

Parish Offerings – Myrrh-Bearers Sunday — April 23, 2023

“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	\$4,060.00
Easter (\$40) Holy Days (\$164) YP (\$12)	216.00
Votive Candles	166.00
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	\$4,442.00

Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering	\$666.02
Easter (\$100) Holy Days (\$90) YP (\$1)	191.00
Votive Candles (\$63.35) Utilities (\$80)	142.35

Church Attendance Last Week \$1,000.37

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (26)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (59); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (24)



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 30, 2023



Catholics of the Ruthenian – Byzantine Rite in full communion with the Pope of Rome

The Very Reverend Father Frank A. Firko, Pastor

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

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

Χρῆστος

Βοσκησε!

DESIGNS BY NANCY
 235 McCartney Drive,
 Moon Township 15108
 Phone: (412) 262-9141
 Nancde@aol.com
Nancy C. Debranski
Sewing, Alterations, 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.

GCU
 Greek Catholic Union of the USA
 A Fraternal Benefit Society
 GCU offers Insurance and Annuity Benefits greater than most financial institutions. Info call Randy (412) 973-1085

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

Please patronize those who bring you this weekly Church report without an added expense to the Church. New sponsors are welcome, please contact Church 1:00 p.m. Mon-Fri!

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.
Sacramental Call to Homebound, Personal Care & Hospitalized: Phone Church Office ASAP.
Sponsor of Christian Initiation: Godparents must be practicing Catholics.
Religious Education Classes: (MR) Coordinator: Steve Puluka (412) 897- 4650.
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 30, 2023

Seasonal Greeting:

Volume XIII 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

Final Day of the E.C.F. Program — 4th Paschal Sunday

SUN., APR 30 9:00 a.m. (MR) + George Kurtanich (birthday 5/7) Children
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Diane V. Vida (birthday 4/26) Anonymous

Mon, May 1 8:00 a.m. (MR) + George F. Zula Zula Family
(64th ann of passing)



Tues, May 2 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mark A. Cifrulak (Wed. Ann.) Bro: Burt & Nanine

COMMEMORATION OF THE FEAST OF MID-PENTECOST

Wed, May 3 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Fr. Robert J. Karl Mike, Leyte & Mike Tomchak
(1st ann of passing)

Thrs, May 4 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Archpriest John G. Petro Ann & Todd Wilson

First Friday of the Month —Reparation for the sins against the Sacred Heart of Jesus
REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice):

Fri, May 5 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mary Susan Dragosh Anonymous
(3rd ann of passing 5/3)



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

First Saturday of the month in reparation for blasphemies against the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Sat, May 6 9:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
1:00 p.m. (MR) Holy Mysteries of Initiation of Cecelia



Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Samaritan Woman — Mid-Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Helen Hopey (birthday) Anonymous

SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

5th Paschal Sunday — Mid-Pentecost

SUN, May 7 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Glee Hart Family
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Robert M. Smoley Sister: Mary Ann
(45th ann of passing 5/14)

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

May 4 – Geraldine Babin; Anita Wolsko; May 5 – Irene Muha (101); May 6 – Anya Louise Purcell.

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

HOME: Geraldine Babin, Margaret Beliuнас, Florence Charochak, DEACON MICHAEL MEADERS, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Beverly Harsh, Steve Kosko, Kathe Kress, ARLENE LATTA, KIRK LATTA, BETTY LORINC, Irene Muha, Kurt Perschy, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Dan Pikras, Elizabeth Poznak, GERALD SLAGLE, Betty Spisak, MONSIGNOR PETER TAY, Anita Wolsko, Nancy (Shanta) Wauthier.

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.

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 Cifrulak. Dorothy Ann Karl, Mildred Terrek.

LUTHERAN SENIORLIFE (500 Wittenberg Way, Mars PA 16046): A. SHIRLEY KALNAS.

UPMC PASSAVANT (Babcock Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15237): Irene Bordas

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. Is it wrong to receive Communion before committing a mortal sin? Suppose you know that you are going to be in a position where you may fall into committing a mortal sin. A. Answer by a Catholic Apologist: The Church teaches that anyone conscious of a mortal sin must receive the sacrament of reconciliation before receiving Holy Communion. If you know you are going to be in a position where you may commit a mortal sin, you need to make a conscious effort to avoid those situations that tempt you. The strength to resist sin and break our disordered attachments comes from 1) frequent reception of the sacraments (e.g., confession, Eucharist) and 2) a disciplined prayer life. The Catechism of the Catholic Church says: As bodily nourishment restores lost strength, so the Eucharist strengthens our charity, which tends to be weakened in daily life; and this living charity wipes away venial sins. By giving himself to us Christ revives our love and enables us to break our disordered attachments to creatures and root ourselves in him. (CCC 1394).

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

April 30 — May 6, 2023

(MR): In memory of William H. Bell

offered by Wife: Diane & Family

(NS): In memory of George Seman

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2023

offered by Sister: Velma

(NS) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2023



General Announcements

McKees Rocks

SYMPATHIES EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the sudden passing at home of **Anthony (Tony) M. Ciccone, 74**, on Saturday, April 15, 2023. He is survived by his Wife,



Karen (Kacsur) and Daughter, Natalie (Armondo, Jr) McNary. He is the son-in-law to parishioners, Norma and Peter Kacsur; Brother-in-Law to parishioners, Donna (Harry) Harron, and Gary Kacsur. He was the uncle to Mary Elizabeth (Fr. Vitalii) Stashkevych and Stephanie Kacsur. The Anthony Sanvito. Funeral Home, Coraopolis, PA handled the arrangements. The Rite of Christian Burial was offered at St. Joseph Roman Rite Church, Coraopolis on Friday, April 21st. Interment followed at Resurrection Cemetery, Moon Township; Also, following a lingering illness, **Janet F. (Kvaternik) Trapuzzano,**

77, of Kennedy Township, passed away at home on Sunday, April 23, 2023. She was the loving wife of Anthony (Tony) Trapuzzano. Janet was a good friend of Holy Ghost Church Pirohi Project to which she contributed several hours of her time. We appreciate her sacrificial donation. Arrangements were handled by the Valerian F. Szal Funeral Home. A Panachida was offered prior to the interment at St. Mark Cemetery, Kennedy Township. Our Parish extends its most sincere condolences to the Ciccone-Kacsur-Herron & Trapuzzano Families and all of their good friends and relatives. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, eternal rest to your servants, Tony & Janet, and remember them forever because CHRIST IS RISEN! Vicnaja Jim Pamjat' ibo CHRISTOS VOSKRESE!



BYZAN-TEEN ON-LINE CANDY SALES — The *Byzan-Teen Youth Group's* on-line candy sales from Sarris Candies tallied a total of **\$288.48**. They are grateful to you for this project contribution. Once again, the proceeds of this event including their \$1.00 candy bars sales made it possible for their 2024 trip California for the Metropolitan Byzan-Teen Youth Rally. God bless everyone who had donated to this most noble cause.

North Side

No Particular Announcements 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 4)** 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:

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

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

Calendar of Upcoming Events

April 29 Archieparchial Assembly 2023: Synodal Synthesis: A Mandate, Not an Option — Cathedral @ 10:00 a.m.
April 30 Final Day of the Religious Education Formation Program; Social Event: Bowling at a local facility.
May 7 (NS) Renewal of Baptismal Promises and Corporate Communion of 1 child @11:00 a.m. DL.
May 11 Feasts of Saints Cyril & Methodius & Blessed Bishop-Martyr Basil Hopko
May 14 Annual Mother's Day.
May 11 Feasts of Saints Cyril & Methodius & Blessed Bishop-Martyr Basil Hopko
May 17. Great Vespers w/DL for the Feast of the Glorious Ascension (Holy Day of Obligation) (MR) 7:00 p.m.
May 18 ... Feast of the Glorious Ascension (Holy Day of Obligation) (MR) 9:00 am & (NS) 6:00 pm.

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

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 the vanquishing of the Covid-19 Virus, those afflicted, for those who died from it, and for all to return to Divine Worship and Sacraments. God bless them all!



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!

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.



CHRIST IS RISEN! — INDEED! HE IS RISEN!