

**Parish Offerings – Myrrh-Bearing Women Sunday — May 1, 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 (\$2,675) YP (\$5) .....	\$2,680.00
Easter (\$7) Holy Days (\$35) .....	42.00
Initial (\$5) Seminary (\$361) .....	366.00
Votive Candles .....	146.50
	<hr/>
	\$3,234.50

**Holy Ghost Church, North Side**

Regular Offering .....	\$637.00
Utilities (\$5) Improvements (\$40) .....	45.25
Seminary .....	5.00
Votive Candles .....	34.00

**Church Attendance Last Week** \$721.00

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (76)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (51); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (26)

**HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

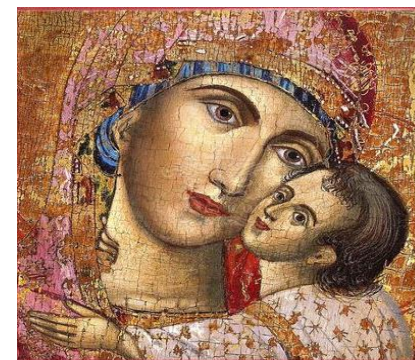
**225 OLIVIA STREET  
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE**

**McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212**

**SUNDAY OF THE PARALYZED MAN**

**4<sup>th</sup> Paschal Sunday — Month of the Most Holy Theotokos**

**Annual Mother’s Day — May 8, 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](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**

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

**Χριστος  
Βοσκερε!**

**DESIGNS BY NANCY**  
235 McCartney Drive,  
Moon Township 15108  
Phone: (412) 580-1545  
Nandce@aol.com  
**Nancy C. Debranski**  
*Sewing, Alternations, 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 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!*

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

**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**

# THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH

O Savior, my Lord and my God, You desired to raise the fallen human race, You walked upon the earth as a man, healing the sick through Your tender compassion, and having come to the pool at the Sheep gate, You found the man who had been sick for thirty-eight years. By Your word alone You restored him to health (Great Vespers of the Paralytic Man)

May 8, 2022

Seasonal Greeting:

Volume XII Number 19



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



## Liturgical Services for the Week

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

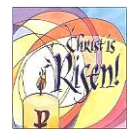
### SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC MAN

#### 4th Paschal Sunday — Annual Mother's Day

**SUN, May 8**                      9:00 a.m. (MR) + George Kurtanich (birthday 5/7)                      Children  
 11:00 a.m. (NS) + Robert M. Smoley                      Sister: Mary Ann Smoley  
 (44<sup>th</sup> ann of passing 5/14)

Mon, May 9                      8:00 a.m. (MR) + Jeanette + Alexander Zubritzky                      Children  
 (77<sup>th</sup> wed. ann)

Tues, May 10                      \*7:00 a.m. (MR) + Joseph Mitro                      Anonymous  
 (40<sup>th</sup> day of passing)  
 10:00 a.m. (Cathedral) Funeral of Fr. Robert J. Karl, Former Pastor



### COMMEMORATION OF THE FEAST OF MID-PENTECOST

#### Feasts of Cyril & Methodius & Blessed Basil Hopko

**Wed, May 11**                      8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mary Madar                      MaryEllen & John Oslick

Thrs, May 12                      8:00 a.m. (MR) + Paraska Gramata                      Eleanor Gramata & Son: George  
 (44<sup>th</sup> ann of passing 5/14)

#### REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance

**Fri, May 13**                      8:00 a.m. (MR) + Fr. Richard F. Zula (Ordination 5/14)                      Zula Family  
 6:00 pm. (MR) Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary

**Sat, May 14**                      9:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

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#### Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Samaritan Woman & Mid-Pentecost

**4:00 p.m. (MR) + Andrew Yakubik**                      Dgrtr: Evelyn  
 (13<sup>th</sup> ann of passing 5/16)

### SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

#### 5<sup>th</sup> Paschal Sunday — Mid-Pentecost

**SUN, May 15**                      9:00 a.m. (MR) + Irene Bednar                      Rippole Family  
 11:00 a.m. (NS) + Anna Spontak (18<sup>th</sup> ann of passing 5/22)                      Son: Robert & Joyce



# 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 12 – Kim Zoldos, ELIANA TRAPAL; May 14 – ERIC STEHLE.**

**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.

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

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

**Q.** Is it a more serious sin to receive Communion unworthily than to commit the unconfessed mortal sin? **A. Answer by Catholic Answers:** To receive communion unworthily is a form of sacrilege. It would be committing another grievous sin in addition to the mortal sin. The Catechism of the Catholic Church: To respond to this invitation we must prepare ourselves for so great and so holy a moment. St. Paul urges us to examine our conscience: "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment upon himself." Anyone conscious of a grave sin must receive the sacrament of reconciliation before coming to Communion (1385).



## This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

**May 8 — May 14, 2022**



(MR) In memory of Jeanette & Alexander Zubritzky

(70<sup>th</sup> wedding ann. 5/17) offered by Children

(NS): In memory of Evelyn Vento

(MR) None available 2022

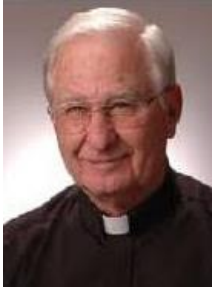
offered by Anonymous

(NS) None available 2022

# General Announcements

## McKees Rocks

**FORMER HOLY GHOST PASTOR PASSES AWAY** — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the unexpected passing of former Pastor, Fr. Robert J. Karl, 92, of Gibsonia, PA, who passed away at Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA, on Tuesday, May 3, 2022 two days following his 92nd birthday. The Savolskis-Wasik-Glenn Funeral Home, Munhall, PA, is handling the arrangements. He is survived by parishioner-Sister, Dorothy Ann who is residing at the Residence at Willow Lane, McKees Rocks. He is also survived by several nephews and nieces. Viewing will be at St. John the Baptist Cathedral, Munhall on Monday, May 9 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. followed by a Parastas for a priest. Archbishop Skurla will be the principal celebrant, of the Paschal Funeral Divine Liturgy on Tuesday, May 10 at 10:00 a.m.. Interment will take place in his hometown



church cemetery in Endicott, NY. If you are unable to attend in person, the Funeral Services will be televised on the internet: [www.stjohnbyzantinecathedral.com](http://www.stjohnbyzantinecathedral.com). Our Parish extends its most sincere sympathies to the Karl Family. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, eternal rest to your servant, the Priest, Robert, and remember him forever. Vicnaja Jemu Pamjat'!

**RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES LAST WEEK** — Renewing their Baptismal Promises, making their First Confession and received the Holy Eucharist together at the Saturday afternoon Vigil Divine Liturgy on **April 30, 2022** were **Katherine Joan Leasure (R) and Emilia Joy Wenger (L)**. They reaffirmed their baptismal promises and in love promised to serve their Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ! Our parish offers its most sincere congratulations and prayerful best wishes to them on this most important event in their lives. May God grant to Katherine and Emilia many happy and blessed years because CHRIST IS RISEN!



**GYM ROOF LEAKAGE REPAIRED** — Our gym roof was recently repaired by the Triangle Roofing, Inc due to rain water. There was a tear in the roofing. They also reflash two HVAC units. The total cost for the repair was \$1,257.36

## North Side

**THE RECTORY IS VACANT AGAIN** — Fr. Vasyl Yakubyk, the Transcarpathia Ruthenian priest currently located in Western Ukraine and his family recently received a parochial assignment to St. Stephen Byzantine Catholic Church, North Huntingdon, and St. Mary Church, Herminie, PA. Our parish prays that their new assignment will be filled with spiritual joy and that he will be of vital service to the parishioners. He is replacing, Archpriest, Fr. John G. Petro, who is now in retirement. May God grant them many happy & blessed years!

**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.

# General Announcements

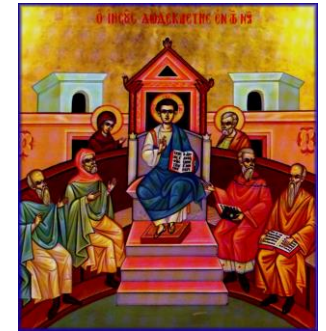
**THE 4TH PASCHAL SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC MAN & IMPORTANCE OF WATER** — The fourth Paschal Sunday is dedicated to Christ's healing of the paralytic (Jn. 5:1-15. The man who had been paralyzed for 38 years is healed by Christ while waiting to be put down into the pool of water. For the next two Sundays, the symbol of water and its importance is indicated. It shows us how imperative Baptism is to remove the paralysis of sin. Through baptism in the church we, too, are healed and saved by Christ for eternal life. Thus, in the church, we are told, together with the paralytic, to "sin no more that nothing worse befall you." (John 5:14). Our baptism is a call to continued



repentance. We have been restored by and through Jesus Christ, and we ought not to turn away from that new level of life to our old sinful ways, because that would be courting disaster. Rather, we must strive to root out all sin. As Saint John Climacus said: repentance is the renewal of baptism. *"The font of tears after baptism has become greater than baptism..., though this is a bold idea."* Our baptism was a pledge to walk in newness of life. The epistle showed us a good woman. On her behalf others interceded with Peter, showing him the fruits of her labor. He was so moved by this goodness, he raised her to life through God's power. May our lives, ever repentant, move God to raise us to life.

**WEDNESDAY: COMMEMORATION OF MID-PENTECOST** — After our Savior had

miraculously healed the paralytic the Pharisees and Scribes were moved with envy, and sought to slay Him, using the excuse that He did not keep the Sabbath, since He worked miracles on that day. Jesus then departed to Galilee. About the middle of the Feast of Tabernacles, He went up again to the Temple and taught. The Jews, marveled at the wisdom of His words. But Christ first reproached their unbelief and lawlessness, then proved to them by the Law that they sought to slay Him unjustly, since He had healed the paralytic on the Sabbath. Since we have already reached the midpoint of the fifty days between Pascha and Pentecost, the Church has appointed this present feast as a bond between the two great feasts, thereby uniting, as it were, the two into one. Come and be with Our Savior at the Divine Liturgy on this day.



**CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN:**

**Hungarian:** Felta'madt Krisztus! Valo'ban felta'madt!

**German:** Christos ist auferstanden! In wahrheit ist er auferstanden!

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

May 8 .....	Annual Mother's Day.
May 11 .....	Feasts of Saints Cyril & Methodius & Blessed Bishop-Martyr Basil Hopko
May 13 .....	Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary @ 6:00 p.m.
May 20 .....	Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary @ 6:00 p.m.
May 25 .....	Great Vespers w/ Anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Glorious Ascension — (MR) 7:00 p.m.
May 26 .....	<b>HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION:</b> Glorious Ascension of Our Lord into Heaven — (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 p.m.

## Saints of the Week — May 11

### SS. Cyril & Methodius, Equals to the Apostles



**Saints Cyril and Methodius** were brothers from Thessalonica of distinguished and wealthy parents, Leo and Maria. The older brother Methodius spent ten years as an officer among the Macedonian Slavs and thus learned the Slavic language. After that Methodius withdrew to Mount Olympus and dedicated himself to the monastic life of asceticism. It was here that Cyril (Constantine) later joined him. When the Khazarite king, Kagan, requested preachers of the Faith of Christ from Emperor Michael III then, by command of the emperor, these two brothers were found and sent among the Khazars. Convinced King Kagan of the Faith of Christ, they baptized him along with a great number of his chief assistants and even a greater number of the people. After a period of time, they returned to Constantinople where they compiled the Slavonic alphabet consisting of thirty-eight letters and proceeded to translate ecclesiastical books from Greek into Slavonic. At the request of Prince Rastislav, they traveled to Moravia where they spread and established the devout Faith and multiplied books and distributed them to the priests to teach the youth. At the request of the pope, Cyril traveled to Rome where he became ill and died on February 14, 867 A.D. Then Methodius returned to Moravia and labored to strengthen the Faith of Christ among the Slavs until his death. Following his death - he died in the Lord on April 6, 885 A.D. - his disciples, THE FIVE FOLLOWERS, with St. Clement, the bishop at the head, crossed the Danube River and descended to the south into Macedonia, where from Ohrid they continued their labor among the Rusyn people which was initiated by Cyril and Methodius in the north.

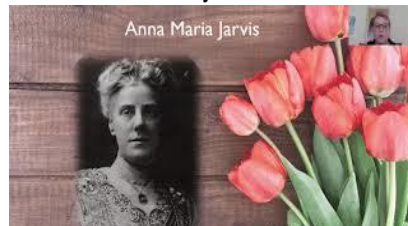
### Feast of Blessed Bishop-Martyr Basil Hopko

**Basil Hopko** was born on April 21, 1904 in the Rusyn Village of Hrabske near Bardejov, Eastern Slovakia. In 1922 young Basil enrolled into the eparchial seminary in Presov. Following his second year, he was drafted into the army. There he would gather all the Rusyn soldiers together and take them to Sunday services. Upon completing his military service, he completed seminary studies in 1928. He was ordained to the holy priesthood by Bishop Paul P. Gojdich. Fr. Basil served his pastoral assignments faithfully displaying a great love for the poor, workers and Rusyn youth. Foreseeing a political overturn in Czechoslovakia in the autumn of 1946, Bishop Gojdich petitioned Rome that Father Hopko serve as his auxiliary bishop. Bishop Hopko was imprisoned and tortured. He became chaplain to the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate who also took care of him. On Friday, July 23, 1976 following a light lunch, and being helped in an easy chair, he gave up his spirit to the Lord whom he loved and faithfully served. Pope St. John Paul II beatified him on September 14, 2003. His Feast Day is May 11.



## General Announcements

**MOTHER'S DAY COMMEMORATED TODAY—** In its present form, *Mother's Day* was established by **Anna Marie Jarvis**, following the death of her mother Ann Jarvis on May 9, 1905, with the help of Philadelphia merchant John Wanamaker. A small service was held on May 12, 1907 in the Andrew's Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton, West Virginia where Anna's mother had been teaching Sunday school. Anna then campaigned to establish Mother's Day first



as a U.S. national holiday. *On May 8, 1914, the U.S. Congress passed a law designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day and requesting a proclamation. On May 9, 1914 President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation declaring the first national Mother's Day as a day for American citizens to show the flag in honor of those mothers whose sons had died in war.* The Grafton's church, where the first celebration was held, is now the International Mother's Day Shrine and is a National Historic Landmark.

**AUXILIARY VOLUNTEERS CALLED TO PLAN PENTECOST FEAST DAY DINNER —** Following next Sunday's Divine Liturgy, all Auxiliary Volunteers are called to meet for a short meeting to discuss the possibility of having a Patronal Dinner slated for Pentecost Sunday, June 5, 2022. We are a little behind schedule, but we hope to see if this will be a possibility.



**GRADUATES REGISTER TO BE RECOGNIZED —** Our Holy Ghost Church would like to honor all of our High School and College 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 May 28.



**MARIAN DEVOTIONS CONTINUE EVERY 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!

