk 10:38-42

Mary As Model For Every Christian

What characterized Mary -although in her unique perfection- would also have to be what distinguishes every Christian: being another Christ, with the personality that God has given him or her. Even praying the rosary took on a new dimension in that each Hail Mary “had to be made up of living words, of people who, almost like other little Marys, would give love to the world.”

### **Mary as a model:**

The Annunciation (Lk 1:26):

Just like the word became flesh in Mary’s womb, when people come across a charism in the Church and make it their own, Christ, in their heart, can truly grow spiritually in fulfillment of baptism. Something similar happened to certain saints. It is said, for example, that “Christ became incarnate in the heart of Clare” when she met St. Francis.

### **The Visitation (Lk 1:39):**

Those who choose God as the ideal of their life realize that this requires concrete steps and they begin to love. Since love is a light, they perceive the golden thread of God’s love in their life. And they start to tell what they have understood to their brothers and sisters -just like Mary told Elizabeth in the Magnificat.

### **The birth of Jesus (Lk 2:7; Mt 1:25):**

Mutual love brings about the presence of Jesus among people, a “generating of Christ”.

### **The Presentation (Lk 2:22):**

It is necessary to say “yes” to the cross -just as Mary accepted the suffering foretold by Simeon. The mystery of Jesus crucified and forsaken is essential to the life of a Christian.

### **The Flight to Egypt (Mt 2:13):**

To a certain extent those who follow the Way of Mary may undergo persecution since their life is in opposition to the ways of the world. It is then necessary to embrace this cross and to stay close to one’s spiritual family.

### **The finding of Jesus in the temple (Lk 2:48):**

Perhaps after years of living this way of life, various temptations, painful aridity, long since gone, now re-surface with acute insistence. The impression that Jesus has left them and the realization that all the beautiful things had been received from him, lay the necessary foundations for humility. This period might be the so-called “night of the senses” which the mystics speak of.

The following intimate family life with Jesus is compared to a new and deeper union with him after having overcome the preceding stages and trials. Just like Mary followed Jesus as he began his public life, people at this spiritual stage become more aware of the voice of Jesus in their heart and they follow it. Results for example are new developments in the kingdom of God.

### **Mary at the foot of the cross (Jn 19:25):**

Sufferings similar to those of Mary in this moment can arrive, terrible trials of feeling abandoned by him or when faith, hope and charity seem to fade away.

Mary at the center of the Upper Room: After the descent of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1) Mary is transformed into Jesus as another Christ and thus contributes toward the spreading of the Church, a goal which mystics call the “transforming union.”

### **Mary’s Assumption:**

Before dying St. Clare of Assisi said these words: “Go confidently my soul because the One who has created you ... has sanctified you ... has loved you tenderly. Blessed are you, Lord, for having created me.”

“May heaven grant that something similar, at least, may happen to us! Then we too will rise up with our Mother, our saint, our model, she who on earth was our Head, Queen and Mother.”

## *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. I will be happy to visit you and 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

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

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

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

--4<sup>th</sup> tent sponsored by: Earl (Mickey) & Linda Duffy (they will be Diamond Sponsors in next year Ad Book)

--5<sup>th</sup> tent sponsored by: Mary Rose Kukula (She will be Diamond Sponsor in next year Ad Book)

--6<sup>th</sup> tent sponsored by: Dennis & Mary Lee Porter (they will be Diamond Sponsors in next year Ad Book)

--7<sup>th</sup> tent sponsored by: Rob Wodusky (he will be Diamond Sponsor in next year Ad Book)

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

## ***Financial Report***

Please find attached the Mahrajan Financial Report. Note how much expenses the church has to incur to run the festival. Nothing is free and all companies warned us about 20% increase next year. Thanks for your donations and support to keep our Mahrajan going for the 93<sup>rd</sup> year.

## ***Mass Schedule, this Weekend: Sat.-Sunday, September 6-7*** ***Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary***

### **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

✠ Richard Loth by his sister Mary Rose Kukula

### **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

## ***Weekdays Mass Schedule***

### **Monday, September 8, Mass at noon:** Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

✠ Kenny Joseph by Ron Weisner

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

### **Tuesday, September 9, Mass at Noon:**

✠ Patrick Stees (Birthday) by Libby G. Magnone

✠ Janis & George Thomas (Ohio) by their last will

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

**Wednesday, September 10:** No Mass. Office Work.

**Thursday, September 11, Mass at Noon:**

✠ Kenny Joseph by Sandra Tucker DiPaolo

✠ Rosalie Olinski (Anniversary) by Mary ragase

**Friday, September 12:** No Mass. Office Work.

## *Mass Schedule, next Weekend: Sat.-Sunday, September 13-14* *Exaltation of the Holy Cross*

**Saturday, September 13, Mass at 4:00 p.m.:**

✠ Kenny Joseph by Ray Tucker

✠ Intentions of the Benefactors and volunteers at our church

**Sunday, September 14, Mass at 10:30 a.m.:**

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

✠ Tom & Mary K. Ferris by their daughter Denise Ferris

## *Coming Parish Events*

Sunday, September 21	Volunteers appreciation dinner after 10:30 Mass
November 10 thru 15 <sup>th</sup>	Monday, November 10: dicing onions Tuesday, November 11: Browning meat Wednesday, November 12: Baking kibbee Thursday, November 13: Meat Pies Saturday, November 15: Orders pick-up

✠

## *All Souls Two Week Masses* (From November 1<sup>st</sup> until November 9<sup>th</sup>)

The weekend Masses will be followed by the Prayer of Incense for the Repose of All Souls.

Special day remembrance during these two week Masses for All Souls:

Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>:

✠ Steve & Elizabeth Harasuik (Wedding Anniversary) by George & Susan Saseen and Family

Sunday, November 9:

✠ Sara (Joseph) McLaughlin (Anniversary) by Mark & Barb McLaughlin

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

### **Masses for All Souls**

✠ Deceased of the Khourey & Howard Families by Lou & Charlotte Khourey & Emmalena & Louie

✠ Virginia Khourey Bryan & Deceased of the Nabiha & Habib Khourey Family by the Khourey Family

✠ Deceased of the Nader Family by Lou & Charlotte Khourey & Emmalena & Louie

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

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

✠ Janis & George Thomas (Ohio) by their last will

✠ Youssef Chahine by his wife Jocelyne and Family (PA)

✠ Deceased of the Chidiac Family by Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac

✠ John Shiben by his wife Dee

✠ Khalil & Sadie & Maria Harb & Annette & Al Togliatti by Jamil Harb (Troy, MI)

✠ Sarah Harb (sister of Benefactor Jamil Harb) by the Family

✠ Najla Nassar and Nawal El-Hage by Anthony & Rena Nassar and Family

✠ Tom & Mary K. Ferris by their daughter Denise

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

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***

\$2,048.00	Sunday Collection
58.00	Candles
19.00	Coffee hour
1,200.00	Donation to the church
291.00	Mahrajan
\$3,616.00	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)*

Earl & Linda Duffy, Nini Miller, Becky Ferrera, Marge John, 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 (#31)***

Question #31: "Why does Jesus love us so much?"

Answer: Because He is God. God loves us perfectly. Our finite minds can't grasp the infinite. This is why we will never fully understand why God loves us so much. The evidence of His love for us is that He died for our sins. Scripture says: "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13). Jesus' death for us on the cross was the supreme act of love.

One other reason why we know Jesus loves us is because He made us. This is an act of love.

### ***Spirituality: The Bible***

***The Bible Has Been translated into 2,300 languages***

In 1804 the Bible had been translated into 67 languages. In 1850, the figure rose to 200, and by the end of the 19th century, it reached 500. The figure was doubled over the next 50 years. According to a report of the Bible Societies for April 2000, Sacred Scripture has now been translated into 2,300 languages. However, the number of recorded languages in the world is over 6,500.  
*(Zenit, July 19, 2000)*

### ***Wisdom: Best wishes***

"I wish for you..."

Comfort on difficult days, Smiles when sadness intrudes,  
 Rainbows to follow the clouds, Laughter to kiss your lips,

Sunsets to warm your heart, Gentle hugs when spirits sag,  
 Friendships to brighten your being, Beauty for your eyes to see,  
 Confidence for when you doubt, Faith so that you can believe,  
 Courage to know yourself, Patience to accept the truth,  
 And love to complete your life.

God Bless you!

I asked the Lord to bless you As I prayed for you today  
 To guide you and protect you As you go along your way....  
 His love is always with you His promises are true  
 No matter what the tribulation You know He will see us through  
 So, when the road you're traveling on seems difficult at best  
 Give your problems to the Lord And God will do the rest.

## *Story*

### Mother Senses Daughter Is in Big Trouble

An orange-sherbet sunrise heralded the day as I reached for my morning tea. Glancing at the clock, I knew Amanda would soon be on her way home, tired from her night shift at the coffee shop in the city.

I went about my usual morning routine, and thought how determined my daughter was to earn enough money to help put herself through college. It was a challenge for her to juggle two jobs, but she managed. As I drifted from dishes to dusting, I felt an unusual surge of concern for my now late-arriving daughter. I tried to keep busy, but I found myself watching out the window and listening for the familiar sound of Amanda's car pulling into the driveway.

A wave of nausea washed over me, and my heart raced for a moment. I closed my eyes and prayed for her safety, then chastised myself for being a paranoid mother. Amanda often jokingly reminded me about my smothering-mother tendencies. I countered with the "until you have children of your own" lecture. Was this one of those moments? I called Amanda's cell phone. No answer.

Something was terribly wrong. I felt an urge to jump in my car and look for her. First, though, I called out to God for direction. I cannot say I heard an audible voice - it was more like a gentle nudge, but I truly felt God wanted me to leave the house.

My heart raced as I followed the likely route Amanda would take home. I kept pushing the redial button on my cell phone, but Amanda was not answering. I felt a sudden grip of fear and pulled over to the side of the road, wondering what to do. I remembered the countless times I had told Amanda to pray — how it was the most important step to take when fear crouched on the doorstep. So I prayed. I prayed that God would send His angels to protect my daughter. My fear, thankfully, did not turn into panic, as I still felt compelled to drive. I drove for 40 minutes, but there was no sign of Amanda. Then my cell phone rang. My heart jumped to my throat. It was a female voice. The connection was so poor that I could hardly make it out:

"... accident... Bethel Sideroad ..." I thought it was Amanda's voice, but I couldn't be sure. I was about 15 minutes away from the Bethel Sideroad, so I did my best to keep my composure and drove, praying without ceasing.

A sickening sight awaited me. An ambulance and two police cars blocked the path of oncoming traffic. I saw Amanda's little gray car wrapped around a broken hydro pole. The whole car was crushed. I gasped in horror and knew Amanda had surely perished in such a wreck. Feeling faint, I jammed on my brakes. A policewoman, approached me, and I wailed in agony. I jumped out of my car, frantically screaming for Amanda. Just then, she stepped out of the ambulance. "Mom!" she called. Traced to her and clung to her with my arms and heart.

How had she survived? The paramedics kept saying it was nothing less than a miracle. The police officers, after they had calmed me down, told me they had expected to pull a body out of the car. In their estimation, no one should have survived such a horrendous accident.

Amanda apparently had fallen asleep at the wheel, and as she hit the side of the road, her car had flipped twice and hit the hydro pole. The entire car was crushed - except for the driver's seat. She was taken to the hospital for observation, but other than a few scratches and bruises, she was fine. I still marvel at the power of

prayer and the sense of urgency that flooded my mind and heart that morning. The Almighty Protector shielded my Amanda - and sent His angels to protect her, just as I had prayed.

## *Jokes (183)*

### *The Self*

A woman in a coma was dying. She suddenly had a feeling that she was taken up to heaven and stood before the Judgment Seat.

“WHO ARE YOU?” a Voice said to her. “I’M THE WIFE OF THE MAYOR,” she replied.

“I DID NOT ASK YOU WHOSE WIFE YOU ARE BUT WHO YOU ARE.” “I’M THE MOTHER OF FOUR CHILDREN.” “I DID NOT ASK WHOSE MOTHER YOU ARE, BUT WHO YOU ARE.” “I’M A SCHOOLTEACHER.” “I DID NOT ASK YOU WHAT YOUR PROFESSION IS BUT WHO YOU ARE.”

And so it went. No matter what she replied, she did not seem to give a satisfactory answer to the question,

“WHO ARE YOU?” “I’M A CHRISTIAN.”

“I DID NOT ASK WHAT YOUR RELIGION IS BUT WHO YOU ARE.”

“I’M THE ONE WHO WENT TO CHURCH EVERY DAY AND ALWAYS HELPED THE POOR AND NEEDY.”

“I DID NOT ASK YOU WHAT YOU DID BUT WHO YOU ARE.”

She evidently failed the examination for she was sent back to earth. When she recovered from her illness she determined to find out who she was. And that made all the difference.

### *The Self*

A worried looking fellow walks into the psychiatrist’s office smoking pot and wearing love-beads, bell-bottom trousers frayed at the ends and shoulder-length hair.

The psychiatrist says, “YOU CLAIM YOU ARE NOT A HIPPIE. THEN HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THE CLOTHES, THE HAIR, THE POT?”

“THAT’S WHAT I’M HERE TO FIND OUT, DOCTOR.”

### *Truth*

A man was drinking tea with a friend in a restaurant. He looked long and hard at his cup, then said with a resigned sigh, “AH, MY FRIEND, LIFE IS LIKE A CUP OF TEA.”

The other pondered this for a while, looked long and hard at his own cup, then asked, “WHY? WHY IS LIFE LIKE A CUP OF TEA?” The man said, “HOW SHOULD I KNOW? AM I AN INTELLECTUAL?”

## *Famous Quotes (73)*

Fear is stupid. So are regrets. Marilyn Monroe

Do something worth remembering. Elvis Presley

Whatever you are, be a good one. Abraham Lincoln

Better to build a bridge than a wall. Elton John

Be proud of who you are. Eminem

Genius is eternal patience. Michelangelo

Not all those who wander are lost. J.R.R. Tolkien

It is not in the stars to hold our destiny but in ourselves. William Shakespeare

I am the greatest, I said that even before I knew I was. Muhammad Ali

I would like to die on Mars. Just not on impact. Elon Musk

Winners never quit, and quitters never win. Vince Lombardi

Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication. Leonardo da Vinci

Nobody can hurt me without my permission. Mahatma Gandhi

It’s fun to do the impossible. Walt Disney

Have no fear of perfection, you’ll never reach it. Salvador Dali

We need fantasy to survive reality. Lady Gaga

The future starts today, not tomorrow. Pope John Paul II

The best way to predict your future is to create it. Abraham Lincoln

If not us, who? If not now, when? John F. Kennedy

Stumbling is not falling. Malcolm X

The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams. Eleanor Roosevelt

We are all of us stars, and we deserve to twinkle. Marilyn Monroe

Those who say it can't be done are usually interrupted by others doing it. James Baldwin

We don't want to tell our dreams. We want to show them. Cristiano Ronaldo

Power is not given to you. You have to take it. Beyoncé

You laugh at me because I'm different I laugh at you because you're all the same. Lady Gaga

I have learned over the years that when one's mind is made up, this diminishes fear; knowing what must be done does away with fear. Rosa Parks

If I have seen further than others, it is by standing upon the shoulders of giants. Isaac Newton

Learn to value yourself, which means: to fight for your happiness. Ayn Rand

You'll never find a rainbow if you're looking down. Charlie Chaplin

That which does not kill us makes us stronger. Friedrich Nietzsche

Wise men talk because they have something to say; fools, because they have to say something. Plato

Once you've accepted your flaws, no one can use them against you. George R.R. Martin

If you can't convince them, confuse them. Harry S. Truman

I don't care that they stole my idea... I care that they don't have any of their own. Nikola Tesla

A fool thinks himself to be wise, but a wise man knows himself to be a fool. William Shakespeare

If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude. Maya Angelou

Too often we enjoy the comfort of opinion without the discomfort of thought. John F. Kennedy

There is nothing so useless as doing efficiently that which should not be done at all. Peter Drucker

Doubt is not a pleasant condition, but certainty is absurd. Voltaire

We must use time as a tool, not as a couch. John F. Kennedy

Someone's sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago. Warren Buffett