

Parish Offerings – 3rd Sunday after Pentecost — June 26, 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 (\$1,753) YP (\$5)	\$1,758.00
Holy Days	212.00
Peter's Pence (\$212) Seminary (\$10)	222.00
Votive Candles	113.50
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	\$2,305.50

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$370.00
Holy Days	65.00
Utilities	30.00
Votive Candles	57.50
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	\$522.50

Church Attendance Last Week

Sat., 4:00 p.m. (44)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (60); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (39)

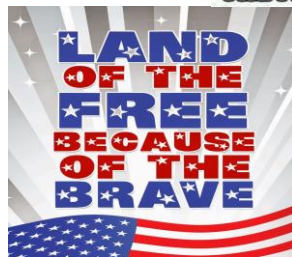
Nativity of St. John the Baptist (Jun. 24) — Fri., (NS) 9:00 a.m. (13); Sat. (MR) 9:00 p.m. (14)

Saints Peter & Paul (Holy Day of Obligation – Vigil Jun. 28) Wed. (MR) 7:00 p.m. (36)

Thrs. Jun. 29: (MR) 9:00 a.m. (30); (NS) 6:00 p.m. (28)



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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Nancde@aol.com

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Lodge 390 offers Insurance and Annuity Benefits greater than most financial institutions. Info call Marge (412) 331-3577

Individuals may sponsor an ad or greeting for a weekly or monthly price. Call the office for rates!

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 4th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Independence Weekend — July 2, 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).

Jul 2, 2017

Seasonal Greeting

Volume VII, Number 27



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date

Time

Intention

Requested By



4th Sunday after Pentecost

U.S.A. Independence Weekend



SUN., Jul 2 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Anna + Paul Warhola Dgtr: Mary Lou & Ron Simpson

Mon, Jul 3 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Elsie Eberle (birthday 6/24) Mimi Terrek



241st NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE DAY

Parish 4th of July Patriotic Divine Liturgy



Tue, Jul 4 9:00 a.m. (MR) Health, Welfare & Forgiveness of Sins
of our Country

Wed, Jul 5 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Helen Dziki + Alex & Sonny Bilak

Thrs, Jul 6 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Michael Maletz Bro: Bob & Martha Maletz

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

Fri, Jul 7 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Jack Poloka (birthday) Sharon Capretto & Children

Sat, Jul 8 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Helen + Michael Holesh, Sr. Dgtr: Helen Holesh Marince

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

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

5th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN., Jul 9 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Frank Mazur Mother-In-Law: Elizabeth Petruna & Family
(7th ann of passing)

11:00 a.m. (NS) + Lucy Holesh Dolores Lopushansky
(2nd ann of passing)

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: Jul 2 – Joseph Mitro; Jul 4 – Michelle Cifrutlak; Jul 6 – Stephen Kosko; Jul 7 – Tim Bedard, Anna Stebbins; Jul 8 – John Kulka.

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

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

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): 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.

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

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

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. If prayer is supposed to be for good, why do priests use it as punishment (or penance) after confession? **A. Answer by Catholic Answers:** The prayers of penance are not punishment. Although our sins are forgiven by God through the sacrament, the effects of our sin are still present in the world. The prayers are given for our penance not as punishment but as an attempt on our part to make up for the effects of our sins. Then the priest imposes an act of penance or satisfaction on the penitent; this should serve not only to make up for the past but also to help him to begin a new life and provide him with an antidote to weakness. As far as possible, the penance should correspond to the seriousness and nature of the sins. This act of penance may suitably take the form of prayer, self-denial, and especially service of one's neighbor and works of mercy. These will underline the fact that sin and its forgiveness have a social aspect.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

July 2 — July 8, 2017

(MR): In memory of Michael Sendro (3rd ann of passing 7/1)

offered by Wife: Janet & Family

(NS): In memory of Elizabeth Seman

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE 2017

offered by Dgtr: A. Velma Seman

(NS) NONE AVAILABLE 2017

McKees Rocks Announcements

No Particular News This Week

Holy Ghost, Northside

RETIRED FORMER PASTOR MARKS BIRTHDAY — One of the longest assigned pastors of our Holy Ghost Church was **Monsignor Peter P. Tay**. Besides his pastoral duties, he was also assigned with Archieparchial duties at the Chancery. On July 7th, he will be observing a milestone 92nd Birthday! I'm sure that he would appreciate receiving a birthday card from you. His address: 1200 San Pedro, Pittsburgh, PA 15212. May God grant to His servant, the Priest, Monsignor Tay, health and happiness for many blessed years! Na Mnohaja l Blahaja L'ita!



INDEPENDENCE DAY RAFFLE — To help subsidize the removal of honey bee colony in a safe and humane manner from the church roof, we will be having a raffle. An estimated cost is app. \$450--\$800. The entrance where the bees are setting up their habitat will then be filled-in. Pittsburgh's B-Control is setting up a container near the hive to draw the Bees in. It will be an approximately two month process at which the bees will be safely removed and transplanted to another location. The drawing date has been moved to **Sunday, July 9, 2017** following the 11:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy. Tickets are still available.

A SPECIAL BYZANTINE CATHOLIC HOLY LAND TOUR — Two of our Byzantine Catholic Priests from the Eparchy of Passaic, NJ will be conducting a **10-Days Tour to the Holy Land from January 30 thru February 8, 2018**. The Tour will be visiting Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Tiberias and Haifa. It is hosted by Fr. Charles M. Yastishock and Fr. Edward Cimbala. The cost from Newark International Airport is \$3,199 (which includes government taxes/airline surcharges) and based on double occupancy. Single rooms are an additional \$795.00. More details are provided in the brochure which is available in the narthex and side vestibule of the Church. For additional details, you may phone Fr. Yastishock (732) 255-6272 or email him: czarcmy@comcast.net. Perhaps this will be a once in a lifetime opportunity for you from a Byzantine Catholic perspective.



POPE NAMES BISHOP FOR EPARCHY OF PARMA

In a letter dated June 21, 2017, Archbishop Christophe Pierre, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, announced that Holy Father Pope Francis is relieving Archbishop William C. Skurla from the pastoral governance of the Eparchy of Parma. He is naming **Most Reverend Milan Lach, S.J.**, currently Auxiliary Bishop of Presov, Slovakia, as Apostolic

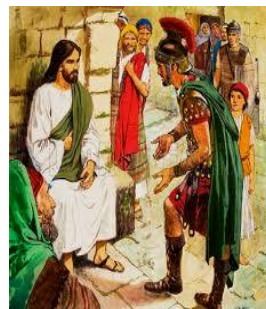


Administrator of the Eparchy of Parma.

4th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The Centurion Teaches Us to Believe! — (Matthew 8:5-13)

This centurion was a heathen, a Roman soldier. Though he was a soldier, yet he was a godly man. No man's calling or place will be an excuse for unbelief and sin. See how he states his servant's case. *We should concern ourselves for the souls of our children and servants, who are spiritually sick, who feel not spiritual evils, who know not that which is spiritually good; and we should bring them to Christ by faith and prayers.* Observe his self-abasement. Humble souls are made more humble by Christ's gracious dealings with them. Observe his great faith. The more diffident we are of ourselves, the stronger will be our confidence in Christ. Herein the centurion owns him to have Divine power, and a full command of all the creatures and powers of nature, as a master over his servants. Such servants we all should be to God; we must go and come, according to the directions of his word and the disposals of his providence. But when the Son of man comes he finds little faith, therefore he finds little fruit. An outward profession may cause us to be called children of the kingdom; but if we rest in that, and have nothing else to show, we shall be cast out. The servant got a cure of his disease, and the master got the approval of his faith. What was said to him, is said to all, Believe, and you will receive; only believe. See the power of Christ, and the power of faith. The healing of our souls is at once the effect and evidence of our interest in the blood of Christ.



Did You Know this about the Declaration of Independence?

John Hancock, the President of the Continental Congress at the time, was the first and only person to sign the Declaration on July 4, 1776 (he signed it in the presence of just one man, Charles Thomson, the secretary of Congress). According to legend, the founding father signed his name bigger than everyone else's because he wanted to make sure "fat old King George" could read it without his spectacles. But the truth is that Hancock had a large blank space and didn't realize the other men would write their names smaller. Today, the term "John Hancock" has become synonymous with a person's signature. **Thomas Jefferson** and **John Adams**, the only two presidents to sign the document, both died on the Fourth of July in 1826, the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration. Adam's last words have been reported as "Thomas Jefferson survives." He did not know that Jefferson had died only a few hours before. **James Monroe**, the last president who was a Founding Father, also died on July 4 in 1831. **Calvin Coolidge**, the 30th President,



was born on July 4, 1872, and, so far, is the only President to have been born on Independence Day.

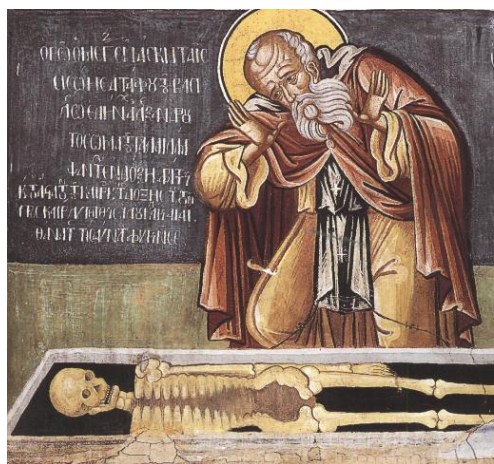
Calendar of Upcoming Events

July 4	A rescheduled 9:00 a.m. Patriotic Divine Liturgy.
July 20	Simple Holy Day: Feast of the Holy Prophet Elijah — Blessing of Vehicles. (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.
July 27	Byzantine Catholic Family Day at Kennywood Park

Saint of the Week

Venerable Father Sisoës the Great — July 6

Saint Sisoës the Great (+ 429) was a solitary monk, pursuing asceticism in the



Egyptian desert in a cave sanctified by the prayerful labors of his predecessor, Saint Anthony the Great (January 17). For his sixty years of labor in the desert, Saint Sisoës attained to sublime spiritual purity and he was granted the gift of wonderworking, so that by his prayers he once restored a dead child back to life. Extremely strict with himself, Abba Sisoës was very merciful and compassionate to others, and he received everyone with love. To those who visited him, the saint first of all

always taught humility. When one of the monks asked how he might attain to a constant remembrance of God, Saint Sisoës remarked, "That is no great thing, my son, but it is a great thing to regard yourself as inferior to everyone else. This leads to the acquisition of humility." Asked by the monks whether one year is sufficient for repentance if a brother sins, Abba Sisoës said, "I trust in the mercy of God that if such a man repents with all his heart, then God will accept his repentance in three days." When Saint Sisoës lay upon his deathbed, the disciples surrounding the Elder saw that his face shone like the sun. They asked the dying man what he saw. Abba Sisoës replied that he saw Saint Anthony, the prophets, and the apostles. His face increased in brightness, and he spoke with someone. The monks asked, "With whom are you speaking, Father?" He said that angels had come for his soul, and he was entreating them to give him a little more time for repentance. The monks said, "You have no need for repentance, Father" Saint Sisoës said with great humility, "I do not think that I have even begun to repent." After these words the face of the holy abba shone so brightly that the brethren were not able to look upon him. Saint Sisoës told them that he saw the Lord Himself. Then there was a flash like lightning, and a fragrant odor, and Abba Sisoës departed to the Heavenly Kingdom. **The icon above**

depicts Saint Sisoës the Great at the tomb of [Alexander the Great](#) (16th c., [Varlaam monastery](#), [Meteora](#)), signifying the remembrance of death.

General Announcements

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION THIS PAST WEEK

This past Thursday, June 29 was the **Feast of Prime Apostles Saints Peter and Paul**. It is one of five Holy Day of Obligation for Byzantine Rite Catholics. 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) in the Divine Liturgy" (Canon 881#1); "(the faithful) 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 participation renders one guilty of mortal sin, therefore, unworthy to receive the Holy Eucharist, until one makes a worthy sacramental Confession of this voluntary neglect.



KENNYWOOD PARK: BYZANTINE CATHOLIC FAMILY DAY — Special discounted tickets



are now available from GCU Secretary-Treasurer, Steve Puluka (412) 897-4650. Seniors (55+): \$14.00; for everyone else: \$24.00. Super Senior (70+): \$9.99. All tickets include entry into the Park and All-Day Ride. Byzantine Catholic Fun Day is slated for **Thursday, July 27, 2017**. *Deadline for these discounted tickets is JULY 10*. Please make checks payable to "GCU-Kennywood." No Cash, please. Tickets are also available for the Luncheon Buffet at a cost of \$15.00 (ages 11+); Jr. Luncheon \$8.00 (ages 3-10); and no charge ages 2 & under. You may phone him at (412) 897-4650. Come join in the fun and set the day aside.

FOURTH OF JULY COOKOUT CANCELLED — Due to other plans by many, and the late preparation for this event, the cookout has been cancelled. We will still have the Patriotic Divine Liturgy on Tuesday, July 4, 2017. It has been moved to 9:00 a.m. Please make an effort to attend the Divine Liturgy and pray for our Country.

SAVE THE DATE: ALTAR BOY FUN DAY FOURTHCOMING — Mark your calendar for



Thursday, August 24, 2017 and get ready for another great day of Fun! Open to all Altar Boys (elementary through college), this exciting day sponsored by the Vocations Office is filled with tons of awesome activities around Pittsburgh to thank you for volunteering your time and service to the Church. We will be attending a mid-afternoon 4:05 p.m. Pirate Baseball Game against the Los Angeles Dodgers. More details

will be forthcoming.

AREA BYZANTINE CATHOLIC FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL — A three day "Food and Music Festival" will be held at St. Elias Church, 4200 Homestead-Duquesne Road, and Munhall from **July 14 -16, 2017**. Admission is free. There will also be games of chance, Bingo, Basket Raffle, Raffles and Carnival games. See the brochure in the narthex. You may also visit them on line: www.steliasmunhallpa.weebly.com/st-elias-festival.html.

**Join us throughout the Summer & sanctify the day
by attending the Daily Divine Liturgy!**