

Parish Offerings – Pentecost Sunday — May 28, 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	\$282.00
Pentecost (\$1,790) YP (\$27) Holy Days (\$149)	1,966.00
Special Donation (In memory of Anna & Irwin Gagolic)	90.00
Votive Candles	125.00
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	\$2,463.00

Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering	\$140.61
Pentecost (\$570) YP (\$5) Holy Days (\$35)	610.00
Special Donation (In memory of Lorinc Family)	90.00
Votive Candles (\$71.50) Utilities (\$50)	121.50
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Church Attendance Last Week \$962.11

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (27)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (60); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (28)

Feast of Most Holy Trinity — (NS) Sun., 6:00 a.m. (5); (MR) Mon., 9:00 a.m. (5)



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 McKees Rocks, PA 15136
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Michael P. Ferrell,
 Supervisor, CFSP
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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 GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
 1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
 PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS

1st Sunday after Pentecost – June 4, 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

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.
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

With unity of faith let us celebrate a solemn feast of those who from the ages have found grace before God. Let us remember all the Saints: the Patriarchs, Prophets, and Apostles of Christ, the Martyrs, and Ascetics of all ages. They intercede unceasingly for the peace of the world and for the salvation of our souls! (Great Vespers of All Saints)

June 2, 2023

Seasonal Greeting:

Volume XIII 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 ALL SAINTS

1st Sunday after Pentecost — Final Day of Easter Duty

SUN, Jun 4 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Anna + George Skalyo Joyce & James Walsh
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Ann M. Lecci Son: Jen, Nancy & Nina



Commencement of the Petrine Fast

Mon, Jun 5 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Julia Eisenman Dgtr: Martha & Bob Maletz

Tue, Jun 6 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Alexander F. Perschy (birthday) Son: Kurt

Recommended SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice): for vocations

Wed, June 7 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Helen P. Petak (birthday 6/1) Family & Friends



Commemoration of the Body of Christ — T'ilo Christovo

Thrs., June 8 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Fr. Ronald P. Larko (ordination 6/6) Elaine Kurtanich

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

Fri, June 9 8:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes



Sat, June 10 9:00 a.m. (NS) + George Fecik (birthday 6/11) Anonymous

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Mildred + Michael Tomchak Grandson: Mike



3rd Sunday after Pentecost

1st Sunday of the Petrine Fast

SUN, Jun 11 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Margaret Kurtanich Grandchildren & Families

(19th ann. of passing 6/12)

11:00 a.m. (NS) + Olga Senchyshyn (birthday 6/12) 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 to 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.

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

HOME: Margaret Beliuonas, Florence Charochak, DEACON MICHAEL MEADERS, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Beverly Harsh, Bernice Herrick, Steve Kosko, Kathe Kress, ARLENE LATTA, KIRK LATTA, Nancy Lecci, 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): Geraldine Babin, Helen Best, Margaret Cifrulak. Dorothy Ann Karl, Mildred Terrek.

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

ALLEGHENY GENERAL HOSPITAL (320 E. North Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15212): Geraldine Babin.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q.. Is it possible for people of the same sex to marry each other? **A. Answer by a Catholic Apologist:** No. Gay (or homosexual) "marriage" is not really marriage at all. Marriage was instituted by God as a relationship between a man and a woman. "Therefore, a man leaves his father and his mother and cleaves to his wife, and they become one flesh" (Gen. 2:24). The Church does not have the power or authority to change this—nor does secular society. Even if the legal definition of the word "marriage" were changed to include homosexual couples, those couples would not ever be truly married.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

June 4 — June 10, 2023



(MR): In memory of Lillian & Joseph Buchko

offered by Dgtr: Peggy & Charles McCusker

(NS): Health & Welfare of Christine Barnash (birthday 6/5)

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2023

offered by Husband: Al

(NS) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2023

General Announcements

McKees Rocks

PARISH & FINANCIAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING FORTHCOMING — The members of the PAC/FAC are reminded of our June meeting for **Monday, June 12, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m. in the Church office.** The agenda will include: discussion of the side entrance roof over the porch area, retirement of our E.C.F. Coordinator, upcoming parish July Picnic, etc. Please place this date on your agenda.

North Side

PARISH & FINANCIAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING TODAY — members of the PAC/FAC are reminded of our June meeting on **Sunday, June 4, 2023 following the Divine Liturgy in Church.** The agenda will include Tower Bell bids to restore working order, Front Church steps repair, upcoming parish July Picnic, etc. Please place this date on your agenda.

REGISTER FOR A CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE — The Archeparchy wishes to honor those who are celebrating their 10, 15, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70 etc. anniversary of marriage this year. This celebration has been extended on a new format. It will take place on **Sunday, September 10, 2023 @ 3:00 p.m. at St. Elias Church, Munhall.** If you are observing one of the above milestones, *please contact the Church office if you plan or DO NOT plan to attend!* All specially marked anniversaries submitted will be published in a September issue of the SOT. *The final day of registration is Sunday, July 16.*



Prayer of Pope St. John Paul II for Vocations

This prayer is said near the end of the morning Divine Liturgy during the Petrine Fast from June 5 through June 28. As we prepare for the Feast of Saints Peter & Paul, let us unite our voices together daily and pray for an increase of vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life; and to pray for all Priests

O Jesus, Good Shepherd, accept our prayers and our humble thanks for all vocations which, through Your Spirit, You give liberally and continually to our Church. Assist the bishops, priests, missionaries and all consecrated persons; enable them to give example of truly evangelical life. Make strong and persevering in their intentions those who are preparing for the sacred ministry and consecrated life. Multiply the laborers of the Gospel to announce Your name to all peoples. Take care of all the young in our communities; grant them readiness and generosity to follow You. Today, too, turn Your gaze upon them and call them. Grant to all the call, the strength to abandon everything in order to choose only You Who are love. Forgive the non-responses and infidelities of those Whom You have chosen. Listen, O Christ, to our invocations through the intercession of most holy Mary, Your Mother and Queen of the Apostles. She, who, having believed and replied generously, has been the cause of our joy; accompany with her presence and her example those whom You call to total service in Your Kingdom. Amen.



If you are retired or just enjoying the summer vacation, why not join us for the Daily Divine Liturgy?! It is a great Spiritual Investment which Glorifies God, Sanctifies the soul and gives us an opportunity of offering a Spiritual Work of Mercy by praying for the Living and the Dead!

SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS

Everyone is Called to Sainthood

(Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38, & 19:27-30)

Today, we celebrate the **SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS.** Often, we think of Saints as those holy ones who have preceded us in physical death, and have won the crown of the heavenly kingdom. They are the ones whom we should imitate in life for guidance. Many of us think of these Saints as icons beautifully romanticized who always seem to have "a faraway look" in their eyes. Many of us get caught up in the halos and the visions. Great saints were real people with everyday problems. **Baptism calls all of us to sainthood,** not just the extraordinary people but everyday people just like you and me. Throughout history, saints have come from all economic classes and all walks of life. Often, they have been faced with struggles for sanctity that lasted their entire lifetimes. We all have weaknesses, and our knowledge of those weaknesses is vital if we are ever to achieve holiness. Knowing that we're not



perfect helps us to love others who aren't perfect. It gives an important sense of humility and the power not to judge. Christianity elevates our human nature by combining it with the supernatural. This life of grace enables us to respond lovingly to the trials and irritations of everyday living. Jesus put it this way, "A good tree does not produce decayed fruit any more than a decayed tree produces good fruit. Each tree is known by its yield" (Luke 6:43-44). Now what is Jesus talking about when He says that we are to "produce good fruit"? What is this "yield" by which we are to be known? He is saying that we will bear signs of God's love if only we put our trust in Him. A heroic acceptance of suffering? Yes. Patience with an irritating person? Yes. Kindness to those that hurt us? Yes, that too. This is why it is so important for us to seek and embrace God's will for us. If you are bearing good fruit, your neighbors will be able to read the Gospel in your life, even if they've never read Scripture or think little of religion or of God. They will know that there is something about you that is different, even if they do not know that "something" is God. Saints are ordinary people like you and me. They knew God's will and they pursued that will despite their weakness and their humanness.

ARCHIEPARHIAL CHURCHES RETURNING TO TRADITIONAL WAY OF THE DISBRUTION OF THE HOLY EUCHARST

At our Annual Clergy Days on May 23, 2023, we have been advised by the Chancery Office that since the World Health Organization declared an end to the emergency phase of the Covid-19 Pandemic, we are to return to the traditional distribution of Holy Communion via one golden spoon. Our Holy Ghost Churches (MR & NS) will affect this ancient practice on the Feasts of Saints Peter & Paul, June 29. **Please be reminded that upon approaching you are to (1) open your mouth wide, DO NOT extend your tongue (i.e. as you would at the dentist office); (2) tilt your head back slightly; (3) the Holy Eucharist will be placed into your mouth. Do not close your mouth on the spoon.**



Calendar of Upcoming Events

June 4 Sunday of All Saints — Final Day for fulfilling Easter (Paschal) Duty.
..... (NS) PAC/FAC Meeting following the Divine Liturgy.
June 5 Commencement of the Minor Petrine Fast (Church Slavonic: Petrovka).
June 12 (MR) PAC/FAC Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
June 14 Annual Flag Day Ceremony @ 6:45 p.m.
June 23 Vigil (NS) Divine Liturgy for the Nativity of St. John the Baptist @ 6:00 p.m.
June 24 Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (MR) @ 9:00 a.m.
June 28 **Great Vespers with Divine Liturgy of SS. Peter & Paul — (MR) 7:00 p.m.**
June 29 ... **Holy Day of Obligation: Feast SS. Peter & Paul (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 p.m.**

Save the Dates

Archieparchial Altar Server Day (TBA); Churches Picnic (July 23); Archieparchial Marriage Jubilarian Celebration (Sept. 10 – cf. article under General Announcements

Saint of the Week — June 9 Holy Father Cyril of Alexandria

Cyril was born in Alexandria in Egypt nearly 400 years after the time of Jesus. His uncle was bishop of Alexandria. Cyril was not really a very nice boy

– he like to fight and argue, even with his friends. But he loved the Lord and tried to serve God all his life. When Cyril grew up, he became bishop, or “patriarch”, of Alexandria. The bishops of the five largest churches were often called patriarchs: Rome, Constantinople, Antioch, Alexandria, and Jerusalem. There was, at the same time, in Antioch, a bishop named Nestorius who came up with a very upsetting new teaching. He decided that Mary could not really be the mother of God (Theotokos) but only the mother of Christ, the man.(Christotokos). Again, someone was trying to split Jesus up into two

people, God and man. We call Mary “Theotokos”, meaning “Godbearer” or the “Mother of God”. But Nestorius wanted to call her “Christotokos” instead. The emperor called another big council of bishops, this time in the city of Ephesus. Cyril argued for Mary to be called “Theotokos” and Nestorius argued for “Christotokos”. But, after Cyril’s explanation, Nestorius agreed that Mary should be called “Theotokos”, as she is to this day. Due to the faith of St. Cyril of Alexandria and all other true believing Bishops, we call Mary “Theotokos” and honor her as the Mother of God.



General Announcements

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



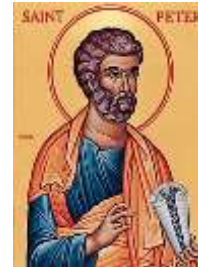
& a Holy and Worthy Reception of Holy Communion today!

GRATITUDE TO OUR VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE — A special thank you is extended to our *Volunteer Committee* who organized our Patronal Holy Ghost Luncheon last week on Pentecost Sunday. A luncheon was served to app. 50 people from both parishes including an acknowledgement to our (MR) high school (Laura Saber) and (MR) university graduate, Katherine Chomko. Also, we paid tribute our E.C.F. Religious Education Coordinator, Steven Puluka who is retiring from this position. We wish to thank all who attended. Our free will offering to subsidize the cost totaled \$482.00. God bless all of you.



MINOR PETRINE FAST Begins Tomorrow

The **Petrine Fast (Petrova – Ruthenian (Rusyn) Language)** is one that was actually engaged in by the disciples of Christ following the Descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Having rejoiced throughout the fifty days following Pascha, the Resurrection of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, the Apostles began to prepare for their departure from Jerusalem to carry Christ’s message to the far corners of the world. As part of their preparation, they began a fast with prayer to ask God to strengthen their resolve and to be with them in their missionary undertakings. It is this fast that we ourselves participate in when we observe the minor Penitential Season of the Petrine Fast. But we do this not only because we honor the Apostles and their sacrifice. We do this by way of preparing ourselves to be sent as missionaries into our world to reflect and radiate Christ to those around us. *As we begin the Petrine Fast (named after the Apostle Peter), let us make a serious effort to abstain from meat or do an equivalent penance not only on the required Fridays until June 29, but also on the recommended Wednesdays for the intention of an increase of vocations to the priesthood & religious life.*



THE BODY OF CHRIST COMMEMORATION — T’ILO CHRISTOVO — This **Thursday, June 8, 2023** our Byzantine-Ruthenian Catholic Church marks a special traditional optional commemoration of the Holy Eucharist. It falls each year on the Thursday following All Saints Sunday. Join us in expressing gratitude to the Lord Jesus Christ’s True Presence — Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Most Holy Eucharist on this special day at the morning Divine Liturgy!

