

**Parish Offerings – Sunday of Samaritan Woman — April 29, 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 (\$1,957) YP (\$13) .....	\$1,970.00
Holy Days (\$92) YP (\$1).....	93.00
Easter .....	20.00
Votive Candles .....	109.00
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	\$2,192.00

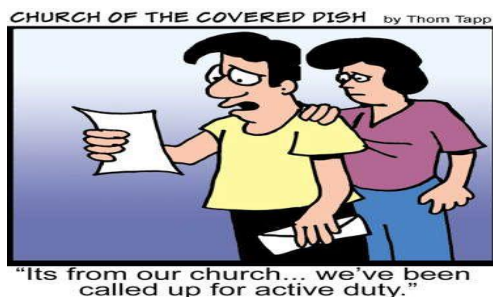
**Holy Ghost Church, Northside**

Regular Offering .....	\$293.00
Holy Days .....	21.00
Utilities .....	2.00
Votive Candles .....	42.00
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	\$358.00

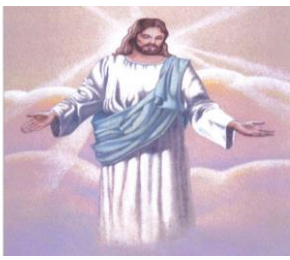
**Church Attendance Last Week**

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (46)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (82); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (26)



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



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**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

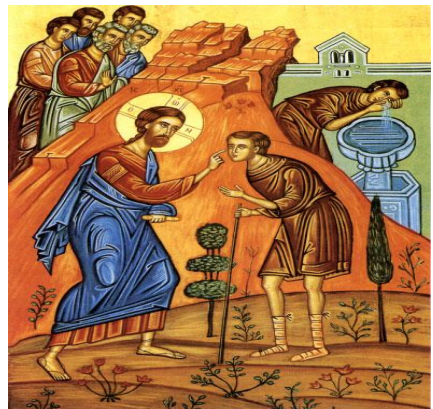
**This space available for ads for wishing someone birthday or anniversary greetings, get-well wishes, etc.**  
**Call the office (412) 771-3324**

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

**SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND**

**6<sup>th</sup> Paschal Sunday — May 6, 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](http://www.holyghost-byzantinecatholic.org) – E-Mail: [ffaf334@verizon.net](mailto: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](http://www.Ustream.tv/channel/holy-ghost-church)**

Sunday Divine Liturgies Saturday (MR) 4:00 pm Sunday (MR) 9: 00 am Holy Ghost (NS) 11:00 a.m.
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Holy Day Divine Liturgies w/Great Vespers (Oblig) (MR): 7:00 pm Holy Day (MR) 9:00 am; (NS) 6:00 pm
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Daily Divine Liturgy M-F (MR) 8:00 am Sat. (NS) 9:00 am.
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**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

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 6, 2018 Seasonal Greeting Volume VIII, Number 18

**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

#### 6<sup>th</sup> Paschal Sunday

SUN., May 6 9:00 a.m. (MR) + George Kurtanich (birthday) Children  
 11:00 a.m. (NS) + Betty + Jay Mowery Dgtr: Barbara "Babs"

Mon, May 7 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Anna Mudry Dgtr: Marlene Pfeiffer  
 *The Holy Apostle & Evangelist John* 

Tues, May 8 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Fr. Charles M. Yastishock (birthday 5/5)

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

Wed, May 9 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Lori R. Kacsur (birthday) Astorino & Graziano Families

*Great Vespers and Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Ascension — Holy Day of Obligation*

7:00 p.m. (MR) + Eleanor Kapko (birthday 5/6) Nephew: Michael Maslaney

### GLORIOUS ASCENSION OF OUR LORD INTO HEAVEN

#### HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION — MIROVANJE

THRS, MAY 10 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes  
 6:00 p.m. (NS) + John Mudry Dgtr: Marlene Pfeiffer

*Feast of SS. Cyril & Methodius & Blessed Bishop-Martyr Basil Hopko*  
**REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice)**

Fri, May 11 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Paraska Gramata Son: Basil & Eleanor  
 (20<sup>th</sup> ann of passing 5/12)

6:00 p.m. (MR) Glorious Mysteries of the Holy Rosary

Sat, May 12 9:00 a.m. (NS) Special Intention Anonymous

*Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Fathers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Ecumenical Council & Ascension Feast*

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Andrew Yakubik (9<sup>th</sup> ann of passing 5/16) Dgtr: Evelyn

### SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> ECUM. COUNCIL

Postfestive of the Ascension — 7<sup>th</sup> Paschal Sunday — Mother's Day

SUN., May 13 9:00 a.m. (MR) Health & Welfare (birthday 5/6) Helen Hopey  
 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*

May 6 – Gregory Fejka, Helen Hopey (92); May 12 – ELIANA TRAPL, Kimberly Zoldas.

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

**HOME:** Irene Bordas, Margaret Beliuinas, MARY ANN CONTI, Andrew Drukalsky, Ilona Goyda, Beverly Harsh, Helen Hopey, MARTHA LUCAS, OLGA MANFREDO, John Marks, 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.

**LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR** (1028 Benton Ave., PGH 15212): MARY SAHAYDA

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

**THE RESIDENCE AT WILLOW LANE** (30 Heckel Rd., McKees Rocks, PA 15136): John Marks.

### 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

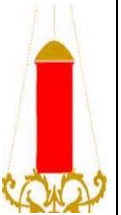
**May 6 — May 12, 2018**

(MR): **Thanksgiving (66<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary)**

offered by Dolores & Ted Babin

(NS): **In memory of Mary**

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2018 offered by Sister: Velma Seman (NS) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2018



# McKees Rocks Announcements

**SYMPATHY EXTENDED** — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the passing of **Dorothy A. (Nenadich) Balog, 83**, on Saturday, April 28, 2018 at St. Elizabeth Boardman Health Center. She was the Mother (in-law) of parishioners, Darlene (Gregory) Fejka. There were several children and grandchildren especially parishioners Caralynn (Krassi) Kassabov and Stephanie (Luke) Dybalski and Nicholas Fejka; Great-Grandchildren include: parishioners, Gabby, Mimi and Kristin Kassabov and Nelie Dybalski. The Kinnick Funeral Home, Inc, Youngstown, OH, handled arrangements. A Paschal Funeral Mass was at SS. Peter & Paul Croatian Roman Rite Church, Youngstown on Sat., May 5 at 1:00 p.m. Interment at Calvary Cemetery, Youngstown. Our Parish extends its most sincere sympathy to the Balog and Fejka Families. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, eternal rest to your servant Dorothy, and remember her forever because CHRIST IS RISEN! Vicnaja Jej Pamjat' ibo CHRISTOS VOSKRESE!



**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 (\$51,558.11); Total Income from sales (\$14,815.50) Expenses (-\$3,233.99) total Proceeds (\$11,561.51) Minus 5% Cathedralicum (-\$563.16); Grand Buffet, Rivers Casino (-\$318.39), 1st quarter interest in Parish Savings & Share Account (+\$277.54) Current Total in PS&S account: (\$62,535.61). This fund continues to make at least 2% interest. We are continuing to search out updating the Church Basement Restrooms, and having our parking lot sealed this summer. Thank you again to all who made this Project possible. God bless you for your sacrifice!



**SPECIAL CLASSES CONTINUE THIS EVENING** — Special Classes continue for those wishing to know the fundamental teachings of the Catholic Church and to increase one's knowledge of the Byzantine-Ruthenian Catholic Church. This 5<sup>th</sup> of a 12 week format presents awareness to anyone who is non-Catholic and for those who are Catholic of another Rite, the important Traditions of the Catholic Church and to increase their understanding of our Rite. This series will continue **this evening, May 6, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.** in Church Basement Library area classroom.

**LAST WEEK FOR SWEATERS FOR SENIORS** — It will be greatly appreciated if you have any new or gently-worn Sweaters, Cardigans or Zip Sweatshirts that you can donate to our resident-friends who tend to fill a chill at Caring Heights located in Coraopolis, PA. Boxes are in the Church Narthex and Side Vestibule. This will be the last weekend for this collection. For further information, you may contact Deb Charochak (412) 331-0953.



## Holy Ghost, Northside

**PROPERTY CLEANUP THIS WEEK — Saturday, May 12, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon**

**DUE TO THE PASSING OF CHOIR DIRECTOR, DARLENE FEJKA'S MOM, THE ARCHIEPARICAL CHOIR CONCERT SCHEDULED FOR TODAY HAS BEEN CANCELLED**

**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). 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 and must be confessed at least once a year. 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.

# 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."* See the liturgical schedule for times.



## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

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.  
 May 12 ... Slavjane 42nd Annual Concert at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart (OLSH) School @ 2:00 p.m.  
 May 13 ..... Mother's Day.  
 May 18-19 ..... 5<sup>th</sup> & Final All Souls Saturday: Friday: (NS) 6:00 p.m.; Saturday (MR) 9:00 a.m.  
 May 20 ..... Feast of the Descent of the Holy Spirit — Pentecost Sunday — Patronal Feast.  
 ..... Patronal Dinner Celebration & Honoring all our Parish Graduates @ 1:00 pm.  
 May 28 ..... Memorial Day observed; special Divine Liturgy @ 8:00 a.m.  
 May 29 through 30 ..... Clergy Information Days at St. John Cathedral, Munhall.

### Saints of the Week — May 11

#### SS. Cyril & Methodius, Equals to the Apostles

Saints Cyril and Methodius were brothers from Thessalonica of distinguished and wealthy parents, Leo and Maria. The older brother Methodius spent ten years as an officer among the Macedonian Slavs and thus learned the Slavic language. After that Methodius withdrew to Mount Olympus and dedicated himself to the monastic life of asceticism. It was here that Cyril (Constantine) later joined him. When the Khazarite king, Kagan, requested preachers of the Faith of Christ from Emperor Michael III then, by command of the emperor, these two brothers were found and sent among the Khazars. Convincing King Kagan of the Faith of Christ, they baptized him along with a great number of his chief assistants and even a greater number of the people. After a period of time, they returned to Constantinople where they compiled the Slavonic alphabet consisting of thirty-eight letters and proceeded to translate ecclesiastical books from Greek into Slavonic. At the request of Prince Rastislav, they traveled to Moravia where they spread and established the devout Faith and multiplied books and distributed them to the priests to teach the youth. At the request of the pope, Cyril traveled to Rome where he became ill and died on February 14, 867 A.D. Then Methodius returned to Moravia and labored to strengthen the Faith of Christ among the Slavs until his death. Following his death - he died in the Lord on April 6, 885 A.D. - his disciples, THE FIVE FOLLOWERS, with St. Clement, the bishop at the head, crossed the Danube River and descended to the south into Macedonia, where from Ohrid they continued their labor among the Rusyn people begun by Cyril and Methodius in the north.



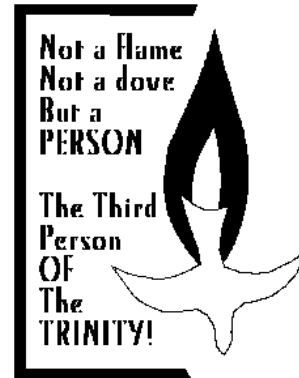
#### Feast of Blessed Bishop-Martyr Basil Hopko

Basil Hopko was born on April 21, 1904 in the Rusyn Village of Hrabske near Bardejov, Eastern Slovakia. In 1922 young Basil enrolled into the eparchial seminary in Presov. Following his second year, he was drafted into the army. There he would gather all the Rusyn soldiers together and take them to Sunday services. Upon completing his military service, he completed seminary studies in 1928. He was ordained to the holy priesthood by Bishop Paul P. Gobjich. Fr. Basil served his pastoral assignments faithfully displaying a great love for the poor, workers and Rusyn youth. Foreseeing a political overturn in Czechoslovakia in the autumn of 1946, Bishop Gobjich petitioned Rome that Father Hopko serve as his auxiliary bishop. Bishop Hopko was imprisoned and tortured. He became chaplain to the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate who also took care of him. On Friday, July 23, 1976 following a light lunch, and being helped in an easy chair, he gave up his spirit to the Lord whom he loved and faithfully served. Pope St. John Paul II beatified him on September 14, 2003. His Feast Day is May 11.



## 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, May 20, 2018 @ 1:00 p.m.** 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 Chicken Breast Dinner, Roast Pork w/Gravy, 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. 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 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 Churches would like to honor all of our High School and College Graduates on the occasion of our Patronal Feast, **May 20, 2018.** 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 the church office to inform us that you are graduating and will be attending the dinner.



**GCU LODGE 390 UPCOMING QUARTERLY MEETING** — The special quarterly Lodge meeting is slated for this afternoon **Sunday, May 6, 2018 in MR @ 2:00 p.m.** Members, please mark your calendars. It is open to all GCU members and those wishing to join via a purchase of a life insurance and/or a high percentage ROTH or REGULAR IRA Certificate.

**BI-PARTISN PRO-LIFE GUIDE NOW AVAILABLE** — PA Primary Elections are just a little more than a week away on **May 15.** You are encouraged to consider those candidates who are truly dedicated to the Pro-Life position. Let us defend the most vulnerable of God's children and speak for them by our vote when they cannot speak or act for themselves. Imagine yourself in their position. Wouldn't you want someone to defend you when your life is threatened?! Take the guide with you to the polls. Jesus came so that we may have life and live it to its fullness!

**SLAVJANE 42<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL CONCERT TICKETS THIS WEEK** — The *Slavjane Folk Ensemble* will be celebrating their annual Dinner-Theater at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Auditorium, 1504 Woodcrest Ave., Corapolis, PA on **Saturday, May 12, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.** Slavjane consists of 29 students ranging from ages 4 through 18 years old and are from the Pittsburgh area. Featured on this year's concert are songs, dances and musical selections from Croatia, Dalmatia and Carpatho-Rus'. Featured this year are Roma selection from Eastern Slavlovakia. Special guest performers are the Pittsburgh area Slovak (PAS) Ensemble. **The Reception will then follow at Holy Trinity Social Hall, 5720 Steubenville Pike, McKees Rocks @ 5:00 p.m. Very reasonable charge for entertainment and dinner: Donation is Adult - \$10.00; Students - \$5.00; Reception only - \$5.00. 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! Let us support our Byzantine Catholic Cultural Performers – Slavjane.

