

Parish Offerings – 5th Sunday after Pentecost — July 9, 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 (\$1,621.50) YP (\$2)	\$1,623.50
Holy Days	40.00
Votive Candles	106.00
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	\$1,769.50

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$605.00
Holy Days	10.00
Utilities (\$10) Improvement (\$15)	25.00
Special Donation (Bee-Control by Kurt Perschy (MR)	25.00
Special Donation (anonymous)	100.00
Votive Candles	40.00
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	\$825.00

Church Attendance Last Week

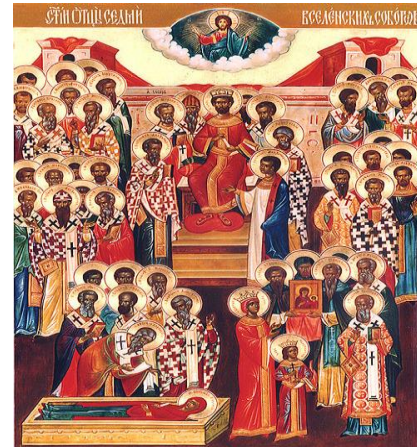
Sat., 4:00 p.m. (45)
Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (75); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (37)

The Founders



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

THE 6th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Fathers of the First 6 Councils — July 16, 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
Fax: (412) 331-6688
Michael P. Ferrell,
Supervisor, CFSP
Our Family Still Serving Yours Since 1953

Free will doesn't mean doing whatever you want. It means having the freedom to do what is right.

DESIGNS BY NANCY
235 McCartney Drive,
Moon Township 15108
Phone: (412) 262-9141
Nancde@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.

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!*



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!



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).

July 16, 2017

Seasonal Greeting

Volume VII, Number 29



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date

Time

Intention

Requested By



6th Sunday after Pentecost

Fathers of the first Six Ecumenical Councils

SUN., Jul 16 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Lillian Buchko Anita & Russell Sidun
(7th ann of passing 7/17)

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



Feast of the Blessed Bishop-Martyr Paul P. Gojdich, O.S.B.M.

Mon, Jul 17 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Francis E. Eberle Theresa Kundrat

Tue, Jul 18 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Joyce Buchko Alex S. Bilak, Mike, Leyte & Mikey
(4th ann of passing) Tomchak


Wed, Jul 19 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mary Kotik Louis & M. DeAngelis

Feast of the Holy Glorious Prophet Elijah the Tishbite

Blessing of Vehicles — Simple Holy Day

Thrs, Jul 20 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
6:00 p.m. (NS) Health of Evelyn Vento

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

Fri, Jul 21  8:00 a.m. (MR) + Irene C. Pikras Husband: Dan
(7th ann of passing 7/22)

Sat, Jul 22 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Helen S. Lubinski Nephew: Harry & Cindy Lubinski

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Helen Petak Anonymous
(3rd ann of passing)



7th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN., Jul 23 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Michael Sahayda Wife: Mary

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 16 – Teresa Harsh; Jul 21 – Rick Deliman, Nancy Lecci, Andrea Usouski, Loraine (Bunny) Zavidny

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 Hopeny, 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): 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 Beliuнас.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. Jesus says, "Use not vain repetitions as the heathens do" (Matt. 6:7). Doesn't this prove that Catholics are wrong in praying the rosary? **A. Answer by Catholic Answers:** Jesus is not condemning repetitious prayer per se. If he were then he would be condemning himself, since he prayed multiple times as recorded in" Mark 14:39. Furthermore, right after Jesus condemns the "vain repetitions" of the Gentiles, he commands the apostles, "Pray like this . . . Our Father who art in heaven . . ." Does Jesus intend for us to only say it once? Are we forbidden to repeat the Our Father? Of course not. Finally, if we accept the objector's interpretation of Matthew 6:7, we would have to condemn the four angels of Revelation 4:8 singing day and night without ceasing, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty." Of course we don't want to do that! So what was Jesus condemning? He was condemning Gentile prayers, which were meaningless or mindless repetitious prayers, as the Greek word *battalogesete* suggests. The Gentiles recited prayers only to appease their gods. They were, as the Revised Standard Version translates it, "empty phrases" having nothing to do with expressing one's love for and trust in God. They would simply say the words, and that was it—they went their merry way and lived their lives as they wanted. That's what Jesus is condemning, not repetitious prayer such as we find in the rosary.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

July 16 — July 22, 2017

(MR): **In memory of Olga, Stush & Stanley Sulkowski**

offered by Andy Nazak & Family

(NS): **In memory of Anna & George Guzo**

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE 2017 offered by Eleanor & George Gramata (NS) NONE AVAILABLE 2017



McKees Rocks Announcements

SYMPATHY EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the sudden passing of **Joanna E.**



Kosol, 81, of McKees Rocks, PA, at the Ohio Valley Hospital, on Tuesday, July 11, 2017. She was a friend of our parish and the Mother-In-Law of Sue Anne (Poloka) & Son: Eric Kosol. Funeral arrangements were handled by the Valerian F. Szal Funeral Home, McKees Rocks. The Mass of Christian Burial was offered on Jul. 14 at 10:00 a.m. Our parish offers it's most sincere condolences and prayerful solicitude for her immortal soul and for her family.

In blessed repose, grant O Lord, to your servant, Joanna and remember her forever! Vichaja Jej Pamjat'!

BANNS OF MARRIAGE II — This is the second announcement of the upcoming marriage of **Justin Paul Paronish (Holy Ghost Church) and Stacie Ann Cifrulak (Holy Ghost Church) on Saturday, July 29, 2017.** If anyone knows why these individuals cannot contract marriage, please call the rectory office and speak to the pastor.



CHURCH BASEMENT AND KITCHEN STRIPPED AND CLEANED — In a long over-due project, our floors have been stripped, cleaned, waxed and received a coat of finish this past week. We thank Br. Regis, O.F.M. for handling this project. It really made a difference! God bless you Br. Regis!

Holy Ghost, Northside

RESULTS OF LAST WEEKS 50/50 RAFFLE — Following last Sunday's Divine Liturgy the raffle was drawn. Here are the details; Winner: Nancy Cifrulak (MR) — Total \$420.00; Winner \$210.00; Church take-in \$210.00; Donations: \$56.00; Winner donated back to the Church: \$190.00; **Church Profit: \$456.00.** We very much appreciate the kind gesture of Nancy! May God richly bless you Nancy, and all who participated in this fund-raising event to help subsidize the cost of humanely removing the Honey Bee



Hive near the left side of the Church's roof.

RECTORY GLASS REPLACED & NEW KITCHEN STOVE PURCHASED

— The ABC Glass Company came to replace the glass panel between the foyer area and living area. It was reported to our insurance company. The remainder of the cost will be reimbursed by the Seminary as to our agreement. The replacement tempered glass was installed to avoid any shattering that may cause injuries. The seminary is also responsible for the new Kenmore Kitchen Electric Stove since it was left damaged by previous residents.



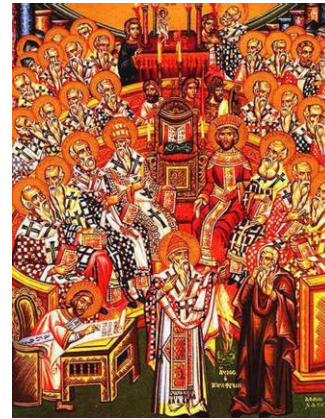
RECTORY WELCOMES NEW TEMPORARY RESIDENTS

— As per our agreement with the Seminary, the rectory is now being occupied by **Fr. Radko Blichar**, his wife: **Katarina (Katie)** and their two children: **Benjamin (3)** and **David (six months)**. They are from the Archeparchy of Presov, Slovakia and will be awaiting assignment to a parish in the Pittsburgh Archeparchy. Vitajte U Nas!! We welcome them to America and our Archeparchy, and pray that God will grant them many happy and blessed years! Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita'!



8th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The Fathers of the First 6 Ecumenical Councils — (John 17: 1-13)



Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils *Catholic Encyclopedia* -- **HISTORICAL SKETCH OF ECUMENICAL COUNCILS** --

- The present article deals chiefly with the theological and canonical questions concerning councils which are Ecumenical in the strict sense above defined. Special articles give the history of each important synod under the head of the city or see where it was held. In order, however, to supply the reader with a basis of fact for the discussion of principles of six of the twenty-one Ecumenical councils with a brief statement of the purpose of each.

First Ecumenical Council: Nicea I (325) – The Council of Nicea lasted two months and twelve days. Three hundred and eighteen bishops were present. Hosius,

Bishop of Cordova, assisted as legate of Pope Sylvester I. The Emperor Constantine was also present. To this council we owe The Creed of Nicea, defining against Arius the true Divinity of the Son of God, and the fixing of the date for keeping Easter.

Second Ecumenical Council: Constantinople I (381) – The First General Council of Constantinople, under Pope Damasus and the Emperor Theodosius I, was attended by 150 bishops. It was directed against the followers of Macedonius, who impugned the Divinity of the Holy Ghost. To the above-mentioned Nicene Creed it added the clauses referring to the Holy Ghost and all that follows to the end.

Third Ecumenical Council: Ephesus (431) — The Council of Ephesus, of more than 200 bishops, presided over by St. Cyril of Alexandria representing Pope Celestine I, defined the true personal unity of Christ, declared Mary the Mother of God (*Theotokos*) against Nestorius, Bishop of Constantinople, and renewed the condemnation of Pelagius.

Fourth Ecumenical Council: Chalcedon (451) — The Council of Chalcedon -- 150 bishops under Pope Leo the Great and the Emperor Marcian -- defined the two natures (Divine and human) in Christ against Eutyches, who was excommunicated.

Fifth Ecumenical Council: Constantinople II (553) — The Second General Council of Constantinople, of 165 bishops under Pope Vigilius and Emperor Justinian I, condemned the errors of Origen and certain writings (The Three Chapters) of Theodoret, of Theodore, Bishop of Mopsuestia and of Ibas, Bishop of Edessa; it further confirmed the first four general councils, especially that of Chalcedon whose authority was contested by some heretics.

Sixth Ecumenical Council: Constantinople III (680-681) — The Third General Council of Constantinople, under Pope Agatho and the Emperor Constantine Pogonatus, was attended by the Patriarchs of Constantinople and of Antioch, 174 bishops, and the emperor. It put an end to Monothelitism by defining two wills in Christ, the Divine and the human, as two distinct principles of operation. It anathematized Sergius, Pyrrhus, Paul, Macarius, and all their followers.

“The preaching of the Apostles and the teachings of the Fathers have confirmed the one faith of the Church, which she wears as a garment of truth, woven from the theology on high, as she faithfully imparts and glorifies the great mystery of devotion” (Kondakion of the Feast).

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 20 Simple Holy Day: Feast of the Holy Prophet Elijah — Blessing of Vehicles. (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m. — All vehicles in the lot please!
- July 27 Byzantine Catholic Family Day, Kennywood Park, West Mifflin.
- August 1 Commencement of the Savorial Fast (Spasovka).
- August 6 Feast of the Holy Transfiguration – Blessing of grapes and other fruits.
- August 12-13 Blessing of Students and Teachers for the new Academic School Year following weekend DL.
- August 13 3rd 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 Archieparchal Servers Faith & Fun Day (cf. MR Announcements).

Saint of the Week

The Holy Prophet Elijah the Tishbite — July 20

Simple Holy Day — Faithful are encouraged to attend the Divine Liturgy

Of all the Old Testament prophets it was St. Elijah (Greek: Elias) the Tishbite who, in a special way, captured the imagination of our Byzantine Slav people in Eastern



Europe. The prophet, whose name means "strength of the Lord" was a man aflame with the fire of the love of God and was uncompromising in his faithfulness to the one true God. He was a powerful and courageous figure who had been given power over the elements: rain, wind, fire, etc. St. Elijah lived during the reign of Ahab, the seventh king of Israel (875-854 B.C.). The king had married Jezabel, the pagan daughter of the king of Tyre. She brought with her hundreds of pagan

prophets (ritual priests) to Samaria and introduced the worship of the Phoenician deity, Melkart, also known under the general name of Baal. Apart from the sacrifices they offered as part of their priestly function, they observed a special ritual dance accompanied by musical instruments. Every spring they had a ceremony of fire to mark the awakening of their god who had slept through the winter. They enkindled a great fire from which the god was supposed to renew his strength. During this time, the priest-prophets of Baal danced and whirled faster and faster in a frenzy, even to wounding themselves with swords and spears on their arms and legs. Under the influence of Queen Jezabel the true prophets of Israel were persecuted and the Israelites became divided in their loyalty between Baal and Yahweh. They thought they could worship both, the God of their fathers and the pagan god, Baal, whom the Queen favored. Elijahs' strong and determined opposition to this divided loyalty earned for him the hatred of the queen. St. Elijahs' loyalty to God and uncompromising faithfulness is a model for those who are straddling between loyalty to God and to the world.

General Announcements

FEAST OF BLESSED PAUL P. GOJDICH, OSBM — Tomorrow, **July 17** marks his Martyrdom Feast. He excelled in knowing, loving and serving God. While in prison he excelled



in holiness, and was reportedly gifted with bilocation, levitation and the stigmata of the Lord. He prayed for only two favors: (1) to pass peacefully to the Lord on his birthday, and (2) to have a priest near his side to anoint him with the Sacrament. Both requests were answered on July 17, 1960 just after 12 o'clock midnight. He was buried quickly in an uncommon grave with only a number to signify the placement of his mortal remains. He was beatified by the late Pope John Paul II on November 4, 2001. His relics were transferred to the Presov Cathedral where they remain for veneration to this day. He was posthumously awarded with the prestigious decree "Righteous Among

the Nations" by the Hebraic Community due to his role in saving thousands of Jewish people from extermination during World War II. Let us whole-heartedly resolve to pray daily for his immediate Canonization. The meaning of the O.S.B.M. is "The Order of St. Basil Monastery."

HOLY DAY & BLESSING OF VEHICLES — This Thursday, **July 20**, is the **Feast of the Holy Prophet. Elijah the Tishbite.** It is an annual custom of our Byzantine Catholic Church to bless vehicles on this day. This beautiful memorial

arose from the fact that near the end of his life the Lord sent a fiery chariot from heaven to take Elijah away. This happened in the presence of his disciple Elisha to whom was given double the power of his mentor to carry on the ministry. Since our vehicles are "as fast as the wind" as indicated in the prayer blessing, we pray that God will protect us from harm, and at the same time praise and thank God for this gift to be able to glorify Him by assisting us in the service of God and neighbor. Please come for the blessing following each Divine Liturgy on **July 20 @ 9:00 a.m. (MR) and 6:00 p.m. (NS).**



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. Registration will take place at the school gym at 9:15 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.

AREA BYZANTINE CATHOLIC FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL CONCLUDES TODAY — The

final day of a three day "Food and Music Festival" is currently going on at St. Elias Church, 4200 Homestead-Duquesne Road, and Munhall. Admission is free. There are 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.



Summertime does not excuse us of our Christian Duty to Worship God at the Sunday Divine Liturgy — Don't play hooky from Church!