

Parish Offerings – Samaritan Woman Sunday – May 15, 2022

“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 (\$1,849) YP (\$7)	\$1,856.00
Holy Days	10.00
Seminary	65.00
Votive Candles	89.00
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	\$2,020.00

Holy Ghost Church, North Side

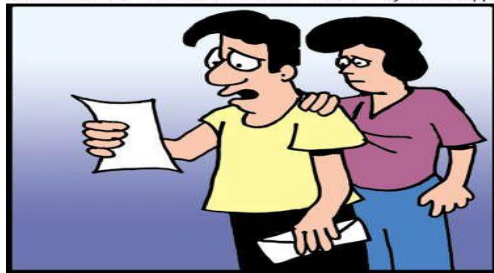
Regular Offering	\$655.00
Utilities (\$5) Improvements (\$5)	10.00
Votive Candles	47.00
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Church Attendance Last Week \$712.00

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (22)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (62); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (26)

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"Its from our church... we've been called up for active duty."



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
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GCU
 Greek Catholic Union of the USA
 A Fraternal Benefit Society
 NNWPL offers Insurance and Annuity Benefits greater than most financial institutions. Info call Tina (412) 859-9597

BYZANTINE HANDYMAN SERVICES
 North Side Parishioner
Alan Valeriano
(412) 638-3417
PA #172378

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

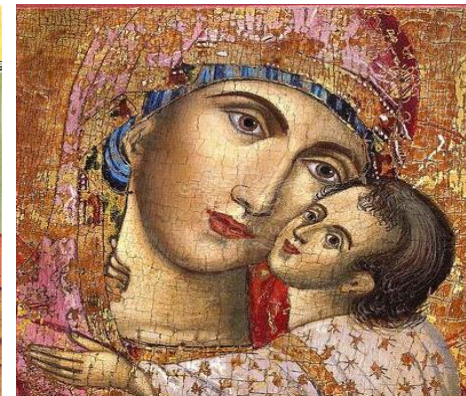
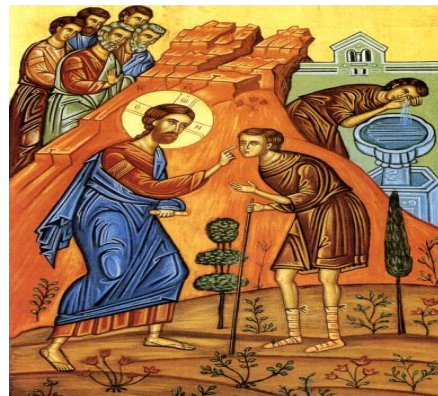
HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
 1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
 PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND

6th Paschal Sunday — May 22, 2022



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 – 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.
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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(MR) Contact Tina Burns (412) 859-9597 for membership.
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

As He went on His way, Jesus the Lord Who saves us met a man struck with blindness from his birth. Moistening the dust of the earth with His saliva, Christ made some mud to anoint the eyes of the Blind Man. Then He sent him to Siloam to wash in the pool; when he had washed the Blind Man returned, and he saw the brightness of Your light, O Christ (Matins of Blind Man)

May 22, 2022

Seasonal Greeting:

Volume XII Number 21



Christ is Risen! — Indeed! He is Risen!
Christos Voskrese!! — Voistinnu Voskrese!



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date **Time** **Intention** **Requested By**

SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND

6th Paschal Sunday

SUN, May 22	9:00 a.m. (MR) + Margaret Krulac <i>(6th ann of passing)</i>	Dgtr: Barbara & Peter Stecko
	11:00 a.m. (NS) Thanksgiving <i>(45th ann of ordination)</i>	Fr. Firko
Mon, May 23	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Basil P. Gramata <i>(3rd ann of passing 5/22)</i>	Wife: Eleanor & Son: George
Tues, May 24	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Emory Holowatch <i>(birthday 5/26 & 4th ann of passing)</i>	Anne Meyers

Final Day of Feast of the Radiant Resurrection & Solemn Removal of Burial Shroud

Wed, May 25	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Amelia + Frank T. Firko <i>(ann of passings) Family</i>	
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Great Vespers and Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Ascension — Holy Day of Obligation

7:00 p.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

GLORIOUS ASCENSION OF OUR LORD INTO HEAVEN HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

THRS, MAY 26	9:00 a.m. (MR) + Timothy A. Kacsur <i>(40th day of passing)</i>	Kathy Kulka
	6:00 p.m. (NS) + William C. Poloka <i>(1st ann of pass 5/16)</i>	Anonymous

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

Fri, May 27	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Elizabeth Mross <i>(7th ann of passing.)</i>	M & J Lautenschlager
	6:00 p.m. (MR) The Glorious Mysteries of the Holy Rosary	



Sat, May 28	9:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
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Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council & Ascension Feast

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

SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE 1ST ECUM. COUNCIL Postfestive of the Ascension — Memorial Day Weekend

SUN., May 29	9:00 a.m. (MR) + Deceased of the Margo Family	M & J Lautenschlager
	11:00 a.m. (NS) + Olga Manfredo	Mary Ann Smoley

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 22 – Theresa Hrishenko, John Kutchmark, Jr., Ray Rippole, Jr., Emilia Wenger;
May 23 – Carl Bates, Janet Herczak; **May 25** – George Lucas, Nicholas Rosko; **May 27** – Edward Wovchko.

HOME: Margaret Beliunas, Florence Charochak, DEACON MICHAEL MEADERS, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Beverly Harsh, Dolores Kosko, Steve Kosko, ARLENE LATTA, KIRK LATTA, BETTY LORINC, Irene Muha, Kurt Perschy, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Dan Pikras, Lisa Plutto, Betty Spisak, Anita Wolsko, Nancy (Shanta) Wauthier, Evelyn Yakubik.

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, Margaret Cifrulak, Dorothy Ann Karl, Mildred Terrek.

VINCENIAN MARIAN MANOR (2695 Winchester Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15220): Irene Bednar.

THE HAVEN AT NORTH HILLS (1 Windsor Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15237): DOLORES HUDANICK.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. What is the difference between Catholic and Christian? **A. Catholic Answers Apologist:** Nothing. To be Catholic is to be fully Christian... All Catholics are Christians, but not all Christians are Catholic. A Christian is someone who believes in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and is baptized. A Catholic is a specific kind of Christian — one who believes that the Catholic Church was founded by Christ and accepts it as a possessing the fullness of Christian truth and the means of salvation (Mt 16: 18-19; 1 Tim. 3:15; CCC 2032-2033, 2051). Being Catholic involves three main things: (1) sincerely holding to the Catholic Faith as taught by the Magisterium, which is the official teaching body of the Church (2 Thess 2:15; CCC 1113, 1129); (2) accepting the sacraments of the Catholic Church; and (3) submitting to the teaching authority of the pope and the bishops in communion with him (1 Thess 5: 12-13; CCC 1269). The words Catholic and Christian were once interchangeable. The first Christians called the Church "catholic" or "universal" to distinguish it from heretical splinter groups that denied necessary Christian truths. Thus, early Christians came to be known as Catholics.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

May 22 — May 28, 2022

(MR) **In memory of Margaret Krulac** *(6th ann of passing)*

offered by Dgtr: Barbara & Peter Stecko

(NS): **In memory of Mary (Seman) Burnworth**

(MR) None available 2022

offered by Sister: Velma

(NS) None available 2022



General Announcements

McKees Rocks

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR ECF TEACHERS — Often times we forget the important task that our Eastern Catholic-Christian Formation Teachers accomplish week after week! They are to be commended for their services! The 2021-2022 E.C.F. School Year has come to a close. This past year's Religious Education teachers were: **Coordinator Steve Puluka, Lori Rippole, Peggi Lucas, Maria and Anita Iyengar!** Thank you for the invaluable service rendered to our younger members! They, and their parents, and Godparents are to be commended for making this program possible despite challenging times! May God grant them many Happy and Blessed Years because CHRIST IS RISEN! Also, Catechists and this year's High School & University/College Graduates are invited to a complimentary luncheon on Pentecost Sunday.



North Side

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.

EASTER DUTY PRECEPT — All Christian Faithful are **OBLIGED (MANDATED)** to receive the Divine Eucharist when in danger of death AND during the Paschal (Easter) Period (Canon 708). In regards to the latter, this is 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 omissions of the 6 Precepts of the Church, but not limited to them. **If you have not attended to your Easter Duty Precept, the Sunday of All Saints (June 12) is the final day to take care of this important spiritual matter.**

ARCHIEPARCHIAL PRIEST PASSES INTO ETERNITY — With great sadness, one of our most recently ordained priests in active ministry passed away suddenly on Wednesday, May 11, 2022. **Fr. Robert L. Jones, 66**, pastor of Saint Mary Church, Weirton, WV and administrator of St. John the Baptist Church, Avella, PA. He was found deceased in the Weirton Rectory. Fr. Jones was ordained to the priesthood on August 26, 2021. The Paschal Funeral Divine Liturgy was at St. John Church, Avella, offered by Archbishop Skurla, principal celebrant, on Tuesday, May 17 at 10:00 a.m. Interment followed at the Parish Cemetery. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, eternal rest to your departed servant, the priest, Fr. Robert, and remember him forever because CHRIST IS RISEN!



THE SIXTH PASCHAL SUNDAY

Baptism originally termed

'Holy Illumination' and "Enlightenment" — (first read John 9: 1-38)

The methodology of the actual cure of this man born blind in today's Holy Gospel

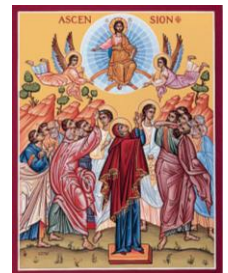


symbolizes mankind's means for its recovery from its blindness. It symbolizes the Holy Mystery of Baptism. Baptism is called 'holy illumination'. Those who have been recently baptized are referred to as the newly illuminated. As this man is cured of his blindness when he washes in the waters of the pool of Siloam, as Jesus tells him to do, so are we brought out of darkness into a new life when we are baptized as Christ instructed

us to be. Jesus restores his creation, mankind, with the potential to become what it was meant to be before the fall of Adam. We also hear in the reading that after this man was cured many of those who knew him before did not recognize him. He is still the same man but something has significantly changed about him. He is no longer blind. So, when we are illuminated we are also new persons, though our outward appearance might be the same. To symbolize this newness a white garment is put on us to show the purity with which we start this new existence. We must however, become different and unrecognizable in our inward and outward actions also. We must manifest our new existence to those around us through these actions. We must radiate this new found light to others by the way we live our lives. We must say to the world "I am he who was blind but now my eyes are opened." Credit must be given to Him who has cured us of our darkness by living our lives according to the lessons of the illumination we have received and the continued guidance we get with the reception of the Holy Spirit.

Ascension Thursday This Week

This week's *Feast of the Ascension (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)* reminds us that our true destiny lies in God. We must not only do what Jesus commands us, but we must follow him to the place where he has gone. The *Feast of the Ascension* tells us that our life is not limited to life on earth, but after our death we will experience a new life in heaven, and even now we are being pulled by the strings of God's love towards our encounter with him. Now, in our Liturgy let us try to open ourselves to God's boundless love --- the love of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit --- so that He may confirm and strengthen us in our love for Him and for the world. **ATTENTION: REMAIN STANDING WHEN WE SING:** "Be exalted above the heavens, O God, and let Your glory be over all the earth." See the liturgical schedule for times.



Calendar of Upcoming Events

May 24	Clergy Days at the Cathedral @ 9:30 a.m.
May 25	Great Vespers w/ Anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Glorious Ascension — (MR) 7:00 p.m.
May 26	HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION: Glorious Ascension of Our Lord into Heaven — (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 p.m.
May 30	Annual Memorial Day: Remember to pray for those who gave their lives for our Country.
June 3	Anticipated 5 th Universal All Souls Commemoration — (NS) 6:00 p.m.
June 4	5 th & Final Universal All Souls Saturday — (MR) 9:00 a.m.
June 5	Pentecost Sunday — Patron of our two Parishes.
June 6 ...	Pentecost Monday — Feast of the Most Holy Trinity – (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.
June 12	Sunday of All Saints — Final Day for fulfilling Easter (Paschal) Duty. (NS) PAC/FAC Meeting following the Divine Liturgy.
..... GCU Lodge Meeting @ 2:00 p.m.
June 13 (MR) PAC/FAC Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.

Saint 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.

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CHRIST IS RISEN! — INDEED! HE IS RISEN!
CHRISTOS VOSKRESE! — VOISTINNU VOSKRESE!

General Announcements

PLANS UNDERWAY FOR PATRONAL PENTECOST DINNER —



Following last week's Auxiliary meeting, our Patronal Feast Day Dinner at the (MR) school hall is planned for **Pentecost Sunday, June 5, 2022 @ 1:00 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 a luncheon. The cost: a free-will offering. There will be no tickets, but you MUST sign the sheets placed in the

(MR) side vestibule; and the (NS) narthex..

GRADUATES REGISTER TO BE RECOGNIZED —

Our Holy Ghost Church would like to honor all of our High School and College/University Graduates on the occasion of our Patronal Feast, **June 5**. 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 or email the church office with the following information: (1) *University/College of Graduation*; (2) *Date of Graduation*; (3) *Graduating Degree*; (4) *Future plans and employment*; and (4) *will you be attending the Recognition Luncheon*. Call the Church Office A.S.A.P. Deadline is next weekend May 28-29.



GCU NORTHWEST PITTSBURGH LODGE MEETING FORTHCOMING —



The quarterly meeting will be held IN PERSON on **Sunday, June 12, 2022 @ 2:00 p.m.** All members are expected to participate. We would like to have a count of all who will be attending. Please phone Steve Puluka @ (412) 897-4650, and let him know that you will be in attendance.

MARIAN DEVOTIONS CONCLUDE THIS FRIDAY OF MAY —

In all Rites of the Catholic Church, the month of May is especially devoted to the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary. Come join us at the **HGC-MR on Fridays at 6:00 p.m.** for the offering of the Holy Rosary to the Most Holy Mother of God, especially as we pray for Peace in Ukraine, and that our country may return to God-given moral values. God bless all who pray for these causes!



THE "GLORIFIED-CROSS" CONTINUES TO BE DISPLAYED UNTIL PENTECOST



SUNDAY — Throughout the entire Paschal Period, our Byzantine Catholic Church glorifies the triumphant Cross of Christ **So until Pentecost Sunday all of our Byzantine Crosses (even the ones you wear) should be turned in the reversed manner.** Thus, the bottom bar should look as though it's backwards!