

Parish Offerings – 10th Sunday after Pentecost — Aug. 13, 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 (2,065) YP (\$11)	\$2,076.00
Holy Days	137.00
Votive Candles	83.40

\$2,296.40

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$236.00
Holy Days	25.00
Votive Candles	32.50

\$293.50

Church Attendance Last Week

Sat., 4:00 p.m. (38)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (75); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (38)

Dormition & Transference into Heaven of the Most Holy Theotokos Aug. 15

Solemn Blessing of Flowers & Herbs — Mon., Aug 14 (MR) 7:00 p.m. (25)

Tue, Aug 15 (MR) 9:00 a.m. (31); (NS) 6:00 p.m. (23)



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



DESIGNS BY NANCY

235 McCartney Drive,
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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!

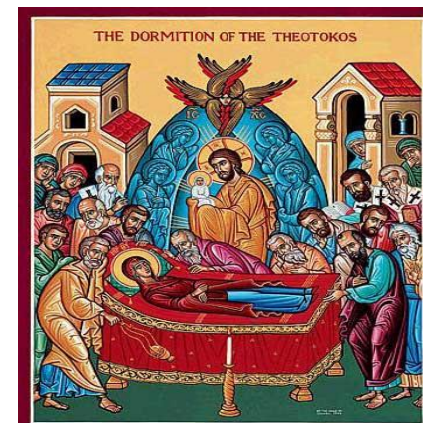
Please patronize our fabulous sponsors! They make it possible to bring you this weekly & informative S.O.T. without an added expense to the Church. New Sponsors please contact Church 9 til 1:00 p.m. Mon-Fri!



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

THE 11th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Postfestive of the Dormition — August 20, 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 – E-Mail: 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

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 Belinas (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 20, 2017

Seasonal Greeting

Volume VII, Number 34



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By



11th Sunday after Pentecost

Postfestive of the Dormition Feast

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC — Robinson Clever Recreational Park

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

Mon, Aug 21 8:00 a.m. (MR) + George W. Hornak Sister: Helena Barth & Family

Tue, Aug 22 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Elizabeth Mross Marge Cifrutlak

Final Day of the Dormition Feast

Wed, Aug 23 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Elsie Eberle Jo Radan

Archieparchial Altar Boy Faith & Fun Day

Thrs, Aug 24 *10:00 a.m. (MR) + Florence Szal Nancy & Mark Cifrutlak

REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice)
for the intention for peace in our country

Fri, Aug 25 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Julia (Miklos) Sibenik Son: Steven
(1st ann of passing)

Sat, Aug 26 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Alex Rymniak (birthday 8/28) Son: Alex & Tanya

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Twelfth after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

12th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN., Aug 27 9:00 a.m. (MR) + John Kulka Children: Kathy & John
(11th ann of passing 8/26)

11:00 a.m. (NS) + Anna + George Toth Dgtr: Anna

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 20 – Nina Bella Lecci; Aug 21 – Carmella Marie Rippole; Aug 23 – John Hirsch; Aug 25 – Lori Lee Rippole; Aug 26 – EDWARD SPONTAK II.

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.

LUTHERAN SENIORLIFE (500 Wittenberg Way, Mars PA 16046): William Zavidny.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. Must I meet my gay sister's fiancée? I don't think my heart could take it. Is it OK to have this boundary? A. Answer by Catholic Answers: This is a question you must decide, but I would consider so out of love for your sister and thus for her eternal salvation—and for her friend's as well. With God's blessing, you may be able to make a positive impact on your sister over time. Consider bringing a friend or another family member with you. You can affirm that your sister has a genuine friendship and sisterly love for her friend but that attempting to express that love sexually is an invalid expression of that love—indeed, a betrayal of it. Obviously, you could not attend their so-called “wedding.” God bless you in striving to witness the truth in love to your sister.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

August 20 — August 26, 2017

(MR): **In memory of Anne Hrebenak**

offered by Sister: Maria, Luke & Anita Iyengar

(NS): **In memory of Mike Pungas**

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE 2017 offered by Dgtr: Anna Marie Demianczyk (NS) NONE AVAILABLE 2017

McKees Rocks Announcements

PLANS UNDERWAY TO FIX THE SCHOOL BASEMENT FLOODING PROBLEM — For several decades, during a torrential down-pour of rain, our school basement often gets flooded with both sewer and rain water. The cost for several professional cleanups would have been astronomical if it weren't for our insurance. After consulting many plumbing agencies, only one has given a proposal. After discussing this subject with the Parish Advisory Committee, it had been decided that the Matt Mertz Plumbing, Inc. of the North Hills would get the bid. The details have been sent to the chancery for approval. More information is forthcoming in a later S.O.T.



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, September 30, 2017 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.



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

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, September 23, 2017 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. We will also need hands to clean the inside of the Church. 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.



Continuation (p.3) of Mary's Assumption in the Eastern Tradition

Infant in white swaddling clothes, and gives it to Michael the Archangel; 6) The apostles carry Mary's body on a funeral bier to a tomb beside the Garden of Gethsemane; 7) Jephonias, one of the Jewish leaders, attempts to upend the funeral bier but as he does so his hands are severed by an angel, then later restored by his conversion and prayers to Mary; 8) After laying her body in the tomb, the apostles wait for Christ there for several days until he returns, resurrects Mary and takes her body, along with the apostles, to paradise; 9) The apostles, after being shown heaven and hell, then return to earth with Mary remaining, body and soul, in heaven. One of the later narratives also mentions a situation where Thomas arrives late. By the time he reaches the city and meets with the other apostles, Mary has been buried and he requests to see her body in the sealed tomb. When the tomb is opened, however, Mary's body is not to be found, but rather the relics of her funeral robe and her girdle. The finding of the relics is also part of the Dormition traditions of Constantinople and Ephesus.

11th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Forgiveness is NECESSARY to be Forgiven! (Mt 18: 23-35)

Unlimited forgiveness toward a brother or sister is illustrated by this parable. Sin



is portrayed as a debt to God, a debt originated by neglecting God's will. Ten thousand talents as an impossible sum, more than a laborer could earn in all lifetime - is contrasted to a hundred denarii, equivalent to about a hundred days' wages. Just as the king shows mercy and severity toward the servant, so does God show love and strictness toward us• depending on our willingness to forgive our brothers and sisters., The love of God is manifested in paying off the debt, a remission or letting go of sins. Because God forgives us, we in return are obliged to grant this gift of forgiveness to others. When each Christian forgives from his heart, true reconciliation and healing come to the Church by God's grace.

FROM A CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVE:

Mary's Assumption in the Eastern Tradition

The following article was written by a Catholic Answer writer, Deacon Daniel G. Dozer and taken from Catholic Answers Webpage. This abridges article briefly teaches us the importance of understanding the Dormition Feast. Space does not permit the entire article so you may locate it on Catholic.com/magazine.

.... We celebrate this holy end of Mary's life today with the Solemnity of the Assumption, in the East called the Dormition. Catholics of the Latin tradition often assume that Mary's final end has been sufficiently addressed by the dogma of the Assumption, that is, her translation, body and soul, into heaven as defined by Pius XII in 1950.... The Byzantine tradition, however, as part of the universal and fully Catholic patrimony of the Church, is not silent on this topic. It guards a rich treasury of teaching, iconography, and liturgy concerning the end of Mary's life.... These three events—her death, her resurrection, and her assumption into heaven—complete the mosaic of the holy end of Mary's life. According to Stephen Shoemaker, a contemporary theologian who specializes in the area of the Dormition traditions, some of the common threads running through the Palm narratives are as follows: 1) An angel meets Mary on the Mount of Olives and announces to her that her time of death has come and brings to her a palm branch from the Tree of Life in paradise; 2) Mary goes back to her home in Jerusalem and informs her friends and family of the message of the angel, and the apostles, who were engaged in their respective missions all over the earth, re-gather miraculously in Jerusalem; 3) Peter, who is treated as the head of the apostles, delivers a homily to those who have come the night before to pray as Mary prepares for her death; 4) When the moment arrives, the crowds are put to sleep, all except the apostles and three virgins, who see Jesus and a host of angels appear; 5) Jesus receives the immaculate soul of Mary, appearing in the form of an (cont. p.6)



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

August 20 Annual Parish Picnic, Robinson Clever Road, beginning @ 1:00 pm.
 August 24 Archbishopial Servers Faith & Fun Day.
 August 29 Feast of Beheading of St. John the Baptist: (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.
 September 2-3 83rd Annual Uniontown Pilgrimage at Mount Saint Macrina.
 September 8 Feast of Nativity of the Theotokos – (MR) 9:00 am & (NS) 6:00 pm.
 September 9 Commencement of a new Slavjane Season at the 4:00 p.m. DL.
 September 10..... Archbishopial Celebration of Marriage for Jubilarians, St. Elias Church, Munhall @ 3:00 pm
 September 9-10 (MR) Coffee Social commences following the weekend Divine Liturgies.
 September 18 Catechetical Sunday & Commissioning of the Catechists. Beginning of ECF school year
 September 23 NS Church grounds cleanup from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.
 September 30 MR Church grounds cleanup from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Saint of the Week

The Holy Martyr Lupus — Aug. 23

The Martyr Lupus lived at the end of the third century and beginning of the fourth century, and was a faithful servant of the holy Great-Martyr Demetrius of Thessalonica (October 26). Being present at the death of his master, he soaked his own clothing with his blood and took a ring from his hand. With this clothing, and with the ring and the name of the Great Martyr Demetrius, St Lupus worked many miracles at Thessalonica. He destroyed pagan idols, for which he was subjected to persecution by the pagans, but he was preserved unharmed by the power of God. St Lupus voluntarily delivered himself into the hands of the torturers, and by order of the emperor Maximian Galerius, he was beheaded by the sword.

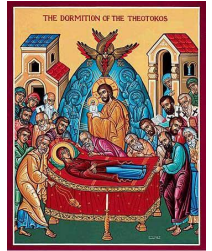


Vesperal Stichera for the Martyr Lupus

O blessed Lupus when you were beheaded by the sword, * you melted the thick ice of paganism with the warmth of the Divine Spirit. You overflowed the streams of healing and kindly sprinkled the souls of the despised with dew. As the friends of martyrs, let us devoutly honor him as an excellent intercessor and a fervent defender of the faithful.

General Announcements

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION THIS PAST WEEK — Last Tuesday, Aug. 15 was *THE FEAST OF THE DOMMITION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD* and a Holy Day of Obligation. The Canon Law of our Byzantine Catholic Church states: *“The Christian faithful are **bound by the obligation** to participate on Sundays and feast days (Holy Days of Obligation) at the Divine Liturgy”* (Canon 881#1); and *“are recommended to receive the Divine Eucharist on these days ...”* (Canon 881 #3); *“and should abstain from those labors or business matters which impede the worship to be rendered to God”* (Canon 881 #4). **Neglectful fulfillment of this precept renders one guilty of mortal sin, therefore, unworthy to receive the Holy Eucharist, until one makes a worthy sacramental Confession of this voluntary neglect.**



PARISH PICNIC TODAY IN ROBINSON; BRING A LOUNGE CHAIR — Several tickets have been purchased for today's annual social gathering and picnic. If you have not purchased a ticket, please feel free to bring a picnic basket like we did in the “olden days!” We will meet at Robinson Park, Rotary Shelter, 115 Robinson Pool Drive, McKees Rocks 15136 this afternoon at **1:00 p.m.** with various activities. **The food buffet will be served at 1:30 p.m.** At **2:15 p.m.** the wonderful and talented Slavjane Folk Ensemble will entertain us with a half hour performance. Following, games will continue, Parents, please encourage the children to attend the Slavjane show; this performance hopes to solicit new members of all ages. The Church will treat pizza to the Slavjane following the performance. The picnic will extend to 6:00 p.m. It is a good time to get acquainted with one another as a parish family.



83rd ANNUAL UNIONTOWN PILGRIMAGE — Labor Day weekend is just about here. This has always been a time to make an Annual Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help at Mount Saint Macrina. It is there that we present our petitions before Our Blessed Mother for our needs and supplicate her assistance. We all have needs and/or something to be thankful for. Make the sacrifice and attend the Otpust (Pilgrimage) this year on **Saturday, September 2** and/or **Sunday, September 3**. See the flyer in the narthex of the church!

INVITATION TO THE PITTSBURGH ZOO — Plans for a dual Parish Social Event to the Pittsburgh Zoo are being coordinated. Many have not been at the Zoo for years. How things have changed. We are planning the event for **Sunday, September 24, 2017 @ 1:30 p.m.** *The Zoo will give us discounted prices if we have 15 or more.* The price is \$12.00 for ages 2 thru adult. Children under 2 can enter compliments of the Zoo. We will meet at the Zoo. If you are interested, please sign the sheet in MR Side Vestibule; NS Narthex. *The final day for registering is Sunday, Sept. 10.* For additional information contact the Church Office (412) 771-3324.

