

Parish Offerings – Sunday of Man Born Blind — May 26, 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 (\$1,293) YP (\$1)	\$1,294.00
Holy Days	80.00
Votive Candles	83.50
	<hr/>
	\$1,457.50

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$240.00
Utilities	30.00
Votive Candles	34.00
	<hr/>
	\$304.00

Church Attendance Last Week

Memorial Weekend — (MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (40)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (66); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (27)

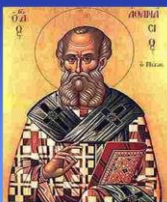
Ascension Holy Day of Obligation — Wed, May 29 (MR) 7:00 p.m. (20);

Thurs, May 30 (MR) 9:00 a.m. (31); (NS) 6:00 p.m. (16)

The Church has faithfully passed on the belief in three persons in one God.

At the first ecumenical council in Nicaea (AD 325), St. Athanasius strongly defended the doctrine of the Trinity against the heresy of Arianism.

An ecumenical council is an official gathering of the bishops of the world under the direction of the pope.



ARIANISM: THE FINAL OVERVIEW

- **WHAT: Arianism**
- **WHO: Arius**
- **WHEN: Fourth Century**
- **WHERE: Roman Empire/ Constantinople**
- **CENTRAL BELIEF: Jesus was not Divine, but anointed by God to the position of “Supreme ‘Human’ Being”**
- **VIEW OF CHRIST: Jesus was not Divine; was a Supreme “Human” Being**



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Michael P. Ferrell,

Supervisor, CFSP

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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 1ST ECUMENCIL COUNCIL

Postfestive of the Ascension — June 2, 2019



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

Liturgical Services LIVE: www.Youtube.com then type: Holy Ghost Church Live Stream

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 Northwest Pittsburgh Lodge 603: (MR) Contact Tina Burns (412) 859-9597 for membership.

Slavjane Folk Ensemble: (MR) Membership requirements contact Bob Bartko: (412) 779-0915.

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

Let us honor today those mystical trumpets of the Spirit, namely the God-mantled Fathers who speaking of divine things sang in the midst of the Church a hymn in unison, teaching that the Trinity is one, not differing in substance or Godhead, refuting Arius and defending the true faith. They always intercede with the Lord to have mercy on our souls (Great Vespers of the 1st Ecumenical Council Fathers)

June 2, 2019

Seasonal Greeting



Volume IX, Number 22



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 FATHERS OF THE 1ST ECUM. COUNCIL			
Postfestive of the Ascension — 7th Paschal Sunday			
SUN., Jun 2		9:00 a.m. (MR) Eleanor Kulka (6 th ann of passing 5/26)	Children: Kathy & John
		11:00 a.m. (NS) + Betty + Jay Mowery	Dgtr: Barbara "Babs"
Mon, Jun 3	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mary Farabaugh (birthday 6/4)	Ron & Marianne Farabaugh	
Tues, Jun 4	8:00 a.m. (MR) Health & Welfare of Fr. Firko	 Anonymous	
Wed, Jun 5	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Julia Eisenman	Dgtr: Martha & Bob Maletz	
Thrs, Jun 6	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Alexander F. Perschy (birthday)	Son: Kurt	

Final Day of the Ascension Feast — First Friday of the Month

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

Fri, Jun 7  8:00 a.m. (MR) + Helen P. Petak (birthday) Dgtr: Marilyn Furman & Family

Fifth & Final Universal All Souls Saturday Vigil

6:00 p.m. (NS) All Souls w/Reading of Hramoty

FIFTH & FINAL UNIVERSAL ALL SOULS SATURDAY

Sat., Jun 8 9:00 a.m. (MR) All Souls w/Reading of Hramoty



Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Descent of the All-Holy Spirit — Pentecost Sunday

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Lee A. Hamel

M/M Burt Cifrutlak

SUNDAY OF THE DESCENT OF THE ALL-HOLY SPIRIT

Pentecost Sunday — Patronal Feast — MIROVANJE

SUN., Jun 9 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Margaret Kurtanich Children

(15th ann. of passing 6/12)

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

Jun 1 — Archbishop William C. Skurla; **Jun 4** — Otce Duchovnyj, Katherine Harbist; **Jun 5** — Christine Barnash, Betty Spisak; **Jun 7** — Peter Kacsurs.

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

HOME: Margaret Beliunas, Irene Bordas, Margaret Cifrutlak, MARY ANN CONTI, Nancy Debranski-Ferrell, Ilona Goyda, Beverly Harsh, MILAN JUGAN, MARTHA LUCAS, OLGA MANFREDO, Irene Palahunik, Elizabeth Petruna, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Lisa Plutto, Betty Spisak, EVELYN VENTO, Anita Wolsko, 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.

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.

NEW HOPE ASSISTED LIVING (300 Union Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15202): Helen Hopey.

VICTORIA MANOR PERSONAL CARE HOME (100 Rose Ct., Oakdale, PA 15071): Andrew Drukalsky.

OHIO VALLEY HOSPITAL (25 Heckel Road, McKees Rocks, PA 15136): Mike Palahunik.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. I'm baffled by the passages in Scripture that say the apostles didn't recognize Jesus when he rose from the dead (e.g., John 20:14). Should we not take this literally, or did Jesus really look different? **A.** **Answer by a Catholic Apologist:** When Jesus rose from the dead, it wasn't as though he was resuscitated (as were others who rose from the dead, like Lazarus); instead, Jesus' Resurrection was the kind of resurrection that all of the saved will have at the end of time: He received and we will receive our glorified bodies. While we will know each other in heaven, we may look different than we do now. In like manner, Jesus' glorified body probably was different in some respects from the body he had during his public ministry, but it was close enough to what he had before that his disciples eventually recognized him (see John 21:4-7). Luke 24:16 also notes that in one of Jesus' encounters with the disciples that "their eyes were kept from recognizing him," suggesting that he may have looked the same, but people were miraculously kept from understanding who he was for the moment.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

June 2 — June 8, 2019

(MR): **In memory of Donna & Jim Gallenger**

offered by Bilak & Tomchak Families

(NS): **In memory of Betty & Jay Mowery**

(MR) All reserved for 2019

offered by Dgtr: Barbara "Babs"

(NS) All reserved for 2019



McKees Rocks Announcements

SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO INTERNET SUPPORTER — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the passing of **Basil P. Gramata, 86**, of McAdoo, PA on Wednesday, May 22, 2019 at the Lehigh Valley Hospital, Hazleton. *He was an original and faithful financial supporter of our Internet Ministry.* Our pastor concelebrated the Funeral Divine Liturgy at St. Michael Byzantine Catholic Church, McAdoo on Tuesday, May 28. Our parish offers its most sincere condolences and prayerful support to wife, Eleanor and the entire Gramata Family. In blessed repose grant O Lord eternal rest to your servant, Basil, and remember him forever! Vicnaja Jemu Pamjat'.

MINOR FLOODING OF CHURCH BASEMENT THIS PAST WEEK —

Due to the series of storms this past week our Church Basement Library area received minor water flooding from the floor drain. When this occurs the old convent building also experiences flooding. Since this senerio happens nearly every year, a solution to rectify this problem is now being put in place. We had to sanitize the cleanup twice in the same day.



Holy Ghost, Northside

FIRE-FIGHTERS CALLED TO THE CHURCH — During a recent thunderstorm this past Tuesday, one of our Church bells started to ring. Our bells have not been working for the past year. Our pastor was contacted of the problem from one of the neighbors. Upon arriving the Northside Fire Department was there. They received a call from the neighborhood. The problem: The bell switch in the choir loft was switched on several weeks ago and never turned off since it was not ringing the bell. The thunderstorm happened to trigger the bell to, once again, function. We offer our apologies to the neighborhood for this unexpected situation. The Verdin Bell Company will be looking into this incident in the near future.



SAVE THE DATE: ALTAR BOY "FAITH & FUN DAY" — Mark your calendar for **Tuesday, July 2, 2019** and get ready for another great day of "Faith & Fun!" Open to all Altar Boys (elementary through college), this exciting day sponsored by the Vocations Office is filled with tons of awesome activities around Pittsburgh to thank you for volunteering your time and service to the Church. At 9:30 a.m. Registration at the gym followed by a 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy. Lunch will follow in the Gym. Boarding the bus at 12:30 p.m. and traveling to the Carnegie Museum, Oakland. At 4:00 p.m we will board the busses at 4:00 p.m. to PNC Park to see the Pirates take on the Chicago Cubs. Following the game we will return back to Holy Ghost Church for pick up and departure. Approximate time will be 11:00 p.m. Don't delay! Register with the Church Office right away!



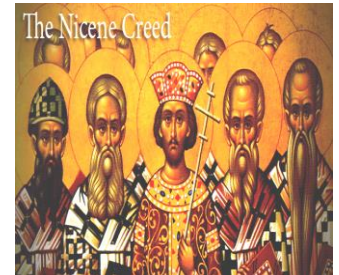
As Byzantine Catholics we wear the color GREEN to signify the Life-Creating nature of the Holy Spirit who comes to bring us NEW LIFE. So please, remember to Wear GREEN Next Weekend!

THE SEVENTH PASCHAL SUNDAY

The Core of Our Common Faith (first read John 17: 1-13)

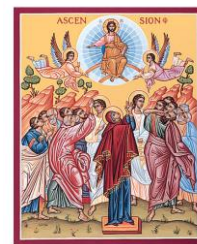
Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council

Today, we are commemorating the Fathers of The First Council of Nicea held in the year 325 AD. It is the first ecumenical council of the Catholic Church. *Most significantly, it resulted in the first, extra-biblical, uniform Christian doctrine, called the Nicene Creed.* With the creation of the creed, a precedent was established for subsequent local and regional councils of Bishops (Synods) to create statements of belief and canons of the true faith — the intent being to define unity of essential beliefs for the whole of Christendom. The council did not create the doctrine of the deity of Christ but it did settle, to some degree, the debate within the Early Christian communities regarding the divinity of Christ. This idea of the divinity of Christ, along with the idea of Christ as a messenger from God (The Father), had long existed in various parts of the Roman Empire. The divinity of Christ had also been widely endorsed by the Christian community in the otherwise pagan city of Rome. The council affirmed and defined what it believed to be the teachings of the Apostles regarding who Christ is: that Christ is the one true God in deity with the Father. Derived from Greek "ecumenical" meaning "worldwide or universal." One purpose of the council was to resolve disagreements arising from within the Church of Alexandria over the nature of the Son in relationship to the Father. Saints Alexander of Alexandria and Athanasius claimed that Christ is God and the popular presbyter Arius, from whom the term Arianism comes, denied this claim. The council decided against the Arians overwhelmingly. Of the estimated 318 attendees, all but two agreed to sign the creed and these two, along with Arius, were banished to Illyria. Another result of the council was an agreement on when to celebrate Easter, the most important feast of the ecclesiastical calendar.



Our Christian Responsibility & Duty

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION LAST WEEK — This past Thursday was **Ascension Thursday** and a Holy Day of Obligation. The Canon Law of our Byzantine Catholic Church states: *"The Christian faithful are bound by the obligation to participate on Sundays and feast days (Holy Days of Obligation) at the Divine Liturgy" (Canon 881#1); and "are recommended to receive the Divine Eucharist on these days ..." (Canon 881 #3); "and should abstain from those labors or business matters which impede the worship to be rendered to God" (Canon 881 #4).* Neglectful fulfillment of this precept renders one guilty of mortal sin, therefore, unworthy to receive the Holy Eucharist, until one makes a worthy sacramental Confession of this voluntary neglect.



2 Weeks Remaining to fulfill Your Easter Duty!

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Jun 7-8 5th & Final All Souls Saturday: Friday: (NS) 6:00 p.m.; Saturday (MR) 9:00 a.m.
 Jun 9 Feast of the Descent of the Holy Spirit — Pentecost Sunday — Patronal Feast.
 Patronal Dinner Celebration & Honoring all our Parish Graduates @ **1:30 pm.**
 Jun 10 2nd Day of Pentecost — Feast of the Most Holy Trinity — (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.
 June 14 GCU Northwest Pittsburgh Lodge Flag Day Ceremony @ 6:45 p.m.
 Jun 16 Sunday of All Saints & Final Day for fulfilling the Easter Duty Precept.
 Annual Father's Day.
 June 23 (Note well): Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (Solemn Holy Day): (NS) 6:00 p.m.
 June 24 (Note well): Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (Solemn Holy Day): (MR) 7:00 p.m.
 50th Anniversary of the Metropolitan Church of Pittsburgh & Archeparchy of Pittsburgh, Cathedral.
 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.
 July 2 Archieparchial Altar-Server Faith & Fun Days — Altar Boys asked to contact church office ASAP.

Saints of the Week — June 3

Holy Martyr Lucillian & Companions

Saint Lucillian was a pagan priest during the reign of the Roman emperor Aurelian (270-275). In his old age he became persuaded of the falseness of the pagan religion,



and with all his heart he turned to the faith in Christ the Savior, and was baptized. Under the influence of his preaching many pagans were converted to Christianity. Then certain Jews, seeing that he was spreading faith in Christ Whom they crucified, reported Lucillian to the Nicomedia prefect Silvanus, who urged the old man to return to idol-worship. When he refused, they smashed the saint's jawbone, beat him with rods and suspended him head downward, and then they locked him in prison. Here he met four youths who were confessors of Christianity, Claudius, Hypatius, Paul and Dionysius. St Lucillian urged them to stand firm in the Faith, and to fear neither tortures nor death. After a while they brought them to trial and then threw them into a red-hot furnace.

Suddenly, rain fell and extinguished the flames, and the martyrs remained unharmed. The governor sentenced them to death, sending them to Byzantium to be executed. The holy youths were beheaded by the sword, and the holy martyr Lucillian was nailed to a cross with many nails. The **holy virgin Paula** witnessed the contest of the holy martyrs. She had dedicated herself to the service of those suffering for Christ. She provided food to Christian prisoners, washed their wounds, brought medications, and also buried the bodies of martyrs. After the death of St Lucillian and the four young men, she returned to Nicomedia and continued with her holy service. The holy virgin was arrested and cast into a furnace, but by the power of God she remained unharmed. Then they sent her off to Byzantium, where the holy martyr was beheaded.

General Announcements

PATRONAL PENTECOST DINNER PLANS FOR TODAY ONLY — Our Patronal Feast Day Dinner at the (MR) school hall is next week on **Pentecost Sunday, June 9, 2019 @ 1:30 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

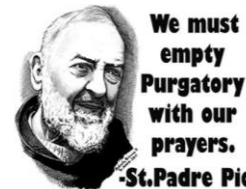
subsidizing the remainder of the costs. The special prices are: ACTIVE PARISHIONERS (13 & Over) \$10.00; GUESTS are welcome for \$13.00 Children's price \$5.00. You may also contact the Church Office (412) 771-3324. The Church will also subsidize the Graduates meal and all remaining costs. For the final announcement: **today is the last day for tickets!**

LAST DAY FOR GRADUATES TO REGISTER FOR TODAY ONLY — Our Holy Ghost Churches

would like to honor all of our High School and College Graduates on the occasion of our Patronal Feast, **June 9, 2019**. 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. As of today, only ONE graduate has contacted the office for a reservation. **Today, is the final day to register!**



FINAL ALL SOULS COMMEMORATION THIS WEEK — The 5th and Final All Souls



commemoration will be offered this coming **Friday, June 7 (NS); and Saturday, June 8 (MR)**. This final Eucharistic Service in behalf of all Souls comes a day prior to *The Feast of the Descent of the Holy Spirit, also known as Pentecost*. Our prayer is directed to God the Holy Spirit so as to grant eternal rest and a blessed repose to All Souls, especially the names submitted earlier. If you have not submitted the envelope this year there is

still time — until this Thursday, June 6th. Vicnaja Jim Pamjat! Come with love in your heart & pray for their repose!

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 (June 16)** 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.