

Parish Offerings – 1st Ecumenical Council Sunday — May 29, 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 (\$2,015) YP (\$7)	\$2,022.00
Holy Days (\$390) YP (\$22)	412.00
Votive Candles	110.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,544.00

Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering	\$813.50
Holy Days	75.00
Utilities (\$45) Improvement (\$20) Seminary (\$10)	75.00
Votive Candles	73.50
	<hr/>

Church Attendance Last Week \$1,037.00

Memorial Day Weekend — (MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (29)
Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (59); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (29)

Church Mice

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Supervisor, CFSP
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HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE DESCENT OF THE ALL-HOLY SPIRIT

Pentecost Sunday — Patronal Feast Day — Rusalja
June 5, 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.

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

Behold, we celebrate today the Feast of Pentecost, the descent of the Holy Spirit, the fulfillment of the promise and the realization of hope. How wonderful and awesome is this great mystery! Therefore, O Lord and Creator of all, we cry out: Glory to You! (Great Vespers of Pentecost)

June 5, 2022

Seasonal Greeting:

Volume XII 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 THE DESCENT OF THE ALL-HOLY SPIRIT			
Pentecost Sunday – Patronal Feast — Mirovanije			
Traditional Kneeling Prayers are introduced prior to the Final Blessing			
SUN., Jun 5	9:00 a.m. (MR) + Eleanor Kulka		Children: Kathy & John.
		(9 th ann of passing 5/26)	
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishioners	

PENTECOST MONDAY - FEAST OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY – SIMPLE HOLY DAY			
Procession to the four corners of the Church proclaiming the Gospel			
Traditional NO FASTING/ABSTINENCE this week in the Joy of the coming of the Holy Spirit			
Mon, Jun 6	9:00 a.m. (MR) + Alexander F. Perschy	(birthday)	Son: Kurt
	6:00 p.m. (NS)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	

Tue, Jun 7	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Julia Eisenman		Sister: Martha & Bob Maletz
Wed, Jun 8	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Fr. Ronald P. Larko	(ordination 6/6)	Joyce & James Walsh
Thrs., June 9	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Pauline Gaydas		Anonymous
		(14 th ann. of passing 6/8)	
NO FASTING/ABSTINENCE this week in the Joy of the coming of the Holy Spirit			
Fri, Jun 10	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Amelia + Frank T. Firko	(wed. ann.)	Firko Family

Final Day of the Feast of Holy Pentecost — Bartholomew & Barnabas			
Sat, Jun 11	9:00 a.m. (NS)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of All Saints – First Sunday after Pentecost			
	4:00 p.m. (MR) + Mildred + Michael Tomchak		Grandson: Mike Tomchak

SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS			
1st Sunday after Pentecost — Final Day of Easter Duty			
SUN., Jun 12	9:00 a.m. (MR) + Margaret Kurtanich		Children
		(18 th ann of passing)	
	11:00 a.m. (NS) + Olga Senchyshyn	(birthday)	Dgtr: Joan



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

Jun 5 – Christine Barnash; Jun 7 – Peter Kacsur; Jun 9 – KAYLA HARPER; Jun 10 – Cynthia Saber; Jun 11 – GEORGE FECIK, LEAH KALLOP.

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.

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

THE RESIDENCE AT WILLOW LANE (30 Heckel Rd., MR, PA 15136): Helen Best, Margaret Cifruk. Dorothy Ann Karl, Mildred Terrek.

ASHTON COMMONS (551 Cooper St., Wexford, PA 15090): Irene Bordas.

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

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. Mark states that blasphemy of the Holy Spirit is an unforgivable sin. Is this held true in the Catholic Faith? **A. Answer by Catholic Answers:** First we must define what is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. The Catechism states: "Therefore I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven." There are no limits to the mercy of God, but anyone who deliberately refuses to accept his mercy by repenting, rejects the forgiveness of his sins and the salvation offered by the Holy Spirit. Such hardness of heart can lead to final impenitence and eternal loss (CCC 1864). Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is to refuse God's mercy. It is a refusal to repent of sin. God does not bring anyone into his kingdom against his/her will. Human persons have the ability to reject God's mercy and refuse forgiveness of sins which leads to eternal separation from God.



This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

June 5 — June 11, 2022



(MR) In memory of Andrew Drukalsky (3rd ann. of passing 6/10)

offered by Niece: Eileen & Kevin Finnegan

(NS): In memory of Veronica (Seman) Bauch

(MR) None available 2022

offered by Sister: Velma

(NS) None available 2022

General Announcements

McKees Rocks

SYMPATHY EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the passing of parishioner, **William H. “Bill” Zavidny 94**, a resident of Lutheran SeniorLife, Mars, PA on Memorial Day - Monday, May 30, 2022. He is survived by his children: Roseann (Zavidny) Stoecklein (Don)-Naples, FL, William C Zavidny-Gibsonia, PA, Mary Ann (Zavidny) Kammerer (Kevin)-Denver, CO, Nancy (Zavidny) DeMarco (late Anton DeMarco)-Cranberry Twp., PA.. He is also survived by many grandchildren and countless friends. Also, he is survived by his sister-in-law: parishioner, Lorraine (Bunny) Zavidny. He was married to + Anna Borick for 52 years, who passed away in 2004. Funeral arrangements were handled by the Valerian F. Szal Funeral Home, McKees Rocks. A Panachida was celebrated on Saturday, June 4 at 2:00 p.m. Interment followed at St. Mark Cemetery. Our parish extends its most sincere condolences to the Zavidny Family. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, *eternal* rest to your servant, William, and remember him forever. Vicnaja Jemu Pamjat'!



PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL & FINANCIAL COUNCIL MEETING — Members are advised that our PAC/FAC Meeting is slated for **Monday, June 13, 2022** in the Church office. Please place this date on your calendar.

North Side

PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL & FINANCIAL COUNCIL MEETING — Members are advised that our PAC/FAC Meeting is slated for **Sunday, June 12, 2022** following the Divine Liturgy. Please place this date on your calendar.

GCU NORTHWEST PITTSBURGH LODGE MEETING NEXT WEEK — 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. You may also participate via conference call by dialing 1 (605) 472-5351. Then type in the Access Code: 451303#. Please phone Steve Puluka @ (412) 897-4650, and let him know that you will be in attendance either in person or conference call.



THERE IS NO BETTER TEACHER
THAN THE HOLY SPIRIT
& NO BETTER TEXT
THAN GOD'S
WORD.



Don't Forget to Wear GREEN Again Next Weekend

on All Saints Sunday!

The 3-Bar Glorified Cross is turned back to the Crucified Cross on the Feast of Pentecost.

PENTECOST SUNDAY — RUSALJA

Old & New Law Explanation of the Pentecost Celebration

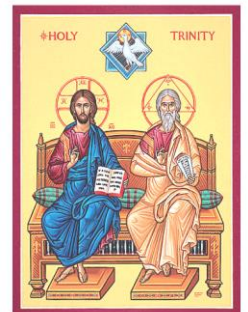
In the Old Testament, Pentecost was the feast which occurred fifty days after Passover. As the Passover feast celebrated the exodus of the Israelites from the slavery of Egypt, so Pentecost celebrated God's gift of the Ten Commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai. In the new covenant of the Messiah, the New Passover event takes on its new meaning as the celebration of Christ's Death and Resurrection, the "exodus" of men from this sinful world to the Kingdom of God. And in the New Testament as well, the Pentecostal feast is fulfilled and made new by the coming of the "new law," the Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Disciples of Christ.



The Divine Liturgy of Pentecost recalls our baptism into Christ with the verse from Galatians again replacing the Thrice-Holy Hymn. Special verses from the Psalms also replace the usual antiphonal psalms of the Divine Liturgy. The Epistle and Gospel proclamation tells of the Spirit's coming to men. The Kondakion sings of the reversal of the Tower of Babel as God unites the nations into the unity of his Spirit. The Troparion proclaims the gathering of the whole universe into God's net through the work of the inspired apostles. The hymns "O Heavenly King" and "We have seen the True Light" are sung for the first time prior to Easter, calling the Holy Spirit to "come and dwell in us", and proclaiming that "we have received the heavenly Spirit." The church is decorated with flowers and the green leaves of the summer to show that God's Divine Breath comes to renew all creation as the "Life-Creating Spirit." In Hebrew the word for Spirit, breath and wind is the same word, ruah. *The figure below the icon is called The Cosmos who represents the world holding the good news that the Holy Apostles who were mandated to spread to all inhabitants of the earth.*

Feast of the Most Holy Trinity

The first day of the Pentecost Postfestive commemorates the unity of the Holy Trinity's role in our salvation. God the **FATHER** sent His Only-Begotten Son to save mankind; God the **SON** redeemed mankind by His death upon the Cross and rose from the dead; and God the **HOLY SPIRIT** sanctifies mankind pouring out His Gifts and Fruits upon all who approach Him in faith, reverence and devotion. Let us pause by participating in the Divine Liturgy rendering humble and heart-felt thanks for all that the Triune God has done and continues to do for us leading us to salvation!



One Week Remaining to fulfill Your Easter Duty!

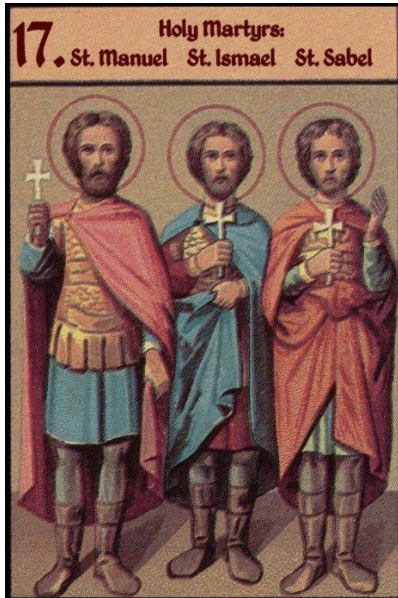
Calendar of Upcoming Events

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.
June 14	G.C.U. Annual Flag Day Ceremony @ 6:45 p.m.

Saint of the Week — June 17

The Holy Martyrs Manuel, Sabel & Ishmael

The Holy Martyrs Manuel, Sabel and Ismael, brothers by birth, were descended from



an illustrious Persian family. Their father was a pagan, but their mother was a Christian, who baptized the children and raised them with a firm faith in Christ the Savior. When they reached adulthood, the brothers entered military service. Representing the Persian King Alamundar, they were his emissaries in concluding a peace treaty with Emperor Julian the Apostate (361-363). Julian received them with due honor and showed them his favor. However, when the brothers refused to take part in a pagan sacrifice, Julian became angry. He annulled the treaty and incarcerated the ambassadors of a foreign country like common criminals. At the interrogation he told them that if they scorned the "gods" he worshipped, it would be impossible to reach any peace or accord

between the two sides. The holy brothers answered that they were sent as emissaries of their King on matters of state, and not to argue about "gods." Seeing their firmness of faith, the Emperor ordered the brothers to be tortured. The hands and feet of the Holy Martyrs were nailed to trees. Later, they drove iron spikes into their heads, and wedged sharp splinters under their fingernails and toenails. During their torments, the Saints glorified God and prayed as though they did not feel the tortures. Finally, the Holy Martyrs were beheaded, and Julian ordered their bodies to be burned. Suddenly, there was an earthquake. The ground opened up and the bodies of the Saints disappeared into the abyss. After Christians prayed fervently for two days, the earth gave up the bodies of the holy brothers, from which a sweet fragrance issued forth. Many of the pagans who had witnessed the miracle, came to believe in Christ and were baptized. This was in the year 362. Christians reverently buried the bodies of the Holy Martyrs Manuel, Sabel and Ismael. Since that time the relics of the Holy Passion-Bearers have been glorified with miracles.

General Announcements

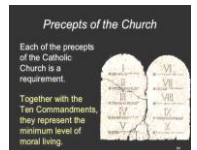
THE GREEN HOLY DAYS AND KNEELING PRAYERS — The Holy Feast of Pentecost was popularly called **RUSALJA** by the Ruthenian (Rusyn) people who were the founders



and benefactors of our parish. Prior to the missionary efforts of Saints Cyril & Methodius (9th century), the pagan Slavs embraced Rusalja (the god of new spring and budding nature) and held a festival during this time of the year. Decoration from various greens, and **LINDEN** (lipa) branches were predominantly used. Following their conversion to Christianity, the Church retain the idea of green decorations in

Church and at the door entrance of their homes, seeing and celebrating in them the symbol of **NEW LIFE** that the Holy Spirit brought forth on Pentecost Sunday. The week of Pentecost was also referred to as the **GREEN HOLY DAYS** (Zeleni Svjata). *Let us glorify the Holy Spirit, Who brings LIGHT & LIFE, by wearing something GREEN throughout the week, and also at next weekend's Divine Liturgy of All Saints!*

NEXT WEEKEND — 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 A.S.A.P.



OUR HOLY GHOST GRADUATES AND THEIR PLANS — Our Holy Ghost Graduates for 2022 are: **HIGH SCHOOL** – (MR) **CALAHAN BEDARD**, Quaker Valley High School, who will be attending Syracuse University majoring in Aerospace Engineering; (MR) **MADELYN R.**



NAZAK, Montour High School who will be attending Westminster College majoring in Early Childhood PK-4 & Special Education PK-12 with a dual certification Major; (MR) **Ray Rippole**, Our Lady of the Most Sacred Heart (OLSH) is an active altar server in the parish. He will be entering the workforce following graduation with plans to further his education. (MR) **UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE**

– **ISABELLE BEDARD**, Duquesne University with a Law Degree; (MR) **NICHOLAS C. NAZAK II**, an active altar server at the parish, graduated **SUMMA CUM LAUDE** (with Highest Honors) from Case Western Reserve University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biomedical Engineering and a minor in Mechanical Design, Marketing & music. He is Working for Structured Monitoring Products, Inc. and their Vet Guardian product line while also applying to PhD Biomedical Engineering programs to continue his education. Also, he will be working for his PhD.; (MR) **MICHAEL TOMCHAK** graduated from Robert Morris University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Cybersecurity. He will be employed full time as an Associate Site Reliability Engineer; (NS) **AMBERLY VALERIANO** graduated from Duquesne University with a double major in Integrated Marketing, Communication and Digital Media Arts. Also, she will be attending De Paul University working for her Master's Degree in Digital Communications Media Arts, and will also use her talents on the track team. May God grant to our graduates health, happiness and success for many blessed years!