

Parish Offerings – 12th Sunday after Pentecost – Aug, 27, 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 (\$2,256) YP (\$9)	\$2,265.00
Holy Days (\$101) YP (\$2)	103.00
Votive Candles	101.85
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	\$2,469.85

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

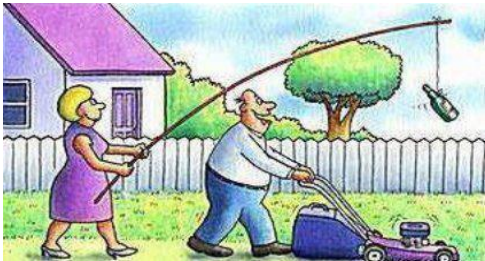
Regular Offering	\$386.04
Holy Days	35.00
Improvements	48.00
Votive Candles	36.50
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	\$505.54

Church Attendance Last Week

Sat., 4:00 p.m. (42)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (77); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (38)

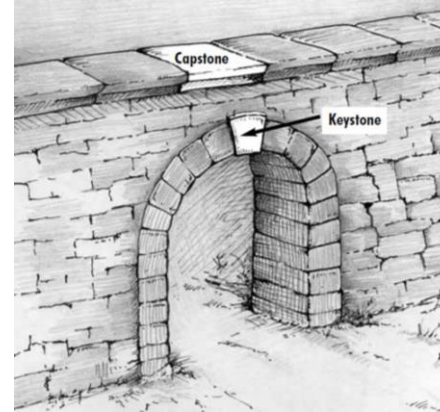
Beheading of St. John the Baptist, Aug. 29 — (MR) 9:00 am (10); (NS) 6:00 pm (12)



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

THE 13th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Labor Day Weekend — September 3, 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

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

Happy Labor Day!

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DESIGNS BY NANCY
 235 McCartney Drive,
 Moon Township 15108
 Phone: (412) 262-9141
Nancode@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
 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 Beliuнас (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 3, 2017

Seasonal Greeting

Volume VII, Number 36



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




Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

12th Sunday after Pentecost

83rd Annual Uniontown Pilgrimage — Labor Weekend

SUN., Sept 3	9:00 a.m. (MR) + Mary Fedorowich (birthday) + Dgtr: Joyce Ray		
	11:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes		
		Annual Labor Day	
Mon, Sept 4	8:00 a.m. (MR) Health & Welfare of Elizabeth Petruna (95 th Birthday)		Family
Tue, Sept 5	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Jennie Timulak (4 th ann of passing 9/6)		Parker Family
Wed, Sept 6	8:00 a.m. (MR) + George W. Hornak (4 th ann of passing 9/5)		Sister: Helena Barth & Family
Thrs, Sept 7	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Anna J. Kinzler (3 rd ann of passing 9/5)		Dgtr: Susan Kushner



Nativity of the Holy Theotokos



Solemn Holy Day — Mirovanije

REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice) for the intention of disaster relief brought about by Hurricane Harvey

Fri, Sept 8	9:00 a.m. (MR) + Margaret "Peggy" Krulac Mike & Michael Muska
	6:00 p.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

Saturday of the Postfestive of the Nativity of the Theotokos & Sunday before the Elevation of the Precious Cross

Sat, Sept 9	9:00 a.m. (NS) + Rita Lasko Janet Johnson & Rose Koretzka
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Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Postfestive of the Nativity of the Theotokos & Sunday Before the Elevation of the Precious Cross

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



13th Sunday after Pentecost

Postfestive of the Nativity of the Theotokos

& Sunday Before the Elevation of the Precious Cross

SUN., Sept 10	9:00 a.m. (MR) + Mary Frissora (birthday) Nephew: Dr. Gordon & Kate Frissora
	11:00 a.m. (NS) + Leonard R. Kallop, Sr. (6 th ann of passing 9/15) Valeriano & Kallop Families

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: Sept 3 – Timothy Kacsur; Sept 4 – Lynn Kacsur, Elizabeth Petruna; Sept 5 – Debra Charochak; Sept 6 – Irene Palahunik; Sept 7 – George Rosko, Dennis Safranko, ANNA TOTH; Sept 8 – AMBERLY VALERIANO.

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, Lisa Plutto, 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. What is Church teaching on body tattoos and piercings? **A. Answer by Catholic Answers:** Old Testament prohibitions regarding tattoos are considered ceremonial laws and thus are not binding on Christians. There is nothing inherently immoral about a Catholic having a tattoo or a piercing. What would make those things immoral would be its content/message/purpose. What message am I trying to send through this action? What is my motivation? It is essentially viewed as a morally neutral act whose morality depends upon content, context, and circumstances. Prudential judgment is needed.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

September 3 — September 9, 2017

(MR): In memory of Elsie Eberle

offered by Margaret Cifrulak

(NS): In memory of Michael Seman

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE 2017

offered by Dgtr. A. Velma Seman

(NS) NONE AVAILABLE 2017



McKees Rocks Announcements

SYMPATHY EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the passing of **Judith A. Hopey, 92**, of McCandles Township, PA, on Wednesday, August 23, 2017. She was the wife of the late + Michael, and the mother of Michael (Jane) Hopey, Thomas (Kimberly) Hopey; & Linda (Robert) Miller. Also, she was the sister-in-law of parishioner, Helen Hopey, and relative of parishioners, Theresa and Jack (Betsey) Kundrat. Funeral arrangements were handled by the Simons Funeral Home, McCandles. Although a member of Holy Ghost Church, the family requested that the Funeral take place at St. Andrew Byzantine Catholic Church, Gibsonia, PA, on Sept. 2 due to the closeness of Holy Savior Roman Rite Cemetery. **Judy was known by many for the several years she worked at The Byzantine Seminary Press, Northside.** Our parish offers it's most sincere condolences to all relatives and prayerful solicitude for her immortal soul. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, to your servant, Judy, and remember her forever! Vicnaja Jez Pamjat!



BANNS OF MARRIAGE I & II — This is the first and second announcement of the upcoming marriage of **Subdeacon Vitalii Stashkevych (Holy Ghost Church) and Mary Elizabeth Kacsur (Holy Ghost Church) on Friday, September 15, 2017.** If anyone knows why these individuals cannot contract marriage, please call the rectory office and speak to the pastor.



GROUNDS CLEANUP SLATED FORTHCOMING — SAVE THE DATE — The weeds and bushes surrounding our Holy Ghost Church really need attention. We also need cleanup in the school. 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.**



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.**



Cont. from page 3 — Catholic Perspective (p.3) of Astrology

All other precepts are based on this primary one. Herein lies the key for deriving moral precepts from the natural ordering of human faculties, and in particular the sexual faculty. If we ought always do what is good, and the good is determined by the ends toward which our faculties are ordered, then we ought to always use them in a way that is consistent with their ends and avoid using them in a way that frustrates those ends. To use our sexual faculties in ways opposed to their ends is to act irrationally, since reason tells us what is good for our nature. This is contrary to our human dignity, since the ability to act in accord with reason is the identifying mark of a human being. It is also to act immorally, since we are not doing what we ought. Finally, it is to harm our chances for flourishing, for succeeding in the art of being human. To be in accord nature's design for human sexuality, then, is to give ourselves the best chance to be happy. If you think it through, that's something everyone should want.

FROM A CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVE: For Goodness' Sake — Thinking it through

The following article is part of Catholic Answers Magazine authored by Karlo Broussard and taken from Catholic Answers Webpage. This abridged article briefly teaches us the importance of the proper understanding of sexual sanctity. Space does not permit the entire article so you may locate it on Catholic.com/magazine/.

What can we say to someone who refuses to acknowledge nature's blueprint for



sexual sanity? I answer that we should reverence nature's blueprint for sex for goodness' sake. And I don't mean this in the idiomatic sense of expressing frustration, but quite literally for the sake of doing what is good. First, let's think through what the good is. What is good for a living creature is

determined by the purposes for which its natural faculties and capacities exist. For example, the roots of an oak tree exist for the sake of providing the tree with nutrients and stability. Anything that frustrates the achievement of these ends, such as chopping off the roots or feeding them poison, would be bad for the tree—that is to say, it would impede the tree from being what it's supposed to be, given its nature. By contrast, anything that helps the roots of the tree to achieve these ends, such as water, fertilizer, and light, is good for the tree. It helps the tree flourish. And these facts about what is good and bad for a tree are true no matter how we feel about them or what we choose to accept or reject. Human beings are no different. Our faculties and capacities—whether those that we share with the animal kingdom (e.g. sight, hearing, digestion, etc.) or those that are unique to us as rational animals (intellect and free will) are ordered to what makes human nature flourish. The same line of reasoning applies to our sexual faculties. If these exist for the sake of some end, which means something good for our human nature, then it can't be good for us to use them in a way that subverts that end. Since, as we can discern through observation, the ends toward which nature orders our sexual faculties are procreation and unitive love, what is good for us sexually are acts that serve these ends. Acts contrary to them (e.g., masturbation, contraception, fornication, adultery, etc.), on the other hand, are feeding poison to the roots. The question now is, "How does one get from a description of natural goods to a moral good?" St. Thomas Aquinas says that whatever human beings do, they do because they think it will be good for them in some way. Even the murderer's end may be the elimination of an enemy, or the satisfaction of his anger; even the thief aims for the good of his victim's money. Since all men seek the good, whether real or merely apparent, Aquinas concludes that seeking the good is the first principle of practical reason. From this he derives the first moral precept: "Good is to be done and pursued, and evil is to be avoided." (cont. p. 6)

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

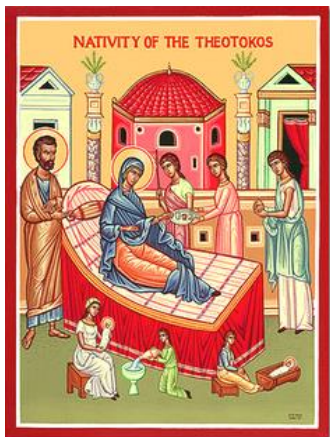
September 2-3	83 rd Annual Uniontown Pilgrimage at Mount Saint Macrina
September 7	E.C.F. Teacher Meeting in Church Office @ 7:00 pm.
September 8	Feast of Nativity of the Theotokos – (MR) 9:00 am & (NS) 6:00 pm.
September 9	Commencement of a new Slavjane Season at the 4:00 p.m. DL.
September 10	Archieparchial 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 17	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 24	Tentative Social Trip to the Pittsburgh Zoo @ 1:30 pm.
September 30	MR Church grounds cleanup from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Solemn Holy Day This Week

Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos

September 8

The Holy Virgin Mary was born of aged parents, Joachim and Anne. Her father



was of the lineage of David, and her mother of the lineage of Aaron. Thus, she was of royal birth by her father, and of priestly birth by her mother. In this, she foreshadowed Him Who would be born of her as King and High Priest. Her parents were quite old and had no children. Because of this they were ashamed before men and humble before God. In their humility they prayed to God with tears, to bring them joy in their old age by giving them a child, as He had once given joy to the aged Abraham and his wife Sarah by giving them Isaac. The Almighty and All-seeing God rewarded them with a joy that surpassed all their expectations and all their most beautiful dreams. For He gave them not just a

daughter, but the Mother of God. He illumined them not only with temporal joy, but with eternal joy as well. God gave them just one daughter, and she would later give them just one grandson-but what a daughter and what a Grandson! Mary, Full of grace, Blessed among women, the Temple of the Holy Spirit, the Altar of the Living God, the Table of the Heavenly Bread, the Ark of God's Holiness, the Tree of the Sweetest Fruit, the Glory of the race of man, the Praise of womanhood, the Fount of virginity and purity-this was the daughter given by God to Joachim and Anne. She was born in Nazareth, and at the age of three, was taken to the Temple in Jerusalem. In her young womanhood she returned again to Nazareth, and shortly thereafter heard the Annunciation of the Holy Archangel Gabriel concerning the birth of the Son of God, the Savior of the world, from her most-pure virgin body.

Come Let Us Honor Her at the Divine Liturgy!!! Check the liturgical schedule! – Most Holy Theotokos, Save Us!!!!

General Announcements

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 weekend 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 next Sunday, Sept. 10.* For additional information contact the Church Office (412) 771-3324.



PITTSBURGH ZOO
& PPG AQUARIUM

A SHORT HISTORY OF LABOR DAY — The first Labor Day was celebrated on **September 5, 1882**, in New York City, when 10,000 workers marched from city hall to Union Square. Those who participated took a day off without pay and voiced their demands. In 1884, the first Monday in September was selected as the official holiday, and the Central Labor Union, who organized the first Labor Day, encouraged organizations in other cities to celebrate the workingman's holiday on that specific date. The concept spread throughout the country and was celebrated in most major industrial cities. **By 1894**, a total of 28 states have adopted the



holiday, and in June Congress passed a federal act, making the first Monday in September a legal holiday. *President Grover Cleveland signed the bill* right after sending troops to quell a strike against the Pullman railroad company. Have a Happy and Safe Labor Day!

NEW STUDENT ENROLLMENT FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES — Our *Eastern Christian Formation* Classes will be commencing enrollment for two weeks. This program ranges from Pre-School through Senior High. These sessions are open to students from both parishes. Registration follows all Divine Liturgies today and next week. Catechetical Sunday and the First Day of Classes is slated in the MR Parish on **Sunday, September 17, 2017** following the 9:00 a.m. (MR) DL. Parents, please enroll your children in this important program! Call Coordinator, Steve Puluka (412) 897-4650.

SLAVJANE COMMENCING NEW SEASON FORTHCOMING — Slavjane will be attending the Divine Liturgy on **Saturday, September 16, 2017** at the 4:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy in order to implore God for the Aid of the All-Holy Spirit as they began their new year. This very talented Rusyn Ensemble has been a part of the Pittsburgh Archeparchy with its home at (MR) Holy Ghost Church for several years. It continues to keep alive this cultural dynamic from the Old Country where the founders of our Byzantine-Rusyn (Ruthenian) Catholic Churches had its genesis. We offer special prayers that its legacy will continue and that the joy they manifest through song, instrumental expression and dance may give glory to God, and sustain our cherished heritage. Students wishing to join Slavjane may contact Dean Poloka at (412) 877-9351 for membership requirements and complete a membership form.

