

## Parish Offerings – August 21, 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)

Regular Offering (\$2,017.50) YP (\$5) .....	\$2,022.50
Holy Days (\$414) YP (\$5) .....	419.00
Votive Candles .....	97.50
	<hr/>
	\$2,539.00

### Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering .....	\$534.25
Holy Days .....	69.00
Improvements .....	4.00
Votive Candles .....	74.00
	<hr/>
	\$681.25

## Church Attendance Last Week

Sat., (MR) 4:00 p.m. (50)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (75); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (42)



**Valerian F. Szal**  
238 Helen St.,  
McKees Rocks, PA 15136  
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Fax: (412) 331-6688  
**Michael P. Ferrell,**  
Supervisor, CFSP  
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**HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
225 OLIVIA STREET  
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE  
McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

## THE 15<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 28, 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).

August 28, 2016

Seasonal Greeting

Volume VI, Number 35



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



## Liturgical Services for the Week

Date

Time

Intention

Requested By

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

**SUN., Aug 28** 9:00 a.m. (MR) + John Kulka Children: Kathy & John  
(10<sup>th</sup> ann of passing 8/26)  
11:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

## Beheading of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner & Baptist, John — Simple Holy Day

Traditional Day of Strict Abstinence (no meat or dairy) — RECOMMENDED  
SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (No Meat) & no serving or eating on a platter or dish

**Mon, Aug 29** 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes  
6:00 p.m. (NS) + Fr. Richard J. Whetstone Cynthia & Deacon Michael



Final Day of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist Feast Day

**Tue, Aug 30** 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Amelia Firko (birthday) Betty Ann Harris

**Wed, Aug 31** 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Helen Dziki + Alex & Sonny Bilak  
(rescheduled from 8/26)

### Commencement of the New Ecclesiastical Year — The Year of the Indiction

**Thrs, Sept 1** 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Andrew Muska (birthday 9/12) Nancy & Michael Ferrell

**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 2** 8:00 a.m. (MR) + John A. Jumba (wed ann) Donna & Al Dominic  
& Maria Weisser

**Sat, Sept 3** 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Rev. Dr. Annette B. Bolds Bolds Family  
(1<sup>st</sup> ann of passing)



Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Mary Fedorowich (birthday) Dgtr: + Joyce Ray

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

82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Uniontown Pilgrimage — Labor Weekend

**SUN., Sept 4** 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Donna Roznowski (2<sup>nd</sup> ann of passing 9/5) + Elizabeth Moss  
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:** Aug 28 — Amy (Cifrutlak) Sclight; Aug 29 — William Baden; Aug 30 — Bethany Sidun; Aug 31 — David Burns; Sept 3 — Timothy Kacsur.

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

**HOME:** Margaret Beluinas, Irene Bordas, MARY ANN CONTI, Mary Culan, Andrew Drukalsky, Ilona Goyda, Beverly Harsh, MARTHA LUCAS, OLGA MANFREDO, Debra Palahunik, Elizabeth Petruna, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Agnes Rosko, MARY SAHAYDA, GERARD SLAGLE, ANNA TOTH, 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.

**THE ARBORS III AT ST. BARNABAS** (6005 Valencia Rd, Apt. 7, Gibsonia, PA 15044): Eleanor Kapko.

**MARIAN MANOR** (2695 Winchester Dr., Pgh, 15220): MICHAEL BARBUSH, Irene Bednar.  
**CHIPPEWA PLACE** (7005 Stadium Dr., Apt 427, Brecksville, OH 44141): Stephen Katrenich.

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

**Q.** I have friends who equate denying homosexuals the right to marry with denying freedom to blacks and not allowing women to vote. What should I say? **A. Catholic Answers Apologist:** The situations are quite different, and it is natural law that reveals the difference to us. Natural law is a sense of good and evil that is written on the heart of every person. It tells us which acts are good and rational and which are evil and irrational. Natural law tells us that not every kind of behavior is a right. The act of murder is not a right, nor is incest. These go against human nature. We inherently know that these are wrong....But eventually we might be swayed by such argumentation because of the sheer volume and intensity of the propaganda, not because of the rationality of the argument. This is what has happened with the so-called right to homosexual "marriage." For two members of the same sex to have genital relations violates the nature of who they are in relation to one another. Their bodies are simply not designed for it. Something is out of sync. The problem is that in our culture we tend to put feelings before right reason. Reason would tell us that in such a situation, one ought to put feelings second. For rational creatures to make reason subject to feelings is to court disaster.

## This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

**August 28 — September 3, 2016**

(MR): In memory of Patricia Petruna

offered by Mother: Elizabeth Petruna & Family

(NS): In memory of Dad: Michael Seman

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE 2016 offered by Dgtr: A. Velma Seman (NS) NONE AVAILABLE 2016





## General Announcements

**ECF TEACHERS MEETING THIS WEEK** — All those who will be serving as our Parish Catechists this year are reminded of the opening meeting on **Thursday, September 1, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.** in the Church Office. Registration will begin taking place on the weekend of September 3/4. All young Holy Ghost members are expected to be a part of this important program. Additional enthusiastic teachers needed as well to share our Byzantine Catholic Church's teachings! Please contact our ECF Coordinator, Steve Puluka (412) 897-4650. The first day of class is Catechetical Sunday, September 18.



**WE HAD A GREAT PARISH PICNIC** — Last Sunday's Picnic at the Cleaver Road Picnic Grove, Robinson Township, was another memorable one! Slavjane performed a great Rusyn Ethnic Program for us, under the directionship of parishioner, Dean Poloka and the Slavjane Staff. Hopefully, it has inspired some of our young parishioners to join their ranks! The food was served by Cooked Goose Catering, Imperial, PA and was tasty! We attribute this fun filled day to our picnic committee members: Elaine Kurtanich, Helena & Ed Connor, Peggy & Chuck McCusker, Tam & Frank Revtai and all other



who assisted!. **THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!** Income from ticket sales & Chinese Auction was applied to the \$250.00 Shelter Permit reserving this spot back in January. Other expenses were to purchase pop, bingo prizes & pizza for Slavjane. May God grant to all who made this a memorable day, health and happiness for many blessed years!

### UZHOROD SEMINARIANS TO SING SLAVONIC DIVINE LITURGY HERE IN McKEES ROCKS



The Orientale Lumen Foundation announces that a third Seminary Concert Tour is scheduled to take place September 11 through October 2 at Byzantine Catholic parishes and other sites throughout the Northeastern United States. The choir will include 16 Rusyn Seminarians from the Blessed Theodore Romzha Seminary in Uzhorod, Transcarpathia, Ukraine who will **chant the responses to a Church Slavonic Divine**

**Liturgy on Sunday, September 18, 2016 @ 9:00 a.m.** Many priests from Europe now serve in Byzantine Catholic parishes across the U.S. Other parishes will host a concert which will be free and open to the public. A collection will be taken for them. Once their travel expenses have been met the remaining funds will be donated for their education and formation. A reception will then follow in the school gym in order to meet them. Please mark your calendars so that we may provide a nice attendance.

**GROUNDS CLEANUP SLATED FORTHCOMING — SAVE THE DATES** — The weeds and bushes surrounding our Holy Ghost Churches really grew over the past few months. It's time now to cut them back. We can't do it without your cooperation! We surely need your help on **(MR) Saturday, October 8, 2016 & (NS) Saturday, October 15, 2016 (reassigned Sept. date)** both 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!!!

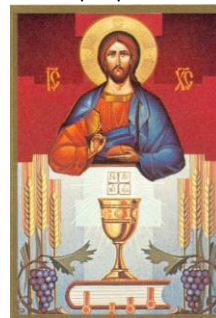


## 15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### Love God, Love Neighbor in that Order

**Gospel meditation: By the late Msgr. Eugene Chromoga (Mt. 22: 35-46)**

A Scribe questioned Jesus: "Master, which is **the greatest commandment** in the Law? This subject was often debated in the rabbinic school. It was a real issue among the Jewish people. Jesus replied: "You must love the Lord your God with your whole heart and your whole soul, and your whole mind. This is the greatest and the chief commandment. The second is like it, you must love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments the whole law and the prophets depend."



Jesus quoted the Book of Deuteronomy (6:5) for the first commandment. This verse is the first part of the "Shema," the basic creed of Judaism. Every Jewish service opens with this sentence. It is also the first text every Jewish child memorizes. It is contained in the "Phylacteries" the tiny leather boxes devout Jews wear on their foreheads and their wrists when they pray. This is intended to remind of this creed in prayer. The "Shema" is also placed in a little

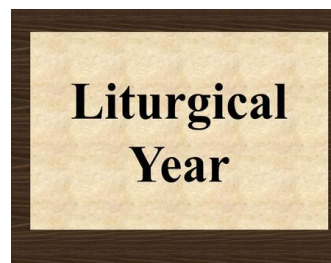
round box called the "Mesurah" and fixed to each door in every Jewish house. They touch this whenever they come in or out to remind them of God.

**The second commandment** which Jesus quotes is from the Book of Leviticus (19:18). Man is made to the image and likeness of God. It is for this reason we are to love one another. If we take the love of God away, the love of neighbor becomes sentimentality. Jesus was the first to put these two commandments together.

But the love of God comes first. This is the first and greatest commandment; we must love God with our total love, a love which rules over our emotions, a love which directs our thoughts and a love which controls all our actions. It is a total commitment of self to God. Our love of neighbor is based on our love of God. It is only when we love God that people become lovable. Love of our fellowman is a sign of love for God.

### Spiritual Significance of the Church New Year

On September 1, when the Jews celebrated the new summer, the Savior, came to Nazareth where He was brought up and entered the synagogue on the Sabbath day as was His custom, and read these words of the Prophet Isaiah: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed Me ... to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord" (Luke 4, 18:19). On the first of September 312 the Emperor Constantine the Great won a victory over Maxentius. After this Christians were granted complete freedom to confess their faith. In commemoration of these two events the fathers of the First Ecumenical Council decided to begin the New Year on the first of September.



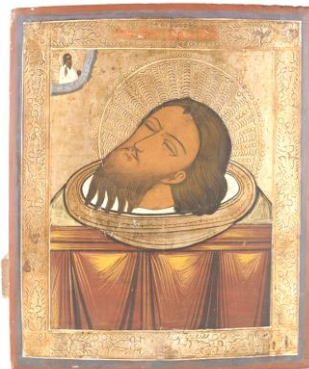
## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

August 28 ..... A Minor Pilgrimage to the "Doors of Mercy" at Christ the King Chapel, Franciscan U @ 2:00 p.m.  
 August 29 ..... Feast of Beheading of St. John the Baptist: (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.  
 September 1 ..... Commencement of the New Ecclesiastical (Church) Year.  
 ..... E.C.F. Teacher Meeting in the Church Office @ 7:00 p.m.  
 September 3-4 ..... 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Uniontown Pilgrimage at Mount Saint Macrina.  
 September 8 ..... Feast of Nativity of the Theotokos – (MR) 9:00 am & (NS) 6:00 pm.  
 September 11. Archieparchial Celebration of Marriage for Jubilarians at St. Elias Church, Munhall @ 3:00 pm  
 September 10-11 ..... (MR) Coffee Social commences following the weekend Divine Liturgies.  
 September 17 ..... Commencement of a new Slavjane Season following the 4:00 p.m. DL.  
 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.

### Holy Day & Saint of the Week

## The Beheading of St. John the Baptist August 29

Herod Antipas, son of the elder Herod, who was the slayer of the children of Bethlehem at the time of the birth of the Lord Jesus, was ruler of Galilee at the time when John the Baptist was preaching. This Herod was married to the daughter of Aretas, an Arabian prince. But Herod, an evil sprout of an evil root, put away his lawful wife and unlawfully took unto himself Herodias as his concubine, the wife of his brother Philip, who was still living. John the Baptist stood up against this lawlessness and strongly denounced Herod who then cast John into prison. At the time of a banquet in his court in Sebastia in Galilee Salome, the daughter of Herodias and Philip, danced before the guests. The drunken Herod was so taken by this dance that he promised Salome that he would give her whatever she asked of him, even though it be half of his kingdom. Being persuaded by her mother, Salome asked for the head of John the Baptist. Herod gave the order and **John was beheaded in prison and his head brought to him on a platter**. John's disciples took the body of their teacher by night and honorably buried it and Herodias pierced the tongue of John with a needle in many places and buried the head in an unclean place. However, God's punishment quickly befell this group of evil doers. Prince Aretas, in order to cleanse his daughter's honor, attacked Herod with his army and defeated him. The defeated Herod was sentenced by the Roman Caesar, Caligula, to exile at first to Gaul and later to Spain. As exiles, Herod and Herodias lived in poverty and humiliation until the earth opened up and swallowed them. Salome died an evil death on the Sikaris (Sula) river. The death of St. John occurred before the Passover but its celebration on *August 29 was established because*, on that day, a church which had been built over his grave in Sebastia by Emperor Constantine and Empress Helena was consecrated. In this church the relics of John's disciples, Eliseus and Audius, were also placed. **Divine Liturgies Monday, Aug. 29 (MR) @ 9:00 a.m. & (NS) @ 6:00 p.m. In the spirit of this feast try to avoid eating from a dish or platter, but use a humble paper plate. The founders and benefactors of our Churches ate from the kitchen pots and pans on this day in St. John's honor! Some did not cut anything that resembled a head (eg. cabbage, lettuce, even a tomato) with a knife!**



## General Announcements

**ECCLESIASTICAL NEW YEAR THIS WEEK** — Our Church is marking the commencement of a brand New Year on **Tuesday, Sept. 1**. It is referred to as THE YEAR OF INDICTION. In the Byzantine Empire 312 AD., the civil year began on Sept. 1. An "indiction" was a reoccurring cycle of 15 years and used for determining periods of time. *It is believed that Jesus began his public Ministry on this day.* Thus, the Byzantine Catholic Church continues to commemorate a new liturgical year at this time! **HAPPY NEW (CHURCH) YEAR!**



**82<sup>nd</sup> 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 something to be thankful for. *You will also have the opportunity of receiving the Jubilee Indulgence Blessing walking through the designated doors of Mercy.* Make the sacrifice and attend the Otpust (Pilgrimage) this year on **Saturday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>** and/or **Sunday, September 4<sup>th</sup>**. See the flyer in the narthex of the church!



**PILGRIMAGE FOR THE HOLY YEAR OF MERCY, TRIP II TODAY** — To extend an opportunity to receive the special Jubilee Indulgence, our HGCs are organizing a car pool to **Franciscan University, Steubenville, OH, Chapel**, a designated site, and to pass through the Doors of Mercy. We will gather at HGC (MR) at 2:00 p.m. We will then have dinner (at one's own cost) at a local restaurant. To prepare and receive the **Plenary Indulgence**, the following requirements must be made: (1) Have a distaste for sin, and to resolve not to sin again; (2) pass through the designated Holy Doors; (3) make a Sacramental Confession of sins (within 20 days); (4) Receive Holy Communion the day one passes through the Holy Doors; and (4) pray the Our Father and Nicene Creed for the intentions of the Holy Father. If these requirements are not made, a **Partial Indulgence** may be received. Please take advantage of this unique opportunity and be blessed with this special Jubilee Indulgence.



JUBILEE  
OF MERCY

**SLAVJANE COMMENCING NEW SEASON FORTHCOMING** — Slavjane will be attending the Divine Liturgy on **Saturday, September 17, 2016** 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.

