



March 1, 2026  
Bulletin #9

## *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](mailto:ololwv@comcast.net) • Web Site: [www.ololwv.com](http://www.ololwv.com)

Monsignor Bakhos Chidiac, Pastor

Mary Lee Porter, Ed.D. Organist



### *Sunday of the Hemorrhaging woman*

- \***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.

## ***Gospel Reflection: Sunday of the Hemorrhaging woman***

Readings: Num 15:37-41; 2 Cor 7:4-11 and Lk 8:40-56

Having overcome the power of nature and the power of evil in the last two scenes, Jesus would now overcome the power of death itself. The scene will also speak more openly of faith. Courage will be demanded in the faith of both protagonists in this story, and in each case there will be two stages to that courage.

In stark contrast to the pagan crowd, which had been so fearful that it had asked Jesus to depart, the Jewish crowd in this scene thronged around him, for the pagan crowd feared the unknown, while this crowd knew that there were miracles to be had.

The term 'leader of the synagogue' does not refer to a person who conducted the service and preached, but to a person who had charge of the synagogue building and organized the externals of the services. Falling at the feet of Jesus was a courageous action, for he risked condemnation by the authorities above him. It was love for his daughter that gave him this courage, for love led to hope and hope created faith. The courage of the man was recognized by Jesus and his appeal was one that he would always hear, so he went with him, causing his hopes to soar. It is implied that in the press of the crowd many people were physically touching Jesus. The story of the woman is now inserted into the middle of the story of the leader and his daughter. For the Jewish people blood was the life-force of the living being: 'For the life of the flesh is in the blood'. The symbolism, therefore, is that the very life of this woman had been draining away.

Furthermore, the flow of blood made the woman ritually unclean". In this ordinary aspect of their life, all women were considered 'unclean' at the time of their periods and unable to take part in public worship, and for this woman that state had lasted continuously for twelve long years. Life had been ebbing out of her for as long as the young girl had had life in her. Every human effort had been made and nothing more could be done. The woman found herself in an endless state of being ill, unclean, humiliated and impoverished. 'It is scarcely possible to grasp the loneliness and isolation of her situation .... She is in many ways one of the most marginalized figures in the Gospel.' She is in stark contrast with the religiously and socially important leader of the synagogue, as Mary had been in contrast with Zechariah. In order to reach Jesus she had to push through the crowd and, in doing so, she had made each individual she touched unclean. When she then touched the garment of Jesus, she made him unclean too. She was, therefore, afraid to approach openly and sought to touch his cloak from behind.

Even this action took courage, for she would be roundly condemned and shunned if the crowd discovered what she was doing. When she finally touched Jesus, the life that had been slowly ebbing out of her flooded back immediately, as her weakness drew life from his wholeness. Jesus was instantly aware that power had gone out of him and sought to know who was the person concerned. Many people had been constantly touching Jesus in the press of the crowd, but only for this one person did he experience the power of life going out from him.

One may see at least three reasons why it was important for Jesus to find the one who had touched him: what had happened had to be distinguished from some kind of magical action; the miracle had to become an experience of faith, both for the woman and for the crowd; and any guilt she felt at having made him unclean had to be taken away.

If it had taken courage for the woman to push through the crowd and touch the clothes of Jesus, it now took greater courage for her to confess her action before the whole crowd. Her sense of guilt did not come from the cure, but from having made a number of people unclean. The scene shows that Jesus saw women as in many matters in the same category as the outcast, and that he had no time at all for the idea of women as unclean because of menstruation.

Jesus did not say 'The power of life within me has saved you', but rather 'Your faith has saved you.' Many people had been touching Jesus, pressing in on him as he made his way through them, and the power of life in him was available to all of them, but none of them was cured of any affliction except this woman. The power was always there, but faith was necessary to make it active, so it was in fact her faith that had saved her. To 'go into peace' meant to go into a state of wholeness, health and well-being and, coming from Jesus, the words ensured that there would be no sense of guilt or shame. That the power of life was in Jesus and that it

could be activated by faith laid the foundation for the continuation of the story of the daughter of the leader of the synagogue.

At this point the father and Jesus were informed that the child had died. If the leader's original approach to Jesus had required courage, it would now take a far greater courage to keep believing despite his daughter's death.

For Jesus, however, death was only a sleep from which he could awaken the girl through the power of life that was within him. The crowd might laugh, but to those who had faith all was possible.

The miracle happened simply, as though the girl was aroused from a gentle sleep. Luke does not dwell on the details of the sensitivity of Jesus, though it is evident in the touch of seeing that the child had something to eat. Furthermore, eating was proof that the child was a true flesh and blood human being, not a spirit. Belief in an afterlife was not universal among the Jews at the time of Jesus, and many thought of death as the end of all useful existence. The message of the scene is that the power of the word extends even beyond death, even over life itself. The girl in this story is a symbol of every human being.

There are obvious difficulties with the words of Jesus that those present were to tell no one, for it was manifestly impossible for anyone to keep quiet the news of such a miracle. A whole crowd knew that the girl had died and would soon learn that she was alive again. I do not believe that Luke has the slightest interest in such practical considerations. The prohibition against speaking enters in here because of the development of Luke's themes, the time had not come for the revelation that this miracle contained, for the full revelation of Jesus could come only after he himself had risen from the dead.

## ***Meditation for Lent: What the Bible said about Fasting?***

### [Jonah 3:5-9](#)

The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth. When Jonah's warning reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, took off his royal robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust. This is the proclamation he issued in Nineveh: "By the decree of the king and his nobles: Do not let people or animals, herds or flocks, taste anything; do not let them eat or drink. But let people and animals be covered with sackcloth. Let everyone call urgently on God. Let them give up their evil ways and their violence. Who knows? God may yet relent and with compassion turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish."

### [Matthew 6:16-18](#)

"When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

### [Luke 2:37](#)

and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying.

### [Luke 4:2-4](#)

where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread." Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone.'"

### [Luke 18:1-12](#)

Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.' "For some time he refused. But finally, he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care what people think, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually come and attack me!'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?" To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: "Two men

went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’

**Acts 13:2-4**

While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” So, after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off. The two of them, sent on their way by the Holy Spirit, went down to Seleucia and sailed from there to Cyprus.

**Acts 14:23**

Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust.

**1 Corinthians 7:5**

Do not deprive each other except perhaps by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

## ***Diocesan Lenten Appeal***

The Lenten Appeal for the Eparchy (Diocese) of Our Lady of Lebanon is currently underway. A letter from Bishop A. Elias Zaidan regarding the Appeal will be sent to every family, and copies are also accessible online at [www.eparchy.org](http://www.eparchy.org). The Eparchy counts on your support to uphold our Maronite parishes, to train our future Maronite priests, and to continue charitable efforts at home and abroad. We encourage every family to take part in the Appeal and to give generously. Also you received letter from our church for the same Appeal. Donations can be made to our church or to the Eparchy (Diocese). Please consider supporting your Eparchy. Thank you!

**Many Thanks for those who fulfilled their 2026 Diocesan Appeal:**

In Honor of: Randy Weisner, Thomasina Geimer,

Donated by:

- Msgr Bakhos Chidiac in Memory of his parents and Family members
- Assad Rahi in Memory of his wife Chamse Rahi
- Denny Albaugh in Memory of the Deceased Members of the Albaugh Family
- Janet D. Shutler in Memory of the Deceased Members of the Shutler and Nolte Families
- Jean Weisner in Memory of the Deceased Members of the Weisner and Joseph Families
- Ron & Kim Gibbons in Memory of the Gibbons and Otterbeck Families
- Mark Schroeder in Memory of his parents Helen and Al Schroeder
- Frank & Anna Marie Duymich in Memory of their parents Frank Sr. and Mary Lou Duymich
- Debbie Huffman in Memory of Freddie Oser
- Dennis & Mary Lee Porter in Memory of the Schweizer and Porter Families
- Scott & Alicia Peklinsky in Memory of Chamse Rahi
- Susan John in Memory of John T. & Cecilia John
- Al Depto and Mary C. Davis in Memory of Shirley Bine
- Millet L. Fadoul in Memory of Susie Marie Fadoul
- Bill & Tricia Committee in Memory of Fred & Rita John, Fred John Jr., and Michael John
- David & Greg John In Memory of their mother Cecilia John
- Sue Jochum in Memory of the Shia and Jochum Families
- Jack Palmer DDS in Memory of Pete and Peggy Palmer and Dr. Joe Palmer
- Marge John in Memory of the Joseph John Family
- Cathy Goodson in Memory of her mother Evelyn Goodson
- Sharon & Thomas Beatty in Memory of Susie Fadoul
- Dr. Adel & Diane Frenn in Memory of the Frenn and Thomas Families
- Luane Frazier in Memory of her beloved husband Richard W. Frazier
- Denise Ferris in Memory of her parents Tom & Mary K. Ferris
- Dee Shiben in Memory of her husband John E. Shiben

## ***Mass Schedule, next Weekend: Sat. 28 and Sunday 1***

### **Saturday, February 28, Mass at 4:00 p.m.:**

- ✠ Tom Quinn by his Family
- ✠ Fran Saseen by Carol Dougherty
- ✠ Noel Foreman by his wife Anne & Family

### **Sunday, March 1, Mass at 10:30 a.m.:**

- ✠ Lawrence Ferrera (Anniversary) by Larry & Becky Ferrera
- ✠ Cecilia John by Ron & Susan (John) Burns
- ✠ Bill Dougherty (Anniversary) by his wife Carol (OK)

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

**Monday, March 2:** No Mass. Pastor's day off.

### **Tuesday, March 3, Mass at Noon:**

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

**Wednesday, March 4:** No Mass.

### **Thursday, March 5, Mass at noon:**

- ✠ Mary Zaid Stees, Elizabeth A. Magnone, Tom Ferris by Libby G. Magnone
- ✠ Tom Quinn by his Family
- ✠ Fran Saseen by Leslie Pappa

### **Friday, March 6, Mass at 5:30 followed by Stations of the Cross**

- ✠ Tom Quinn by his Family
- ✠ Noel Foreman by his wife Anne & Family
- ✠ Fran Saseen by Jim & Sandy Schlog

## ***Mass Schedule, next Weekend: Sat. 7 and Sunday 8***

### **Saturday, March 7, Mass at 4:00 p.m.:**

- ✠ Fran Saseen by Anna Battista
- ✠ Betty Abraham, Clara Carter, Evelyn Goodson by Jean Weisner and Family
- ✠ Tom & Mary K. Ferris by their daughter Denise

### **Sunday, March 8, Mass at 10:30 a.m.:**

- ✠ Fran Saseen by gary Weisner
- ✠ Tom Quinn by his Family
- ✠ Noel Foreman by his wife Anne & Family

## ***Coming Events in a glimpse***

March 29	Palm Sunday
April 5	Easter Sunday
April 19	First Communion celebration. See below
May 11-16	Spring Bake Sale Monday, May 11: Onion Prep Tuesday, May 12: Prep meat, roll kibbee balls Wednesday, May 13: Bake kibbee Thursday, May 14: Bake meat pies Saturday, May 16: Pick up orders
Sunday, August 9	Mahrajan (Lebanese Festival)

***Weekdays Mass in the Cedar Hall (starting Tuesday, Feb. 24)***

Dear parishioners, we are fixing the crack in the ceiling of the choir loft. The company is working now and is making noise. The daily Masses will be celebrated inside the Cedar Hall starting Tuesday, February 24 until the work is done and the scaffolding removed. Weekend Masses and the Stations of the Cross will take place inside the church as usual. Thanks for your cooperation. –Msgr. Bakhos

## ***First Communion Celebration (Sunday, April 19)***

Dear Parishioners,

Msgr Bakhos and the parents of the three candidates for First Communion (Eloise Chapman, Miriam Sable and Blaze Smay) cordially invite you to the celebration of the First Communion. It will take place on Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> during Mass. A brunch will be served to all parishioners after Mass. A special table decorated in white will be set in the middle of the Hall for the candidates. Please let the candidates feel “special” by bringing to everyone of them a small gift or a small monetary present in an envelope. They will appreciate you welcoming them to the community. –Msgr. Bakhos



## ***Easter Lillies Donated in Memory of:***

Please donate \$25.00 to sponsor a lily or a hyacinth toward decoration the Tomb of Christ and the altar of the church at Easter. The following generous parishioners donated Easter Flowers In Loving Memory of:

- ✦ Gladys Howard & Louise N. & Louis H. Khourey, Sr. by Lou & Charlotte Khourey & Family
- ✦ Tom & Mary K. Ferris by their daughter Denise Ferris
- ✦ Adib & Sadie (parents), Nadim (brother), Mona (sister) by Msgr. Bakhos Chidiac
- ✦ Pearl Shutler by her daughter Janet Shutler
- ✦ Opal Ritts by her husband John Ritts
- ✦ John & Mary Ritts by their son John Ritts
- ✦ John T. & Cecilia John by Ron & Susan Burns
- ✦ Philip Geimer & all the Deceased Family members of Thomasina Geimer
- ✦ Rick Frazier by his wife Luane Frazier
- ✦ Mary Stees by Jay & liz Murad
- ✦ George & Martha Saseen and Steve & Elizabeth Harasuik by George & Susan Saseen and Family
- ✦ Shirley Elias Nickerson and Deceased members of the Elias Family by Tammy Strong
- ✦ Nimon & Mariam Joseph Family by the Joseph and Weisner Families
- ✦ Kenny Joseph by his wife Nancy and the Tucker Family
- ✦ In honor of Dennis & Mary Lee Porter
- ✦ In honor of Chris & Jeannette Wakim & Family
- ✦ In honor of Anthony & Amanda Sable and Family
- ✦ In honor of Frank & Anna Marie Duymich
- ✦ In honor of Michael Duymich
- ✦ In honor of Larry & Lillian Siebieda
- ✦ In honor of Dr. Nabil & Nisrine Alkhouri & Family
- ✦ In honor of Veronica Mushet
- ✦ In Honor of Janet Shutler
- ✦ In honor of Alicia Peklinsky Family
- ✦ In Honor of Debbie Huffman

## ***May Crowning Procession (Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> after Mass)***

The May Queen this year will be Eloise Chapman, the daughter of Matt and Laura Wakim-Chappman. She is the granddaughter of Chris and Jeannette Wakim. The procession will take place on Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> after Mass.

## ***Lebanese Festival News (Sunday, August 9 from 11 to 6 pm)***

**Outdoor Mass** (Sunday Mass will be at 10:00 am not 10:30 am at Oglebay Park. There will be no Mass at the church that Sunday.)

**Volunteers:**

--If you are able to volunteer 2 hours at the festival, please call Msgr. Bakhos at 304-233-1688. Thanks

**Inflatable Booth:**

--Many Thanks to Tracy Shia and Molly Powell for accepting the responsibility to be the chairpersons of the Inflatables.

**Diamond Sponsors:**

If you are blessed and able to sponsor one of the four inflatables for the children to play, your name will be published in the Ad Book on the Diamond Level. With your generosity, children can play all day long for \$5.00 instead of \$50.00 if we hire an inflatable company. Let us make everyone happy. Donation is \$450.00

--1<sup>st</sup> Diamond Sponsor: Rob Wodusky sponsored the first inflatable. Many Thanks and May God bless you.

--2<sup>nd</sup> Diamond Sponsors: Ron & Susan Burns sponsored the 2<sup>nd</sup> inflatable. Many Thanks and May God bless you.

--3<sup>rd</sup> Diamond Sponsor: ??????????

--4<sup>th</sup> Diamond Sponsor: ??????????????????

**Golden Sponsors:**

--Don & Lori Nickerson donated a \$100 door prize in Honor of their children Emma & Eli (Golden Sponsors)

**No Canope or Pop-ups at the Festival:**

The Festival committee decided not to allow anyone to bring his/her own canope or pop-up tent to the festival ground -that is rented by the church- for insurance and safety reasons. The committee will ask the owners to remove their pop-up immediately.

***Rummage Sale Items Drop off (all Year Long)***

Please bring with you to the church all the items you wish to donate toward the Rummage Sale. Items are accepted all year long. The Cedar Club and the Women Society raise funds to cover the Building Insurance of our church which exceeds \$22,000. Any donation is accepted and helpful. We will open the basement door for you anytime. Please call 304-233-1688

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

March 2: Ava Murad  
 March 4: Jeff Sengewalt  
 March 6: Kristen Graney  
 March 15: Shelby Imer  
 March 16: Mia Ferrera  
 March 18: Kenny Imer, Bill Stees, Patrick Petros  
 March 21: Caroline Stees McDowell  
 March 22: Jennifer Imer  
 March 26: Joseph John  
 March 30: Greg John  
 April 1: Patrick Sengewalt

***Stations of the Cross (Fridays during Lent)***

Every Friday during Lent, we celebrate the Mass at 5:30 p.m. It 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 Lenten meal dinners for social hour after the Stations of the Cross. If any other family wants to participate in the meal for social hour, please ask and join the families listed below.

Date:	Volunteers Who are sponsoring the Light Meals on Fridays during Lent:
3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday, March 6	Meal Sponsors: George & Susan Saseen & the Frenn Family ✓
4 <sup>th</sup> Friday, March 13	Meal Sponsors: Susan & Ron Burns and Pat Stees & Libby Magnone ✓
5 <sup>th</sup> Friday, March 20	Meal Sponsors: Ron & Kim Gibbons and Msgr Bakhos ✓
6 <sup>th</sup> Friday, March 27	Meal Sponsors: Dr. Nabil & Nisrine Alkhouri ✓
Good Friday, April 3	Meal Sponsors: The Cedar Club & Parishioners
Easter Sunday, April 5	Happy Easter

## ***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)*

Lisa Kennedy (daughter of Carol Dougherty, OK), Joe Popovich, Earl & Linda Duffy, Nini Miller, Julia Schiess (daughter of Leo Bleifus), Mary Ragase, Mary Zigler (sister of Lillian Siebieda), Dolores Oser, Anthony Wakim, Sandra DeMuth, Justin Frenn, Elia Frenn, Patty Fahey, Fred Schweizer (brother of our organist Mary Lee Porter), Denny Albaugh, Rita Rae Sage, John Frazier. (son of Luane Frazier),

<b><i>Your Church Support Last Week</i></b>	
\$1,495.00	Sunday Collection
830.00	Diocesan Appeal
38.00	Candles
22.00	Coffee hour
1,473.00	Mercy Meal
135.00	Donation to the Mahrajan by Rob Wodusky. Many Thanks
30.00	Easter Lilies
10.00	Utilities
\$4,033.00	Total Deposits: May God reward you abundantly for supporting your spiritual home! Finance Committee: Lou Khourey, Susan Burns, Liz Murad, Mark McLaughlin

## ***Around Us***

### ***Trip to France (May 19-28)***

Join Bishop Elias Zaidan to Lourdes and other important sites in France including Paris, Lisieux, Saint Michael, Normandie, and Bordeaux.

Double occupancy: \$4,000 per person.

Contact: Ivette Jackson at 323-336-3168

Jamileh Koury at 818-294-2901. or email [info@eparchy.org](mailto:info@eparchy.org).

## ***Question & Answer (#57)***

Question #57: “Can a person truly be a Catholic if she is baptized but does not live a Catholic lifestyle?”

Answer: It depends on what you mean by not living a “Catholic lifestyle.” Part of a Catholic lifestyle is to believe what the Church teaches. That is really an essential element of being a Catholic. Without faith, it is impossible to be a Catholic, regardless of how “good” a life a person otherwise leads.

On the other hand, we may have faith but not put it into practice — in other words, we can lack charity (or the love of God and neighbor). So long as our faith is genuine and our failure to live it “only” a matter of committing sins, we remain Catholics, albeit poor ones.

We shouldn’t count too much on the mere fact that we’re Catholics, without regard for whether we’re in a state of grace and fellowship with God. One can be a “Catholic” in that sense and still end up separated from God for eternity.

## ***Spirituality: Eucharist***

Our Lord said to Saint Faustina: *“Eternal life must begin already here on earth through Holy Communion. Each Holy Communion makes you more capable communing with God throughout eternity.”*

Saint Faustina often saw the Baby Jesus at Mass. She wrote, *“Once when Fr Sopocho was saying Mass, I saw, as usual, the child Jesus on the altar, from the time of offertory. However, a moment before elevation, the priest vanishes from my sight and Jesus alone remained. When the moment of the elevation approached, Jesus took the host and the chalice in His little hands and raised them together, looking up to heaven, and a moment later I again saw the priest. I asked the child Jesus where the priest had been during the time I had not seen him. Jesus answered, “In My Heart.””*

There are so many references in scripture to the Eucharist that you could almost call it the Eucharistic Book. In Matthew 26:26-28, we read: “Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, gave it to the disciples and said: Take, eat. This is My Body.” In Corinthian 1: 11:27 we read, “Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the lord in an unworthy manner will be answerable for the body and blood of the Lord.” In John 6: 48-56, we read about being the living bread which came down from heaven, and that anyone who eats of this bread will live forever. And He added, “For my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink.”

The Church teaches that at the moment of consecration during the Mass, the bread and wine on the altar become the body and blood of Jesus Christ.

The Mass is so important because at every Mass we get to offer our sacrifice with Jesus to the Father for our sins and then he leaves us His body to adore and for food for the journey.

## ***Wisdom: As much as it hurts!***

As much as it hurts;

As much as we agree with our religion and try to understand GOD’s Master Plan; or perhaps we already know that GOD has a Master Plan; but don’t quite understand it; in either case GOD understands that we are “imperfect human beings” and knows that; No matter how much we try to understand His Master Plan, losing a loved-one hurts!

As much as it hurts;

We have to be strong enough to carry on, as our dearly departed would expect us to; we need to have faith that we will someday see each other again; but only this time, it’ll be for all Eternity...living in true peace without the hurt.

As much as it hurts;

Think about this...*One minute in Heaven is equal to 100 years on Earth*; for us, the next 10, 20, 50 or even 75 years living without a loved-one hurts; but for them...it’ll be like you dropped them off at a restaurant and parked the car; they’ll turn and spot you and say: *“OH! There you are!”*

As much as it hurts;

Think about this...As you pray for the faithful departed loved-one(s) of your life; end your prayers; and as you used to answer your Mom or Dad as they called you to the dinner table...gently whisper: *“Be with you in a MINUTE!”*

## ***Story***

The cheerful girl with bouncy golden curls was almost five. Waiting with her mother at the checkout stand, she saw them: a circle of glistening white pearls in a pink foil box. "Oh please, Mommy. Can I have them? Please, Mommy, please?"

Quickly the mother checked the back of the little foil box and then looked back into the pleading blue eyes of her little girl's upturned face. "A dollar ninety-five. That's almost \$2.00. If you really want them, I'll think of some extra chores for you and in no time you can save enough money to buy them for yourself. Your birthday's only a week away and you might get another crisp dollar bill from Grandma."

As soon as Nancy got home, she emptied her penny bank and counted out 17 pennies. After dinner, she did more than her share of chores and she went to the neighbor and asked Mrs. Hill if she could pick dandelions for ten cents. On her birthday, Grandma did give her another new dollar bill and at last she had enough money to buy the necklace. Nancy loved her pearls. They made her feel dressed up and grown up. She wore them everywhere - Sunday school, kindergarten, even to bed. The only time she took them off was when she went swimming or had a bubble bath. Mother said if they got wet, they might turn her neck green.

Nancy had a very loving daddy and every night when she was ready for bed, he would stop whatever he was doing and come upstairs to read her a story. One night when he finished the story, he asked Nancy, "Do you love me?" "Oh yes, Daddy. You know that I love you." "Then give me your pearls." "Oh, Daddy, not my pearls. But you can have Princess -the white horse from my collection. The one with the pink tail. Remember, Daddy? The one you gave me. She's my favorite." "That's okay, Honey. Daddy loves you. Good night." And he brushed her cheek with a kiss.

About a week later, after the story time, Nancy's daddy asked again, "Do you love me?" "Daddy, you know I love you." "Then give me your pearls." "Oh Daddy, not my pearls. But you can have my baby doll. The brand new one I got for my birthday. She is so beautiful and you can have the yellow blanket that matches her sleeper." "That's okay. Sleep well. God bless you, little one. Daddy loves you". And as always, he brushed her cheek with a gentle kiss. A few nights later when her daddy came in, Nancy was sitting on her bed with her legs crossed Indian-style. As he came close, he noticed her chin was trembling and one silent tear rolled down her cheek. "What is it, Nancy? What's the matter?"

Nancy didn't say anything but lifted her little hand up to her daddy. And when she opened it, there was her little pearl necklace. With a little quiver, she finally said, "Here, Daddy. It's for you." With tears gathering in his own eyes, Nancy's kind daddy reached out with one hand to take the dime-store necklace, and with the other hand he reached into his pocket and pulled out a blue velvet case with a strand of genuine pearls and gave them to Nancy. He had them all the time. He was just waiting for her to give up the dime-store stuff so he could give her genuine treasure.

So it is with our Heavenly Father. He is waiting for us to give up the cheap things in our lives so that he can give us beautiful treasure. Isn't God good? Are you holding onto things which God wants you to let go of. Are you holding on to harmful or unnecessary partners, relationships, habits and activities, which you have come so attached to that it seems impossible to let go? Sometimes it is so hard to see what is in the other hand but do believe this one thing.....God will never take away something without giving you something better in its place.

## ***Jokes (210)***

### ***Charity and People's priority!***

A teacher asked each student to bring a dime the next day. The students were given three choices:

FIRST: the teacher said, *"There are people starving in India and they really need help. If you would like to give to them, put the dime in an envelope and write "INDIA" on it."*

SECOND: the teacher added, *"There also are needs closer to home. I know a family in the local ghetto that really needs groceries to live on right now. If you want to give to them, put your dime in an envelope and put "POOR FAMILY" on it."*

THIRD: finally, the teacher added, *"Of course, we don't have a photocopier for our class and we need to get one for those of you who have papers and manuscripts to copy. If you want to help buy a photocopier, put ten cents in an envelope and put "COPIER" on it."*

RESULT: 80% of the money was given to buy a photocopier.

### ***Miracle!!!***

The pastor gathered the children around him for the children's sermon. That day, he asked the children if they would like to hold a miracle in their own hand. All of the hands shot up. So the pastor gave to each of them an acorn, telling them that God had put an oak tree in each of those acorns. Once planted in the ground, with the

warmth of the sun and the nourishment of the rain, a great oak tree could grow up to produce hundreds of other acorns -all out of that one acorn! It was indeed a miracle.

After the Mass, a mother approached the pastor with her eight-year-old son. The mother said to her son, "*Go ahead and tell the pastor.*" Hesitantly, the little boy looked up at the pastor with great seriousness and said: "*Pastor, I lost my miracle!*"

### ***Do You Know that:***

- 1- In Saint Louis, Missouri, it's illegal to sit on the curb of any city street and drink beer from a bucket.
- 2- In Hartford, Connecticut, you aren't allowed to cross a street while walking on your hands.
- 3- In Richmond Virginia, gambling is strictly forbidden. How strictly? It is even illegal to flip a coin in a restaurant to see who pays for the coffee.

### ***Who Goes First?***

The following incident happened when Patrick was four year old and his brother, Luke, was five. Already a half year in kindergarten had made Luke wiser.

Luke and Patrick were fighting over who would go first in a game. They had quite a debate that almost ended in a fight.

Luke changed his strategy and reasoned with his brother: "You know, Patrick, Jesus says that the first will be last and the last will be first, so it is better to be last."

Patrick thought about that for a moment and then answered, "Then I'll go last."

"Okay, then I'll go first," said a suddenly worldly-wise Luke.

### ***Tied Up in Five Brooms***

A church member angrily complained to the pastor that the church had wastefully purchased five new brooms, and he felt the expenditure to be unnecessary.

The pastor mentioned it to the church treasurer, who responded, "No wonder he was upset. How would you feel if you saw everything you gave in the past year tied up in five brooms?"

### ***Story behind the Gift***

The minister was greeted at the door of the church after Sunday morning worship by a young boy. The boy looked up at the preacher and said, "Pastor, we were going to bring you a chicken for dinner, but he got well!"

## ***Famous Quotes (6)***

### **Aging**

--Nobody loves life like him who is growing old. (Sophocles)

--There are so few who can grow old with a good grace. (Richard Steele)

--When you were born, you cried and the world rejoiced. Live your life in such a manner that when you die, the world cries and you rejoice.

--The worst thing, I fear, about being no longer young, is that one is no longer young. (Harold Nicotson)

--It is time to be old, to take in sail. (Ralph Waldo Emerson)

--Before you contradict an old man, my fair friend, you should endeavor to understand him. (George Santayana)

--Few people know how to be old. (La Rochefoucauld)

--I really believe that more harm is done by old men who cling to their influence than by young men who anticipate it. (Owen D. Young)

--A man over ninety is a great comfort to all his elderly neighbors: he is a picket-guard at the extreme outpost; and the young folks of sixty and seventy feel that the enemy must get by him before he can come near their camp. (Oliver Wendell Holmes)

--A person is always startled when he hears himself seriously called an old man for the first time. (Oliver Wendell Holmes)

--Age is a high price to pay for maturity. (Tom Stoppard)

--To know how to grow old is the master-work of wisdom, and one of the most difficult chapters in the great art of living. (Henri Frederic Amiel)

--When I was very young, I was disgracefully intolerant but when I passed the thirty mark I prided myself on having learned the beautiful lesson that all things were good, and equally good. That, however, was really laziness. Now, thank goodness, I've sorted out what matters and what doesn't And I'm beginning to be intolerant again. (C. B. Stern)

--No wise man ever wished to be younger. (Jonathan Swift)

--I must be getting absent-minded. Whenever I complain that things aren't what they used to be, I always forget to include myself. (George Burns)

--Growing old, it's not nice, but it's interesting. (August Strindberg)

--They tell you that you'll lose your mind when you grow older. What they don't tell you is that you won't miss it very much. (Malcolm Cowley)

**Agitation:**

--Those who profess to favor freedom, and yet depreciate agitation, are men who want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the roar of its many waters. (Frederick Douglass)

**Agreement:**

--I have never in my life learned anything from any man who agreed with me. (Dudley Field Malone)

--You may easily play a joke on a man who likes to argue—agree with him. (Ed Howe)

--My idea of an agreeable person is a person who agrees with me. (Benjamin Disraeli)

**Agriculture:**

--Blessed be agriculture! If one does not have too much of it. (Charles Dudley)