

Parish Offerings – Paralytic Man Sunday — May 8, 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 (\$2,903) YP (\$3)	\$2,312.00
Easter (\$100) Holy Days (\$35)	135.00
Seminary	135.00
Votive Candles	179.00
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	\$2,761.00

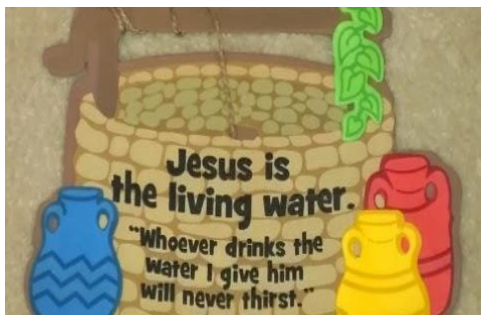
Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering	\$1,056.00
Holy Day (\$5) Utilities (\$5) Improvements (\$5) B.C.W. (\$14)	29.00
Seminary	25.00
Votive Candles	85.15

Church Attendance Last Week \$1,195.15

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (29)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (59); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (34)



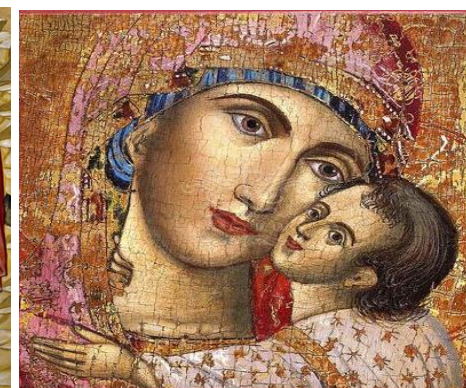
HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

5th Paschal Sunday – Mid-Pentecost — May 15, 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

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

*Always remember
GOD
loves you even on
your worst days.*

DESIGNS BY NANCY
235 McCartney Drive,
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GCU
Greek Catholic Union of the USA
A Fraternal Benefit Society
NWPL offers Insurance and
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most financial institutions. Info
call Tina (412) 859-9597

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

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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

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

The midpoint of the Feast has arrived, the days which begin with the Resurrection of the Savior and are fulfilled in the divine Feast of Pentecost. Truly it unites both Feasts and draws light from their double brightness, giving honor to the Ascension of the Lord, which prefigures our glory! (Great Vespers of Mid-Pentecost)

May 15, 2022

Seasonal Greeting:

Volume XII Number 20



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

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

SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

5th Paschal Sunday — Mid-Pentecost

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

Mon, May 16 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mary Fejka (birthday 5/15) Dgtr: Susie

Tues, May 17 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Neve Anthony Mell Sister: Regina



Final Day of Mid-Pentecost



Wed, May 18 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Michael Maletz Brother: Bob & Martha

Thrs, May 19 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Edward Zotyak (birthday) Wife: Florence

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

Fri, May 20 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Dorothy Billy Family
(4th ann of passing)



6:00 p.m. (MR) The Glorious Mysteries of the Holy Rosary

Sat, May 21 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Justin L. Mendillo Kathy Mendillo
(40th day of passing 5/13)



Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Man Born Blind — 6th Paschal Sunday

4:00 p.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND

6th Paschal Sunday

SUN, May 22 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Margaret Krulac Dgtr: Barbara & Peter Stecko
(6th ann of passing)

11:00 a.m. (NS) Thanksgiving Fr. Firko
(45th ann of ordination)

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 15 – George Mosko; **May 16** – NATHANIEL HELMS, Loretta Keller; **May 17** – John Oslick, Anita Sidun.

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 Cifrutak, Dorothy Ann Karl, Mildred Terrek.

VINCENTIAN 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. In light of the ecumenism following Vatican II, are Catholics now under serious obligation (that is, binding under pain of sin) to skip Sunday Mass (Divine Liturgy) once in a while and worship instead at non-Catholic churches? **A. Answer by a Catholic Apologist:** "Required"? "Not allowed," you mean! A Catholic may *not* "worship instead at non-Catholic churches." To do so is to violate the First Commandment. (This is to be distinguished from engaging in, say, an ecumenical prayer service.) It is mandatory, under pain of mortal sin but allowing for exceptions arising from necessity, for every Catholic to attend Mass (Divine Liturgy) every Sunday (or Saturday evening) and on holy days of obligation. Catholics are under *no* obligation to attend non-Catholic services. Such visits are purely voluntary and may be undertaken so long as no scandal is given. Vatican II's *Directory on Ecumenism* allows some participation at such services in common responses or hymns that are not in variance with the Catholic faith.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

May 15 — May 21, 2022

(MR) **Thanksgiving** (70th Wed. Ann. 5/17)

offered by Dolores & Ted Babin

(NS): **Thanksgiving** (45th ann. of Ordination 5/22)

(MR) None available 2022

offered by Fr. Firko

(NS) None available 2022



General Announcements

McKees Rocks

No Particular Announcement This Week

North Side

No Particular Announcement This Week

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.

SACRAMENTAL CALLS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE REQUESTING —



Our pastor is willing to come to your home for a sacramental visitation at any time. Remember, we are still obligated to fulfill our Easter Duty and to confess any mortal sins prior to the reception of Holy Communion. Please take care of this A.S.A.P. This is a serious obligation, and serves as a means of the Living Water of grace for your immortal soul. Also, and mostly important of all, it demonstrates your love and filial respect to God Who Died and is Resurrected for us!

ANOTHER ARCHIEPARCHIAL PRIEST PASSED INTO ETERNITY —

The S.O.T.. recently learned of the sudden and unexpected passing of Fr. Robert Jones, pastor of St. Mary Church, Weirton; WV; and St. John Church, Avella. PA on Thursday, May 12.. He was recently ordained less than a year. An obituary will appear in next week's edition. Eternal Memory because Christ is Risen!

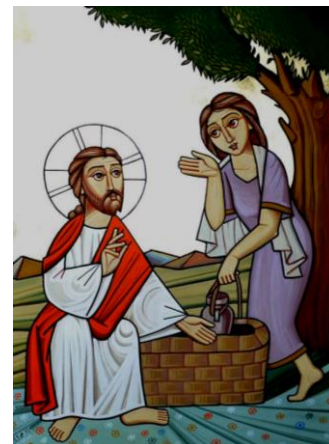
CHRIST IS RISEN! — INDEED! HE IS RISEN!

THE FIFTH PASCHAL SUNDAY

Why Samaria Was So Controversial To The Jews

(first read John 4: 5-42)

One of the most ancient cities of the Promised Land was Shechem, also called Sikima, located at the foot of Mount Gerazim. There the Israelites had heard the blessings in the days of Moses and Joshua.



Near to this town, Jacob, who had come from Mesopotamia in the nineteenth century before Christ, bought a piece of land where there was a well. **This well, preserved even until the time of Christ, was known as Jacob's Well.** Later, before he died in Egypt, he left that piece of land as a special inheritance to his son Joseph (Gen. 49:22). This town, before it was taken into possession by Samaria, was also the leading city of the kingdom of the ten tribes. In the time of the Romans it was called Neapolis, and at present Nablus. It was the first city in Canaan visited by the Patriarch Abraham. Here also, Joshua addressed the tribes of Israel for

the last time. Almost three hundred years later, all Israel assembled there to make Roboam (Rehoboam) king. Concerning the Samaritans, we know the following: In the year 721 before Christ, Salmanasar (Shalmaneser), King of the Assyrians, took the ten tribes of the kingdom of Israel into captivity, and relocated all these people to Babylon and the land of the Medes. From there he gathered various nations and sent them to Samaria. These nations had been idolaters from before. Although they were later instructed in the Jewish faith and believed in the one God, they worshipped the idols also. Furthermore, they accepted only the Pentateuch of Moses, and rejected the other books of Holy Scripture. Nonetheless, they thought themselves to be descendants of Abraham and Jacob. Therefore, the pious Jews named these Judaizing and idolatrous peoples Samaritans, since they lived in Samaria, the former leading city of the Israelites, as well as in the other towns thereabout. *The Jews rejected them as heathen and foreigners, and had no communion with them at all, as the Samaritan woman observed, "the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans" (John 4:9).* Therefore, the name Samaritan is used derisively many times in the Gospel narrations.

After the Ascension of the Lord, and the Descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the woman of Samaria was baptized by the holy Apostles and became a great preacher and Martyr of Christ; she was called Photini or Photina, and her feast is kept on February 26.

CHRIST IS RISEN In Various Languages:

Chinese: Helisituosi fuhuole! — Qeshi fuhuole!

Japanese: Harisutosu Fukkatsu! — Jitsu Ni Fukkatsu

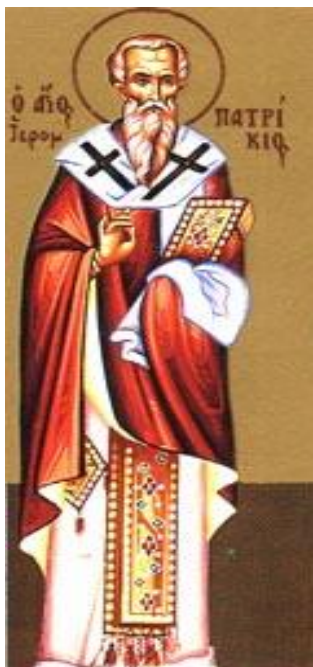
Calendar of Upcoming Events

May 20	Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary @ 6:00 p.m.
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.

Saints of the Week — May 19

Bishop-Martyr Patrick, Bishop of Prusa & his Companions

Saint Patrick lived during the first century and was bishop of the city of Prusa



in Bythnia (Asia Minor). He openly and boldly preached Christ the Savior, and denounced the error of the pagans. Therefore, he and the priests, Acacius, Menander and Polyainus were arrested, and brought to Julius, the prefect of the city for interrogation. Julius was going to the hot springs for treatment, and he ordered that the Christian bishop and the priests be brought along after him, bound in iron chains. After he washed in the hot springs, Julius offered sacrifice to his gods. He had Saint Patrick and the other prisoners brought before him, ordering them to offer sacrifice to the pagan gods, threatening punishment if they refused. Saint Patrick replied, *“I am a Christian and I worship the one true God, Jesus Christ, Who has created the heavens and the earth, and these warm springs for the benefit of all mankind.”*

Julius had the saint thrown into the hot spring, and with firm faith the martyr prayed, “Lord, Jesus

Christ, help Your servant,” and he remained unharmed. In an impotent rage, Julius ordered Saint Patrick and his three presbyters beheaded. They received their crowns of unfading glory from Christ around the year 100.

General Announcements

AUXILIARY VOLUNTEERS CALLED TO PLAN PENTECOST FEAST DAY DINNER — Following today’s 9:00 a.m. 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 hoping to discuss the possibility along with Graduate Recognition.



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.

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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.

PRO-LIFE GUIDE NOW AVAILABLE — PA Primary Elections are this Tuesday, **May 17**. You are encouraged to consider those candidates who are truly dedicated to the Pro-Life position. Let us defend the most vulnerable of God’s children and speak for them by our vote when they cannot speak or act for themselves. Imagine yourself in their position. Wouldn’t you want someone to defend you when your life is threatened?! Take the non-partisan guide (located in the (MR) side vestibule; (NS) narthex with you to the polls. Jesus came so that we may have life and live it to its fullness!



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!

