

Parish Offerings – Easter Sunday — April 1, 2018

“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	\$60.00
Easter (\$6,554) YP (\$41) Flowery Sunday (\$410) Holy Days (\$1,744)	8,749.00
Easter Décor (\$5) Initial (\$5)	10.00
Votive Candles	157.50
	\$8,976.50

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$50.00
Easter (\$1,507.25) Flowery Sunday (\$10) Holy Days (\$148)	1,665.25
Utilities (\$10) Church Improvement (\$35)	45.00
Special Donation (In mem. of + Theodore Demianczyk + Nicole Elena	
Rings by Dawn & Mark Rings)	50.00
Votive Candles (\$123) Easter Décor (\$30)	153.00

Church Attendance Last Week \$1,963.25

(NS) Sat., 5:45 p.m. (66); (MR) Sat., 7:45 p.m. (100)
 Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (127); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (65)
 Bright Monday (MR) 9:00 a.m. (10); (NS) 6:00 p.m. (8)
 Bright Tuesday (MR) 9:00 a.m. (9); (NS) 6:00 p.m. (7)

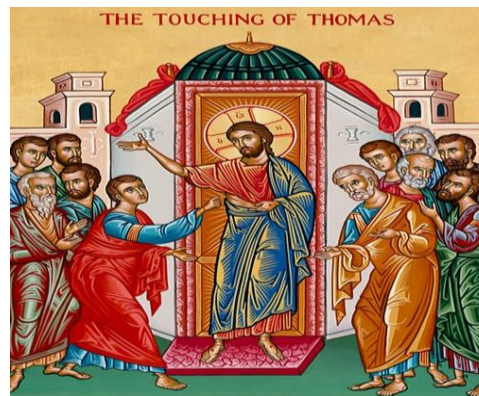


HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
 225 OLIVIA STREET
 1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE
 McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
 PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

SUNDAY OF THE ANTIPASCH

Sunday of St. Thomas — 2nd Paschal Sunday

Divine Mercy Sunday — April 8, 2018



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

He Is RISEN INDEED!

DESIGNS BY NANCY
 235 McCartney Drive,
 Moon Township 15108
 Phone: (412) 262-9141
 Nancde@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 Tina (412) 859-9597

This space available for ads for wishing someone birthday or anniversary greetings, get-well wishes, etc.
Call the office (412) 771-3324

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 Bellunas (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

Eight days after Your Resurrection, O Lord, * You appeared to Your disciples in the room where they were gathered; You greeted them saying: Peace be with you! Then You showed Your hands and side to the doubting disciple. He, therefore, cried out in an act of faith: My Lord and my God, glory to You! (Great Vespers for Thomas Sunday).

April 8, 2018 Seasonal Greeting Volume VIII, Number 14





Christ is Risen! — Indeed! He is Risen!
Christos Voskrese!! — Voistinnu Voskrese!
Liturgical Services for the Week




Date Time Intention Requested By

SUNDAY OF THE ANTIPASCH & ST. THOMAS

 **Divine Mercy Sunday – 2nd Paschal Sunday** 
Distribution of the Artos at the Mirovanije

SUN., APR 8		9:00 a.m. (MR) + Mary Fejka <i>(22nd ann. of passing 4/6)</i>	Dgtr: Susie
		11:00 a.m. (NS) <i>For the Parishioners of Both Parishes</i>	
Mon, Apr 9		8:00 a.m. (MR) + Eric Leigh Nichols	Kathleen J. Murphy
Tues, Apr 10		8:00 a.m. (MR) + Andrew Muska <i>(5th ann of passing 4/5)</i>	Nancy & Michael Ferrell
Weds, Apr 11		8:00 a.m. (MR) + Fr. Richard F. Zula	Judy & Ray Haski
Thrs, Apr 12		8:00 a.m. (MR) + Theodore Demianczyk <i>(19th ann of passing 4/4)</i>	Wife: Anna

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

Fri, Apr 13		8:00 a.m. (MR) + Stephen Gramata <i>(29th day of passing 4/15)</i>	Bro: Basil & Eleanor
Sat, Apr 14		9:00 a.m. (NS) + Lucy + John Holesh	Sister: Helen Holesh Marrice

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Myrrh-Bearing Women & Joseph & Nicodemus



4:00 p.m. (MR) + Andrew Kundrat, Sr. Theresa Kundrat



SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN

Joseph of Arithemea & Nicodemus – 3rd Paschal Sunday

SUN., Apr 15	9:00 a.m. (MR) + Simko + Buchko Families	Peggy & Chuck McCusker
	11:00 a.m. (NS) <i>For the Parishioners of Both Parishes</i>	

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

Apr 10 – ALAN HARPER; **Apr 13** – Margaret Cifrulak; **Apr 14** – Kristian Kassabov, Kathryn Kress, Elias Stebbins.

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

HOME: Irene Bordas, Margaret Beliuas, MARY ANN CONTI, Andrew Drukalsky, Ilona Goyda, Beverly Harsh, Helen Hopey, MARTHA LUCAS, OLGA MANFREDO, Irene Palahunik, Elizabeth Petruna, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Alice Sejka, ANNA TOTH, EVELYN VENTO, Julia Wovchko, SHIRLEY YANOSKO.

MAPLEWOOD PC HOME (461 Maplewood Ave. Ambridge, PA 15003): Doris Naughton.
HIGHLAND PARK CARE CENTER (745 North Highland Ave., Pgh, PA 15206): Linda Reiger.
BRIGHTON REHAB & WELLNESS CENTER (246 Friendship Circle, Beaver, PA 15009): Mary Susan Dragosh.

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

MARIAN MANOR (2695 Winchester Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15220): Irene Bednar.

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

FAIR OAKS ASSISTED LIVING (2200 W. Liberty Ave., Pgh, 15226): ANNA MARIE DEMIANCZYK.

LUTHERAN SENIORLIFE (500 Wittenberg Way, Mars PA 16046): William Zavidny.

CRANBERRY PLACE (5 St. Francis Way, Cranberry Twp, PA 16066): MARY SAHAYDA

VETERANS HOSPITAL (1010 Delafield St., Pittsburgh, PA 15215): JOHN VEREB.

MANOR CARE (1848 Greentree Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15220): John Marks.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. If I go to Mass (Divine Liturgy) on Saturday for my obligation, may I work on Sunday? **A. Answer by Catholic Answers:** First, God bless you for working to fulfill your Sunday obligation by participating in the Saturday vigil Mass (Divine Liturgy). However, whether you fulfill your Sunday obligation at the vigil Mass (Divine Liturgy) or on Sunday, there is still the issue of whether the work to be done on Sunday is necessary. In providing for yourself (and your family if you're married), if you can avoid working on Sunday, you should. If you can't, the Church understands and encourages you to look for opportunities with your employer to avoid working on Sunday.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

April 8 — April 14, 2018

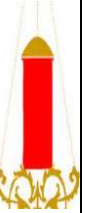
(MR): **In memory of Mary Fejka** *(22nd ann of passing 4/6)*
 offered by Dgtr: Susie

(NS): **Health & Welfare of Anna Toth**

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2018

offered by Joan Senchyshtyn

(NS) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2018



McKees Rocks Announcements

SYMPATHY EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the sudden passing of **Pauline (Wargo) Gaydas, 85**, of McKees Rocks, PA, at the home of her Niece Linda (Chuck) Kieda of Shaler, PA, on Tuesday, March 27, 2018. Pauline and her late Sister, Helen (Wargo) Murray served as custodians at our Church several years past. She was the mother of Robert and his family. The Valerian F. Szal Funeral Home handled the arrangements. A Paschal Funeral Divine Liturgy was offered at our Church on Tuesday, April 3rd. Interment was at St. Mark Cemetery. Our Parish extends its most sincere sympathies to the Gaydas and Kieda Families. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, eternal rest to your servant Pauline, and remember her forever because CHRIST IS RISEN! Vicnaja Jej Pamjat' ibo CHRISTOS VOSKRESE!



SPECIAL CLASSES COMMENCES THIS EVENING — For those who wish to know the fundamental teachings of the Catholic Church and to increase your knowledge of the Byzantine-Ruthenian Catholic Church, here is your chance. This 12 week format will be presented to anyone who is non-Catholic and for those who are Catholic of another Rite, and those who wish to increase their understanding of our Rite. This series (1 hour each) will commence this evening, **April 8, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.** These sessions serve as convert instructions.

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.

PROPERTY CLEANUP THIS WEEK — To tidy up the Church grounds this Spring, we are calling on all parishioners to set aside this **Saturday, April 28, 2018** from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon for this purpose! Weeding and hedge trimming are especially needed. Please bring garbage bags, hedge clippers, brooms, gloves and any other necessary instruments to make this cleanup easier. We are counting on you! Also, if you know anyone young people needing social working credit hours, we invite them to this event.



Holy Ghost, Northside

SYMPATHY EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the passing of **Michael Barbush, Jr., 79**, of Pittsburgh, at the Marian Manor, Pittsburgh on Tuesday, April 3, 2018. Michael is survived by a Brother, Dan (Pat) and Sister, Barbara (Fred). The Thomas P. Kunsak Funeral Home, California Avenue, handled the arrangements. A Paschal Funeral Divine Liturgy was offered at our Church on Friday, April 6th. Interment was at the Union Dale Cemetery, Northside. Our Parish extends its most sincere sympathies to the Barbush Family. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, eternal rest to your servant Michael, and remember him forever because CHRIST IS RISEN! Vicnaja Jim Pamjat' ibo CHRISTOS VOSKRESE!



THOMAS SUNDAY 50/50 RAFFLE TODAY — Following the morning's Divine Liturgy, this special drawing will take place in the narthex of the Church. Tickets are available up until the drawing.

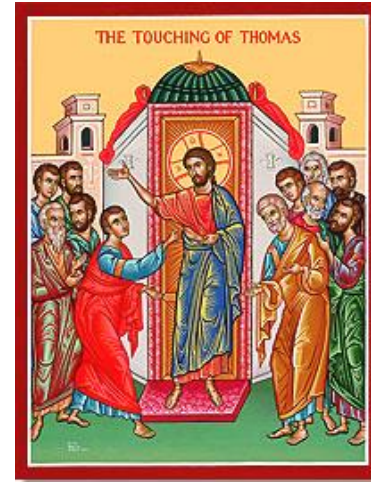
PROPERTY CLEANUP IN MAY — To tidy up the Church grounds this Spring, we are calling on all parishioners to set aside **Saturday, May 12, 2018** from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon for this purpose! Weeding and hedge trimming are especially needed. Please bring garbage bags, hedge clippers, brooms, gloves and any other necessary instruments to make this cleanup easier. We are counting on you! Also, if you know anyone young people needing social working credit hours, we invite them to this event.



SUNDAY OF THE ANTIPASCH

THE SUNDAY OF ST. THOMAS *(John 20: 19 – 31)*

The Sunday after Easter is the **Sunday of St. Thomas**, also known as **Second Sunday of the Antipasch** ("opposite" Pascha, i.e., at the other end of Bright Week). Historically, this day in the early Church was the day that the newly-baptized Christians removed their robes and entered once again into the life of this world. This day is also known as **Antipasch**. This does not mean "opposed to Pascha," but "in place of Pascha." Beginning with this first Sunday after Pascha, the Church dedicates every Sunday of the year to the Lord's Resurrection. Sunday is called "Resurrection" in Russian, and "the Lord's Day" in Greek. The Byzantine Catholic Church dedicates every Sunday of the year to the Lord's



Resurrection starting this Sunday, the eighth day of the paschal celebration. Liturgically, the Church remembers the Apostle Thomas' vision of Christ after eight days. As with all the services until the feast of Ascension the Easter Troparion is sung, and the epistle readings are from the Acts of the Holy Apostles informing us of the first Christians who lived in communion with the Risen Lord. The Gospel of St. John is read since it starts the New Testament as the new creation because of the Risen Christ! Finally, the gospel readings are from the Gospel of John, considered by many to be a gospel written particularly for the newly baptized.

BLESSED ARTOS DISTRIBUTED TODAY

"Artos" is a Greek word which means bread made with yeast. The Artos is blessed on Pascha after the Ambon Prayer which is said at the end of the Paschal Divine Liturgy. The prayer used in the blessing of the Artos then follows. During Bright Week, the blessed bread, covered with an icon of the Resurrection, remains in the church to be venerated until the Sunday after Pascha (Saint Thomas Sunday), when the Artos is distributed to the faithful. According to the old custom, the Artos was distributed on the Saturday of Bright Week after the Holy Liturgy with the prayer, "this bread may be for the health and sanctification of the soul of him who eats of it." In the former centuries the faithful would preserve little pieces of bread for those who were seriously ill or in danger of death and unable to receive Holy Communion. Presently, the Artos is generally broken and distributed on Thomas Sunday so that as many of the faithful as possible can partake of this blessing. Take a piece home especially for those unable to be present today.



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 8 Special Classes on the Faith & Rite of the Byzantine Catholic Church @ 6:00 p.m.
- April 23 St. George, the Victory-Bearer (Simple): (MR) Divine Liturgy @ 9:00 a.m. & (NS) @ 6:00 p.m.
- April 25 Feast of Mid-Pentecost
- April 28 Spring Cleaning of the Church Grounds. Volunteers needed from 10:00 am to 12 Noon.
- May 5 Practice of those preparing for First Reconciliation in MR Church @ 11:00 a.m.
- May 6 Renewal of Baptismal Promises and Corporate Communion of our children @ 4:00 p.m. DL.
..... Final Weekend Coffee Social until the near end of summer.
- May 9 . Great Vespers w/DL for the Feast of the Glorious Ascension (Holy Day of Obligation) (MR) 7:00 p.m.
- May 10 ... Feast of the Glorious Ascension (Holy Day of Obligation) (MR) 9:00 am & (NS) 6:00 pm.
- May 11 Feasts of Saints Cyril & Methodius & Blessed Bishop-Martyr Basil Hopko.

Saint of the Week — April 10

Holy Martyr Terrence & Companions

The Holy Martyr Terrence and his companions suffered under the emperor Decius (249-251). The emperor issued an edict commanding all subjects to offer sacrifice to



the pagan idols. When the governor of Africa Fortunianus received this edict, he gathered the people into the city square, set out cruel instruments of torture and declared that everyone without exception had to offer the sacrifice to the idols. Many, afraid of torture, complied. However, Saint Terrence and forty other Christians bravely affirmed their faith in the Savior and ridiculed the idols. Fortunianus was amazed at their boldness and he asked how they as rational people, could confess as God, One Whom the Jews crucified as a malefactor. Saint Terrence answered

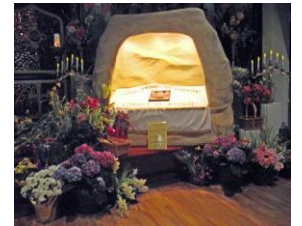
that their belief was in the Savior, Who voluntarily endured death on the Cross and rose on the third day. Fortunianus saw that Terrence inspired the others by his example, and so he ordered him to be isolated in prison with his three closest companions: Africanus, Maximus, and Pompeius. Fortunianus was determined to force the rest of the martyrs, including Zeno, Alexander and Theodore, to renounce Christ. Neither threats nor terrible tortures could sway the holy martyrs. They burned them with red-hot iron, they poured vinegar on the wounds, they sprinkled on salt, and they raked them with iron claws. In spite of their sufferings, the saints did not weaken in their confession of Christ, and the Lord gave them strength. The governor put heavy chains on them, and gave orders to starve them to death. By night, an angel of the Lord removed the martyrs' chains and fed them. The furious Fortunianus gave orders to behead the holy martyrs. Christians took up their holy bodies and buried them with reverence outside the city.

General Announcements

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY TODAY — The Sunday following Easter is a very special Sunday when the Divine Floodgates from Heaven are wide-opened and Jesus offers us the total forgiveness of all sins and punishment to any soul, who goes to Confession and receives Him in Holy Communion on that day. Our Lord's promise to grant complete forgiveness of sins and punishment on the Feast of Mercy is recorded three times in the Diary of Saint Faustina, each time in a slightly different way: "I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My mercy" (1109). "Whoever approaches the Fountain of Life on this day will be granted complete forgiveness of sins and punishment" (300). "The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion will obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment" (699). Again, **To be eligible to receive this promise of the Lord Jesus Himself, one must make seek His Mercy is the Holy Mystery (Sacrament) of Reconciliation (within 8 days prior or after the Feast), and receive Holy Communion on this day. This will enable you to fulfill your Easter Duty too!**



CUSTOM TO PRAY BEFORE THE EMPTY-TOMB — You are encouraged to say a prayer before the Empty-Tomb of Our Lord as it is set in our presence for the 40 days of Easter. It is a way of manifesting our personal and collective Faith in the Risen Lord Jesus and the power that flows from it. Here is a prayer to pray before it: "Being God, You were present by Your body, and yet in hades by Your soul, in Paradise with the thief, and on the throne, O Christ with the Father and the Holy Spirit, filling all things and encompassed by none. Glory to the Father and to the Son (+) and to the Holy Spirit. O Christ, Your tomb, the font of our resurrection, is indeed a giver of life more splendid than Paradise and more radiant than any royal chamber. Now and ever and forever. Amen. Hail! Holy and divine dwelling of the Most High, for through you O Mother of God, you has been given to those who cry out: Blessed are you among women, O Lady most pure!"



THE "GLORIFIED-CROSS" DESIGNATES "CHRIST IS RISEN!" — Throughout the entire Paschal Period, our Byzantine Catholic Church glorifies the triumphant Cross of Christ. So until Pentecost Sunday all of our Byzantine Crosses (even the ones you wear) should be turned in the reversed manner. Thus the bottom bar should look as though it's backwards to proclaim Our Lord's Salvific Death and Radiant Resurrection! Turn your crosses around and glorify Our Lord victorious defeat of death!



EASTER DUTY PRECEPT — All Christian Faithful are OBLIGED to receive the Divine Eucharist when in danger of death AND during the Paschal (Easter) Period (Canon 708). In regards to the latter, this was traditionally known as the EASTER DUTY. When one is aware of Mortal (Deadly) Sin, a Sacramental Confession is necessary before receiving Holy Communion. Serious Sins are those fractures especially against the Ten Commandments and 6 Precepts of the Church, but not limited to them. If you have not attended to your Easter Duty Precept, the **Sunday of All Saints (May 27)** is the final day to take care of this important spiritual matter without incurring serious sin of omission. Use the special examination of conscience forms located in the vestibule and narthex of the Church to assist you in making a good confession of sins.