

Parish Offerings – Sunday of Samaritan Woman — May 7, 2017

“Everyone must give according to whatever he has inwardly decided; not sadly, not grudgingly, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Cor 9:7)

Holy Ghost Church, McKees Rocks

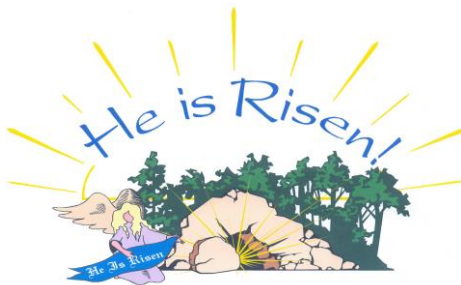
Regular Offering (\$1,988) YP (\$8)	\$1,996.00
Holy Days (\$30) Easter (\$100)	130.00
Seminary (\$195) Radio Ministry (\$50)	245.00
Votive Candles	149.50
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	\$2,520.50

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$553.00
Improvements	25.00
Seminary	\$35.00
Votive Candles	46.50
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	\$659.75

Church Attendance Last Week

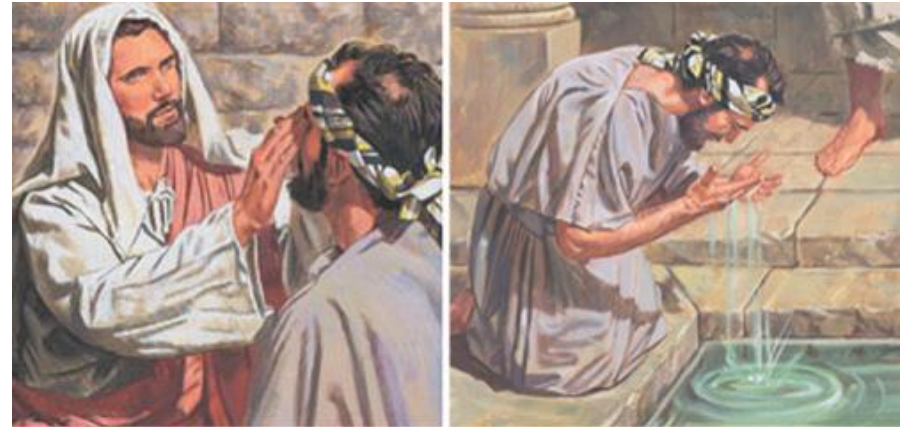
(MR) Mother’s Day Weekend — Sat., 4:00 p.m. (47)
Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (83); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (31)



HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE
McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND

6th Paschal Sunday — May 21, 2017



Catholics of the Ruthenian – Byzantine Rite in full communion with the Pope of Rome

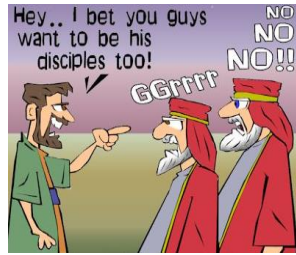
The Very Reverend Father Frank A. Firko, Pastor
The Reverend Deacon Michael Meaders (NS)

Rectory: (412) 771-3324; Church Fax: (412) 331-1870
MR School Hall Kitchen: (412) 331-5155

Web-site: www.holyghost-byzantinecatholic.org – E-Mail: ffaf334@verizon.net

SUNDAY RADIO (9:00 am WEDO 810 AM) & INTERNET DIVINE LITURGY
All Liturgical Services LIVE on UStream: www.Ustream.tv/channel/holy-ghost-church

Valerian F. Szal
238 Helen St.,
McKees Rocks, PA 15136
Phone: (412) 331-9713
331-9713
Fax: (412) 331-6688
Michael P. Ferrell,
Supervisor, CFSP
Our Family Still Serving Yours Since 1953



DESIGNS BY NANCY
235 McCartney Drive,
Moon Township 15108
Phone: (412) 262-9141
Nandce@aol.com
Nancy C. Debranski
Sewing, Alterations, Custom Embroidery and Unique Gifts

Sunday Divine Liturgies
Saturday (MR) 4:00 pm
Sunday (MR) 9:00 am
Holy Ghost (NS) 11:00 a.m.

Holy Day Divine Liturgies
w/Great Vespers (Oblig)
(MR): 7:00 pm
Holy Day (MR) 9:00 am; (NS) 6:00 pm

Daily Divine Liturgy
M-F (MR) 8:00 am
Sat. (NS) 9:00 am.

GCU
Greek Catholic Union of the USA
A Fraternal Benefit Society
Lodge 390 offers Insurance and Annuity Benefits greater than most financial institutions. Info call Marge (412) 331-3577

Individuals may sponsor an ad or greeting for a weekly or monthly price. Call the office for rates!

Please patronize our fabulous sponsors! They make it possible to bring you this weekly & informative S.O.T. without an added expense to the Church. New Sponsors please contact Church 9 til 1:00 p.m. Mon-Fri!

Holy Mystery of Reconciliation: Sat (MR): 3:15 to 3:40 pm & Sun (MR) 8:15 to 8:40 am.; (NS) 10:30 am
Holy Mysteries of Initiation: Contact Church Office for Baptism, Chrismation and Eucharist.
Holy Mysteries of Anointing: Ask especially prior to surgery or any other time.
Holy Mystery of Matrimony: Contact pastor one year in advance; Pre-Cana Classes required.
Sponsor of Christian Initiation: Godparents must be practicing Catholics.
Religious Education Classes: (MR) Coordinator: Steve Puluka (412) 897- 4650.
GCU Lodge 390: (MR) Contact Margaret Beliunas (412) 331-3577 for membership requirements.
Slavjane Folk Ensemble: (MR) Membership requirements contact Dean Poloka (412) 877-9351.
Carpatho-Rusyn Radio Broadcast: Every Sunday from 2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. WPIT 730 AM.
Social Hall Rental: (MR) Contact Church Office.
New & Returning Parishioners: Welcome! Please register by phoning the Church Office.
Remember the Church in Your Will: Please be so kind as to remember the Church in your last will and testament. This helps to secure its future & a Byzantine Catholic witness to all!

THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH

As He went on His way, Jesus the Lord Who saves us met a man struck with blindness from his birth. Moistening the dust of the earth with His saliva, Christ made some mud to anoint the eyes of the Blind Man. Then He sent him to Siloam to wash in the pool; when he had washed the Blind Man returned, and he saw the brightness of Your light, O Christ (Matins of Blind Man)

May 21, 2017 Seasonal Greeting Volume VII, Number 21



Christ is Risen! — Indeed! He is Risen!
Christos Voskrese!! — Voistinnu Voskrese!




Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND

6th Paschal Sunday

SUN., May 21 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Andrew Margo, Sr. + Ilona & Andrew, Jr. + Kathryn + Mary + Helen + Elizabeth Marge & James Lautenschlager
11:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

Mon, May 22 8:00 a.m. (MR) Thanksgiving (40th ann of Priesthood Ordination) Fr. Firko 

Tues, May 23 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Margaret "Peggy" Krulac (1st ann of passing 5/22) A. Velma Seman

Final Day of Feast of the Radiant Resurrection & Solemn Removal of Burial Shroud

Weds, May 24 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Joyce D. Ray Kathy & John Kulka

Great Vespers and Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Ascension


7:00 p.m. (MR) + Elizabeth Mross (birthday) Anonymous


GLORIOUS ASCENSION OF OUR LORD INTO HEAVEN

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION — MIROVANJE

THRS, MAY 25 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
6:00 p.m. (NS) + Anna Spontak (13th ann of passing 5/22) Son: Robert & Joyce

REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice)

Fri, May 26  8:00 a.m. (MR) + Margaret Bisesi Niece: Marlene Pfeiffer
6:00 p.m. (MR) Glorious Mysteries of the Holy Rosary & Moleben to the Most Holy Mother of God

Sat, May 27  9:00 a.m. (NS) + Michael Lorinc Nephew: Mike & Deb Kaylor

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council & Ascension Feast

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Eleanor Kulka (4th ann of passing 5/26) Children: Kathy & John

SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE 1ST ECUM. COUNCIL

7th Paschal Sunday — Memorial Weekend

SUN., May 28 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Rose A. Debranski (birthday) Dgrtr: Nancy
11:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

General Announcements

All Birthdays will be published in SOT each week so that prayers may be offered on these special occasions. Please advise the Church office if your special day does not appear or if you wish your name and date not be published.

Note: Capitalized Names designate North Side parishioners

Birthdays: May 22 – Theresa Hrishenko, John Kutchmark, Jr., Ray Rippole;
May 23 – Carl Bates, Janet Herczak; **May 25** – George Lucas; **May 27** – Gabriella Kassabov, Edward Wovchko.

Pray For the Ill, Infirm & Shut-ins of Our Parishes

HOME: Irene Bordas, MARY ANN CONTI, Mary Culan, Andrew Drukalsky, Gregory Fejka, Ilona Goyda, Beverly Harsh, MARTHA LUCAS, OLGA MANFREDO, Elizabeth Petruna, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Agnes Rosko, MARY SAHAYDA, Michael Spisak, ANNA TOTH, EVELYN VENTO, JOHN VEREB, Julia Wovchko.

MAPLEWOOD PC HOME (461 Maplewood Ave. Ambridge, PA 15003): Susan Dragosh, Doris Naughton.

HIGHLAND PARK CARE CENTER (745 North Highland Ave., Pgh, PA 15206): Linda Reiger.

MASONIC VILLAGE (1000 Masonic Drive, Sewickley, PA 15143): Helen M. Kriska, Marjorie Preganz.

MARIAN MANOR (2695 Winchester Dr., Pgh, 15220): MICHAEL BARBUSH, Irene Bednar.

CHIPPEWA PLACE (7005 Stadium Dr., Apt 427, Brecksville, OH 44141): Stephen Katrenich.

VALENCIA WOODS OF ST. BARNABAS (85 Charity Place, Valencia, PA 16059): Eleanor Kapko.

SUNRISE OF EAST COBB (1551 Johnson Ferry Rd., Marietta, GA 30062): AGNES KNOLL.

CARING HEIGHTS (234 Coraopolis Rd., Coraopolis, PA 15108): Margaret Beliuinas.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. My wife and I have been married fifteen years. We are both lapsed Catholics and both were previously married. My marriage was annulled, hers was not. What is our current standing in the Catholic Church? Can we join a parish? Can we receive Communion? **A. Answer by Catholic Answers:** You most certainly can join a parish and attend Mass (Divine Liturgy). But until you have your marriage validated in the Church, you would be unable to receive Communion. If her ex-husband is deceased, then you could simply have your marriage validated right away. If her ex is still living, she would need to receive a decree of nullity (i.e., an annulment) before you could validate your marriage.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

Continue to burn before the real presence of our Lord, God & Savior Jesus

May 21 — May 27, 2017

(MR): **In memory of the Margo Family**

offered by Marge & James Lautenschlager

(NS): **Thanksgiving** (40th ann of Priesthood Ordination)

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE 2017

offered by Fr. Firko

(NS) NONE AVAILABLE 2017



McKees Rocks Announcements

SUMMARY OF OUR LENTEN PIROHI PROJECT — Listed is a summary of this year's Lenten Pirohi Account. Total Proceeds in *Parish Savings & Share Account* prior to Pirohi Sales (\$37,143.20); Total Income from sales (\$17,649.00) Expenses (\$3,645.25) total Proceeds (\$14,003.75) Minus 5% Cathedricum (\$700.19); Golden Corral Buffet (\$287.77) Current in PS&S account: (\$50,158.99). This fund continues to make at least 2% interest. We are continuing to search out the updating the two Church Basement Restrooms. Thank you again to all who made this Project possible.



BYZAN-TEEN YOUTH GROUP MATCHING FUNDS PROJECT — Our HGC Byzan-TEEN Youth Group is working on a matching funds project. GCU Lodge 390 will match their total. They are selling candy bars. For every purchase that you make the teens will receive a matching funds offer. This will help raise money for the 2018 Youth Rally in Latrobe, PA while having a great time and meeting other Byzan-TEENS coming from all corners of our great nation.



SINCERE GRATITUDE TO THSE WHO HELPED — A few week ago Saturday, April 29, a bi-annual cleaning of the Church and grounds took place. A special thank you is extended to those who sacrificed two hours of their time: Steve Puluka, Julia Mosko, George Mosko, Elaine Kurtanich & Jim Kurtanich. God bless you for your time and continuous labor for your Church!



Holy Ghost, Northside

SINCERE GRATITUDE TO THSE WHO HELPED — A week ago Saturday, May 13, a bi-annual cleaning of the Church and grounds took place. A special thank you is extended to those who sacrificed two hours of their time: The Meaders Family: Deacon Michael, Cindy, Christopher and Sherry, George Hudanick, Jr. Kim and Alan Valeriano and Rich Fitzpatrick. God bless you for your time and continuous labor for your Church!



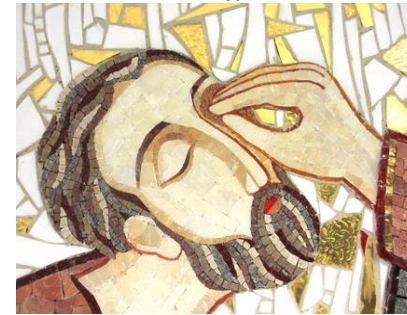
MARIAN DEVOTIONS EVERY FRIDAY OF MAY — In all Rites of the Catholic Church, the month of May is especially devoted to the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary. Come join us at the **HGC-MR on Fridays at 6:00 p.m.** for the offering of the Holy Rosary and Moleben to the Most Holy Mother of God, especially as we commemorate the 100th anniversary of her appearance in Fatima.

AN IMPORTANT REMINDER — This week is Ascension Thursday. **It is a Holy Day of Obligation.** Please reserve this date and time to attend the Divine Liturgy.

THE SIXTH PASCHAL SUNDAY

Baptism originally termed "Holy Illumination" and "Enlightenment" — *(first read John 9: 1-38)*

The methodology of the actual cure of this man born blind in today's Holy Gospel symbolizes mankind's means for its recovery from its blindness. It symbolizes the Holy Mystery of Baptism. Baptism is called 'holy illumination'. Those who have been recently baptized are referred to as the newly illuminated. As this man is cured of his blindness when he washes in the waters of the pool of Siloam, as Jesus tells him to do, so are we brought out of darkness into a new life when we are baptized as Christ instructed us to be. Jesus restores his creation, mankind, with the potential to become what it was meant to be before the fall of Adam. We also hear in the reading that after this man was cured many of those who knew him before did not recognize him. He is still the same man but something has significantly changed about him. He is no longer blind. So when we are illuminated we are also new persons, though our outward appearance might be the same. To symbolize this newness a white garment is put on us to show the purity with which we start this new existence. We must however, become different and unrecognizable in our inward and outward actions also. We must manifest our new existence to those around us through these actions. We must radiate this new found light to others by the way we live our lives. We must say to the world "I am he who was blind but now my eyes are opened." Credit must be given to Him who has cured us of our darkness by living our lives according to the lessons of the illumination we have received and the continued guidance we get with the reception of the Holy Spirit.



Ascension Thursday This Week

This week's *Feast of the Ascension (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)* reminds us that our true destiny lies in God. We must not only do what Jesus commands us, but we must follow him to the place where he has gone. The *Feast of the Ascension* tells us that our life is not limited to life on earth, but after our death we will experience a new life in heaven, and even now we are being pulled by the strings of God's love towards our encounter with him. Now, in our Liturgy let us try to open ourselves to God's boundless love --- the love of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit -- so that He may confirm and strengthen us in our love for Him and for the world. "Be exalted above the heavens, O God, and let Your glory be over all the earth."



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

May 24	Great Vespers w/DL for the Feast of the Glorious Ascension (MR) 7:00 p.m.
May 25 ...	Feast of the Glorious Ascension (Holy Day of Obligation) (MR) 9:00 am & (NS) 6:00 pm.
May 29	Memorial Day observed; special Divine Liturgy @ 8:00 a.m.
May 30 through 31	Clergy Information Days at St. John Cathedral, Munhall.
June 2.....	5 th & Final All Souls Commemoration at (NS) @ 6:00 p.m. – June 3 - (MR) @ 9:00 a.m.
June 3	Helping Hands Day, Mt. St. Macrina, Uniontown
June 4	Feast of the Descent of the Holy Spirit — Pentecost Sunday — Patronal Feast. Patronal Dinner Celebration & Honoring all our Parish Graduates @ 1:00 pm
June 10	Slavjane 40 th Anniversary Concert @ 1:30 p.m. (cf. article).
June 11	Sunday of All Saints & Final Day for fulfilling the Easter Duty Precept. A special G.C.U. Lodge 390 Quarterly Meeting @ (MR) 2:00 p.m.
June 12	MR Parish Advisory Council Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
June 13	NS Parish Advisory Council Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
June 14	GCU Lodge 390 Flag Day Ceremony @ 7:00 p.m.
June 18	Annual Father's Day.
June 23	Vigil Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (NS) 6:00 p.m.
June 24	Solemn Holy Day: Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (MR) 9:00 a.m.

Saint of the Week — May 22

Bishop-Martyr Basiliscus of Comana

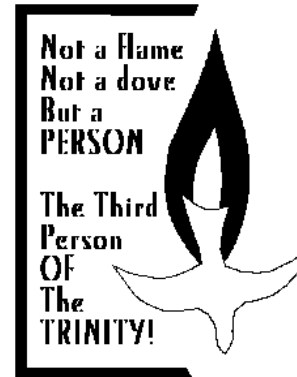


The Holy Martyr Basiliscus was a nephew of the Great Martyr Theodore the Recruit (February 17), and he suffered together with his brothers Eutropius and Cleonicos during the persecution of the emperor Maximian Galerius (305-311). The holy martyrs Cleonicos and Eutropius (March 3) were crucified, but the martyr Basiliscus was sent to Comana where he was detained in prison. Basiliscus in prison prepared himself for his impending ordeal. The Lord appeared to him in a dream, promising the martyr His help, and foretold his martyric death at Comana. Basiliscus asked the prison guards to let him go to his native village to bid his relatives farewell. They let him go, since they respected him for his holy life and working of miracles. Arriving home, Saint Basiliscus saw his family one last time, and urged them to stand firmly in the Faith. When

Agrippa learned that Basiliscus had gone to see his relatives, he went into a rage. He chastised the prison guards, and he sent a detachment of soldiers after the martyr. Meeting Basiliscus, who was actually on his way back, the magistranium placed heavy chains on him, and shod him with metal sandals with nails driven into the soles, and set off to Comana. Arriving at a certain village during the hot afternoon, the travelers stayed at the house of a woman named Troana. The soldiers went into the house to relax and refresh themselves with food, and they tied the martyr Basiliscus to a dry tree. The earth shook, and a spring of water came forth from the fissure. The magistranium, the soldiers and Troana, rushed out of the house. Shaken by the miracle which had taken place, they set the martyr free. Sick people from the village came to the holy martyr and received healing through his prayers. When the saint finally stood before Agrippa, he was commanded to offer sacrifice to the pagan gods. He replied, "I offer to God a sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving every hour." They led him into a pagan temple. In an instant fire came down from Heaven, which burned the temple, and reduced the idols to dust. Then in a blind rage Agrippa gave orders to behead Basiliscus and throw his body into the river. The death of the martyr occurred in the year 308.

General Announcements

PATRONAL PENTECOST DINNER PLANS TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE — Our Patronal Feast Day Dinner at the (MR) school hall is being planned for **Pentecost Sunday, June 4,**



2017 @ 1:00 p.m. This special celebration will mark the **100th anniversary of our MR Church Building; and the 115th anniversary of the founding of our NS Holy Ghost Church.** We will also honor our upcoming high school and college graduates at this time. All Members of both Holy Ghost Parishes of MR & NS are asked to put this day aside so as to glorify God the Holy Ghost (Spirit) during these green holy days! The event will be catered by Cooked Goose Catering. **The menu will be: Stuffed Pork Chop Dinner Red Skin Potatoes, Mixed Vegetable and Tossed Salad. The Children's menu only will consist of Chicken Tenders along with Mac & Cheese.** Tickets are now available following the Divine Liturgies. Due to the

celebration of our special anniversaries the Church will be subsidizing the remainder of the costs. The special prices are: ACTIVE PARISHIONERS (13 & Over) \$10.00; GUESTS are welcome for \$13.00 Children's price \$5.00. You may also contact Norma Kacsur (412) 331-4864 or the Church Office (412) 771-3324. The Church will also subsidize the Graduates meal and all remaining costs.

GRADUATES REGISTER TO BE RECOGNIZED — Our Holy Ghost Church would like to honor all of our High School and College Graduates on the occasion of our Patronal Feast, **June 4** All MR & NS graduates will be our guests and receive a gift from the parish congratulating them on their milestone achievement as they commence a new chapter in their lives. All graduates must phone or email the church office with the following information: (1) *University/College of Graduation; Date of Graduation;* (3) *Graduating Degree;* (4) *Future plans and employment;* and (4) *will you be attending the Recognition Luncheon.* Deadline is May 28



GCU LODGE 390 UPCOMING QUARTERLY MEETING — A special quarterly Lodge meeting date has been revised for **Sunday, June 11, 2017** in the MR Gym @ 2:00 p.m. Members, please mark your calendars. Following the meeting, food and raffles will take place.

SLAVJANE 41ST ANNUAL CONCERT TICKETS — The *Slavjane Folk Ensemble* will be celebrating their annual Dinner-Theater at St. Elias Byzantine Catholic Church, 4200 Homestead-Duquesne Road, Munhall, PA on **Saturday, June 10, 2017. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. & Concert @ 6:00 p.m.** The Reception will then follow in the Church Hall. Donation is Adult - \$5.00; Students under 16 – No Charge. The Reception Music will be by Okrestar Zabava. Contact Dean Poloka (412) 877-9351. If you have never attended a Slavjane Performance, this is the one of the greatest! Tickets are now available, get yours today!



MT. ST. MACRINA HELPING HANDS DAY — This Annual HHD, sponsored by the G.C.U. will take place on Saturday, June 3, 2017. You are encouraged and welcomed to participate. Coffee & Donuts will be served at 9:30 a.m. at the Trinity Center. Work begins at 10:00 a.m. Please bring lawn tools (including brooms, rakes, weed whackers, etc. for outside work. For indoor cleaning bring brooms, mops, dust pans, etc. Following the completion of the day, lunch will be served.

