

Parish Offerings – Myrrh-Bearing Women Sunday — April 19, 2026

“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 (\$1,492) YP (\$5.05)	\$1,497.05
Holy Days (\$65) Easter (\$35)	100.00
Special Donation (Mary Lynn Condeluci)	1,000.00
Votive Candles	161.01

\$2,758.06

Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering	531.60
Holy Days (\$10) GCU Matching Raffle \$2,558.50 for Boiler Fund)	2,568.50
Votive Candles	\$54.21

Church Attendance Last Week \$3,154.31

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (34)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (59); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (29)

St. George, Great-Martyr & Victory-Bearer — (MR) 9:00 am (7) & (NS) 6:00 pm (9)

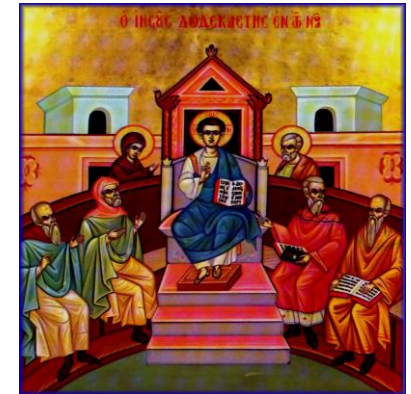


HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

**225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE**

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

SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC MAN
4th Paschal Sunday — April 26, 2026



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.
Personal Care & Hospitalized: Phone Church Office ASAP.
Sponsor of Christian Initiation: Godparents must be practicing Catholics.
Religious Education Classes: (MR) Coordinator: Pastor (412) 771-3324.
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 will
If you would like to request a Divine Liturgy (\$20) or Sanctuary Lamp \$10) Please contact the Church Office. Also, Blessed Decorative Sacramental/Easter Basket Candles (\$15).



Valerian F. Szal

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

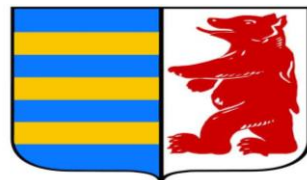
Michael P. Ferrell,
Supervisor, CFSP

Our Family Still Serving Yours Since 1953



In Memory

+ Anna + Michael Sejka
+ Helen + Anna May Sejka
By the Selka Family



GCU offers Insurance and Annuity Benefits greater than most financial institutions. Info call Randy (412) 973-1085



North Side Parishioner
Alan Valeriano
(412) 638-3417
PA #172370

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 26, 2026

Seasonal Christian Greeting:

Volume XVI, Number 17



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 26	9:00 a.m. (MR) <i>For the Parishioners of Both Parishes</i>		
	11:00 a.m. (NS) + Marlene Pfeiffer		Helen Pyptyr
Mon, Apr 27	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Darko S. Gataric		Michael Opat & Family
	<i>(6th ann of passing)</i>		
Tue, Apr 28	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Joseph A. Cehula, T.O..Carm.		Mom: Becky & Sisters

COMMEMORATION OF THE FEAST OF MID-PENTECOST


Wed, Apr 29 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Christine Burger Mom: Joan Walker

Thrs, Apr 30 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Dan Pikras Son: Dino & Family



FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or **Equivalent Penance** (your choice). *Make Reparation for sins against the Sacred Heart of Jesus*

Fri, May 1  8:00 a.m. (MR) + George F. Zula Zula Family
(67th ann of passing)
 6:00 p.m. (MR) Glorious Mysteries of the Holy Rosary

FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

Make Reparation for sins and blasphemies against the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Sat, May 2 9:00 a.m. (NS) *For the Parishioners of Both Parishes*

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

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Helen + George Lucas Son: George & Peggi Lucas

SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

Postfestive of Mid-Pentecost — 5th Paschal

SUN, May 3 **9:00 a.m. (MR)** + Mildred "Mimi" Terrek Pirohi Workers
11:00 a.m. (NS) + William D. Spontak Cousin: Fr. Spontak

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 28 – Gerald Stebbins

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

HOME: Ted Babin, Margaret Beliuinas, Dolores & William Boras, Susan Fejka, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Michael Kachuta, Steve Kosko, ARLENE LATTA, KIRK LATTA, Monica Lemesh, BETTY LORINC, CINDY MEADERS, John W. Oslick, Kurt Perschy, Cindy Saber, Anita Wolsko.

HIGHLAND PARK CARE CENTER (745 North Highland Ave., Pgh, PA 15206): Linda Reiger.

THE RESIDENCE AT WILLOW LANE (30 Heckel Rd., McKees Rocks, PA 15136): Rosemarie Nazak.

CEDAR HILL REHAB CENTER (951 Broadhead Rd., Coraopolis, 15108): Nancy Wauthier
HIGHLAND HILLS POST ACUTE (1105 Perry Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15237): Bernice Herrick.

FRIENDSHIP VILLAGE SOUTH HILLS (1290 Boyce Rd., Upper St. Clair, 15241): Bea Stempkowski.

CONCORDIA OF CRANBERRY (10 Adams Ridge Blvd., Mars, PA 16046): Theresa Kundrat.

PERRY HEALTH & REHAB CENTER (9850 Old Perry Highway, Wexford, PA 15090): Deacon Michael Meaders

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 26 — May 2, 2026



(R): **In memory of Dolores & John Koritsky**

offered by Dgtr: Christine & Al Barnash

(NS): **In memory of Mary H. Gifford**

(MR) None AVAILABLE FOR 2026 offered by Nieces: Michelle & Tamara (NS) None AVAILABLE 2026

General Announcements

McKees Rocks & North Side

GRADUATES MUST REGISTER TO BE RECOGNIZED — Our Holy Ghost Churches would like to honor all our High School and University/College Graduates on the occasion of our **Patronal Feast, May 24**. 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*; and (4) *Future plans and employment*. Call the Church Office A.S.A.P. Deadline is May 10/.



MAYOR OF KINGSTOWN CONTINUES FILMING PRODUCTION THIS WEEK — Paramount Plus's Mayor of Kingstown is in its 5th and final season on the cable network. Several scenes were shot in our Church Parking lot that became a fictitious police station in the state of Michigan.

SPECIAL FRIDAY & SPECIAL SATURDAY THIS WEEK — This week is the First Friday and First Saturday of the month. The Church has for many years continues to ask us to make reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on First Friday. We do so by worthily approaching and receiving Holy Communion for nine consecutive months; First Saturdays are reserved for making reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on five consecutive Saturdays of each month; we must also make a good Confession, receive Holy Communion, meditate on the 15 Mysteries for 15 minutes and to receive Holy Communion. Let us fulfill these requirements and console Jesus and Mary, the Theotokos.



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 31)** 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.

CHRIST IS RISEN In Various Languages:

Spanish:

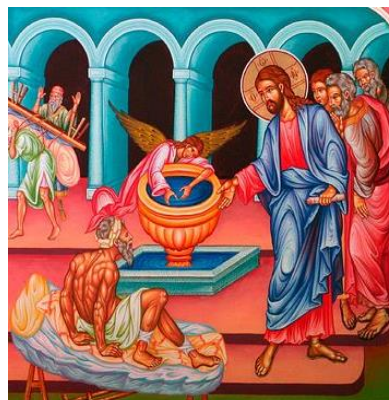
Cristo ha resucitado! Verdaderamente ha Resucitado!

French:

Le Christ est Ressuscité! En Vérité, Il est Ressuscité!

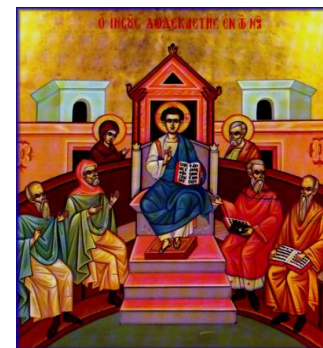
General Announcements

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 24 Feast of Mid-Pentecost
May 13. Great Vespers w/DL for the Feast of the Glorious Ascension (Holy Day of Obligation) (MR) 7:00 p.m.
May 14 ... 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 22 & 23 5th Universal All-Souls Saturday – May 22 (NS) 6:00 p.m.; May 23 (MR) 9:00 a.m.
May 24 Feast of the Decent of the All-Holy Spirit (Pentecost Sunday, Our Patronal Feast Day).

Saint of the Week – May 5

THE HOLY GREAT VIRGIN-MARTYR IRENE



Irene lived in the Balkans during apostolic times in the town of Magedon. Her father Licinius was of lesser royal nobility. Some think that she was a Slav. Irene was born a pagan of pagan parents. Penelope was her pagan name. She learned about the Christian Faith from her teacher Appelianus. St. Timothy, the disciple of the Apostle Paul, baptized her and her court attendants and provided her with the epistles of the Apostle Paul to read. Refusing to marry, she enraged her father and he wanted to torture her but, in a miraculous manner, she converted her father to Christianity. Irene was subjected to various tortures by four kings, not

counting her father but, God through His angels, spared her. Surviving all tortures, by which she converted a countless number of pagans to Christianity, Irene entered the town of Callipolis [Gallipoli] where she preached the Faith of Christ. The local king Numerian wanted to kill her in this manner: he tossed her into three flaming hot metal oxen; one after the other. But the virgin was saved and remained alive. Many witnessed and believed. The Eparch [governor] Vaudon took her to the town of Constantina where he thought to kill her in this manner: he placed her on red-hot grates. But that did not harm St. Irene and she converted many to the True Faith. Finally, Irene arrived in the town of Mesembria where she was slain by King Sapor but God restored her to life. The king, with many of the people, upon witnessing this, believed in Christ and were baptized. Thus, St. Irene, by her suffering and miracles converted over one-hundred thousand pagans to the Faith of Christ. Finally, she lay down in a grave and ordered Appelianus to close the grave. After four days, when they opened the grave, she was not in the grave. Thus, God glorified forever the virgin and martyr Irene, who sacrificed all and endured all so that God may be glorified among men.

General Announcements

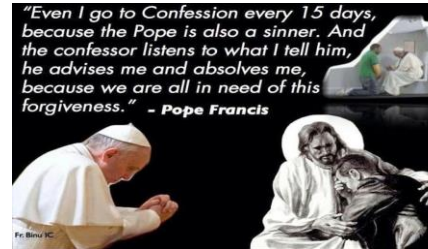
SACRAMENTAL CALLS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE REQUESTING — As we continue through the Paschal Season, several members still have not returned to Divine Worship over the weekends to participate in the Unbloody Sacrifice of Christ and to glorify His Radiant Resurrection at the Divine Liturgy. Our pastor is 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 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 of the **CRUCIFIED CROSS!**



MESSAGE FROM THE PAST: 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,” 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,”

PRO-LIFE GUIDE SOON TO BE AVAILABLE — PA Primary Elections are **this Tuesday, May 19**. 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!

