

Parish Offerings – Descent of the All-Holy Spirit — May 31, 2020

“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 (\$270) YP (\$1)	\$271.00
Ascension (\$45) Pentecost (\$683) YP (\$10)	738.00
Pentecost Monday (\$30) Holy Days (\$20)	50.00
Votive Candles	51.50
	<hr/>
	\$1,110.50

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$120.00
Pentecost (\$550) Pentecost Monday (\$25) Holy Days (\$15).....	590.00
Utilities (\$18) Improvements (\$5)	23.00
Peter’s Pence (\$10) Candles (\$50)	60.00
	<hr/>
	\$793.00



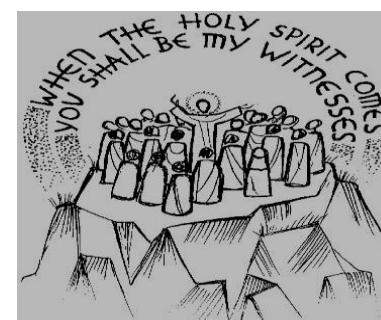
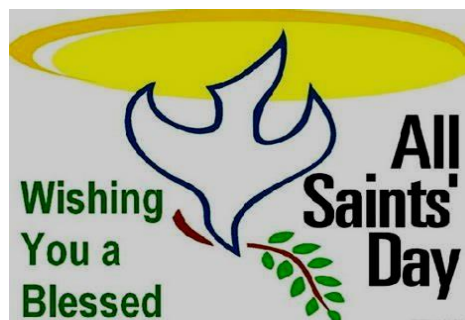
HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS

1st Sunday after Pentecost – June 7, 2020



Catholics of the Ruthenian – Byzantine Rite in full communion with the Pope of Rome

The Very Reverend Father Frank A. Firko, Pastor
Pastor, Administrator & Protopresbyter
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

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



DESIGNS BY NANCY
235 McCartney Drive,
Moon Township 15108
Phone: (412) 262-9141
Nanode@aol.com

Nancy C. Debranski
Sewing, Alterations, Custom Embroidery and Unique Gifts

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 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!



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



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)

June 7, 2020

Seasonal Greeting

Volume X, Number 23



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS

1st Sunday after Pentecost — Reopening of Public Worship

SUN., Jun 7 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Helen P. Petak (birthday) Dgtr: Marilyn Furman & Family
11:00 a.m. (NS) + George Jupinko Niece: Marianne Farabaugh
(10th ann of passing)

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

Mon, June 8 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Gary S. Hubal Hubal Family
(40th day of passing 5/27)

Tue, June 9 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Andrew Drukalsky Family
(1st ann of passing 6/10)



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

Wed, June 10 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Amelia + Frank T. Firko Firko Family
(wedding ann)



Commemoration of the Body of Christ — T'ilo Christovo

Thrs., June 11 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mary Susan Dragosh (memorial & birthday) Puluka Family

Fri, June 12 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Holy Souls in Purgatory Joseph A. Cehula, T.O. Carm.
(REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice): for vocations)

Sat, June 13 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Darko Gataric (memorial) Family

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

Fri, June 12 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Holy Souls in Purgatory Joseph A. Cehula, T.O. Carm.

Sat, June 13 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Darko Gataric (memorial) Family

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Second Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Nicholas Nazak Wife: Rose & Family



2nd Sunday after Pentecost

SUN., Jun 14 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Margaret Kurtanich (16th ann of pass 6/12) Children
11:00 a.m. (NS) Thanksgiving Mary Ann & Richard Cupka
(40th Wedding Ann)

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: Jun 7 – Peter Kacsur; Jun 9 – Justin Parodish; Jun 10 – Cynthia Saber; Jun 11 – GEORGE FECIK, LEAH KALLOP; Jun 13 – Susan Fejka, Anita Iyengar, EVELYN VENTO..

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

HOME: Margaret Beliunas, Helen Best, Irene Bordas, Florence Charochak, Margaret Cifrulak, MARY ANN CONTI, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Beverly Harsh, MARTHA LUCAS, Olga Manfredo, Irene Muha, Mike Muska, Irene Palahunik, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Lisa Plutto, Anna May Sejka, Betty Spisak, Anita Wolsko, EVELYN VENTO, 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.

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.

VANADIUM WOODS VILLAGE (50 Vanadium Rd, # 230, Bridgeville, PA 15017): Helen Hopey.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. If prayer is supposed to be for good, why do priests use it as punishment (or penance) after confession? A. Answer by Catholic Answers: The prayers of penance are not punishment. Although our sins are forgiven by God through the sacrament, the effects of our sin are still present in the world. The prayers are given for our penance not as punishment but as an attempt on our part to make up for the effects of our sins. Then the priest imposes an act of penance or satisfaction on the penitent; this should serve not only to make up for the past but also to help him to begin a new life and provide him with an antidote to weakness. As far as possible, the penance should correspond to the seriousness and nature of the sins. This act of penance may suitably take the form of prayer, self-denial, and especially service of one's neighbor and works of mercy. These will underline the fact that sin and its forgiveness have a social aspect.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

June 7 — June 13, 2020

(MR): In memory of Lillian & Joseph Buchko

offered by Children & Grandchildren

(NS): In memory of Elizabeth Seman

All reserved for 2020

offered by Dgtr: Velma

(NS) All reserved for 2020



General Announcements

(The following abridged article on the New Age Movement recently appeared on the catholic.com website. It contains false teachings and is NOT aligned with the Catholic Faith)

Is the New Age movement a religion? The late Jesuit theologian Fr. John Hardon defined religion as “the moral virtue by which a person is disposed to render to God the worship and service he deserves,” and noted that the word is “probably [from the] Latin religare, to tie, fasten, bind, or relegere, to gather up, treat with care.” These days, religion is often confused with philosophy or spirituality, both of which can be part of religion but are not synonyms for the word. Many New Age adherents are members of organized religious institutions, including the Catholic Church, but the New Age movement is not institutional or organized. What adherents subscribe to is better defined as a philosophy or spirituality. Philosophy, according to Fr. Hardon, is “the science in which natural reason, apart from divine revelation, seeks to understand all things by a knowledge of their first causes.” St. John Paul II called philosophy “one of [the] noblest of human tasks” and said it “is directly concerned with asking the question of life’s meaning and sketching an answer to it.” New Age adherents hold to certain philosophical principles, which we’ll get into in more detail [later in the booklet]. Here, we’ll look at what the Church has said about New Age philosophy. In *Bearer of the Water of Life*, it is characterized this way: An adequate Christian discernment of New Age thought and practice cannot fail to recognize that, like second and third century gnosticism, it represents something of a compendium of positions that the Church has identified as heterodox. John Paul II warns with regard to the “return of ancient gnostic ideas under the guise of the so-called New Age: We cannot delude ourselves that this will lead toward a renewal of religion. It is only a new way of practicing gnosticism—that attitude of the spirit that, in the name of a profound knowledge of God, results in distorting his Word and replacing it with purely human words. Gnosticism never completely abandoned the realm of Christianity. Instead, it has always existed side by side with Christianity, sometimes taking the shape of a philosophical movement, but more often assuming the characteristics of a religion or a para-religion in distinct, if not declared, conflict with all that is essentially Christian.” Gnosticism is an ancient heresy, predating Christianity. Like the New Age movement, it was not so much institutional as it was personal, being brought into established religious movements by individuals seeking hidden knowledge. The Catholic Encyclopedia sums up gnosticism as “the doctrine of salvation by knowledge”—not public divine revelation, as understood in the Judeo-Christian tradition, but hidden knowledge revealed only to initiates (CCC 66–67). Insofar as New Age practitioners promote avenues to hidden knowledge, it can be a form of modern gnosticism.

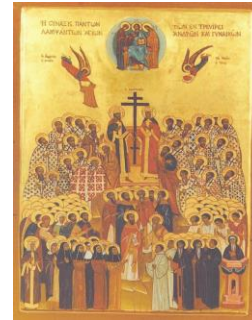
As we commence our journey through the Petrine Fast, let us offer Simple Abstinence (no meat) or an Equivalent Penance on Recommended Wednesdays & REQUIRED Fridays! Let us offer our prayer & abstinence for the intention of an increase of Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life and for all priests.

SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS

Everyone is Called to Sainthood

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

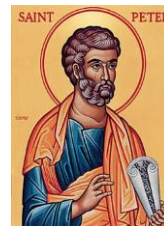
Today, we celebrate the **SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS**. Often, we think of Saints as those holy ones who have preceded us in physical death, and have won the crown of the heavenly kingdom. They are the ones whom we should imitate in life for guidance. Many of us think of these Saints as icons beautifully romanticized 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.



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.



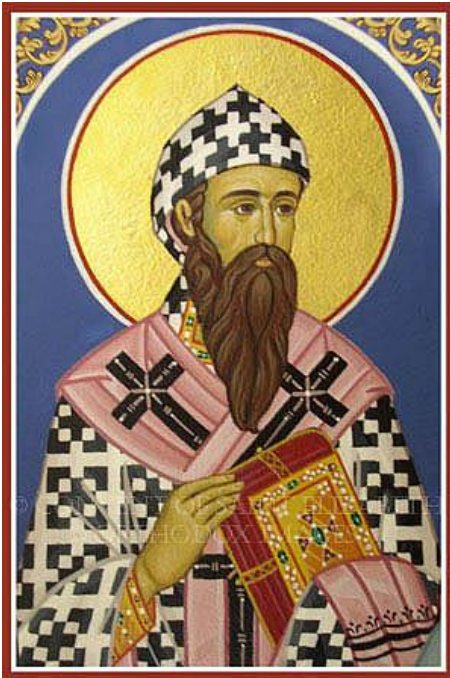
As we begin the Petrine Fast (named after the Apostle Peter), let us make a serious effort to abstain from meat or do an equivalent penance not only on the required Fridays until June 29, but also on the recommended Wednesdays for the intention of an increase of vocations to the priesthood & religious life.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

June 7	.....	Sunday of All Saints — Final day to fulfill your Paschal (Easter) Duty.
June 8	.....	Minor Fasting Period — Peter's Fast — until June 28.
June 14	.....	Annual Flag Day.
June 20	.....	First day of Summer.
June 24	.....	Nativity of St. John the Baptist — (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.
June 29	.....	Feast of Saints Peter & Paul — (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 p.m.

Saints of the Week — June 9 Holy Father Cyril of Alexandria

Cyril was born in Alexandria in Egypt nearly 400 years after the time of Jesus. His uncle was bishop of Alexandria. Cyril was not really a very nice boy – he like to fight and argue, even with his friends. But he loved the Lord and tried to serve God all his life. When Cyril grew up, he became bishop, or “patriarch”, of Alexandria. The bishops of the five largest churches were often called patriarchs: Rome, Constantinople, Antioch, Alexandria, and Jerusalem.



There was, at the same time, in Antioch, a bishop named Nestorius who came up with a very upsetting new teaching. He decided that Mary could not really be the mother of God (Theotokos) but only the mother of Christ, the man.(Christotokos) Again, someone was trying to split Jesus up into two

people, God and man. We call Mary “Theotokos”, meaning “Godbearer” or the “Mother of God”. But Nestorius wanted to call her “Christotokos” instead. The emperor called another big council of bishops, this time in the city of Ephesus. Cyril argued for Mary to be called “Theotokos” and Nestorius argued for “Christotokos”. But, after Cyril’s explanation, Nestorius agreed that Mary should be called “Theotokos”, as she is to this day. Due to the faith of St. Cyril of Alexandria and all other true believing Bishops, we call Mary “Theotokos” and honor her as the Mother of God.

General Announcements

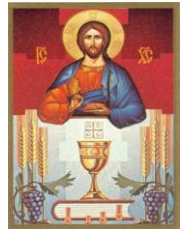
WELCOME HOME EVERYONE! — We now commence all Public Services here at our Holy Ghost Church. There will be some restrictions for awhile such as (1) Social



Distancing when seating; (2) masks are highly recommended but not required; (3) When using the restrooms, you must be sure to wash your hands. Celebrating clergy will be wearing masks and gloves at least for the next few weeks while distributing Holy Communion; Entrance and exiting the Church will be from the

side chapel area (main doors will be locked); (4) Sanitizing lotion will be available. And (5) Confessions will be offered at a Social Distance prior to the weekend Divine Liturgies; (6) Pews have been also santized

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!

If you are retired or just enjoying the summer vacation, why not join us for the Daily Divine Liturgy!?! It’s a great Spiritual Investment which Glorifies God, Sanctifies the soul and gives us an opportunity of offering a Spiritual Work of Mercy by praying for the Living and the Dead!