

Parish Offerings – Sunday of Myrrh-Bearers — April 30, 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

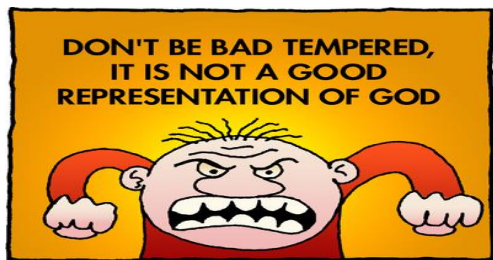
Regular Offering	\$1,391.00
Holy Days	111.00
Votive Candles	71.51
<hr/>	
	\$1,573.51

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$233.00
Palm Sunday	10.00
Easter	175.00
Easter Flowers	15.00
Utilities (\$3) B.C.W. (\$14)	17.00
Votive Candles	37.68
<hr/>	
	\$487.68

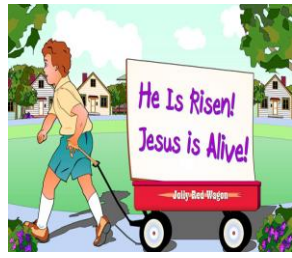
Church Attendance Last Week

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (26)
Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (75); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (36)



"No fair! — Emily's finding Easter eggs with a GPS!"

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

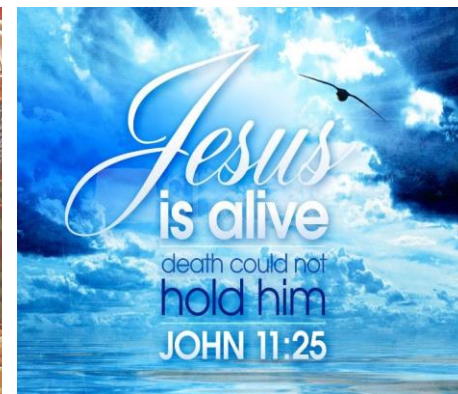
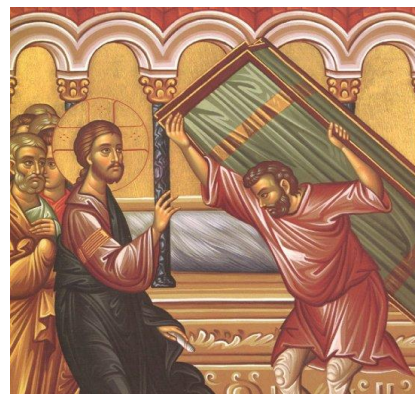
GCU
Greek Catholic Union of the USA
A Fraternal Benefit Society
Lodge 390 offers Insurance and Annuity Benefits greater than most financial institutions. Info call Marge (412) 331-3577

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

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 PARALYTIC MAN
4th Paschal Sunday — Month of the Virgin Theotokos
May 7, 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 Beliuнас (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

O Savior, my Lord and my God, You desired to raise the fallen human race, You walked upon the earth as a man, healing the sick through Your tender compassion, and having come to the pool at the Sheep gate, You found the man who had been sick for thirty-eight years. By Your word alone You restored him to health (Great Vespers of the Paralytic Man)

May 7, 2017 Seasonal Greeting Volume VII, Number 19



Date

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



Requested By

Liturgical Services for the Week

Time

Intention

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



St. John the Apostle & Evangelist

Mon, May 8 8:00 a.m. (MR) + John A. Jumba Sharon & Matt Dworakowski

Transposition of the Relics Our Holy Father Nicholas the Wonder-Worker

Tues, May 9 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Lori Kacsur (birthday) Kacsur-Herron Families



Commemoration of Mid-Pentecost

Weds, May 10 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mary Frissora Jack W. Blackhurst



Feast of SS. Cyril & Methodius & Blessed Bishop-Martyr Basil Hopko

Thrs, May 11 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Sr. Vladimir Chabala, OSBM Basilian Sisters

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

Fri, May 12 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Paraska Gramata Eleanor & Basil Gramata
(19th ann of passing)



6:00 p.m. (MR) Glorious Mysteries of the Holy Rosary & Moleben to the Most Holy Mother of God

Sat, May 13 9:00 a.m. (NS) + John Mudry Dgr: Marlene Pfeiffer



Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Samaritan & Postfestive of Mid-Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Andrew Yakibik Dgr: Evelyn
(8th ann of passing 5/16)

SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

5th Paschal Sunday — Postfestive of Mid-Pentecost & Mother's Day

SUN., May 14 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
11:00 a.m. (NS) For the Living & Deceased Mothers 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 7 – Matthew Zoldos; May 12 – Kim Zoldos, ELIANA TRAPL; May 13 – Eric Stehle.

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. Is it a sin for both wife and husband if contraception is used? **A. Answer by Catholic Answers:** Contraception normally implies a consensual act, which means both spouses would be morally implicated. However, if one spouse sexually forces himself on the other and uses contraception in the process, the forced-upon spouse would not sin. If one spouse is coerced into contracepting, then the person who is coerced could likely have mitigating circumstances regarding his participation, and thus his subjective culpability could be diminished. In 1997, the Pontifical Council for the Family issued a vademecum—Latin for “to accompany me”—on contraception that provides theological and pastoral guidelines for confessors to serve married couples struggling with the Church’s teaching on contraception. **God inscribed in the marital act a bond between the unitive (love-giving) and procreative (life-giving) aspects. Deliberately thwarting this bond via contraception is immoral, because it undermines the sexual expression of marital love by a husband and wife, an expression of love which by its nature is open to the blessed fruit of new life (see further the Catechism of the Catholic Church 2368-70, 2366-72).**

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

May 7 — May 13, 2017

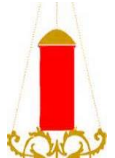
(MR): **In memory of George Kurtanich (birthday 5/7)**
offered by Children

(NS): **In memory of Rose A. Debranski**

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE 2017

offered by Dgr: Nancy

(NS) NONE AVAILABLE 2017



McKees Rocks Announcements

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.

FINAL COFFEE SOCIAL UNTIL SEPTEMBER — This weekend will be our last coffee & donut social until after Labor Day. Thank you to all who participated in this social event!

Holy Ghost, Northside

PROPERTY CLEANUP NEXT WEEKEND — 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 Archdiocesan 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.

CORRECTION ON LAST WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTION — Last week's intention should have read "In memory of Mary, Veronica & Libby by Sister: A. Velma Seman. This was the intention but a typographical error. So Sorry! Vicnaja Jim Pamjat'.

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN:

Hungarian: Felta'madt Krisztus! Valo'ban felta'madt!

German: Christos ist auferstanden! In wahrheit ist er auferstanden!

Japanese: Haristos Fukkatsu! Jitsu ni Fukkatsu!

Morse Code:-.-...-.--.-...-.-

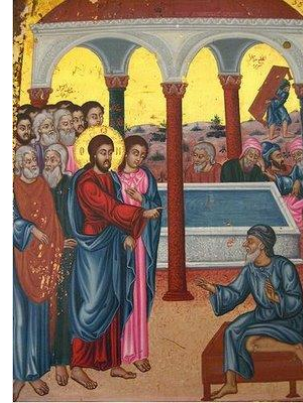


THE FOURTH PASCHAL SUNDAY

The Sunday of the Paralytic Man & Importance of Water

(John 5: 1-15)

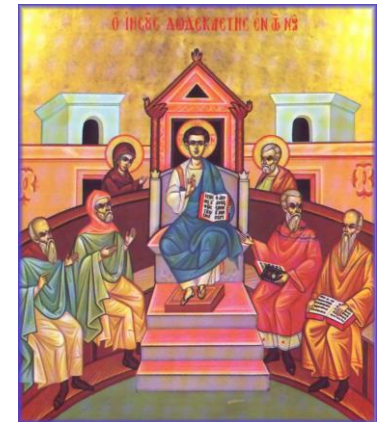
The fourth Paschal Sunday is dedicated to Christ's healing of the paralytic. The man who had been paralyzed for 38 years is healed by Christ while waiting to be put down into the pool of water. For the next two Sundays, the symbol of water and its importance is indicated. It shows us how imperative Baptism is to remove the paralysis of sin. Through baptism in the church we, too, are healed and saved by Christ for eternal life. Thus, in the church, we are told, together with the paralytic, to "sin no more that nothing worse befall you." (John 5:14). Our baptism is a call to continued repentance. We have been restored by and through Jesus Christ, and we ought not to turn away from that new level of life to our old sinful ways, because that would be courting disaster. Rather, we



must strive to root out all sin. As Saint John Climacus said: repentance is the renewal of baptism. "*The font of tears after baptism has become greater than baptism..., though this is a bold idea.*" Our baptism was a pledge to walk in newness of life. The epistle showed us a good woman. On her behalf others interceded with Peter, showing him the fruits of her labor. He was so moved by this goodness, he raised her to life through God's power. May our lives, ever repentant, move God to raise us to life.

Wednesday Feast of Mid-Pentecost

After the Savior had miraculously healed the paralytic, the Pharisees and Scribes, were moved with envy, and sought to slay Him, using the excuse that He did not keep the Sabbath, since He worked miracles on that day. Jesus then departed to Galilee. About the middle of the Feast of Tabernacles, He went up again to the Temple and taught. The Jews, marveled at the wisdom of His words. But Christ first reproached their unbelief and lawlessness, then proved to them by the Law that they sought to slay Him unjustly, since He had healed the paralytic on the Sabbath. Since we have already reached the midpoint of the fifty days between Pascha and Pentecost, the Church has appointed this present feast as a bond between the two great feasts, thereby uniting, as it were, the two into one. Come and be with Our Savior at the Divine Liturgy on this day.



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

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.
 May 29 Memorable Day observed; special Divine Liturgy @ 8:00 a.m.
 May 30 through 31 Clergy Information Days at St. John Cathedral, Munnhall.
 June 2..... 5th & Final All Souls Commemoration at (NS) @ 6:00 p.m. – June 3 - (MR) @ 9:00 a.m.
 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.

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 which was initiated 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. Gojdich. 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 Gojdich 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

PLANS UNDERWAY FOR PATRONAL PENTECOST DINNER — 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 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, 2017.** 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 — 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.

BI-PARTISAN PRO-LIFE GUIDE NOW AVAILABLE — PA Primary Elections are just a little more than a week away on May 16. 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!

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.

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.