

Parish Offerings – Myrrh-Bearing Women Sunday — April 14, 2024

“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 (\$4,162) YP (\$9)	\$4,171.00
Easter	5.00
Coffee Social	10.00
Votive Candles	200.50

\$4,386.50

Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering (\$890) YP (\$1)	891.00
Easter	250.00
Votive Candles (\$78.50) Improvement (\$20)	98.50

Church Attendance Last Week \$1,239.50

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (25)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (78); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (32)



Valerian F. Szal

238 Helen St.,
Phone: (412) 331-9713

Michael P. Ferrell,
Supervisor, CFSP

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Greek Catholic Union of the USA
A Fraternal Benefit Society

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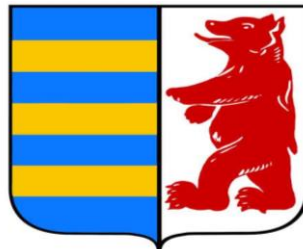


North Side Parishioner

Alan Valeriano

(412) 638-3417

PA #172370



HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC MAN

4th Paschal Sunday — April 21, 2024



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 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.

d, Personal Care & Hospitalized: Phone Church Office ASAP.

Sponsor of Christian Initiation: Godparents must be practicing Catholics.

Religious Education Classes: (MR) Coordinator: Subdeacon Luke Iyengar (412) 863-3285.

Carpatho-Rusyn Radio: Internet Sunday afternoon: Rusyn.fm at 3:30 pm. Archive: c-rsmedia.org.

Social Hall Rental: (MR) Contact Church Office.

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

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)

April 21, 2024

Seasonal Christian Greeting:

Volume XIV, Number 16

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

SUN, APR 21 9:00 a.m. (MR) + George Kurtanich (9th ann of passing 4/24) Children
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Mary Stecko (7th ann of passing 4/20) Son: Peter & Barb
Mon, Apr 22 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Andrew Nazak Karen Perreault



Feast of the Holy Great-Martyr & Victory-Bearer George the Wonderworker — Simple Holy Day

Tue, Apr 23 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Raymond Herczak (birthday) Janet Herczak
6:00 p.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes



COMMEMORATION OF THE FEAST OF MID-PENTECOST

Wed, Apr 24 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Janet F. Trapuzzano (1st ann of pass. 4/23) Pirohi Workers

The Holy Apostle & Evangelist Mark

Thrs, Apr 25 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Stepan Jandro Grand-Dgtr: Ljiljana (Tim) Firko

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

Fri, Apr 26 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Ann M. Lecci Ruud Family

Sat, Apr 27 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Agnes + Anthony Knoll Dgtr: Leslie O'Donnell

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Samaritan Woman — 5th Paschal Sunday

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Charochak + Chirko Families Florence Charochak

SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

Postfestive of Mid-Pentecost — 5th Paschal Sunday

SUN, Apr 28 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Maria Bejdova Bodnarchuk Family

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 to be published.

Note: Capitalized Names designate North Side parishioners

April 23 – William Kress, ARLENE LATTA, JUNE MITRO; **April 24** – Olivia Stebbins **April 25** – Audrey Hart.

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

HOME: Margaret Belunas, Florence Charochak, DEACON MICHAEL MEADERS, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Bernice Herrick, Steve Kosko, Albert Kovacs, Sr., Kathe Kress, Julia Kutchmark, ARLENE LATTA, KIRK LATTA, Nancy Lecci, BETTY LORINC, Irene Muha, JOHN NEWPORT, Kurt Perschy, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Elizabeth Poznak, Betty Spisak, Anita Wolsko.

HIGHLAND PARK CARE CENTER (745 North Highland Ave., Pgh, PA 15206): Linda Reiger.
VETERANS HOSPITAL (1010 Delafield St., Pittsburgh, PA 15215): JOHN VEREB.

THE RESIDENCE AT WILLOW LANE (30 Heckel Rd., McKees Rocks, PA 15136): Helen Best, Margaret Cifruk, Mildred Terrek.

FORBES REGIONAL HOSPITAL (2570 Haymaker Rd., Monroeville, PA 15146): Nancy (Shanta) Wurthier.

PAM HEALTH SPECIALTY HOSPITAL (7777 Steubenville Pike, Oakdale, PA 15071): Diane Bell.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. What is the will of God for man? **A. Answer by Catholic Answers:** "This is the will of God: your sanctification." This is what the apostle tells us. Further, "It is the will of God that all should be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth." So, apart from everything else that God may will for individual lives, he wills that all things "work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his promise." So, in any instance, we can know at least that God's will is that course of action that will lead us to greater holiness. Sometimes it may be hard to tell what that course of action might be, but in any case, if we desire union with God and holiness above all else, then we will accomplish His will, even with our failings and mistakes. Loving God and neighbor is always the way to fulfill God's will!

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

April 21 — April 27, 2024

In memory of Geraldine & Andrew Nazak

offered by Dgtrs & Grandchildren

(NS): In memory of Anthony Knoll

(MR) None AVAILABLE FOR 2024

offered by Dgtr: Leslie O'Donnell

(NS) None AVAILABLE 2024



General Announcements

McKees Rocks & North Side

PLANS UNDERWAY FOR PATRONAL PENTECOST DINNER —

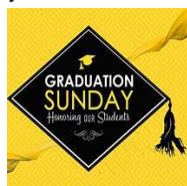
Following last week's Volunteer meeting, our Patronal Feast Day Dinner at the (MR) school hall is planned for **Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024 @ 1:00 p.m.** All Members of both Holy Ghost Parishes of MR & NS are asked to put this day aside so as to glorify God the Holy Ghost (Spirit) during these green 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. Further information, please phone Norma Kacsur



(412) 331-4864.

GRADUATES MUST REGISTER TO BE RECOGNIZED —

Our Holy Ghost Churches would like to honor all of our High School and University/College Graduates on the occasion of our **Patronal Feast, May 19**. 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) *if will you be attending the Recognition Luncheon*. Call the Church Office A.S.A.P. Deadline is May 12



CHOIR PASCHAL PROGRAM TODAY —

The Pittsburgh Byzantine Catholic Archdiocesan Choir invites faithful and friends to an inspiring program of Paschal hymns and songs of the glorious Resurrection of our Lord. **Presented at St. Elias Byzantine Catholic Church in Munhall, Pa. on April 21, the program will begin at 3:00 p.m.,** and will feature many beloved and seldom-heard renditions of the triumphant Paschal greeting, **"Christ is Risen! Christos Voskrese!"** A cake-and-coffee reception will follow the program in the Church social hall. Members of the Archdiocesan Choir and Father Vitalii



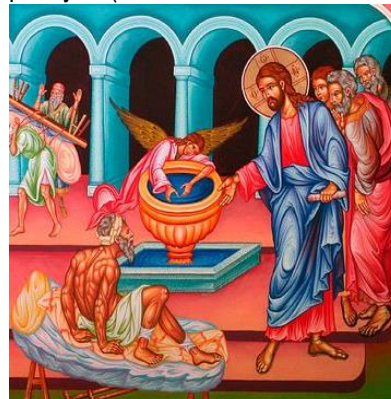
Stashkevych, pastor of St. Elias Church, invite everyone to this joyous celebration. St. Elias Church is located at 4200 Homestead-Duquesne Road, Munhall, PA 15120.

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 (May 26)** is the final day to take care of this important spiritual matter without incurring serious (mortal) sin of omission. Use the special examination of conscience forms located in the vestibule and narthex of the Church to assist you in making a good confession of sins.

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

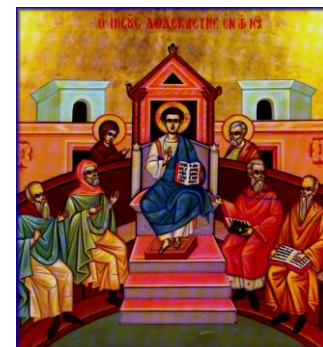


Christ while waiting to be put down into the pool of water. For the next two Sundays, the symbol of water and its importance is indicated. It shows us how imperative Baptism is to remove the paralysis of sin. Through baptism in the church we, too, are healed and saved by Christ for eternal life. Thus, 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:

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

Calendar of Upcoming Events

April 21 Archieparchial Choir Paschal Celebration, St. Elias Church, Munhall @ 3:00 p.m.
April 23 St. George, the Victory-Bearer (Simple): (MR) Divine Liturgy @ 9:00 a.m. & (NS) @ 6:00 p.m.
 April 24 Feast of Mid-Pentecost
 May 8 . Great Vespers w/DL for the Feast of the Glorious Ascension (Holy Day of Obligation) (MR) 7:00 p.m.
 May 9 ... Feast of the Glorious Ascension (Holy Day of Obligation) (MR) 9:00 am & (NS) 6:00 pm.
 May 11 Feasts of Saints Cyril & Methodius & Blessed Bishop-Martyr Basil Hopko.
 May 17 & 18 5th Universal All-Souls Saturday – May 17 (NS) 6:00 p.m.; May 18 (MR) 9:00 a.m.
 May 19 Feast of the Decent of the All-Holy Spirit (Pentecost Sunday. Our Patronal Feast Day.

Saint of the Week — April 23

The Holy Great-Martyr & Victory-Bearer George the Wonder-Worker (Miracle-Worker)

This glorious and victorious saint was born in Cappadocia the son of wealthy and virtuous



parents. His father suffered for Christ and his mother then moved to Palestine. When George grew up, he entered the military, where in his twentieth year, attained the rank of a Tribune and as such was in the service of the Emperor Diocletian. When Diocletian began the terrible persecution against Christians, George came before him and courageously confessed that he is a Christian. The emperor had him thrown into prison and ordered that his feet be placed in a stockade of wooden hobbles and that a heavy stone be placed on his chest. After that, the emperor commanded that George be tied to a wheel under which was a board with large nails and he was to be

rotated until his entire body became as one bloody wound. After that, they buried him in a pit with only his head showing above the ground and there they left him for three days and three nights. Then George was given a deadly poison to drink by some magician. But, through all of these sufferings, George continuously prayed to God and God healed him instantly and saved him from death to the great astonishment of the people. When he resurrected a dead man through his prayer, many then accepted the Faith of Christ. Among these also was Alexandra, the wife of the Emperor Athanasius, the chief pagan priest and the farmers: Glycerius, Valerius, Donatus and Therinus. Finally, the emperor ordered George and his wife Alexandra beheaded. Blessed Alexandra died on the scaffold before being beheaded. *St. George was beheaded in the year 303 A.D. The miracles which have occurred over the grave of St. George are without number. Numerous are his appearances, either in dreams or openly, to those who have invoked him and implored his help from that time until today.* Enflamed with love for Christ the Lord, it was not difficult for this saintly George to leave all for the sake of this love: rank, wealth, imperial honor, his friends and the entire world. For this love, the Lord rewarded him with the wealth of unfading glory in heaven and on earth and eternal life in His kingdom. In addition, the Lord bestowed upon him the power and authority to assist all those in miseries and difficulties who honor him and call upon his name.

General Announcements

SACRAMENTAL CALLS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE REQUESTING — As we



continue through the Paschal Season, many still have not returned to Divine Worship over the weekends to participate in the Unbloody Sacrifice of Christ and to glorify His Radiant Resurrection at the Divine Liturgy. 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 that is to confess our mortal sins prior to validating our reception of Holy Communion. Please take care of this A.S.A.P. This is a serious obligation, and serves as a means 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!

THE “GLORIFIED-CROSS” DESIGNATES “CHRIST IS RISEN!” — Throughout the



of the CRUCIFIED CROSS!

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! For the next 50 days, it's the **GLORIFIED CROSS** instead

POPE FRANCIS: IDENTIFY AND CONFESS YOUR SINS CONCRETELy (Catholic News Service, April 29, 2020) — “When

identifying your faults, avoid being vague and tell God your sins honestly and frankly so that He can heal you,” Pope Francis said at the Liturgy on Wednesday. According to Francis, to say: “We are all sinners,” is abstract. People should instead think and say: “I am a sinner,” concretely naming what they have said, thought, and done wrong. Like children, “we too must be simple, real,” he said April 29. “Concreteness leads you to humility.” “It is important that within us we give names to our sins,” he stated.



PRO-LIFE GUIDE NOW AVAILABLE — PA Primary Elections are **this Tuesday,**

April 23. 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!

