

Parish Offerings – Sunday of St. Thomas — April 23, 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	\$1,151.32
Palm Sunday (\$5) Holy Days (\$330) YP (\$11)	346.00
Easter	275.00
Votive Candles	97.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,869.32

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$355.95
Palm Sunday (\$10) Holy Days (\$42)	52.00
Easter	35.00
Utilities	44.00
Votive Candles	54.75
	<hr/>
	\$541.70

Church Attendance Last Week

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (37)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (75); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (45)

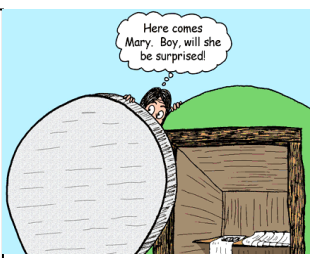


THE ORIGINAL ROCK



...AND ROLL

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

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Moon Township 15108
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Nancde@aol.com

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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

*In Appreciation to
Our Religious
Education Teachers for
teaching our children
the Catholic Faith &
Byzantine-Rusyn
traditions (anonymous)*

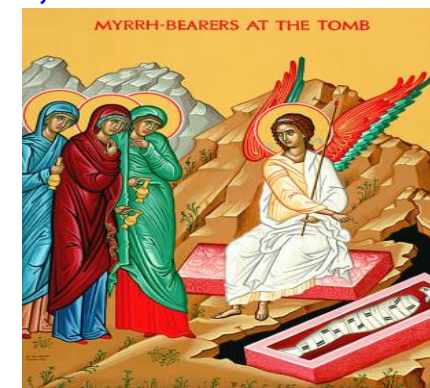
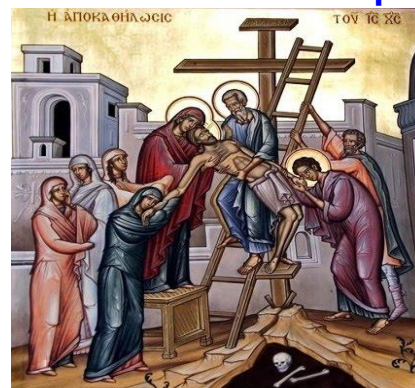
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HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE
McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN With Joseph & Nicodemus — 3rd Paschal Sunday

April 30, 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

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.

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 Beliuas (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

Before the sun was up, a group of women sought the true Sun, whom they believed had set in the tomb. To these Myrrh-Bearers, the radiant angel appeared and said: 'The resplendent Light enlightens those who sleep in the darkness. Go and announce to the radiant disciples that sorrow is now changed into joy.' With a confident heart and clapping of hands cry out with joy: The Pasch of joy now saves us. Christ is Risen and grants great mercy to the world.' (Great Vespers for Myrrh-Bearers Sunday)

April 30, 2017

Seasonal Greeting

Volume VII, 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 MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN

Joseph of Arithemea & Nicodemus – 3rd Paschal Sunday

SUN., Apr 30

9:00 a.m. (MR) + Deceased of Simko + Buchko Families Family
 11:00 a.m. (NS) + Michael Lorinc Alice Slagle & Family



Mon, May 1 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Frank Mazur Beth & Michael Liberatore



Tues, May 2 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Helen Dziki Marge & Jim Lautenschlager
 (7th ann of passing)

Weds, May 3 8:00 a.m. (MR) + August Pfeiffer Wife: Marlene Pfeiffer



Thrs, May 4 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mary Kotik Joe Signorello

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

Fri, May 5 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Eleanor Kulka G.C.U. Lodge 390
 6:00 p.m. (MR) Glorious Mysteries of the Holy Rosary



Sat, May 6 *8:00 a.m. (NS) + Charles "Pete" Latta Anonymous
 (Memorial)



Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Paralytic Man

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Evelyn Squires Brother: Steve & Dolores Kosko

SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC MAN

4th Paschal Sunday



SUN., May 7

9:00 a.m. (MR) + George Kurtanich (birthday) Children
 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: Apr 30 – Gary Yakubik; May 4 – Gerry Babin, Anita Wolsko; May 5 – Irene Muha; May 6 – Gregory Fejka, Helen Hopey, Eleanor Kapko.

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

HOME: Irene Bordas, MARY ANN CONTI, Mary Culan, Andrew Drukalsky, 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. Does baptism cause an ontological change in the baptized? If so, what is that change? **A. Answer by Catholic Answers:** An ontological change means a change of the very essence of a being. Since baptism permanently configures us to Christ, yes, it brings an ontological change. This is why the Church insists there can be only one baptism: once the ontological change takes place it cannot be repeated. The Catechism of the Catholic Church: 1265 Baptism not only purifies from all sins but also makes the neophyte "a new creature," an adopted son of God, who has become a "partaker of the divine nature," member of Christ and co-heir with him, and a temple of the Holy Spirit.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

April 30 — May 1, 2017

(MR): **Special Intentions** (birthday 5/6)

offered by Helen Hopey

(NS): **In memory of Mary, Veronica & Steve**

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE 2017 offered by Sister: A. Velma Seman (NS) NONE AVAILABLE 2017



McKees Rocks Announcements

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND CORPORATE COMMUNION NEXT WEEK — Two young members of our parish will be celebrating their Renewal of Baptismal Promises, and receiving the Holy Eucharist together at the Saturday afternoon Divine Liturgy on **Saturday, May 6, 2017** at the 4:00 p.m. Vigil Sunday Divine Liturgy. They will also reaffirm their baptismal promises to serve their Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ!

TWO GREAT EVENTS! ONE GREAT CAUSE — Parishioner Kathy Kulka submitted the following announcement : Please join the local non-profit, Hope Grows, for it's 4th Annual A Victorian Tea and 2nd Annual Tee Time Golf Classic. Both will be held on Sunday, May 21, 2017 at The Club, Shadow Lakes, Aliquippa, PA. For more information go to www.hopegrows.net or phone (412) 369-4673. Hope Grows is a non-profit organization located in Moon Township that provides counseling, support groups, resources, and therapeutic respite activities to help alleviate caregivers' stress and to help them direct some of their focus on self-care.

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.

Holy Ghost, Northside

PROPERTY CLEANUP IN MAY — To tidy up the Church grounds this Spring, we are calling on all parishioners to set aside **Saturday, May 13, 2017** 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.



NATIONAL SINGLES CONFERENCE FORTHCOMING — Join hundreds of single Catholics of all ages for the NCSC which will be held in Pittsburgh this year from Friday-Sunday, **May 19-21, 2017**. There will be talks by dynamic speakers, music, social events, prayer, food, fellowship and more. The Conference usually hosts between 300-400 participants who are largely Latin Rite Catholics. Our Byzantine Catholic Divine Liturgy will be celebrated. Responses by the Archieparchial Choir. Fr. Thomas Loya, a priest of the Parma Eparchy will be one of the speakers. Information and registration: NationalCatholicSingles.com. Use *promo code* **NCSCPA** to receive a special discount or phone (888) 267-8885 ext. 8049. Ask for Mirjana Northrop.

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.

CHRIST IS RISEN In Various Languages:

Spanish: Cristo ha resucitado! Verdaderamente ha resucitado!

French: Le Christ est Ressuscité! En Vérité, Il est Ressuscité!

THE THIRD PASCHAL SUNDAY

The Sunday of the 7 Holy Myrrh-Bearing Women (Mark 15: 43 – 16:8)

The Third Sunday after Easter is dedicated to the memory of seven of the most dedicated and



courageous women of the New Testament. We know a great deal about the Twelve Apostles of Christ, but we know very little about the Myrrh-Bearing Women who were devoted to Christ equally as much as the Apostles themselves. They were with Jesus as He preached the message of Salvation. They were with Him when He was taken down from Calvary. It was these women who came to anoint His Sacred Body and prepare it for burial. This is why the Church refers to them as the "Myrrh-Bearing Women." Who were they? **1. Mary Magdalene**, (Her feast day is celebrated July 22). This remarkable woman is the most famous of the Myrrh-Bearing Women of the New Testament. If you remember, it was she whom our Lord healed of a terrible illness which Holy Scripture describes as "being possessed by seven demons."

Holy Tradition tells us that after the Resurrection and Ascension of Christ, Mary Magdalene journeyed to Rome and convinced Emperor Tiberius that both Pontius Pilate and the archpriests of Jerusalem should be punished for their participation in the crucifixion of Christ. She later lived on the Greek island of Ephesus in the Christian community founded by St. John the Evangelist. Although she died on the island, her remains were eventually taken to the ancient of Constantinople. **2. Salome**, the mother of James and John, the sons of Zebedee (her feast day is celebrated Aug. 3). Salome was a very saintly woman who loved Jesus very much. Her great love was shared by her two famous sons, James and John, two of the original Twelve Apostles of Christ. Tradition tells us that Salome enjoyed a very close relationship with the family of the Blessed Virgin Mary. She remained devoted to Mary after the Ascension of Christ. **3. Mary, the Mother of James and Joses**, the wife of Cleophas (her feast day is celebrated May 23). Very little is recorded concerning her life: however, she devoted many years in the service of our Lord. **4. Johanna, the wife of Chuza**, Herod Antipas' steward (her feast day is celebrated June 27). Johanna first heard of the coming of Christ during His first visit to the temple in Jerusalem. She became a true believer and assisted the Apostles during their first years as leaders of the new Faith. She was a woman of great courage. **5. Susanna**, (her feast day is celebrated on the Sunday of the Forefathers, which falls on the Sunday before Christmas). Susanna was a close friend of Mary Magdalene and 'was constantly by her side during her affliction. Susanna remained with the Apostles of Christ and shared in the work of spreading the message of salvation. She assisted with the serving of the "Communion Suppers" and administering to the sick and the aged. **6 & 7. Mary and Martha**, the sisters of Lazarus - (feast day, June 4). Our Blessed Lord was very fond of Lazarus, and on many occasions visited his home in Bethany. The sisters of Lazarus, Mary and Martha, became followers of Christ and dedicated their lives to Him. After the miracle of the "Resurrection of Lazarus" by Jesus Christ, Mary and Martha returned with Jesus and His Apostles. They devoted their lives to the spreading of the new Faith. *These are the famous "Seven Myrrh-Bearing Women" of the New Testament.* These glorious ladies of the Church remained steadfast in their faith and brought glory to the Church of Christ. The Fathers of the Church consider them "equal to the Apostles."

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 5 Practice of those preparing for First Reconciliation in MR Church @ 7:00 p.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.
 G.C.U. celebrates its 125th anniversary of its Founding, Beaver, PA.
- May 10 Feast of Mid-Pentecost
- May 11 Feasts of Saints Cyril & Methodius & Blessed Bishop-Martyr Basil Hopko.
- 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.

The Holy Martyrs Timothy & His Wife, Maura May 3

Saints **Timothy and Maura** suffered for the faith during the persecution under the emperor Diocletian (284-305). Saint Timothy came from the village of Perapa (Egyptian Thebaid), and



was the son of a priest named Pikelpossos. He was made a reader among the church clergy, and also a keeper and copyist of divine service books. Saint Timothy was denounced as a keeper of Christian books, which the emperor ordered to be confiscated and burned. They brought Saint Timothy before the governor Arian, who demanded that he hand over the sacred books. They subjected the saint to horrible tortures for his refusal to obey the command. They shoved two red-hot iron rods into his ears, from which the sufferer lost his eyesight and became blind. Saint Timothy bravely endured the pain and he gave thanks to God, for granting him to suffer for Him. The torturers hung the saint head downwards, putting a piece of wood in his mouth, and they tied a heavy stone to his neck. Saint Timothy's suffering was so extreme, that

even those who tortured him implored the governor to ease up on the torture. Saint Timothy urged his wife not to fear the tortures, but to follow his path. Saint Maura answered, "I am prepared to die with you," and she boldly confessed herself a Christian. Arian commanded that the hair be torn from her head, and to cut the fingers off her hands. Saint Maura underwent the torment with joy and even thanked the governor for the torture, which she endured so that her sins might be forgiven. Then Arian gave orders to throw Saint Maura into a boiling cauldron, but she did not feel any pain, and she remained unharmed. Suspecting that the servants had filled the cauldron with cold water out of sympathy for the martyr, Arian went up and ordered the saint to splash him on the hand with water from the cauldron. When the martyr did this, Arian screamed with pain and drew back his scalded hand. Then, momentarily admitting the power of the miracle, Arian confessed God in Whom Maura believed as the True God, and he ordered her to be released. But the devil still held great power over the governor, and soon he again began to urge Saint Maura to offer sacrifice to the pagan gods. Having gotten nowhere, Arian was overcome all the more by a satanic rage and he came up with new tortures. Then the people began to murmur and demand a stop to the abuse of this innocent woman. But Saint Maura, turning to the people, said, "Let no one defend me. I have one Defender, God, in Whom I trust." Finally, after torturing them for a long time, Arian ordered the martyrs to be crucified. For ten days they hung on crosses facing each other. On the tenth day of martyrdom the saints offered up their souls to the Lord.

General Announcements

G.C.U MARKING IT'S 125 ANNIVERSARY — This Saturday, May 6, 2017 the Greek Catholic Union will be celebrating its special anniversary at the main headquarters campus on Tuscarawas Road, Beaver, PA. GCU was started by people taking care of each other and that's still our mission. **1870's onward** Subcarpathian Rusyns from the Austro-Hungarian Empire (an area within Slovakia and Ukraine of today), immigrated to the US to start a better life. The largest segments settled in the anthracite areas near Scranton and Wilkes-Barre Pennsylvania, the bituminous coal fields of Ohio, western Pennsylvania and West Virginia, and the steel mill towns near Pittsburgh. They spoke a different language, practiced a different religion, and followed a different set of customs. These differences led immigrants to band together and collectively establish brotherhoods to care for each other. Since most immigrants had dangerous jobs, the brotherhoods established funds for widows and children. The need for a comprehensive protection plan led to the establishment of the GCU on February 14, 1892. We pray that the God grant to its officers and membership many happy and blessed years because **CHRIST IS RISEN!**



Mission Statement

**"Protecting Families,
Promoting Faith
and Fraternalism,
Strengthening Communities"**

PLANS UNDERWAY FOR PATRONAL PENTECOST DINNER — Our Patronal Feast Day Dinner at the (MR) school hall is being planned for **Pentecost Sunday, June 4 @ 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 once again be catered this year. Tickets will soon be available once we get the price of the meal.



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, **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 the church office to inform us that you are graduating and will be attending the dinner.

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 (June 11)** 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.