

Parish Offerings – Sunday of 1st Ecumenical Council — May 13, 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 (\$2,136.70) YP (\$16.36)	\$2,153.05
Pentecost (\$10) YP (\$1) Holy Days (\$437.80)	448.80
Seminary	190.00
Votive Candles	107.05
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	\$2,898.90

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$507.00
Pentecost (\$20) Holy Days (\$10)	30.00
B.C.W. (\$14) Seminary \$15)	29.00
Votive Candles	92.75
	<hr/>
	\$658.75

Church Attendance Last Week

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (43)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (91); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (41)



Pentecost

I am with you,
even though you
do not see me...
I am right by
your side, always.
- God

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

THERE IS NO BETTER TEACHER
THAN THE HOLY SPIRIT
& NO BETTER TEXT
THAN GOD'S
WORD.

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225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE
McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE DESCENT OF THE ALL-HOLY SPIRIT

Pentecost Sunday — Patronal Feast Day — Rusalja

May 20, 2018



Message from Holy Spirit

I love you ~ I am your greatest encourager
I believe in you when you don't believe in yourself
I pray for you when you haven't clue how to pray
I have a plan for you, that will amaze you!
When you think you have failed
I have already begun to turn your seeming
failure into something good ...
I will give you growth and maturity
that you cannot even imagine today
I will keep you from harm ~ I will order your steps
I will give courage ..
I will speak for you, in you, with you and through
you with words you didn't even know you had ~
I am your most passionate Cheerleader
and your best Coach.

With Me beside you ~ you cannot fail

Remember ~ I Love you

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 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

Behold, we celebrate today the Feast of Pentecost, the descent of the Holy Spirit, the fulfillment of the promise and the realization of hope. How wonderful and awesome is this great mystery! Therefore, O Lord and Creator of all, we cry out: Glory to You!

(Great Vespers of Pentecost)

May 20, 2018

Seasonal Greeting

Volume VIII, Number 20



Glory to Jesus Christ — Glory Forever!

Slava Isusu Christu!! — Slava Na Viki!

Liturgical Services for the Week



Date Time Intention Requested By

SUNDAY OF THE DESCENT OF THE ALL-HOLY SPIRIT

Pentecost Sunday – Patronal Feast – MIROVANJE

Traditional Kneeling Prayers are introduced prior to the Final Blessing

SUN., May 20 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Anna Spontak Son: Robert & Joyce
(14th ann of passing 5/22)

PENTECOST MONDAY - FEAST OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY – SIMPLE HOLY DAY

Procession to the four corners of the Church proclaiming the Gospel

Traditional NO FASTING/ABSTINENCE this week in the Joy of the coming of the Holy Spirit

Mon, May 21 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
6:00 p.m. (NS) Thanksgiving Fr. Firko
(41st ann of ordination 5/22)



Tue, May 22 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Margaret "Peggy" Krulac Dgr: Barbara & Peter Stecko
(2nd ann of passing)

Wed, May 23 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Edward Zotyak (birthday) Wife: Florence

Thrs., May 24 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Alex J. Kira (2nd ann of passing) Family

Fri, May 25 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Elizabeth Mross (birthday) Bernadette Gunkel & Family



Final Day of the Feast of Holy Pentecost

Sat, May 26 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Helen S. Lubinski (4th ann of passing 6/2) Mary Getz

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of All Saints – First Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Rose Debranski (birthday 5/28) Dgr: Nancy



SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS

1st Sunday after Pentecost

SUN., May 27 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Eleanor Kulka Children: Kathy & John
(5th ann of passing 5/26)

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 20 – Alexis Jumba; **May 22** – Theresa Hrishenko, John Kutchmark, Jr., Ray Rippole; **May 23** – Carl Bates, Janet Herczak; **May 25** – George Lucas, Nicholas Rosko.

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.

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.

ALLEGHENY GENERAL HOSPITAL (320 E. North Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15212): Dorothy Billy.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. I have heard that groups that claim to follow Jesus are not true Christians. Why is this so?

A. Answer by Catholic Answers: The Church accepts as Christians only those faith communities that have valid baptisms. Faith communities that do not accept the Trinity are not considered to validly baptize, because their theology of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is incompatible with the Church's. As such, they cannot in any meaningful way be considered to intend to do what the Church does in the sacrament of baptism. Faith communities that accept the Bible and claim to be disciples of Jesus but do not acknowledge the divinity of Jesus or the basic theology of the Trinity are not considered Christians by the Church.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

May 20 — May 26, 2018

(MR): **In memory of George Kurtanich** (3rd ann of pass 4/24)

offered by Children

(NS): **In memory of Anna Spontak**

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2018

offered by Son: Robert & Joyce

(NS) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2018



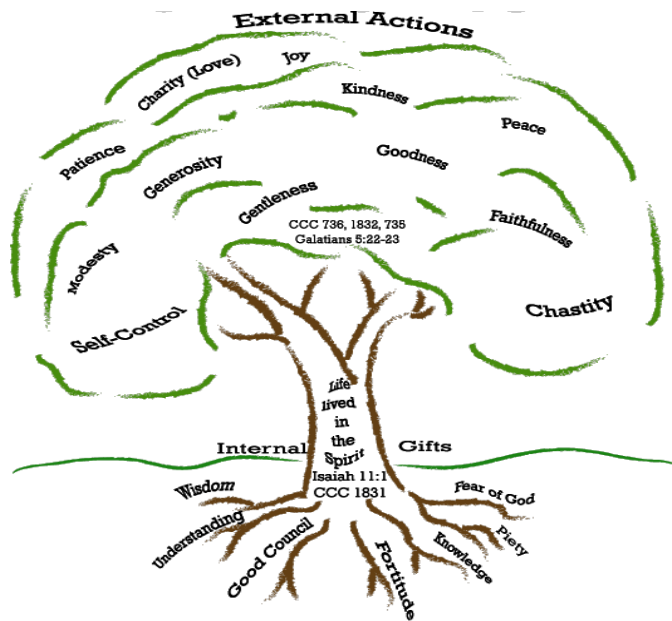
McKees Rocks Announcements

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 7th 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 20, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.** in Church Basement Library area classroom.

Holy Ghost, Northside

CLARIFYING THE COLLECTIONS TAKEN DURING THE DIVINE LITURGY — It has always been a custom that two collections be taken during the Divine Liturgy. The **FIRST** collection is for candles only. The usher will light candles for a general intention of combined donors with the totaled collected. Should you wish a particular intention, light the candle (s) yourself and place the money in the basket located at the two side altars. The **SECOND** collection is for the regular offertory for your church envelopes or loose collection. Hope that this clarifies the nature of both collections.

The Gifts & Fruits of the Holy Spirit From the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC)



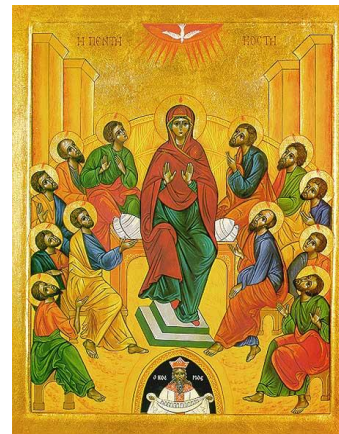
**Don't Forget to Wear GREEN Again Next Weekend
for All Saints Sunday!**

**The 3-Bar Glorified Cross is turned back
to the Crucifixion Cross on the Feast of Pentecost.
Happy Patronal Feast Day to all!!!**

PENTECOST SUNDAY — RUSALJA

Old & New Law Explanation of the Pentecost Celebration

In the Old Testament, Pentecost was the feast which occurred fifty days after Passover. As the Passover feast celebrated the exodus of the Israelites from the slavery of Egypt, so Pentecost celebrated God's gift of the Ten Commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai. In the new covenant of the Messiah, the New Passover event takes on its new meaning as the celebration of Christ's Death and Resurrection, the "exodus" of men from this sinful world to the Kingdom of God. And in the New Testament as well, the Pentecostal feast is fulfilled and made new by the coming of the "new law," the Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Disciples of Christ.

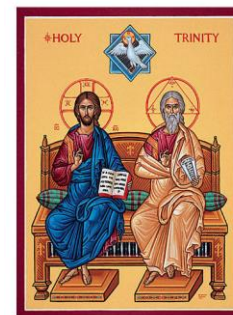


The Divine Liturgy of Pentecost recalls our baptism into Christ with the verse from Galatians again replacing the Thrice-Holy Hymn. Special verses from the Psalms also replace the usual

antiphonal psalms of the Divine Liturgy. The Epistle and Gospel proclamation tells of the Spirit's coming to men. The Kondakion sings of the reversal of the Tower of Babel as God unites the nations into the unity of his Spirit. The Troparion proclaims the gathering of the whole universe into God's net through the work of the inspired apostles. The hymns "O Heavenly King" and "We have seen the True Light" are sung for the first time prior to Easter, calling the Holy Spirit to "come and dwell in us", and proclaiming that "we have received the heavenly Spirit." The church is decorated with flowers and the green leaves of the summer to show that God's Divine Breath comes to renew all creation as the "Life-Creating Spirit." In Hebrew the word for Spirit, breath and wind is the same word, ruah. *The figure below the icon is called The Cosmos* who represents the world holding the good news that the Holy Apostles who were mandated to spread to all inhabitants of the earth.

Feast of the Most Holy Trinity

The first day of the Pentecost Postfestive commemorates the unity of the Holy Trinity's role in our salvation. God the **FATHER** sent His Only-Begotten Son to save mankind; God the **SON** redeemed mankind by His death upon the Cross and rose from the dead; and God the **HOLY SPIRIT** sanctifies mankind pouring out His Gifts and Fruits upon all who approach Him in faith, reverence and devotion. Let us pause by participating in the Divine Liturgy rendering humble and heart-felt thanks for all that the Triune God has done and continues to do for us leading us to salvation!



One Week Remaining to fulfill Your Easter Duty!

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

May 212 nd Day of Pentecost — Feast of the Most Holy Trinity — (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.
May 27 Sunday of All Saints & Final Day for fulfilling the Easter Duty Precept.
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

Saints of the Week

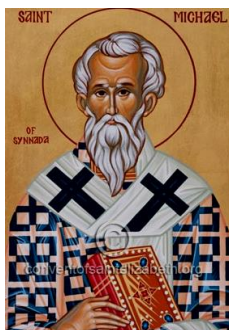
THE THIRD FINDING OF THE HEAD OF THE BAPTIST, JOHN — May 25

The Third Discovery of the Venerable Head of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John occurred in about the year 850 (see the account of the First and Second Discoveries on February 24). The head of St John the Forerunner was found in the city of Emesia during a time of unrest at Constantinople connected with the exile of St John Chrysostom (November 13). It was transferred to Komana during the Saracen raids (about 820-820) and it was hidden in the ground during a period of iconoclastic persecution. When the veneration of icons was restored, Patriarch Ignatius (847-857) saw in a vision the place where the head of St John the Forerunner was hidden. The patriarch communicated this to the emperor, who sent a delegation to Komana. There the head was found a third time around the year 850. Afterwards the head was again transferred to Constantinople, and here on May 25 it was placed in a church at the court. Part of the head is on Mt. Athos. The Third Discovery of the Head of John the Baptist is commemorated on May 25.



Venerable Michael, Confessor & Bishop of Synnada — May 23

From his youth Michael longed for the monastic life and was sent to a monastery on the coast of the Black Sea. At the monastery he engaged in spiritual struggles and was soon glorified by gifts from the Lord. Once, during a harvest, when the people were weakened by thirst, an empty metal vessel was filled with water by the prayer of the monks. Patriarch Tarasius consecrated Saint Michael as bishop of the city of Synnada. Through his holy life and wisdom, Saint Michael won the love of believers. He was present at the Seventh Ecumenical Council at Nicea in 787. When the Iconoclast heretic Leo the Armenian (813-820) assumed the throne, he began to expel hierarchs from their Sees, appointing heretics in their place. Saint Michael defended the True Faith, bravely opposing the heretics and denouncing their error. Leo the Armenian brought Saint Michael to trial, but not fearing torture he answered resolutely, “I venerate the holy icons of my Savior Jesus Christ and the All-Pure Virgin, His Mother, and all the saints, and it is to them I bow down. I shall not obey your decrees to remove icons from churches.” Leo then banished Saint Michael to the city of Eudokiada, where the confessor died about the year 821.



General Announcements

THE GREEN HOLY DAYS AND KNEELING PRAYERS — The Holy Feast of Pentecost was popularly called **RUSALJA** by the Ruthenian (Rusyn) people who were the founders and benefactors of our parish. Prior to the missionary efforts of Saints Cyril & Methodius (9th century), the pagan Slavs embraced Rusalja (the god of new spring and budding nature) and held a festival during this time of the year. Decoration from various greens, and **LINDEN** (lipa) branches were predominantly used. Following their conversion to Christianity, the Church retain the idea of green decorations in Church and at the door entrance of their homes, seeing and celebrating in them the symbol of **NEW LIFE** that the Holy Spirit brought forth on Pentecost Sunday. The week of Pentecost was also referred to as the **GREEN HOLY DAYS** (Zeleni Svjata). *Let us glorify the Holy Spirit, Who brings LIGHT & LIFE, by wearing something GREEN throughout the week, and also at next weekend's Divine Liturgy of All Saints!*



PATRONAL FEAST PENTECOST DINNER — This afternoon's Parish Feast Day Dinner will commence at 1:00 p.m. We will also acknowledge our High School and College/Post Graduates. Cooked Goose Catering of Imperial has been hired to bring the food. **The menu will be: Stuffed Chicken Breast Dinner, Roast Pork w/Gravy, Red Skin Potatoes, Mixed Vegetable and Tossed Salad.** May God's blessing be upon us as we glorify Him this special day! There will be no children's menu since none have signed.

OUR HOLY GHOST GRADUATES AND THEIR PLANS — Our (MR) Holy Ghost Graduates for 2018 and have registered with the Parish Office. Those attending the dinner are marked with an (*) are: **HIGH SCHOOL** — ***NICHOLAS NAZAK**, Altar-Server, graduates with high honors from Montour High School and will be attending Case Western University, Cleveland, OH pursuing studies in Biomedical Engineering in the Fall; ***MIKE TOMCHAK**, graduates from Montour High School with High Honors and will be attending Chatham University, Pittsburgh in the Fall pursuing studies on an Academic Scholarship for Management Information Systems and earned a spot on the 2018-2019 Chatham Cougar Baseball Team as a left-handed pitcher. **UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE** — ***LUKE IYENGAR**, Franciscan University, Steubenville, OH, graduates Summa Cum Laude, with a Master's Degree in Theology, and was a member of the Priestly Discernment Program. He will be an adjunct professor of Theology and an online course facilitator for the 2018-2019 school year at FUS. He intends to commence the process of applying to the Byzantine Catholic Seminary for the Archeparchy for the 2019-2020 school year.; ***SCOTT SABER** graduates from Virginia Tech University with a Master's Degree in Mineral Processing. He will be employed by Martin Marietta Corporation, Marietta, Georgia; and **ANTHONY MICHAEL SENDRO** graduates Summa Cum Laude from California University of Pennsylvania. He plans to apply his degree in Early Childhood Education. *May God grant to all our Graduates health, happiness and success with God's blessings for many blessed years!*



NEXT SUNDAY FINAL FOR FULFILLING 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.