

**Parish Offerings – Decent of the Most Holy Spirit — May 23, 2021**

“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 (\$285) YP (\$10) .....	\$295.00
Pentecost (\$2,137) YP (\$7) Holy Days (\$220) .....	2,364.00
Initial .....	5.00
Votive Candles .....	83.44
	<hr/>
	\$2,747.44

**Holy Ghost Church, North Side**

Regular Offering .....	\$25.00
Pentecost (\$515) Holy Days (\$52) .....	567.00
Utilities (\$20) Improvement (\$15) Seminary (\$25) .....	60.00
Votive Candles .....	52.32

**Church Attendance Last Week \$704.32**

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (23)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (69); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (25)

Feast of Most Holy Trinity — (MR) Mon., 9:00 a.m. (4); (NS) 6:00 p.m. (6)



**Valerian F. Szal**  
 238 Helen St.,  
 McKees Rocks, PA 15136  
 Phone: (412) 331-9713  
 Fax: (412) 331-6688  
**Michael P. Ferrell,**  
 Supervisor, CFSP  
*Ill Serving Yours Since 1953*

REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED

ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL

**DESIGNS BY NANCY**  
 235 McCartney Drive,  
 Moon Township 15108  
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**This space available for ads for wishing someone birthday or anniversary greetings, get-well wishes, etc. Call the office**

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 Office

**HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

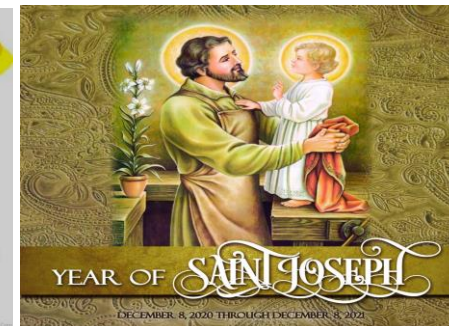
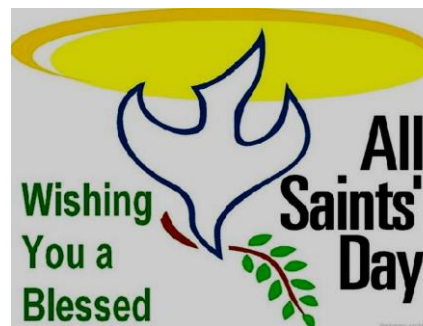
225 OLIVIA STREET  
 1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136  
 PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

**THE SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS**

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Memorial Weekend**

**May 30, 2021**



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

**The Very Reverend Father Frank A. Firko**

Pastor, Administrator & Protopresbyter

**The Reverend Deacon Michael E. 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 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: Internet Sunday afternoon: Rusyn.fm at 3:30 pm. Archive: c-rsmedia.org.

New & Returning Parishioners: Welcome! Please register by phoning the Church Office.

Remember the Church in Your Will: Please be so kind 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 30, 2021

Seasonal Greeting:

Volume XI 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 ALL SAINTS

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost — Memorial Weekend

SUN., May 30 9:00 a.m. (MR) Health & Welfare Wife: Norma & Family



of Peter Kacsur (90<sup>th</sup> birthday 6/7)

11:00 a.m. (NS) + Anna Pungras Dgtr: Anna Demianczyk

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

Mon, May 31 8:00 a.m. (MR) + All Who Died in the Service of our Country

Tue, June 1 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mary O. Culan (birthday) Tom Keating

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

Wed, June 2 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Helen P. Petak (birthday 6/1) Dgtr: Marilyn Furman & Fam.

**Commemoration of the Body of Christ — T'ilo Christovo**

Thrs., June 3 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Lester G. Best (wed. ann. 5/23) Wife: Helen

**First Friday of the month in reparation for sins against the Sacred Heart of Jesus**

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

Fri, June 4 8:00 a.m. (MR) Health & Welfare of Fr. Firko Anonymous

**First Saturday of the month in reparation for blasphemies against the Immaculate Heart of Mary**

Sat, June 5 9:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

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**Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Third Sunday after Pentecost**

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Mike Palahunik Ann & Ted Talkowski

(2<sup>nd</sup> ann. of passing 6/4)



### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

SUN., Jun 6 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Alexander F. Perschy (birthday) Son: Kurt

11:00 a.m. (NS) + Mary Farabaugh (birthday 6/4) Dgtr: Marianne

# 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 31 – LESLIE MARIE BODNARCHUK; Doris Naughton; Jun 1 – Isabelle Wenger; Jun 2 – Catherine Chomko, Jun 5 — Christine Barnash, Betty Spisak.

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

**HOME:** Margaret Beliuнас, Irene Bordas, Debra Charochak, Florence Charochak, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Beverly Harsh, GEORGE HUDANICK, SR., Peggi Lucas, OLGA MANFREDO, Irene Muha, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Lisa Plutto, Betty Spisak, Anita Wolsko, Nancy (Shanta) Wauthier.

MAPLEWOOD PC HOME (461 Maplewood Ave. Ambridge, PA 15003): Doris Naughton.

HIGHLAND PARK CARE CENTER (745 North Highland Ave., Pgh, PA 15206): Linda Reiger.

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.

VETERANS HOSPITAL (1010 Delafield St., Pittsburgh, PA 15215): JOHN VEREB.

THE RESIDENCE AT WILLOW LANE (30 Heckel Rd., MR, PA 15136): Helen Best, Marge Cifruk.

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

Q. Did Pope Francis change the Our Father? A. **Catholic Answers Apologist, Fr. John Grondin:** As of now there are no changes planned for the Our Father. What Pope Francis was referring to was not changing the prayer itself but changing how we translate the prayer in certain languages. Pope Francis was speaking of the words “lead us not into temptation.” The Holy Father was merely pointing out that some people mistakenly think that this means it is God who tempts us to sin. In French, the translation of that line had been changed to “let me not fall into temptation,” and the Pope was saying that, in his opinion, this is a much better translation than the traditional one. How to translate this line from the Our Father has varied and some have used “do not subject us not to the final test” or “do not bring us to the time of trial.” If the translation changed, the prayer itself would not really be changed.

## This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

**May 30 — Jun 5, 2021**

(MR): **Health & Welfare of the Hubal Family**

offered by Hubal Family

(NS): **In memory of Ronald Farabaugh (birthday 5/26)**

(MR) None available 2021

offered by Dgtr: Marianne

(NS) None available 2021





# General Announcements

## McKees Rocks

**HOLY GHOST GRADUATES AND E.C.F. TEACHERS HONORED —** Our University Graduate **ANNA M. STEBBINS** of the St. Anthony Program at Duquesne University is pictured with an icon of the Most Holy Theotokos last Sunday. The Church paid a special tribute to them at the Golden Corral, Robinson Township, Pentecost Sunday afternoon. Missing was High School Graduate, Kristen E. Ruud, who had another commitment that day. *May God grant to Kristin, Anna and our Eastern Catholic Formation Instructors, health and happiness for many blessed years!* Na Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita!



**ANONYMOUS FLOWER DONOR DONATES ROUND 5 WITH FLOWERS ADORNING OUR BLESSED MOTHER'S ICON —** For the final time this month of May, an anonymous source contributed a beautiful flower arrangement for the Blessed Mother's icon on the iconostasis. Once again, the Church thanks whoever you are, and commends you and your intentions before the feet of the Holy Theotokos. This month of the Holy Virgin reminds us that prayer to the Mother of God is laudable and necessary everyday of the year especially for those of our family members that no longer come to Church. If this were baseball, you would be batting 5/5 or 1000 %. Let us implore her for assistance.



**GYM & CHURCH RESTROOM PROJECT SCHEDULED SINCE COVID-19 —** Earlier this week, the Church received a call from Century Interiors, Inc. of Pittsburgh, conveying that they will be commencing this long-awaited project very shortly. Work will begin **Tuesday morning, June 15, 2021**. We are grateful for your patience in awaiting this reconstruction project!

**PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL & FINANCIAL COUNCIL MEETING —** Members are advised that our PAC/FAC Meeting is slated for **Tuesday, June 15, 2021** in the Church office. Please place this date on your calendar.

## North Side

**MIROVANIJE-P L U S —** At last Sunday's celebration of the *Descent of the All-Holy Spirit* at the distribution of Blessed Oil and Sacramental Bread (Mirovanije), a treat was given to all who had approached. Thanks to parishioner, Kathy Mullen, who made special home-made cookies in the form of a Dove (Holy Spirit), and sprinkled with GREEN glitter (symbolizing the Life-Creating Power of God the Holy Spirit) to everyone. We are grateful to Kathy for originating this wonderful gesture to make Pentecost Sunday, our Patronal Feast, a special Remembrance Year. May God bless you and grant you many happy and blessed years! Na Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita!



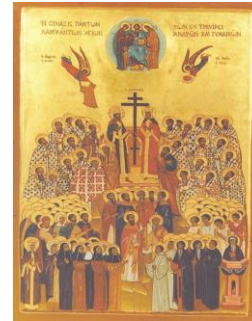
**PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL & FINANCIAL COUNCIL MEETING —** Members are advised that our PAC/FAC Meeting is slated for **Sunday, June 13, 2021** following the Divine Liturgy. Please place this date on your calendar.

# SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS

## Everyone is Called to Sainthood

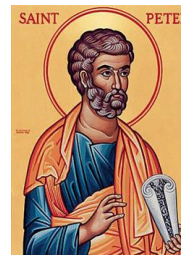
*(Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38, & 19:27-30)*

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 (Petrovna – 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.**



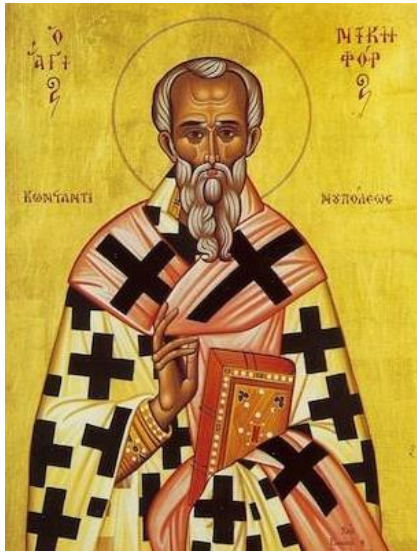
## Calendar of Upcoming Events

May 30 .....	Sunday of All Saints — Final Day for fulfilling Easter (Paschal) Duty.
May 31 .....	Memorial Day observed.
June 6 .....	Quarterly meeting of our Local GCU Lodge via virtual participation @ 2:00 p.m.
June 11 .....	Practice of those preparing for First Reconciliation in MR Church. Renewal of Baptismal Promises and Corporate Communion of 1 child @ 4:00 p.m. DL.
June 13 ....	NS Parish & Financial Advisory Councils Meeting following the Sunday Divine Liturgy.
June 14 .....	Annual Flag Day.
June 15 .....	MR Parish & Financial Advisory Councils Meeting in Church Office @ 7:00 p.m.
June 20 .....	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.

## Saint of the Week

### St. Nicephorus the Confessor, Patriarch of Constantinople — June 2

**Nicephorus I** was born in 758 ad. He was a Christian Byzantine writer and Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople from April 12, 806, to March 13, 815.



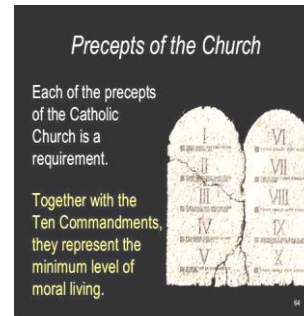
He was born in Constantinople as the son of Theodore and Eudocia, adhering to the true faith, which he had suffered from the earlier Iconoclasm. His father Theodore, one of the secretaries of Emperor Constantine V, had been scourged and banished to Nicea for his zealous support of Iconodules (venerators of images), and the son inherited the religious convictions of the father. Nevertheless, he entered the service of the Empire, became cabinet secretary and under Empress Irene took part in the 7<sup>th</sup> Ecumenical Council of 787 as imperial commissioner. He then withdrew to one of the cloisters that he had founded on the eastern shore of the Bosphorus, until he was

appointed director of the largest home for the destitute in Constantinople c. 802. After the death of the Patriarch Tarasios of Constantinople, although still a layman, he was chosen patriarch by the wish of the emperor (Easter, April 12, 806). He died at the monastery of Saint Theodore, revered as a confessor. Saint Nicephorus left behind three writings against Iconoclasm (those who destroyed images). His remains were solemnly brought back to Constantinople by Methodius I of Constantinople on March 13, 847, and interred in the Church of the Holy Apostles, where they were annually the object of imperial devotion. His feast is celebrated on this day both in the Greek and Latin Churches; the Greeks also observe 2 June as the day of his death.

## General Announcements

**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 & making Holy and Worthy Reception of Holy Communion.**



**THE BODY OF CHRIST COMMEMORATION — T'ILO CHRISTOVO —** This Thursday, June 3, 2021 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, and the great privilege of being able to receive Him at Holy Communion!



**GCU NORTHWEST PITTSBURGH LODGE MEETING NEXT WEEK —** The first quarterly meeting will be VIRTUAL on **Sunday, June 6, 2021 @ 2:00 p.m.** All members are expected to participate by dialing 1 (605) 472-5351. Then type in the Access Code: 451303#. You may direct your questions and/or concerns to Steve Puluka @ (412) 897-4650.



### Pope Francis gives Spiritual Direction on Prayer The Certainty of Being Heard — May 26, 2021

*Dear Brothers and Sisters:* in our continuing catechesis on prayer, we now consider those times when our prayers appear to go unanswered. We think, for example, of the heartfelt prayers we



offer for our sick children, or for our friends who experience great pain. In our disappointment, we may feel that God is deaf to our pleas; we may even be tempted to stop praying. Jesus, our great teacher of prayer, taught us in the *Our Father* to ask for many things, but above all that God's will be done. A mature faith trusts in the Lord's providence, his greater plan for our lives and our world, yet we naturally feel deep disappointment when our petitions seem to go unheard. Jesus shows us by his own example that God understands our sufferings, yet does not always immediately grant our wishes. In Gethsemane, Jesus offered a prayer that seemed to go unanswered; yet his complete trust

in the Father's will led to our salvation and the glory of the resurrection. Evil never has the last word. If there are times when we walk in the dark, guided only by the light of faith, may we never abandon our trust in the Father's will to make all things work together for our ultimate good.