

Parish Offerings – Pentecost (Rusalja) Sunday — May 20, 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	\$275.00
Pentecost (\$1,766) YP (\$24.27) Pentecost Monday (\$50)	1,840.27
Holy Days	50.00
Votive Candles	135.70
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	\$2,300.97

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$75.00
Pentecost (\$584.90) Pentecost Monday (\$25) Holy Days (\$20)	629.90
Utilities	25.00
Votive Candles	39.50
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	\$769.40

Church Attendance Last Week

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (51)

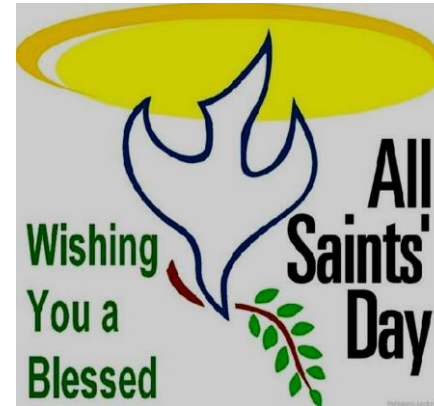
Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (90); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (44)

A GRATEFUL NATION



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

THE SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS
1st Sunday after Pentecost – May 27, 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

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.

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

REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED

ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL

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

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 Tina Burns (412) 859-9597 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

With unity of faith let us celebrate a solemn feast of those who from the ages have found grace before God. Let us remember all the Saints: the Patriarchs, Prophets, and Apostles of Christ, the Martyrs, and Ascetics of all ages. They intercede unceasingly for the peace of the world and for the salvation of our souls! (Great Vespers of All Saints)

May 27, 2018 Seasonal Greeting Volume VIII, Number 21



Glory to Jesus Christ — Glory Forever!
Slava Isusu Christu!! — Slava Na Viki!

Liturgical Services for the Week




Date	Time	Intention	Requested By
 SUN., May 27	SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS 1st Sunday after Pentecost	9:00 a.m. (MR) + Eleanor Kulka <i>(5th ann of passing 5/26)</i> 11:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	 Children: Kathy & John

Commencement of the Petrine Fast — Civic Holiday — Memorial Day Observed

Mon, May 28 8:00 a.m. (MR) + All Who Died in the Service of our Country


Tue, May 29 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Elizabeth Mross
(3rd ann of passing 5/27) Rita Timulak

Recommended SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice): for vocations
Wed, May 30  *7:30 a.m. (MR) + William S. Luchovick Family
(1st ann of passing 5/28)

Commemoration of the Body of Christ — T'ilo Christovo

Thrs., May 31 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mary O. Culan *(birthday 6/1)* Alice & Tom Maxin

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

 **First Friday of the Month of June**
Fri, Jun 1 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Cecilia Smolowitz Dgtr: Kathleen J. Murphy

First Saturday of the Month of June

Sat, Jun 2 9:00 a.m. (NS) + August Pfeiffer Wife: Marlene

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Second Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + John Bordas Dgtr: Karen, Frank & Matt Grzywinski



2nd Sunday after Pentecost

SUN., Jun 3 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Lillian + Joseph Buchko Children & Grandchildren
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Mary Stecko Son: Peter & Barbara Stecko
(40 day of passing 5/29)

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 27 – Gabriella Kassabov, Edward Wovchko; May 28 – Anne Kurtanich; May 31 – LESLIE MARIE BODNARCHUK, Doris Naughton.

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, Irene Palahunik, Elizabeth Petruna, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Alice Sejka, Betty Spisak, 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. It is my understanding that if someone dies in the state of mortal sin he will not go to heaven. What incentive do I have not to sin if I am already in the state of mortal sin? **A.** **Answer by Catholic Answers:** The incentive not to sin always ought to be the desire not to offend God. Even if someone has fallen and committed a mortal sin, he should desire not to offend God any further. We live to serve him. Avoiding eternal punishment should be a side issue. He ought to come first. The reason a person does not go to heaven if he dies in the state of mortal sin is that he is deliberately rejecting God and is choosing something or someone else as the ultimate object of his love. The Lord will never reject one who dies loving him. If he approaches death in the state of mortal sin and repents because he loves the Lord, the Lord will welcome him. Jesus endured Good Friday precisely because he loves us. Our incentive should always be to respond to his love. That is always appropriate for each and every one of us!

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

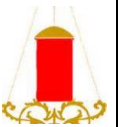
May 27 — June 2, 2018

(MR): In memory of Margaret Kurtanich *(4th ann of pass 6/12)*

offered by Children

(NS): In memory of John Bordas

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2018 offered by Dgtr: Karen, Frank, Matt Grzywinski (NS) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2018



McKees Rocks Announcements

SYMPATHY EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the sudden passing of **Dorothy Billy, 77**, of McKees Rocks, PA, at Allegheny General Hospital on Sunday, May 20, 2018. She was the mother of parishioners, Richard (Michelle) and Kevin (Colleen). She is survived by several siblings along with nephews and nieces. Funeral arrangements were handled by the Valerian F. Szal Funeral Home, McKees Rocks. The Funeral Divine Liturgy was offered on May 25 at 10:00 a.m. Interment took place at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, McKees Rocks. In blessed repose grant O Lord eternal rest to your servant, Dorothy, and remember her forever! *Vicnaja Jej Pamjat'!*



SPECIAL CLASSES CONTINUE BACK TO SUNDAY 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 8th 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 27, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.** in Church Basement Library area classroom.

PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING NEXT WEEK — A PAC Meeting will be conducted this **Tuesday, June 5, 2018 @ 7:00 p.m.** All appointed members are encouraged to be in attendance in the parish office. Please mark your calendar.

CHURCH PARKING LOT SEALED THIS PAST WEEK — It has been nearly three years since we had our parking lot resurfaced. It is time that we had it resealed in order to preserve our investment. TABS Asphalt Company, Pittsburgh, has been contracted, once again, this past Friday to do the job. We appreciate all that the Pirohi Project is doing by sponsoring these well-needed repair projects.

Holy Ghost, Northside

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATE — The S.O.T. just received additional information from our parishioner-graduate this past week. **AMBERLY VALERIANO** recently graduated from North Hills High School with Highest Honors. This Fall she will be attending Duquesne University on an Academic & Athletic Scholarship studying Graphic Design. She will also be running track for Duquesne which is a Division 1, Atlantic 10 Conference School. God grant you, Amberly, many happy and blessed years!

PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING NEXT WEEK — A PAC Meeting will be conducted this **Wednesday, June 6, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.** All appointed members are encouraged to be in attendance in the parish rectory. Please mark your calendar.

As we commence our journey through the Petrine Fast, let us offer Simple Abstinence (no meat) or an Equivalent Penance on Recommended Wednesdays & REQUIRED Fridays! Let us offer our prayer & abstinence for the intention of an increase of Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life and for all priests.

SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS

Everyone Is Called To Sainthood

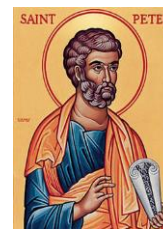
(Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38, & 19:27-30)

Today, we celebrate the **SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS**. Often, we think of Saints as those holy ones who have preceded us in physical death, and have won the crown of the heavenly kingdom. They are the ones whom we should imitate in life for guidance. Many of us think of these Saints as icons beautifully romanticized who always seem to have "a faraway look" in their eyes. Many of us get caught up in the halos and the visions. Great saints were real people with everyday problems. **Baptism calls all of us to sainthood**, not just the extraordinary people but everyday people just like you and me. Throughout history, saints have come from all economic classes and all walks of life. Often, they have been faced with struggles for sanctity that lasted their entire lifetimes. We all have weaknesses, and our knowledge of those weaknesses is vital if we are ever to achieve holiness. Knowing that we're not perfect helps us to love others who aren't perfect. It gives an important sense of humility and the power not to judge. Christianity elevates our human nature by combining it with the supernatural. This life of grace enables us to respond lovingly to the trials and irritations of everyday living. Jesus put it this way, "A good tree does not produce decayed fruit any more than a decayed tree produces good fruit. Each tree is known by its yield" (Luke 6:43-44). Now what is Jesus talking about when He says that we are to "produce good fruit"? What is this "yield" by which we are to be known? He is saying that we will bear signs of God's love if only we put our trust in Him. A heroic acceptance of suffering? Yes. Patience with an irritating person? Yes. Kindness to those that hurt us? Yes, that too. This is why it is so important for us to seek and embrace God's will for us. If you are bearing good fruit, your neighbors will be able to read the Gospel in your life, even if they've never read Scripture or think little of religion or of God. They will know that there is something about you that is different, even if they do not know that "something" is God. Saints are ordinary people like you and me. They knew God's will and they pursued that will in spite of their weakness and their humanness.



PETRINE FAST Begins Tomorrow

The **Petrine Fast (Petrovka – Ruthenian (Rusyn) Language)** is one that was actually engaged in by the disciples of Christ following the Descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Having rejoiced throughout the fifty days following Pascha, the Resurrection of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, the Apostles began to prepare for their departure from Jerusalem to carry Christ's message to the far corners of the world. As part of their preparation, they began a fast with prayer to ask God to strengthen their resolve and to be with them in their missionary undertakings. It is this fast that we ourselves participate in when we observe the minor Penitential Season of the Petrine Fast. But we do this not only because we honor the Apostles and their sacrifice. We do this by way of preparing ourselves to be sent as missionaries into our world to reflect and radiate Christ to those around us. *As we begin the Petrine Fast (named after the Apostle Peter), let us make a serious effort to abstain from meat or do an equivalent penance not only on the required Fridays until June 29, but also on the recommended Wednesdays for the intention of an increase of vocations to the priesthood & religious life.*



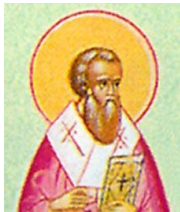
CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

May 28 Memorial Day observed; special Divine Liturgy @ 8:00 a.m.
 May 29 through 30 Clergy Information Days at St. John Cathedral, Munhall.
 June 5 MR Parish Advisory Council Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
 June 6 NS Parish Advisory Council Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
 June 14 GCU Lodge 390 Flag Day Ceremony @ 6:45 p.m.
 June 17 Annual Father's Day
 June 24 ... Solemn Holy Day: Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 pm.
 June 28 **Holy Day of Obligation:** Vigil Feast of SS. Peter & Paul (MR) 7:00 p.m.
 June 29 **Holy Day of Obligation:** Feast SS. Peter & Paul (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 p.m.

Saints of the Week

THE HOLY APOSTLE HERMAS OF THE 70

May 31



The Holy Apostle Hermas was a bishop in Philippopolis, Thrace. He was a Greek, but he spent some time in Rome. The holy Apostle Paul greets him in the Epistle to the Romans (Rom 16:14). The Apostle Hermas endured much grief from the pagans for preaching the Gospel, but he died in peace. According to Tradition, Saint Hermas is the author of THE SHEPHERD, an instructive book based on revelations from angels.

THE HOLY MARTYR HERMIAS AT COMANA

May 31



Holy Martyr Hermias suffered for Christ in the city of Comana during the persecution under the emperor Antoninus Pius (138-161). The governor Sebastian, who was in Cappadocia to arrest Christians, urged the saint to offer sacrifice to the pagan gods, promising him honors and mercy from the emperor. The old soldier bravely confessed his faith in Christ. After long exhortation, the governor gave orders to torture the saint. They beat him on the face so that the skin peeled from his face, and they threw him into a red-hot oven. When the oven was opened after three days, the martyr Hermias emerged from it unharmed. The governor Sebastian ordered the sorcerer Marus to poison Saint Hermias with a potion. The poisonous drink did the saint no harm. A second goblet with even stronger poison also failed to kill the saint. The sorcerer believed in Christ the Savior, and was immediately beheaded. Saint Marus was baptized in his own blood, and received a martyr's crown. Saint Hermias was subjected to even more terrible tortures. They raked his body with sharp instruments, threw him in boiling oil, and gouged out his eyes, but he gave thanks to the Lord Jesus Christ. Then they suspended the martyr head downward. For three days he hung in this position. People sent by the governor to verify his death found him alive. Struck by the miracle, they were blinded with fright and began to call out to the saint to help them. The holy martyr ordered the blind to approach him, and healed them in the Name of Jesus Christ. In anger the governor ordered the skin flayed from the saint's body, but he remained alive. Then the crazed Sebastian beheaded him with his own sword. Christians secretly buried the body of the martyr Hermias, whose relics bestowed numerous healings.

General Announcements

SPECIAL THANK YOU FOR A SUCCESSFUL PENTECOST DINNER — What a beautiful Pentecost Dinner we had last Sunday afternoon! Both of the parishes participated in this our Patronal Feast Day glorifying God the Holy Spirit! Special thanks is extended to Norma Kacsur and Velma Seman, who along with the pastor, have organized this event along with the assistance of several others who made this Dinner possible! Many hours of preparation were spent in book-keeping, cleaning and setting up our gym area to make the day successful. Our pastor extends his most heartfelt thanks!!!



THE BODY OF CHRIST COMMEMORATION — T'ILO CHRISTOVO — This **Thursday, May 31, 2018** our Byzantine-Ruthenian Catholic Church marks a special traditional commemoration of the Holy Eucharist. It falls each year on the Thursday following All Saints Sunday. Join us in expressing gratitude to the Lord Jesus Christ's True Presence — Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Most Holy Eucharist on this special day at the morning Divine Liturgy!



LAST DAY TO FULFILL EASTER DUTY — All Christian Faithful are **OBLIGED** to sacramentally **CONFESS** their Mortal Sins and to receive the Divine Eucharist during the Paschal (Easter) Period (Canon 708). This is traditionally known as the **EASTER DUTY**. Voluntary neglect of this Church precept is a serious (mortal) sin. Not only does it prohibit one from receiving the Eucharist, but also makes one ineligible to stand as Godparent/Sponsor at the Holy Mysteries of Initiation (Baptism/Chrismation/Eucharist). Please take care of this responsibility with Confession of Serious Sins & a Holy and Worthy Reception of Holy Communion today!

SAVE THE DATE: PARISH PICNIC SLATED FOR AUGUST — Although details will follow in a later edition of the SOT, you are asked to set aside, **Sunday, Aug. 19** for our parish picnic. It will be held once again in the Robinson Township Picnic Grove off of Cleaver Road. Please plan to join us as a member of our parish family.



GCU LODGE 390 LENDS A HELPING HAND TO FISHER HOUSE — Our local GCU Lodge is collecting items to help Pittsburgh's VA Fisher House. The Pittsburgh Fisher House is a 10-bedroom "home away from home" and provides a place for visiting families to stay, free of charge, while their loved ones receive inpatient medical care at VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System. The Pittsburgh Fisher House is professionally furnished and features a common kitchen, laundry facilities, spacious dining room, living room with a library, and toys for children. They are requesting assistance in keeping these area stocked with supplies. Boxes will be placed at the side vestibule and narthex areas of both parishes for the **collection that will extend to August 5th**. Needed items are listed on a stationery sheet near these boxes. Let's help our afflicted veterans and their families by supporting Lodge 390 in this collection!



SAVE THE DATE — GCU Lodge 390 is once again sponsoring our annual Flag Day Ceremony which will take place on **Thursday, June 14 @ 6:45 p.m.** at the flag pole in the front of the MR Church. Let us show patriotism to the flag when our country needs it the most. Bring a family member/friend!