

**Parish Offerings – Feast of the Transfiguration — Aug, 6, 2017**

“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 .....	\$1,948.00
Holy Days (\$269) YP (\$4) .....	273.00
Votive Candles .....	116.50

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\$2,337.50

**Holy Ghost Church, Northside**

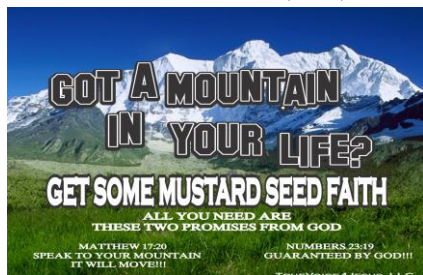
Regular Offering .....	\$458.00
Holy Days .....	75.00
Improvements .....	30.00
Special Donation (Mary Sahayda in honor of 100 <sup>th</sup> birthday) .....	100.00
Votive Candles .....	57.00

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\$720.00

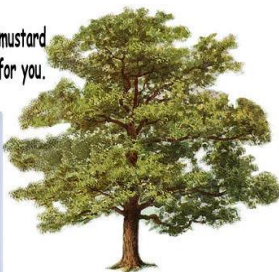
**Church Attendance Last Week**

Sat., 4:00 p.m. (46)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (76); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (35)

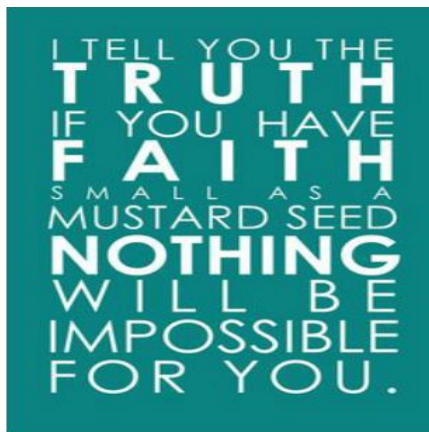


If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, nothing will be impossible for you.



**HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
 225 OLIVIA STREET  
 1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE  
 McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136  
 PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

**THE 10<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
 Postfestive of the Transfiguration — August 13, 2017



**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](http://www.holyghost-byzantinecatholic.org) – E-Mail: [ffaf334@verizon.net](mailto:ffaf334@verizon.net)

**SUNDAY RADIO (9:00 am WEDO 810 AM) & INTERNET DIVINE LITURGY**

**All Liturgical Services LIVE on UStream: [www.Ustream.tv/channel/holy-ghost-church](http://www.Ustream.tv/channel/holy-ghost-church)**

**Valerian F. Szal**  
 238 Helen St.,  
 McKees Rocks, PA 15136  
 Phone: (412) 331-9713  
 331-9713  
 Fax: (412) 331-6688  
**Michael P. Ferrell,**  
 Supervisor, CFSP  
*Our Family Still Serving Yours Since 1953*



**DESIGNS BY NANCY**  
 235 McCartney Drive,  
 Moon Township 15108  
 Phone: (412) 262-9141  
[Nanode@aol.com](mailto:Nanode@aol.com)  
**Nancy C. Debranski**  
*Sewing, Alternations, 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  
 Lodge 390 offers Insurance and Annuity Benefits greater than most financial institutions. Info call Marge (412) 331-3577

**An anonymous donor extends prayerful best wishes to our students and school teachers for God's blessings in the 2017-2018 academic year!**

**Please patronize our fabulous sponsors! They make it possible to bring you this weekly & informative S.O.T. without an added expense to the Church. New Sponsors please contact Church 9 til 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.  
Sponsor of Christian Initiation: Godparents must be practicing Catholics.  
Religious Education Classes: (MR) Coordinator: Steve Puluka (412) 897- 4650.  
GCU Lodge 390: (MR) Contact Margaret Beliuas (412) 331-3577 for membership requirements.  
Slavjane Folk Ensemble: (MR) Membership requirements contact Dean Poloka (412) 877-9351.  
Carpatho-Rusyn Radio Broadcast: Every Sunday from 2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. WPIT 730 AM.  
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 as 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

When the Most High descended and confused tongues, He scattered the people; but when He distributed the tongues of fire, He called all men to unity. Therefore, with one voice, let us glorify the Most Holy Spirit (Matins of Pentecost Sunday).

August 13, 2017

Seasonal Greeting

Volume VII, Number 33



Glory to Jesus Christ! — Glory Forever!  
Slava Isusu Christu!! — Slava Na Viki!



## Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

### 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Second and Final Sunday of the Savioral Fast — Transfiguration Postfestive

SUN., Aug 13 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Frances + Joseph Saveikis Dgtrs: Anita Wolsko & Phyllis Murphy



11:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

*Prefestive of the Dormition Feast*

Mon, Aug 14 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Helen Perschy (birthday) Son: Kurt

\*\*\*\*\*  
*Great Vespers w/ Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Dormition — Holy Day of Obligation*

7:00 p.m. (MR) + Mary + Michael Korim (ann of passing) Nephew: Fr. Firko

### Feast of the Dormition of the Holy Theotokos

*Holy Day of Obligation — Solemn Blessing Flowers and Herbs — Mirovanije*

TUE, AUG 15 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes  
6:00 p.m. (NS) + Esther M. Kallop M/M Lecci & Nina

Wed, Aug 16 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Michael Charochak (9<sup>th</sup> day of passing 8/17) Rose Nazak

Thrs, Aug 17 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Joanne E. Kosal (40<sup>th</sup> day of passing 8/19) Family

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

*for the intention of our beloved's return to the Church.*

Fri, Aug 18 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Aaron Leshko Eleanor & Basil Gramata (3<sup>rd</sup> ann of passing)

Sat, Aug 19 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Andrew Serenko Sister-in-law: Helen Holesh Marince

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*Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Eleventh after Pentecost — Postfestive of the Dormition*

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Ann Marks Rosanna & Paul Cercone



### 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Postfestive of the Dormition Feast

SUN., Aug 20 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

11:00 a.m. (NS) Health of Anna Marie Demianczyk Friend: Yvonne M. Shanta

## 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*

**Birthdays:** Aug 13 – Shane McCusker; Aug 16 – Janet Sendro, Beth Skreptach; Aug 18 – AGNES KNOLL, Peter Zubritzky; Aug 19 – IRENE JUGAN, Anna Keller.

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

**HOME:** Irene Bordas, MARY ANN CONTI, Mary Culan, Andrew Drukalsky, Ilona Goyda, Beverly Harsh, Helen Hopey, MARTHA LUCAS, OLGA MANFREDO, Irene Palahunik, Elizabeth Petruna, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Agnes Rosko, MARY SAHAYDA, Michael Spisak, MSGR. PETER TAY, ANNA TOTH, EVELYN VENTO, JOHN VEREB, Julia Wovchko, SHIRLEY YANOSKO.

**MAPLEWOOD PC HOME** (461 Maplewood Ave. Ambridge, PA 15003): Susan Dragosh, Doris Naughton.

**HIGHLAND PARK CARE CENTER** (745 North Highland Ave., Pgh, PA 15206): Linda Reiger.  
**MASONIC VILLAGE** (1000 Masonic Drive, Sewickley, PA 15143): Helen M. Kriska, Marjorie Preganz.

**MARIAN MANOR** (2695 Winchester Dr., Pgh, 15220): Irene Bednar, MICHAEL BARBUSH, **CHIPPEWA PLACE** (7005 Stadium Dr., Apt 427, Brecksville, OH 44141): Stephen Katrenich.

**VALENCIA WOODS OF ST. BARNABAS** (85 Charity Pl., Valencia, PA 16059): Eleanor Kapko.

**SUNRISE OF EAST COBB** (1551 Johnson Ferry Rd., Marietta, GA 30062): AGNES KNOLL.

**CARING HEIGHTS** (234 Coraopolis Rd., Coraopolis, PA 15108): Margaret Belunas.

**FAIR OAKS ASSISTED LIVING** (2200 W. Liberty Ave., Pgh, 15226): ANNA MARIE DEMIANCZYK.

#### Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

**Q.** Did Jesus really establish the Catholic Church?? **A. Answer by Catholic Answers:** Yes. The best sources to testify to that reality are the Bible and the early Church Fathers. Here are several Catholic Answers resources to aid you in demonstrating that historical reality: our booklet Pillar of Fire, Pillar of Truth; our tracts on Peter and the Papacy and The Origins of Peter as Pope; and also our tract on Peter's Primacy as affirmed by the Church Fathers. In addition, examine any reputable secular history of the early Church. Even if the historian doesn't like the Catholic Church, they'll affirm the historical realities of the existence of the papacy, belief in the Eucharist, etc. You won't see distinctive Protestant doctrines affirmed as existing in the early Church.

### This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

**August 13 — August 19, 2017**

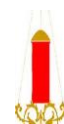
(MR): In memory of Agnes Kacsur, Octavia Balandiat & Agnes Pushkar  
offered by Alice & Anna May Sejka

(NS): **Health & Welfare (98<sup>th</sup> Birthday)**

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE 2017

offered by Agnes Knoll

(NS) NONE AVAILABLE 2017



# McKees Rocks Announcements

**PARISHIONER APPOINTED NEW PRESIDENT OF SERRA CLUB** — The Byzantine Catholic Serra Club observed its June biennial custom of installing new officers including a new President in the person of **parishioner, Bill Kress**. His wife's name is Kathie also of Holy Ghost Parish. The new officers were installed by Serra's Chaplin, Fr. Val Michlik before the icons of our three Blessed Bishop-Martyrs, Theodore G. Romza, Paul P. Gojdich, O.S.B.M., and Basil Hopko. The Serrans principle ministry is to pray and encourage vocations to the priesthood and religious life. They also remember our priests and religious in prayer and are a source of encouragement by sending anniversary cards. May God grant Bill peace, health and salvation for many happy and blessed years! Na Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita!



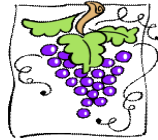
**SYMPATHY EXTENDED** — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the sudden passing of **Perry Bonasso, 57**, of Robinson Township, PA, in a truck accident on Tuesday, August 1, 2017. He was the brother of parishioner Betty Ann (Michael) Spisak. Funeral arrangements were handled by the Musmanno Funeral Home, McKees Rocks. Private services were offered at the funeral home on Monday, Aug. 7 followed by interment at the Nation Cemetery of the Alleghenies, Bridgeville, PA. Our parish offers it's most sincere condolences and prayerful solicitude for his immortal soul and for his family. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, to your servant, Perry and remember him forever! Vicnaja Jemu Pamjat'!

With Deepest Sympathy



**GCU LODGE 390 MEETING TODAY** — All members are urged to attend this third quarterly meeting **at 2:00 PM this afternoon**. The meeting will be held in the Church Basement of the MR Church.

**DISTRICT 15 INVITES ALL TO THE WINERY** —GCU District 15 is continuing the tradition that District 1 (no longer in existence) did in inviting everyone to an Afternoon at the Narcisi Winery, 4578 Gibsonia Road, Gibsonia, PA 15044, on **Sunday, August 27, 2017** from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. Rain or shine there will be a covered pavilion. Cost is \$10.00 (members, and \$20.00 (non-members) Enjoy fraternalism, wine tasting, and light refreshments. Music will be provided by the Doug Edgell Band on the patio. Reservations must be made by contacting Kathy Kapaldo (412) 951-8331.



## Northside Announcements

**SUMMER SESSION OF AMERICAN HISTORY AND ENGLISH CLASSES** — Our current Northside Rectory residents from the Presov Archeparchy (Slovakia) are seen here pictured. Fr. Radko Bilchar, wife: Katerina, and sons: Benjamin and David are now awaiting instructions from the Chancery Office as to their future assignment. Fr. Bilchar has completed the summer session of education at La Roche College, North Hills. The Bilchars consider themselves "missionaries" leaving their homeland where there is an abundance of priestly vocations, to assist our Byzantine Catholic Church here in America. Good grant them many happy and blessed years!



**Don't forget — Holy Day of Obligation this Tuesday!**

## 10<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Do You Have A Mustard Seed Size Faith? (Mt 17: 14-23)**

Faith that is the size of a mustard seed – even faith the size of the smallest seeds – is faith that can make a tree that can change the world. A person with faith the size of such a seed can be a full participant in God's plan. There is no minimum amount needed in order to be claimed by Christ. Your faith, no matter how weak and no matter how small is enough. So don't be afraid to use your mustard seed faith, discover what you can do with the faith that you have, and practice using the faith that you have been given. If you do, you just might find that your tiny mustard seed faith will grow into something truly amazing! Faith is to live by entrusting oneself to God's promises. Faith is always God's gift and never our own accomplishment. Faith is ever and only a response empowered by an amazing grace originating from outside of our own efforts that enables us to entrust ourselves willingly to One we have found trustworthy. It is especially, through word and sacrament that God bestows this faith. The words of Jesus are not meant to emphasize an extraordinary physical phenomenon. Rather the contrast between the mountain and the grain of mustard seed stresses the infinite possibilities which are open to authentic faith. It is evident here that Jesus intends our faith to be something other than a simple intellectual adherence to revealed truth. Jesus speaks of faith as being a humble and total trust in the all-powerful goodness of God. If I have but a grain of authentic faith, I can risk making that faith the basis of my life in all circumstances, confident that God will grant the true and best solutions to all my difficulties. That would be my way of removing mountains.



### FROM A CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVE:

#### The importance of Sunday and Participating at the Divine Liturgy

The following article was written by a Catholic Apologist, Matt Nelson and taken from Catholic Answers Webpage. This abridges article briefly teaches us the importance of Sunday and worshipping at the Divine Liturgy. Space does not permit the entire article so you may locate it on Catholic.com/magazine.

Every Sunday "the whole Christ" is reunited in and through the Holy Eucharist. Moreover, our choice to participate is salvific: "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, you have no life in you" (John 6:53). Theologian Colin Donovan reminds us that "in the Mass (Divine Liturgy) it is Christ himself who worships the Father, joining our worship to his. In no other way is it possible to adequately give thanks (eucharistia) to God . . . than by uniting our offerings to that of Jesus Christ himself." Christ does with us in the Mass (Divine Liturgy) what we cannot do alone: make a perfect offering to the Father. The key to understanding why Catholics must attend Sunday Mass (Divine Liturgy) lies above all in the essence of the Mass (Divine Liturgy) itself. Our duty to be willing participants is **not** rooted in how it makes us feel but in what it is. As the sacred meeting place of God and man, the Mass (Divine Liturgy) reorients our lives towards God, reunites us with him in love, and thereby communicates the grace of salvation to our souls. In the long run, there can be nothing more productive than that.

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

August 12-13 ..... Blessing of Students and Teachers for the new Academic School Year following weekend DL.  
August 13 ..... 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter GCU Lodge 390 Meeting in MR @ 2:00 p.m.  
**August 14** .... Vigil of the Feast of the Dormition – Blessing of Herbs & Flowers – (MR) 7:00 pm — **Holy Day of Obligation.**  
**August 15** ... Feast of the Dormition – Blessing of Herbs & Flowers – (MR) 9:00 am; (NS) 6:00 p.m. — **Holy Day of Obligation.**  
**August 20** ..... **Annual Parish Picnic, Robinson Clever Road, beginning @ 1:00 pm.**  
August 24 ..... Archdiocesan Servers Faith & Fun Day (cf. MR Announcements).  
August 29 ..... Feast of Beheading of St. John the Baptist: (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.

## Saint of the Week

### The Holy Martyr Myron — Aug. 17

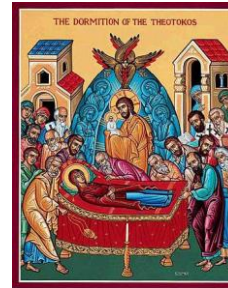
The Holy Martyr Myron was a presbyter (priest) in Achaia (Greece), and lived during the third century. He suffered in the year 250 under the emperor Decius (249-251). The presbyter was gentle and kind to people, but he was also courageous in the defense of his spiritual children. On the Feast of the Nativity of Christ, he was celebrating the Divine Liturgy. The local governor Antipater came into the church with soldiers so as to arrest those praying there and to subject them to torture. St Myron began to plead for his flock, accusing the governor of cruelty, and for this the saint was delivered over to be tortured. They took St Myron and struck his body with iron rods. They then threw the presbyter into a red-hot oven, but the Lord preserved the



martyr, but about 150 men standing nearby were scorched by the fire. The governor then began to insist that the martyr worship idols. St Myron firmly refused to do this, so Antipater ordered the leather thongs to be cut from his skin. St Myron took one of the leather thongs and threw it in the face of his tormentor. Falling into a rage, Antipater gave orders to strike St Myron all over his stripped body, and then to give the martyr to wild beasts to be eaten. The beasts would not touch him, however. Seeing himself defeated, Antipater in his blind rage committed suicide. They then took St Myron to the city of Cyzicus, where he was beheaded by the sword.

## General Announcements

**OBLIGATORY HOLY DAY THIS WEEK — Tuesday, Aug. 15,** we will be celebrating the



**Feast of the Dormition (Falling-Asleep) of the Mother of God.**

It is the most ancient Marian Feast of the Church. It is customary to bless flowers and herbs on this day. This custom of the Church arose when the Holy Theotokos fell-asleep on Mount Zion and all of the apostles were miraculously transported back to Jerusalem with the exception of St. Thomas. Following the funeral procession along the Kidron Valley to the Gethsemane tomb, they returned to Mount Zion. Thomas later arrived and urged the apostles to take him to view and pray before the mortal remains. When then arrived at the tomb an aromatic fragrance of flowers and herbs filled the air

near the spot when they laid her. Her most pure body was no longer present. Receiving a vision that she was transferred to heaven, the apostles rejoiced and strengthened to proclaim the Good News of her beloved Son, Jesus. Following the Divine Liturgies flowers and herbs will be solemnly blessed as a thanksgiving offering. *Since flowers symbolize the beauty of Eternal Life, and herbs a healing remedy for the body, you may wish to take a blessed flower and place it on the grave(s) of your loved one(s) as a symbol of faith and a prayer that they may be resting in the eternal Kingdom of heaven.* **Bring flowers and herbs for this special blessing!** Check the liturgical page for the times of the Divine Liturgies.

**BLESSING OF SCHOOL CHILDREN & TEACHERS THIS WEEKEND —** Following each of

the Divine Liturgies all Students and Teachers will be asked to come forward to receive a blessing as they commence the 2017-2018 Academic Year in their various school districts, colleges and universities. Since many of these institutions begin earlier each year, the opportunity to receive this blessing has been moved to this weekend. All received a token pencil box, pens and notebook as a gift.



**LAST DAY FOR TICKETS FOR OUR PARISH PICNIC —** Mark your calendars and set next Sunday aside, **August 20,** for our dual parish picnic. This year's event will be, once again, at



Robinson Clever Recreational Park, Rotary Shelter, 115 Robinson Pool Drive, McKees Rocks 15136. **THE SWIMMING POOL WILL BE CLOSED DUE TO RENOVATIONS BEGINNING THE SECOND WEEK OF AUGUST!! GOOD GRIEF!!** Ticket prices are the same as last year: Adults — \$13.00, Children — \$6.00. Meal will be served at 1:30 p.m. — SLAVJANE will perform at 2:15 p.m. Hopefully, they will

be able to recruit new Holy Ghost members. The picnic will extend from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Games for children and adults will be presented. Tickets are being sold following the Divine Liturgies. If you wish to bring your own picnic basket you do not have to purchase a ticket.

**ALTAR BOY FAITH & FUN DAY FOURTHCOMING —** Set for **Thursday, August 24, 2017.**

Open to all Altar Boys (elementary through college), this exciting day is sponsored by the Vocations Office. Registration will take place at the school gym at 9:00 a.m. followed by the Divine Liturgy. After a lunch we will depart to the Carnegie Science Center. We will be attending a mid-afternoon 4:05 p.m. Pirate Baseball Game against the Los Angeles Dodgers. Phone the church office to register (412) 771-3324. *A Parent's Consent Form must be returned to the Vocation's Office (66 Riverview Ave, PGH 15214) to arrive no later than Friday, August 18! Forms are available at the (MR) Church Office.*

