

## Parish Offerings – Patriot Day – Sept. 11, 2016

“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 (\$1,561.50) YP (\$7)	\$1,568.50
Holy Days	220.00
Votive Candles	86.50
	<hr/>
	\$1,875.00

### Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$328.86
Holy Days	64.00
Votive Candles	39.50
	<hr/>
	\$432.36

## Church Attendance Last Week

Sat., (MR) 4:00 p.m. (43)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (63); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (38)

Elevation of the Precious Cross, Wed, Sept. 14 — (MR) \*8:50 a.m. (13); (NS) \*5:50 p.m. (11)

I didn't fall. The floor just needed a hug.



**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**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*



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**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

**PETTIT & SPONTAK, LLC**  
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429 Broadway Ave.  
McKees Rocks, PA 15136

## HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

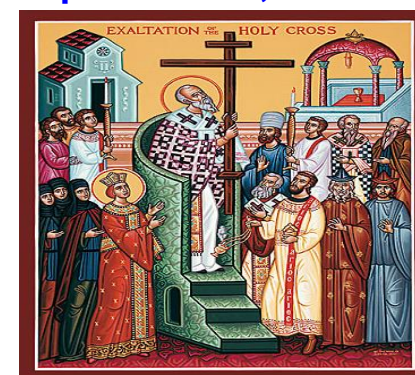
225 OLIVIA STREET  
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136

PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

## THE 18<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday after the Elevation of the Precious Cross  
Catechetical Sunday – September 18, 2016



2015-2016 Extra-Ordinary Jubilee – THE YEAR OF MERCY  
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: (412) 331-5155; NS Social Center (412) 231-9366

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)

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.

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 Beluinas (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).

September 18, 2016

Seasonal Greeting

Volume VI, Number 38



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



## Liturgical Services for the Week

Date

Time

Intention

Requested By



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

### Sunday after the Elevation of the Precious Cross

**SUN., Sept 18** 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes  
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Betty J. Mowery (8<sup>th</sup> ann of passing 9/16) Husband: + Jay & Family

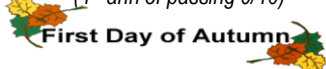
Mon, Sept 19 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Marie E. Jumba (2<sup>nd</sup> ann of passing 9/16) GCU Lodge 390



Tue, Sept 20 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Joseph Yakubik (2<sup>nd</sup> ann of passing 9/18) Joan & John Ambrose

### Final Day of the Feast of the Universal Elevation of the Precious Cross

Wed, Sept 21 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Stephan Rybowicz (4<sup>th</sup> ann of passing 9/10) Son: Peter & Debbie



First Day of Autumn

Thrs, Sept 22 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Olga + John Wovchko John Wovchko, Jr. & Family

**REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice) in remembrance of Our Lord's Crucifixion and Death upon the Precious Cross**

Fri, Sept 23 8:00 a.m. (MR) Special Intention Holy Ghost Pirohi Workers for A.Velma Seman (Birthday 9/17)

Sat, Sept 24 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Stefan + Maria + Stefan + Josef Michael Lorinc



The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + John Kundrat (26<sup>th</sup> ann of passing 9/23)



Wife: Theresa

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

**SUN., Sept 25** 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Anna + Anthony Zanis Marge & James Lautenschlager + Patricia Stanko

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

## 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 date not be published.

Note: Capitalized Names designate North Side parishioners

**Birthdays:** Sept 19 – Dorothy Billy; Sept 20 – Dolores Babin, LEONARD R. KALLOP, JR., Laura Saber; Sept 21 – STEPHANIE MULLEN; Sept 22 – Elizabeth Harbist, Margaret Nazak; Sept 23 – Charles Alman, Kathleen Charochak, THERESA FITZURKA, TAMARA HARDING, Tam Revtai, Cecelia Rose Sclicht.

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

**HOME:** Margaret Beluinas, Irene Bordas, MARY ANN CONTI, Mary Culan, Ilona Goyda, Beverly Harsh, MARTHA LUCAS, OLGA MANFREDO, Debra Palahunik, Elizabeth Petruna, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Agnes Rosko, MARY SAHAYDA, GERARD SLAGLE, ANNA TOTH, EVELYN VENTO, JOHN VEREB, Claudia Verner, Julia Wovchko.

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

**MASONIC VILLAGE** (1000 Masonic Drive, Sewickley, PA 15143): Helen M. Kriska, Marjorie Preganz.

**MARIAN MANOR** (2695 Winchester Dr., Pgh, 15220): MICHAEL BARBUSH, Irene Bednar.

**CHIPPEWA PLACE** (7005 Stadium Dr., Apt 427, Brecksville, OH 44141): Stephen Katrenich.

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

**OHIO VALLEY HOSPITAL** (25 Heckel Road, McKees Rocks, PA 15136): Andrew Drukalsky.

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

**Q.** If parents are in an invalid marriage, can their children be baptized in the Catholic Church? Are there any conditions that would have to be met? **A. Catholic Answers Apologist:** If parents are in an invalid marriage, their children can be baptized in the Catholic Church provided the following conditions are met: "That the parents, or at least one of them, or the person who lawfully holds their place, give their consent; "That there be a well-founded hope that the child will be brought up in the Catholic religion. If such hope is truly lacking, the baptism is, in accordance with the provisions of particular law, to be deferred and the parents advised of the reason for this. An infant of Catholic parents, indeed even of non-Catholic parents, may in danger of death be baptized even if the parents are opposed to it.



## This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

**September 18 — September 24, 2016**

(MR): Thanksgiving for Loving Care of Andy, Jodi & Sheri Families

offered by Wife & Mom: + Gerry Nazak

(NS): In memory of Gaberial Babin (13<sup>th</sup> ann of passing 9/19)

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE 2016

offered by Dgtr: Janet Sendro

(NS) NONE AVAILABLE 2016





## McKees Rocks Announcements

VITAJTE U NAS VLADYKO, SVJACENNIKI & BOHOSLOVI — Translates welcome

Most Reverend Bishop, Priests and Seminarians from the Mukachevo Eparchy. They represent the Mother Eparchy of our Byzantine Catholic Church. It is also the home eparchy of our Holy Hierarchs Blessed Bishop-Martyr Theodore Romzha and Venerable Bishop Alexander Chira. They are here to lead us in worship by singing the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom in Church Slavonic. They are touring the northeastern portion of the United States. Proceeds from a freewill offering go directly to them to cover expenses of their flight and the remaining to support their Blessed Theodore Romzha Seminary. **Anyone donating \$100.00 or more will be given a complimentary CD recording of their favorite hymns as a thank you.** All checks should be made out to: **OL FOUNDATION CONCERT TOUR.** Please join us in a small reception following the Divine Liturgy and offer them our best Holy Ghost welcome!



GRATITUDE EXTENDED FOR COFFEE SOCIAL — A special thank you is extended to



Thank You  
Thank You  
Thank You!!!!

Loretta and Russell Keller who sponsored last week's September Coffee Social following the Divine Liturgies. Also, heartfelt thanks is extended to Dunkin Donut for supplying today's treats in welcoming our European Guests following the Divine Liturgy. We especially thank Parishioner Gregory Fejka, of Dunkin Donut, Inc. for making this possible. Gratitude is also extended to the Herron & Kacsur Families for cleaning and setting up the gym area to greet our guests! May God grant all of them many happy and blessed years! Na Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita!

GROUNDS CLEANUP SLATED FORTHCOMING — SAVE THE DATE — The weeds and



bushes surrounding our Holy Ghost Church really need attention. We can't do it without your cooperation! We surely need your help on **Saturday, October 8, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to noon.** To keep our grounds tidied encourages our neighbors to have civic pride and demonstrates that we care for God's Church and the important gift it is to the community. Again, please circle this date on your calendar to assist us! We need you!!! If you have any relatives needing extra credit for a scouting project or for school, our pastor will be happy to sign a form for them.

## Northside Announcements

GROUNDS CLEANUP SLATED FORTHCOMING — SAVE THE DATE — The weeds and

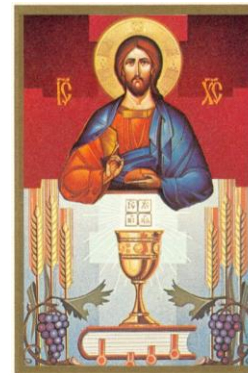
bushes surrounding our Holy Ghost Church really need attention. We can't do it without your cooperation! We surely need your help on **Saturday, October 15, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to noon.** To keep our grounds tidied encourages our neighbors to have civic pride and demonstrates that we care for God's Church and the important gift it is to the community. Again, please circle this date on your calendar to assist us! We need you!!! If you have any relatives needing extra credit for a scouting project or for school, our pastor will be happy to sign a form for them.



## A Catechism Lesson on the Holy Eucharist

*(The following article appeared on the Catholic Answers webpage, September 15, 2016. It has been abridged to fit into the space of this page. To read the full article, you may access at [www.catholic.com](http://www.catholic.com). This article is printed with permission so as to increase the Catholic reception of the Most Holy Eucharist)*

The Holy Eucharist is the most important of the seven sacraments because, in this and in no other sacrament, we receive the very body and blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ. Innumerable, precious graces come to us through the reception of Holy Communion....



Because of the gravity of Jesus' teaching on receiving the Eucharist, the Church encourages Catholics to receive frequent Communion, even daily Communion if possible, and mandates reception of the Eucharist at least once a year during the Easter season. Before going to Communion, however, there are several things one needs to know. **First**, you must be in a state of grace. *"Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup"* (1 Cor. 11:27–28). This is an absolute requirement which can never be dispensed. **To receive the Eucharist without sanctifying grace in your soul profanes the Eucharist in the most grievous manner.** A mortal sin

is any sin whose matter is grave and which has been committed willfully and with knowledge of its seriousness. Grave matter includes, but is not limited to, murder, receiving or participating in an abortion, homosexual acts, having sexual intercourse outside of marriage or in an invalid marriage, and deliberately engaging in impure thoughts (Matt. 5:28–29). Scripture contains lists of mortal sins (for example, 1 Cor. 6:9–10 and Gal. 5:19–21). For further information on what constitutes a mortal sin, see the Catechism of the Catholic Church (which includes the Precepts of the Church). Out of habit and out of fear of what those around them will think if they do not receive Communion, some Catholics, in a state of mortal sin, choose to go forward and offend God rather than stay in the pew while others receive the Eucharist. The Church's ancient teaching on this particular matter is expressed in the Didache, an early Christian document written around A.D. 70, which states: *"Whosoever is holy [i.e., in a state of sanctifying grace], let him approach. Whosoever is not, let him repent"* (Didache 10). **Second**, you must have been to confession since your last mortal sin. The Didache witnesses to this practice of the early Church. *"But first make confession of your faults, so that your sacrifice may be a pure one"* (Didache 14). **Third**, you must believe in the doctrine of transubstantiation. *"For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment upon himself"* (1 Cor. 11:29). Transubstantiation means more than the Real Presence. According to transubstantiation, the bread and wine are actually transformed into the actual body, blood, soul, and divinity of Christ, with only the appearances of bread and wine remaining. **Fourth**, you must observe the Eucharistic fast. Canon law states, **"One who is to receive the most Holy Eucharist is to abstain from any food or drink, with the exception only of water and medicine, for at least the period of one hour before Holy Communion."** Elderly people, those who are ill, and their caretakers are excused from the Eucharistic fast. **Finally**, one must not be under an ecclesiastical censure. Canon law mandates, *"Those who are excommunicated or interdicted after the imposition or declaration of the penalty and others who obstinately persist in manifest grave sin are not to be admitted to Holy Communion"*. **Provided they are in a state of grace and have met the above requirements, Catholics should receive the Eucharist frequently.**

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

September 18 Catechetical Sunday & Commissioning of the Catechists. Beginning of ECF school year.  
 Rusyn Seminarians from the Eparchy of Mukachevo will sing a Slavonic Divine Liturgy @ 9:00 a.m.  
 September 25 ... Mini Pilgrimage III – Year of Mercy to St. Anthony Shrine, Troy Hill, PGH @ 12:30 p.m.  
 September 30 ... Vigil Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos – (NS) @ 6:00 p.m.  
 October 1..... Feast of the Protection of Mother of God – (MR) 9:00 am  
 October 2-6 .... Annual Archieparchial Clergy Retreat at Antiochian Retreat Center, Ligonier.  
 October 7 ..... (MR) The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary @ 6:00 p.m.  
 October 8 ..... MR Church grounds cleanup from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.  
 October 9 .... Freewill Offering Pasta Dinner, St. Elias Church, Munhall, PA from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.  
 October 14 ..... (MR) The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary @ 6:00 p.m.  
 October 15 ..... NS Church grounds cleanup from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

## Saint of the Week

### Holy Apostle Codratus, One of the 70 commissioned by the Lord September 21

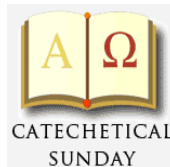
Saint Codratus, Apostle of the Seventy preached the Word of God at Athens



and at Magnesia (eastern peninsula of Thessaly), and was Bishop of Athens. His biographer called him “a morning star” among the clouds of paganism. He converted many pagans to the true faith in Christ the Savior, and his preaching aroused the hatred of the pagans. Once, an angry mob fell upon the saint to pelt him with stones. Preserved by God, St Codratus remained alive, and they threw him into prison, where he died of starvation. His holy body was buried in Magnesia. In the year 126, St Codratus wrote an Apologia in defense of Christianity. Presented to the emperor Hadrian (117-138), the Apologia affected the persecution of Christians, since the emperor issued a decree saying that no one should be convicted without just

cause. This Apologia was known to the historian Eusebius in the fourth century. At the present time, only part of this Apologia survives, quoted by Eusebius: *“The deeds of our Savior were always witnessed, because they were true. His healings and raising people from the dead were visible not only when they were healed and raised, but always. They lived not only during the existence of the Savior upon the earth, but they also remained alive long after His departure. Some, indeed, have survived to our own time.”*

## General Announcements



**FIRST DAY OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & COMMISSIONING CATECHETICS** — Today commences our 2016-2017 Catechetical Educational Year following the morning Divine Liturgy. All Catechists have been commissioned in a short ceremonial program and receive a blessing to go “forth in peace” at last evening’s Divine Liturgy. Our Eastern Christian Formation (E.C.F.) Program is vital to the spiritual formation of our youth. Parents, please see that your children are enrolled in this program. If you have any questions, please contact Coordinator, Steve Puluka (412) 897- 4650.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR: COME & SEE WEEKEND** — Young men 18-35 are invited to a FREE Weekend of Discovery retreat, Friday through Sunday, **October 14-15-16, 2016** at Saints Cyril & Methodius Seminary. *The purpose: to see if you might be interested in the possibility of becoming a priest.* No pressure, no hype, no boring lectures. Just recreation, relaxation, talking to God (a.k.a. prayer), and the opportunity to really listen to God’s voice and to plan for your life.

This worthwhile retreat of discovery in no way implies any future commitment other than your commitment to truly be yourself! There is no expense involved in participating in this retreat. E-mail your reply to: [vocations@archeparchy.org](mailto:vocations@archeparchy.org).

**PITTSBURGH DEANERY CLERGY TO SERVE PASTA DINNER** — The Priests and Deacons in the Pittsburgh Deanery will be hosting a FREE PASTA DINNER at St. Elias Church, Munhall on **Sunday October 9, 2016** from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Clergy will be preparing and serving the dinner. A signup list is located in the Church. We must know how many to prepare for! The final day for registration is Sunday, *October 2. A freewill offering will be taken.*



**ANNUAL MOLEBEN FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CAUSES** — The yearly prayer service for the advancement of the Causes of Beatification and Canonization of our four holy



Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Bishops will take place at St. John the Baptist Cathedral, Munhall on **Sunday of Christ the King, October 30, 2016 @ 3:00 p.m.** We will have the opportunity to receive the special Jubilee Blessing by walking through the Holy Doors. For the past 30 years faithful through the Pittsburgh Archeparchy have gathered in various archieparchial parishes, monasteries and the seminary to pray for the Canonization of Bishop-Martyr Theodore G. Romzha, Uzhorod (+1947); Bishop-Martyr Paul P. Gojdich, O.S.B.M., Presov (+1960); Bishop-Martyr Basil Hopko, Presov (+1976); and for the beatification of the Servant of God Bishop Alexander Chira, Uzhorod (+1985). A Marian Moleben is offered seeking the aid of the Holy Mother of God in helping us achieve this end. Please mark your calendar and attend this important prayer for their advancement

**VENERATING THE PRECIOUS CROSS** — A special veneration of the Precious Cross takes place twice a year as it rests on the tetrapod table of the Church. Since the Most Holy Trinity is responsible for our salvation we bow profoundly with our right hand to the floor in honor of God the Father, Who so loved the world that He sent us His Only-Begotten Son; then a second profound bow in the same manner in honor of God the Son, Who redeemed us upon the Life-Creating Wood also by venerating it with a kiss; and then a third profound bow in honor of God the Holy



Spirit, Who sanctifies us by the Precious Blood of Christ flowing from the Holy Cross. Let us always respectfully venerate this great symbol of God's love and mercy towards us!