



April 5, 2026
Bulletin #14

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



Christ is Risen! Truly Risen! Alleluia!

- ***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



***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: Easter Sunday

Readings: Jon 2:1-11; Phil 2:1-13 and Mt 28:1-10

Jesus intercedes to the Father on our behalf. He desires that those, whom the Father has given him, may be with him “to see” his “glory” (in 17:24b). Through the Spirit, Jesus and the Father come to dwell in the hearts of all who believe in him. In baptism, “those who wash their robes” (Rev 22:14) have “the water of life as a gift”. Together they declare, “Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name” (Ps 97:12).

God’s reign must take root in each individual if it is to flourish on earth. But there is a cost involved in proclaiming Christ’s message of peace and justice. Many close their eyes and ears to the truth; others try to silence it. Jesus sends the Spirit to strengthen and guide us. The Spirit gives us courage to live and die like the Lord “so that the world may believe” (Jn 17:21 a) in the one who sent him. We pray for the coming of God’s reign.

Who was raised from the dead in the Old and New Testaments?

In the Old Testament, three people were raised from the dead by the Power of God working through the prophets.

Elijah and the Widow’s Son (1 Kings 17:17-24)

Elijah stayed with a widow in Zarephath during a famine. When her son became ill and died, Elijah carried him to an upper room, prayed to God, and stretched himself over the boy three times, resulting in the child being brought back to life.

Elisha and the Shunammite’s Son (2 Kings 4:18-37)

A wealthy woman from Shunem, who showed hospitality to Elisha, had a son who died from a head injury. Elisha went to her home, prayed, and stretched himself over the boy, mouth-to-mouth and eye-to-eye, until the boy’s body became warm and he sneezed seven times, returning to life.

Learn Religions +1

The Man Raised in Elisha’s Grave (2 Kings 13:20-21)

Some Israelites, while burying a man, saw a band of Moabite raiders. In fear, they threw the man's body into the nearest tomb, which belonged to Elisha. As soon as the dead man's body touched Elisha’s bones, he came back to life and stood on his feet.

In the New Testament, Jesus raised from the dead the following people:

Lazarus of Bethany: Raised by Jesus after being dead for four days (John 11:1-44).

Jairus’s Daughter: A 12-year-old girl raised by Jesus (Mark 5:21-43, Luke 8:40-56).

The Widow’s Son at Nain: Raised by Jesus during his funeral procession (Luke 7:11-17).

In the New Testament, the Apostles raised from the dead the following people:

Tabitha: Raised by the Apostle Peter in Joppa (Acts 9:36-42).

Eutychus: Raised by the Apostle Paul after falling from a window (Acts 20:7-12).

Saints in Jerusalem: Many holy people were raised after Jesus's crucifixion (Matthew 27:52-53).

The Resurrection of Jesus was unique because Jesus raised by his own power and his Father’s power. All the people who rose from the dead in the Old and New Testaments died again, but Jesus rose and ascended into heaven and death had no power over him again.

Jesus Christ: Raised from the dead by God the Father (and by his own authority) (Matt 28:1-6, Rom 6:4).

Miracles of Jesus (12. 13 & 14)

Twelfth Miracle when Jesus calmed the storms

Jesus got into a boat. His disciples followed him. Suddenly a terrible storm came up on the lake. The waves crashed over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. The disciples went and woke him up. They said, “Lord! Save us! We’re going to drown!” He replied, “Your faith is so small! Why are you so afraid?” Then Jesus got up and ordered the winds and the waves to stop. It became completely calm. The disciples were amazed. They asked, “What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!” (Matthew 8:23-27)

Thirteenth Miracle when Jesus healed Two Men Controlled by Demons

Jesus arrived at the other side of the lake in the area of the Gadarenes. Two men controlled by demons met him. They came from the tombs. The men were so wild that no one could pass that way. "Son of God, what do you want with us?" they shouted. "Have you come here to punish us before the time for us to be judged?"

Not very far away, a large herd of pigs was feeding. The demons begged Jesus, "If you drive us out, send us into the herd of pigs." Jesus said to them, "Go!" So, the demons came out of the men and went into the pigs. The whole herd rushed down the steep bank. They ran into the lake and drowned in the water. Those who were tending the pigs ran off. They went into the town and reported all this. They told the people what had happened to the men who had been controlled by demons. Then the whole town went out to meet Jesus. When they saw him, they begged him to leave their area. (Matthew 8:28-34)

The 14th miracle of Jesus when he healed a Dead Girl and a Suffering Woman

When Jesus returned, a crowd welcomed him. They were all expecting him. Then a man named Jairus came. He was a synagogue leader. He fell at Jesus' feet and begged Jesus to come to his house. His only daughter was dying. She was about 12 years old. As Jesus was on his way, the crowds almost crushed him. A woman was there who had a sickness that made her bleed. Her sickness had lasted for 12 years. No one could heal her. She came up behind Jesus and touched the edge of his clothes. Right away her bleeding stopped. "Who touched me?" Jesus asked. Everyone said they didn't do it. Then Peter said, "Master, the people are crowding and pushing against you." But Jesus said, "Someone touched me. I know that power has gone out from me."

The woman realized that people would notice her. Shaking with fear, she came and fell at his feet. In front of everyone, she told why she had touched him. She also told how she had been healed in an instant. Then he said to her, "Dear woman, your faith has healed you. Go in peace." (Luke 8:42-48)

Easter Mass Schedule**Saturday of the Light, Easter Vigil, April 4: (choir will serve the Mass at 4:00 pm)**

10:30 a.m.: Rite of Forgiveness & Communal Reconciliation (No Mass)

4:00 p.m.: Easter Vigil Mass & "Rite of Peace" (No Midnight Mass)

✠ Mary E. Custer (Anniversary) by Helen Benline

✠ Catherine Arthur (Anniversary) by her daughter Carol Burkhart

✠ Shirley Elias Nickerson & Deceased of the Elias Family by their Loving Family

Sunday of the Glorious Resurrection, Easter Sunday, April 5: (choir will serve the Mass)

10:30 a.m.: Easter Day Mass & "Rite of Peace."

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

✠ Vincent Jacovetty (Birthday) by Patty & George Fahey

✠ Matthew Siebieda (Anniversary) by Larry & Lillian Siebieda and Family

Weekdays Mass schedule

Monday April 6: No Mass. Pastor's day off.

Tuesday April 7, 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 April 8: No Mass.**Thursday April 9, Mass at Noon:**

✠ Jim Fahey (Birthday) by George & Patty Fahey

✠ Bernadine Elias (Birthday) by Mike & Terri Golebiewski

✠ Noel Foreman by his wife Anne & Family

Friday April 10: No Mass.***Next Weekend Mass Schedule. Sat-Sun. April 11-12***

Saturday April 11, Mass at 4:00 p.m.:

- ✠ Fran Saseen by Tammy Strong
- ✠ Noel Foreman by his wife Anne & Family
- ✠ Tom Quinn by his Family

Sunday April 12, Mass at 10:30 a.m.:

- ✠ Mary Zaid Stees, Elizabeth A. Magnone, Tom Ferris by Libby G. Magnone
- ✠ Gerard Joseph (Anniversary) by Larry & becky Ferrera
- ✠ Parents Geo & Rose Fadoul and Joe & Nell Duffy by Earl & Linda Duffy

Diocesan Appeal fulfilled

- Robert Harris in Memory of Dave Frey
- Larry & Lillian Siebieda in Honor of the Blessed Mother
- Rusty & Annette Wetzel in Memory of the Dennis & Wetzel Families
- George & Susan Saseen in Memory of the Deceased Members of the Saseen Family

Coming Events in a Glimpse

Sunday, April 12	Cedar Club meeting ater 10:30 am Mass
Sunday, April 19	First Communion celebration
Sunday, May 3	May Crowning
May 9-17	Mothers Day Masses. Remember your mother on her feast day.
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
Saturday, June 6	Rummage Sale from 8:00 am until 2:00 p.m.
Sunday, August 9	Mahrajan (Lebanese Festival) See details below

First Communion Celebration (Sunday, April 19)

Dear Parishioners,

Msgr. Bakhos and the parents of the candidates for First Communion cordially invite you to the celebration of the First Communion. It will take place on Sunday, April 19th during Mass. A complimentary brunch sponsored by their parents 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 very "special" on their First Communion and make it a day to remember all their lives 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. A box of envelopes will be available in the Cedar Hall. --Msgr. Bakhos

May Crowning Procession (Sunday, May 3rd after Mass)

The May Queen this year will be Eloise Chapman, the daughter of Matt and Senator Laura Wakim-Chappman. She is the granddaughter of Chris and Jeannette Wakim. The procession will take place on Sunday, May 3rd after Mass. All parishioners are invited to a complimentary brunch sponsored by the parents and grandparents of the May Queen.

Mothers' Day Masses, from May 9 until May 17

Masses for the Deceased Mothers and Grandmothers

- ✠ Special Remembrance on these special days:
- on May 10: ✠ Ray McLaughlin (Anniversary) by Mark & Barb McLaughlin
- on May 17: ✠ Gladys Howard by Lou, Charlotte & Louie Khourey

† Earl Ragase (Birthday) by his wife Mary Ragase

† Deceased mothers & grandmothers of Jamil Harb (MI)

† Louise N. Khourey & Gladys V. Howard by Lou & Charlotte and Emmalena and Louie

† Emily Nader & Nabiha “Lena” Khourey by Lou, Charlotte, Emmalena & Louie Khourey

† Minnie Church Riggs & Cassandra “Cassie” Howard by Lou, Charlotte, Emmalena & Louie Khourey

† Sadie Chidiac (mother), Kathrine & Hasibi (grandmothers) by Msgr. Bakhos

† Mahasen Kazour by her daughter Jocelyne Chahine and Family (Pittsburgh)

† Catherine Arthur by her daughter Carol Burkhart

† 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

† Fran Huffman (Anniversary) by Debbie Huffman

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

† Cecilia John & Carol Burns by their loving children Susan and Ron Burns

† Sadie John, Tamamie Joseph & Sarah Burns by their loving grandchildren Susan & Ron Burns

† Sara (Joseph) McLaughlin & Selma Joseph by Mark & Barb McLaughlin & Family

† Mary Miller by Mark & Barb McLaughlin & Family

† Mary (Joseph) Shipley & Salema (Awed) Joseph by Thomasina Geimer

† Cecilia Murad by her daughter Luane Frazier

† Siham Frenn & LaVerne Thomas by Dr. Adel, Diane & Justin Frenn and Andreah, Zack & Christian Riedel

† Mary K. Ferris by her daughter Denise Ferris

† Virginia & Martha Shia and Anna Shia by Sue Jochum & Family

† Edna Jochum by Sue Jochum and Family

† Lenore Albaugh & Leona Albaugh & Anna Bernas by Denny Albaugh

† Helen Schroeder by her son Mark Schroeder & daughter Jane Wine

† Nora Hughes and Margaret Schroeder by Mark Schroeder and Jane Wine

† Shirley Elias Nickerson & Amelia Elias by their Loving Family

† Wanda Nickerson by her Loving Family

† Agnes Jacovetty by George & Patty Fahey

† June Fahey by George & Patty Fahey

† Angela Henning & Anne Bott by Don & Roberta Henning

† Charlotte George (MN) by her daughter Margaret George

† Dolores M. Fahey by Jackie & Pat Petros

† Betty Lou Petros by Jackie & Pat Petros

† Chamse Rahi and Marie Rouhana by Alicia & Scott Peklinsky

† Rose Shedeed-Fadoul and Nell Comer-Duffy by Earl & Linda Duffy

† Sharon Rose Tipton and Lilly Hebdo by Rose Hebdo-Oberst

† Sally (Simon) Wodusky by her son Rob Wodusky

† Mary (Coram) Puperi by her grandson Rob Wodusky

† Pearl (Nolte) Shutler by her daughter Janet Shutler

† Isabelle (Frey) Nolte by her great-granddaughter Janet Shutler

† Clara (Frohnappel) by her granddaughter Janet Shutler

† Martha Saseen by her son George Saseen

† Elizabeth Harasuik by her daughter Susan Harasuik-Saseen

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Masses for the Living Mothers and Grandmothers

† Charlotte Khourey by her children Emmalena & Louie

† My sisters by Msgr. Bakhos

† Jocelyne Chahine (Pittsburgh) by her children & grandchildren

† Barb McLaughlin by her grandchildren Nathan & Shane Graney

† Brenda Riedel & Diane Frenn by Justin Frenn & Andreah & Zack Riedel

- † Brenda Riedel & Diane Frenn by Christian Riedel
- † Nancy Joseph by her daughter Cheryl Tucker & Family
- † Dolores Oser by her daughter Debbie and Mark Huffman
- † Patty Jacovetty Fahey by George Fahey & daughters Lisa & Jennifer
- † Andreah Riedel by Dr. Adel, Diane & Justin Frenn and Zack & Christian Riedel
- † Susan Saseen by her granddaughter Ginny Naswadi
- †

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:

All those generous benefactors who sponsored the 2026 festival with \$200 or more will be recognized in the Ad Book as Diamond sponsors.

5 Cash Door Prizes:

--All guests will be welcomed at the entrance of the festival with good news of five cash prizes donated by generous parishioners. Everyone who submits his/her name and address at the welcome booth, will have a chance to win \$100 cash. Drawings will take place around 6:00 pm before the Raffle cash prize. Good luck to everyone and many thanks for our generous benefactors.

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.

Birthdays Wishes in the Coming Month

- April 6: Ronald Weisner
- April 8: Jesse John
- April 11: Randy Weisner
- April 12: Justin Frenn
- April 13: Adel Frenn
- April 14: Mark McLaughlin, Lori Chickos
- April 20: Angela Petros
- April 28: Ann Marie Weisner Serafin
- April 29: Jeannette Wakim
- May 5: Eden DeMuth

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),

<i>Your Church Support Last Week</i>	
\$1,669.00	Sunday Collection

36.00	Candles
271.00	Donation to the church
\$1,976.00	Total Deposits: May God reward you abundantly for supporting your spiritual home! Finance Committee: Lou Khourey, Susan Burns, Liz Murad, Mark McLaughlin

Question & Answer (#62)

Question #62: “What exactly does ‘honor your father and mother’ encompass?”

Answer: First, it means obey your parents, for they exercise God-given authority over you. It also means to be grateful to your parents for the gift of life, and for you to care for your parents when they can no longer care for themselves.

Children should obey their parents so long as 1) parental wishes aren’t contrary to the Catholic Faith; 2) the children live in their parents’ home; or 3) until they reach adulthood. After that time, children are still obliged to love and honor their parents, but not necessarily obey them. By this time the children are old enough to make their own decisions.

The Fourth Commandment also applies to more than the parent/child relationship. It calls us to obey lawful superiors, including teachers, older siblings, and those who govern. Again, this assumes one is not directed to act contrary to the Faith.

The Fourth Commandment also places a reciprocal duty on parents and those who exercise other forms of authority. Parents should educate and raise children in the Faith. They should respect their children as persons, disciplining them when necessary and providing for their physical, spiritual, educational and social needs as best they can. In short, parents are obliged to love their children.

Spirituality

Repentance is not self-regarding, but God-regarding. It is not self-loathing, but God-loving. Christianity bids us to accept ourselves as we really are, with all our faults and our failings and our sins. In other religions, one has to be good to come to God -in Christianity, one does not. Christianity might be described as a “*come as you are*” party. It bids us stop worrying about ourselves, stop concentrating on our faults and our failings, and thrust them upon the Savior with a firm resolve of amendment. The examination of conscience never induces despair, always hope. Some psychologists, by the proper use of their method, have brought mental peace to individuals, but only because they have found a safety valve from mental pressure. They have let off steam, but they have not repaired the boiler. That is the business of the Church.

Because examination of conscience is done in the light of God’s love, it begins with a prayer to the Holy Spirit to illumine our minds. A soul then acts toward the Spirit of God as toward a watchmaker who will fix our watch. We put a watch in his hands because we know he will not force it, and we put our souls in God’s hands because we know that if God inspects them regularly, they will work as they should.

It is true, the closer we get to God, the more we see our defects. A painting reveals few defects under candlelight, but the sunlight may reveal it as a daub. The very good never believe themselves very good, because they are judging themselves by the Ideal. In perfect innocence each soul, like the Apostles at the Last Supper, cries out: “*Is it I, Lord*” (Mt.26:22).

(...) Why is there more joy in Heaven for the repentant sinner than for the righteous? Because God’s attitude is not judgment but *love*. In judgment, one is not as joyful after doing wrong as before; but in love, there is joy because the danger and worry of losing that soul is past. He who is sick is loved more than he who is well, because he *needs* it more. Some will feign sickness to solicit love and pretend wounds in order that the beloved may bind them. --Bishop Fulton SHEEN, *Peace of Soul*, pp.110-111.

Wisdom: Beatitudes of Satan

This one will make you stop and shudder! We all fit into one of these or more!
If the devil were to write his beatitudes, they would probably go something like this:

1. Blessed are those who are too tired, too busy, too distracted to spend an hour once a week with their fellow Christians --they are my best workers.
2. Blessed are those Christians who wait to be asked and expect to be thanked -- I can use them.
3. Blessed are the touchy who stop going to church -- they are my missionaries.
4. Blessed are the trouble makers -- they shall be called my children.
5. Blessed are the complainers -- I'm all ears to them.

Story

Wishing to encourage her young son's progress on the piano, a mother took her boy to a Paderewski concert. After they were seated, the mother spotted an old friend in the audience and walked down the aisle to greet her.

Seizing the opportunity to explore the wonders of the concert hall, the little boy rose and eventually explored his way through a door marked "NO ADMITTANCE".

When the house lights dimmed and the concert was about to begin, the mother returned to her seat and discovered that the child was missing. Suddenly, the curtains parted and spotlights focused on the impressive Steinway on stage. In horror, the mother saw her little boy sitting at the keyboard, innocently picking out "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."

At that moment, the great piano master made his entrance, quickly moved to the piano, and whispered in the boy's ear, "Don't quit. Keep playing." Then leaning over, Paderewski reached down with his left hand and began filling in a bass part. Soon his right arm reached around to the other side of the child, and he added a running obbligato. Together, the old master and the young novice transformed what could have been a frightening situation into a wonderfully creative experience.

The audience was so mesmerized that they couldn't recall what else the great master played. Only the classic "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."

Perhaps that's the way it is with God. What we can accomplish on our own is hardly noteworthy. We try our best, but the results aren't always graceful flowing music. However, with the hand of the Master, our life's work can truly be beautiful.

Next time you set out to accomplish great feats, listen carefully. You may hear the voice of the Master, whispering in your ear, "Don't quit. Keep playing."

May you feel His arms around you and know that His hands are there helping you turn your feeble attempts into true masterpieces. Remember, God doesn't seem to call the equipped; rather, He equips the 'called'.

Life is more accurately measured by the lives you touch than by the things you acquire.

Jokes (215)

The Pepperoni Conspiracy

One long night while investigating a San Diego psychiatric hospital for medical insurance fraud, dozens of FBI agents had worked up an appetite.

So, an agent called a nearby pizza parlor for delivery. What follows is the conversation with the pizza server. It was recorded by the FBI because all calls were taped as part of their investigation:

Agent: "Hello. I would like to order 19 large pizzas and 67 cans of soda."

Pizza Parlor Employee: "And where would you like them delivered?"

Agent: "We're over at the psychiatric hospital."

Pizza Person: "The psychiatric hospital?"

Agent: "That's right. I'm an FBI agent."

Pizza Person: "You're an FBI agent?"

Agent: "That's correct. Just everybody here is."

Pizza person: "And you're at the psychiatric hospital?"

Agent: *“That’s correct. And make sure you don’t go through the front door. We have them locked. You will have to go around to the back to the service entrance to deliver the pizzas.”*

Pizza Person: *“And you’re all FBI agents?”*

Agent: *“That’s right. How soon can you have them here?”*

Pizza Person: *“And everyone at the psychiatric hospital is an FBI agent?”*

Agent: *“That’s right. We’ve been here all day and we’re starving.”*

Pizza Person: *“How are you going to pay for all of this?”*

Agent: *“I have my checkbook right here.”*

Pizza Person: *“And you’re all FBI agents?”*

Agent: *“That’s right. Everyone here is an FBI agent. Can you remember to bring the pizzas and sodas to the service entrance in the rear? We have the front doors locked.”*

Pizza Person: *“I don’t think so.”*

No Loss for the Boss

Judge: *“Is there any reason you could not serve as a juror in this case?”*

Juror: *“I don’t want to be away from my job that long.”*

Judge: *“Can’t they do without you at work?”*

Juror: *“Yes, but I don’t want them to know it.”*

Freedom

Long ago a rare bird, never seen before in China, alighted in the suburb of the capital city. The emperor was delighted. He ordered that food from his own table be offered to the bird and that his orchestra be brought in to play for its enjoyment. But the bird looked miserable and dazed. It refused to touch any of the food offered to it and, in a short time, contracted a sickness and died.

Truth

Rejection slip of a Chinese publishing house that returns a manuscript to its author:

“We have perused your manuscript with exceptional relish. We fear, however, that if we were to publish your outstanding work, it would be quite impossible for us to ever again publish another work that would not come up to its standard. And we cannot imagine how any other work will be its equal in the next hundred years. So, to our deepest regret, we are compelled to return your incredible composition. And we beg you a thousand times over to pardon our shortsightedness and faintheartedness.”