

## Parish Offerings – Sunday of 1<sup>st</sup> Ecumenical Council — June 2, 2019

“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 (\$3,324) YP (\$6)	\$3,330.00
Holy Days (\$413) YP (\$1)	414.00
Seminary (\$10) Peter's Pence (\$5)	15.00
Votive Candles	99.00
	<hr/>
	\$3,858.00

### Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$787.65
Holy Days	30.00
Improvement	40.00
Votive Candles	76.00
	<hr/>
	\$933.65

### Church Attendance Last Week

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (33)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (71); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (35)



## 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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Moon Township 15108  
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(412) 771-3324**

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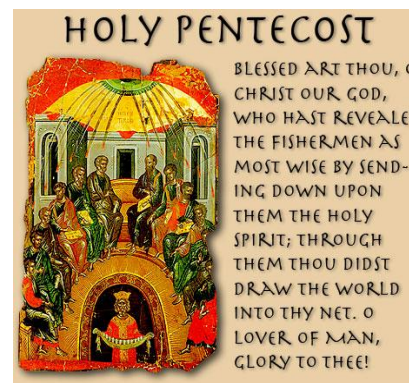


**HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
225 OLIVIA STREET  
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE  
McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

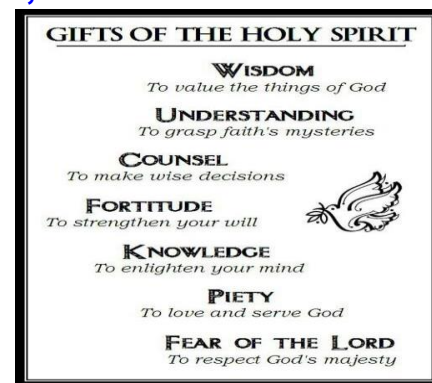
# THE DESCENT OF THE ALL-HOLY SPIRIT

## Pentecost Sunday — Patronal Feast Day — Rusalja

### June 9, 2019



BLESSED ART THOU, O  
CHRIST OUR GOD,  
WHO HAST REVEALED  
THE FISHERMEN AS  
MOST WISE BY SEND-  
ING DOWN UPON  
THEM THE HOLY  
SPIRIT; THROUGH  
THEM THOU DIDST  
DRAW THE WORLD  
INTO THY NET. O  
LOVER OF MAN,  
GLORY TO THEE!



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](http://www.holyghost-byzantinecatholic.org) – E-Mail: [ffaf334@verizon.net](mailto:ffaf334@verizon.net)

**SUNDAY RADIO (9:00 am WEDO 810 AM) & INTERNET DIVINE LITURGY**

**Liturgical Services LIVE: [www.Youtube.com](http://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 for Parishioners: (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)

June 9, 2019

Seasonal Greeting

Volume IX, Number 23



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



## Liturgical Services for the Week

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by
<b>SUNDAY OF THE DESCENT OF THE ALL-HOLY SPIRIT</b>			
<b>Pentecost Sunday – Patronal Feast – MIROVANJE</b>			

**Traditional Kneeling Prayers are introduced prior to the Final Blessing**

SUN., Jun 9	9:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Margaret Kurtanich (15 <sup>th</sup> ann. of passing 6/12)	Children
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	

**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, Jun 10	9:00 a.m. (MR)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
	6:00 p.m. (NS)	+ Amelia + Frank T. Firko (anniversary of marriage)	Son: Fr. Firko

**Commemoration of the Apostles Bartholomew & Barnabas**

Tue, Jun 11	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Basil P. Gramata	Son: George & Jennie Marinock
Wed, Jun 12	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Peter M. Zappas (memorial)	Family
Thrs., Jun 13	8:00 a.m. (MR)	Holy Souls in Purgatory	Joseph A. Cehula, T.O. Carm.
	10:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Funeral of Mike Palahunik	

**NO FASTING/ABSTINENCE this week in the Joy of the coming of the Holy Spirit**  
**Annual Flag Day**

Fri, Jun 14	8:00 a.m. (MR)	Mary Ann & Richard Cupka	Brother (in-law): Fr. Firko (39 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary)
	6:45 p.m. (MR)	9 <sup>th</sup> Annual Flag Day Ceremony w/ Pledge of Allegiance	

**Final Day of the Feast of Holy Pentecost**

Sat, Jun 15	9:00 a.m. (NS)	Health & Welfare	Dgtr: Debbie & Steve Searle of Florence Charochak (birthday)
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**Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of All Saints – First Sunday after Pentecost**

	4:00 p.m. (MR)	+ John Bordas	Wife: Irene
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## SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost — Annual Father's Day**

SUN., Jun 16	9:00 a.m. (MR)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	For the Living & Deceased Fathers 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 9** – Justin Paronish; **Jun 10** – Cynthia Saber; **Jun 11** – Mary Susan Dragosh, GEORGE FECIK, LEAH KALLOP; **Jun 13** – Susan Fejka, Evelyn Vento; **Jun 15** – Florence Charochak, Kathleen Kulka.

## 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, Peter Kacsur, MARTHA LUCAS, OLGA MANFREDO, Irene Palahunik, Elizabeth Petruna, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Lisa Plutto, Betty Spisak, EVELYN VENTO, Anita Wolsko, 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): Elizabeth Petruna.

## Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

**Q.** Why is pornography a sin? **A. Catholic Answers Apologist:** The virtue to which we are called with regard to sexual relationships is called *chastity*. Through integrity and self-control, the chaste person observes the true meaning and intimacy of sexual relations. Pornography is gravely offensive to this. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* explains, "[pornography] perverts the conjugal act, the intimate giving of spouses to each other. It does grave injury to the dignity of its participants (actors, vendors, the public), since each one becomes an object of base pleasure and illicit profit for others. It immerses all who are involved in the illusion of a fantasy world" (CCC 2354).

## This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

**June 9 — June 15, 2019**

(MR): **In memory of Olga & Joseph Goyda**

offered by Grand-Dgtr: Mary Ann Goyda

(NS): **In memory of Olga Senchyshyn**

(MR) All reserved for 2019

offered by Dgtr: Joan"

(NS) All reserved for 2019

## McKees Rocks Announcements

**SYMPATHY EXTENDED** — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the sudden passing of **Julia Wovchko**, 96, of Robinson Township on Friday, May 31, 2019 at home. Funeral arrangements were handled by the McDermott Funeral Home Kennedy Township. She is survived by a son, Charles (Eve) and grandchildren and a great-grand-child. Her Funeral Divine Liturgy was on Thursday, June 6. Interment took place at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, McKees Rocks. Our parish offers its most sincere condolences to the entire Wovchko Family. In blessed repose grant O Lord eternal rest to your servant, Julia, and remember her forever! Vicnaja Jej Pamjat'.

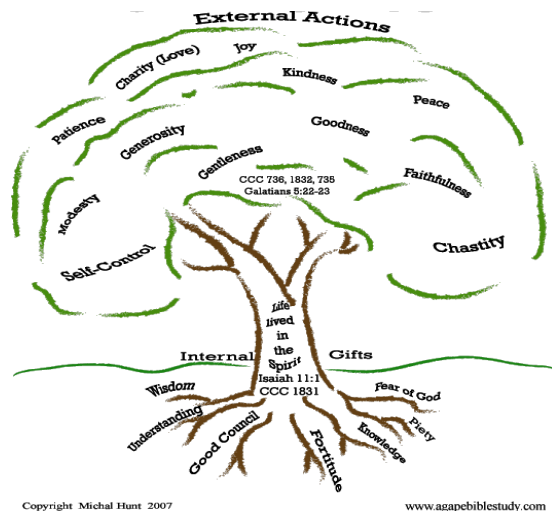


## Holy Ghost, Northside

**BORN AGAIN OF WATER AND SPIRIT** — Nathaniel Harrison Helms was Reborn of Water and Spirit and became a full member of the Church through the *Holy Mysteries of Initiation: Baptism, Chrismation and First Eucharist* last week on the *Sunday of the Fathers of the First Nicean Council, June 2, 2019*. His parents are John Helms & Aimee (Lasko) Helms of North Hills. Sponsor was parishioner, Leah Marie (Lasko) Trapl and Christian Witness was Jesse Helms, the brother of the father. The Patron Saint assigned to Nathaniel is the Holy Apostle Bartholomew (who was originally Nathaniel in St. John's Gospel (commemorated on June 11). May God grant to Nathaniel Harrison, Peace, Health & Salvation for many happy and blessed years! Na Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita!



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



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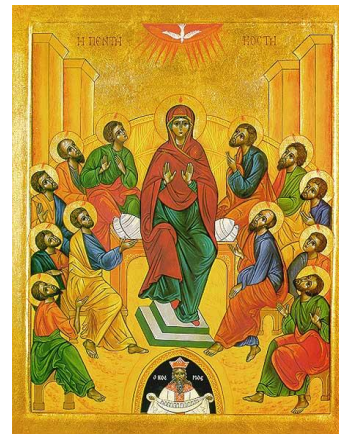
**Don't Forget to Wear GREEN Again Next Weekend  
for All Saints Sunday!**

**The 3-Bar Glorified Cross Is turned back  
to the Crucified Cross on the Feast of Pentecost.**

## PENTECOST SUNDAY — RUSALJA

### Old & New Law Explanation of the Pentecost Celebration

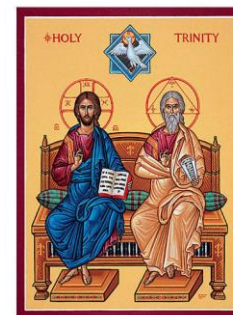
In the Old Testament, Pentecost was the feast which occurred fifty days after Passover. As the Passover feast celebrated the exodus of the Israelites from the slavery of Egypt, so Pentecost celebrated God's gift of the Ten Commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai. In the new covenant of the Messiah, the 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

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 .....	2 <sup>nd</sup> 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. ..... 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Metropolitan Church of Pittsburgh & Archeparchy of Pittsburgh, Cathedral.
June 28 .....	Holy Day of Obligation: Vigil Feast of SS. Peter & Paul (NS) 6:00 p.m.
June 29 .....	Holy Day of Obligation: Feast SS. Peter & Paul (MR) 9:00 a.m.
July 2 .....	Archieparchial Altar-Server Faith & Fun Days — Altar Boys asked to contact church office ASAP.

## Saint of the Week

### THE HOLY FEMALE MARTYR AQUILINA

June 13



Aquilina was born in the Palestinian town of Byblus of honorable Christian parents. At age seven, little Aquilina was already completely versed in the true Christian life and at age ten she was so filled with divine understanding and the grace of the Holy Spirit that she, with great power and zealotry, preached Christ to her female companions. When Diocletian's persecution began, someone accused Aquilina before Volusian, the imperial deputy, who was more like a beast than a man. At first, Volusian ordered that Aquilina be flogged and after that, a red hot rod be pierced through her ears and brain. Until the last moment, the virgin Aquilina freely and openly confessed Christ the Lord and when her brain and blood began to flow from her head, she fell as though dead. The deputy, thinking Aquilina was indeed dead, ordered her body to be carried outside the city and thrown upon a dung

heap for the dogs to consume. But, an angel of God appeared to her at night and said to her: "Arise, and be whole!" And the virgin arose and was whole and for a long time she offered up praise of thanksgiving to God imploring Him not to deprive her to fulfill her martyr's mortification. A voice from heaven was heard: "Go, it will be to you as you pray" and Aquilina set out for the town. The gates of the town opened on their own accord before her and she entered like a spirit into the palace of the deputy and appeared before his bed. The deputy was seized with unspeakable fear, seeing the virgin alive whom he thought was dead. The following day, according to his command, the executioners led Aquilina out to behead her. Before her beheading, the virgin Aquilina prayed to God on her knees and gave up her soul. The executioner beheaded her lifeless head. Her relics gave healing to many of the sick. **Aquilina was twelve years old** when she suffered for the Lord: suffered and crowned with the martyr's wreath in the year 293 A.D

## 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 (9<sup>th</sup> 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** — Our Patronal Feast Day Dinner at the (MR) school hall today 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.**



**OUR HOLY GHOST GRADUATES AND THEIR PLANS** — Our (MR) Holy Ghost Graduates for 2019 and have registered with the Parish Office. Those attending the dinner are marked with an (\*) are: **HIGH SCHOOL** — \*ANNA STEBBINS graduated from Bishop Canevin High School and will be attending the St. Anthony Program at Duquesne University in the Fall; **UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE** — ANITA IYENGAR graduated from the St. Anthony Program at Duquesne University. She will be pursuing special skills in the business field; \*ELIAS STEBBINS graduated from Bethany College, West Virginia, with a Bachelor of Arts Degrees in Theater. He will be persuing film and acting classes while exploring job opportunities; and **DR. MATTHEW GRZYWINISKI M.D.** graduates from Thomas Jefferson University with a Doctorate in Medicine. He will specialize in Emergency Medicine in Residency at the University of Michigan. *May God grant to all our Graduates health, happiness and success with God's blessings for many blessed years!*



**ALTAR BOY "FAITH & FUN DAY" DEADLINE FOR REGISTRAATION THIS WEEK** — 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! **Final Day of registration is June 11.**



**Happy Patronal Feast Day to all!!!**