

**Parish Offerings – The 35th Sunday after Pentecost
Jan. 15, 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 (\$1,482) YP (\$9)	\$1,491.00
Holy Days	105.00
Initial (\$31) YP (\$2) B.C.W. (\$126)	159.00
Votive Candles	94.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,849.00

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$525.00
Holy Days	15.00
Initial (\$25) B.C.W. (\$42)	67.00
Votive Candles	39.65
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	\$646.65

Church Attendance Last Week

(MR) Sat., 4:00 pm. (46);
Sun., (MR) 9:00 am. (75); (NS) 11:00 am. (50)



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Michael P. Ferrell,
Supervisor, CFSP
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225 OLIVIA STREET
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PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

The 36th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity — January 22, 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: (412) 331-5155

Web-site: www.holyghost-byzantinecatholic.org – E-Mail: ffa334@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 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).

Jan 22, 2017

Christian Greeting

Volume VII, Number 4



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date	Time	Intention	Requested By
36th Sunday after Pentecost			
<i>5th day of prayer for Christian Unity</i>			
SUN., JAN 22	9:00 a.m. (MR)	Health of Margaret Beliuнас	
	1:00 a.m. (NS)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
<i>6th day of prayer for Christian Unity</i>			
Mon, Jan 23	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Hubal + Bradley Families	Family
<i>7th day of prayer for Christian Unity</i>			
Tue, Jan 24	8:00 a.m. (MR)	Health & Welfare of Mildred Terrek	Anonymous
<i>8th and Final Day of prayer for Christian Unity</i>			
Wed., Jan 25	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Charles Kundrat	+ Ann & John Marks
Thrs., Jan 26	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Joseph Hrebenak (31 st ann of passing)	Dgtr: Maria, Luke & Anita Iyengar
REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINANCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance) for Peace in the whole world			
Fri., Jan 27	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ John Gorek	Evelyn Yakubik
		(1 st ann of passing 1/19)	
Sat., Jan 28	9:00 a.m. (NS)	Health of John Kost	Sister: Mary Sahayda
<i>Anticipated Sunday Divine Liturgy for the 37th Sunday after Pentecost</i>			
	4:00 p.m. (MR)	+ Ann Kundrat (birthday 1/28)	Evelyn Yakubik
37th Sunday after Pentecost			
SUN., JAN 29	9:00 a.m. (MR)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Stanley Lubinski	Nephew: Robert & Joyce Spontak

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: Jan 22 – William Boros; Jan 23 – Dean Poloka, Lydia Sell; Jan 24 – Alaina Usouski; Jan 26 – DOLORES HUDANICK.

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

HOME: Irene Bordas, MARY ANN CONTI, Mary Culan, Andrew Drukalsky, Ilona Goyda, Beverly Harsh, Dolores Kosko, MARTHA LUCAS, OLGA MANFREDO, Debra Palahunik, Elizabeth Petruna, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Agnes Rosko, MARY SAHAYDA, GERARD SLAGLE, Mildred Terrek, ANNA TOTH, EVELYN VENTO, JOHN VEREB, 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.

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.

OHIO VALLEY HOSPITAL (25 Heckel Road, McKees Rocks, PA 15136): Margaret Beliuнас.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. I know that suicide is a grave sin. What happens to the soul of a suicidal person? Do they go straight to Hell, or do they still get a chance to repent? And what happens to the soul of a person with a mental disability commits suicide? **A. Answer by Catholic Answers:** Although, considered in itself, suicide is a mortal sin, and one which, on the face of it, one may find it difficult to repent of, no one but God knows the state of mind of the person who commits it. If he's not fully responsible for his decision, being mentally disturbed, God may not hold him guilty. Nor is it impossible that God may grant the grace of repentance in the last moment, after the suicidal act has been committed, and yet the soul hasn't yet departed from the body. In either case, whether the soul goes to hell would depend on the person's spiritual condition at the time of his irresponsible act.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

January 22 — January 28, 2017

(MR): **In memory of Nicholas Kapko** (13th ann. of passing 1/24)

offered by Dgtr: + Claudia & George Verner

(NS): **In memory of Margaret & George Krulac**

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE 2017 offered by Dgtr: Barbara & Peter Stecko (NS) STILL AVAILABLE 2017

McKees Rocks Announcements

SYMPATHY EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the passing of parishioner, **Claudia C. (Kapko) Verner, 71**, of Oakdale, PA, on Tuesday, January 17, 2017, at her home. She was the wife of George Verner. Funeral arrangements were handled by the McDermott Funeral Home, Kennedy Township. The Funeral Divine Liturgy was offered at the Parish on Fri., Jan 20. Interment was at Resurrection Cemetery, Moon Township. Our parish offers its most sincere condolences and prayerful support to George and his family. In blessed repose grant O Lord eternal rest to your servant, Claudia, and remember her forever! Vicnaja Jej Pamjat'



GRATITUDE TO ALL — A special thank you is extended to all who came to dismantle the Christmas decorations this past Monday. Your sacrificial and unselfish gesture made it possible to complete the task within a reasonable time. Team-Work is awesome! God bless you for your assistance! Also a special belated thank you for the anonymous donors of the first pointeseta at the St. Nicholas icon for his holy feast day on December 6! May God grant you many happy and blessed years in health and happiness! Na Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita!



ANOTHER NOTE FROM FAMILY FOUNDATIONS/EHS — "Dear Parishioners, This is a thank you note from one of our refugee clients. She wanted to personally express her appreciation to all of you for the Christmas gifts — Sue Stiffler, F.O.R. Family Foundations" The note read: "Thank you for helping us to provide clothes and toys to my baby and God bless you."

PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING FORTHCOMING — The 1st Quarter Annual PAC Meeting will be held on **Monday, February 6, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.** All appointed members are encouraged to be in attendance.

PIROHI REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING FORTHCOMING — The Lenten Season will soon be here. If we are to make the Pirohi Project a success, we will need a parishioner leader or a group of individuals that will make it possible. Once an individual or a leading team comes forth, we can then plan a reorganizational meeting. Please inform Fr. Firko if you are willing to handle the Project.

Northside Announcements

GRATITUDE TO ALL — A special thank you is extended to all who remained after last week's Divine Liturgy to dismantle the Christmas decorations. Your sacrificial and unselfish gesture made it possible to complete the task within a reasonable time. Team-Work is awesome! God bless you for your assistance! Na Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita!



PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING FORTHCOMING — The 1st Quarter Annual PAC Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, February 7, 2017 @ 6:00 p.m.** All appointed members are encouraged to be in attendance in the Social Hall.

THIS PAST WEEK AT THE VATICAN

Pope: Christian life is a struggle, because the Father draws us to Jesus but "another pulls us the other way"

"Jesus came to destroy Satan! To destroy his influence on our hearts. "If you want



to go forward," you have to fight! Feel the heart that struggles, because Jesus will win. "We ask the Lord to be Christians who are able to discern what's going on in our heart and choose the right path on which the Father draws us to Jesus."

Vatican City (AsiaNews) - Christian life is a struggle, because "when the Father draws people to Jesus, there is another who pulls us in the opposite direction and sparks an internal war" and if you want to go forward, "you have to fight! Feel the heart that struggles, so that Jesus will win", said Pope Francis at the Eucharistic Liturgy this past Thursday morning in Santa Marta.

Pope: the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity "makes us think about Christ's love that urges reconciliation"

Vatican City (AsiaNews) - Pope Francis has invited everyone to pray "that all Christians will return to be one family" in his greetings addressed in almost every language to the groups present at the general audience. Francis wanted to remember last Wednesday's start of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, which, he said in Italian, "this year makes us reflect on the love of Christ that urges reconciliation." The motto of the week, he commented "is a challenge for us: The love of Christ impels us toward reconciliation. We pray to the Lord - he added - that in every Christian Community, aware of their history, theology and law be ever more open to reconciliation. May a spirit of goodwill and understanding pervade, as well as the desire to work together.

Pope: The Church does not proclaim itself, it proclaims Christ; it does not bring itself, it brings Christ

During last Sunday's Angelus, Pope Francis said that "The Church, in every age, is called to do what John the Baptist did – show Jesus to the people." The Church proclaims Christ; it does not bring itself; it brings Christ. Because it is He and He alone who saves His people from sin, delivers them and guides them to the land of true freedom. The Holy Father then prayed: "Virgin Mary, Mother of the Lamb of God, help us believe in him and follow him."

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

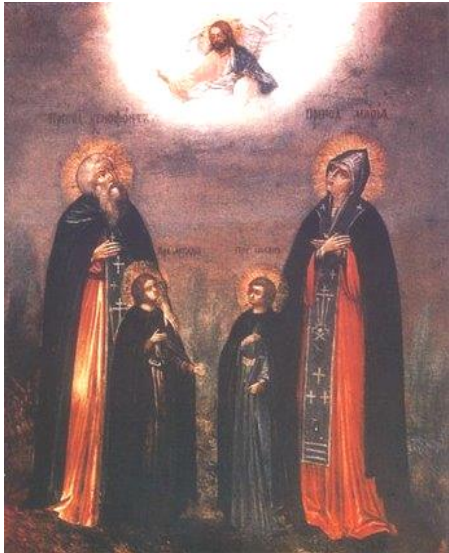
January 2244 th anniversary of the infamous Roe vs. Wade Decision legalizing abortion.
January 30 Feast of the 3 Holy Hierarchs – Simple Holy Day – (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS); 6:00 p.m.
February 2Feast of the Encounter w/ Sanctification of Candles – (MR) 9:00 a.m. (NS) & 6:00 p.m.
February 6 MR Parish Advisory Council Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
February 7 NS Parish Advisory Council Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
February 17 (NS) 1 st All Souls Saturday Vigil @ 6:00 p.m.
February 18 (MR) 1 st All Souls Saturday @ 9:00 a.m.
February 26 (MR) Forgiveness Vespers initiating The Great Fast Season @ 2:00 p.m.
February 27 PURE MONDAY: The Beginning of the Holy 40 Days Fast — NO MEAT AND DAIRY PRODUCTS. (NS) Great Penitential Canon of St. Andrew with Great Metanies @ 6:00 p.m.

Saints of the Week

THE VENERABLE XENOPHON AND MARY AND THEIR SONS JOHN AND ARCADIUS

January 26

They were prominent and wealthy citizens of Constantinople.



Xenophon and his wife Mary lived a God-pleasing life and dedicated all their attention to the Christian upbringing of their sons. When their sons reached majority, they were sent to study in Beirut; but it so happened that a storm capsized their boat. By the Providence of God, John and Arcadius were somehow saved. They were tossed ashore by the waves but in two different places so that each thought the other was drowned. Out of grief for each other, they both became monks in two different monasteries.

After two years, their grieving parents came to Jerusalem on a pilgrimage to pay homage before the holy shrines. There, with the help of the "discernment" of a spiritual father, first the brothers met and, after that, the parents with their children. Out of gratitude to God, Xenophon and Mary distributed their entire estate to the poor and both of them were tonsured. The history of these four souls is touching and it shows how the Lord wonderfully guides the fate of those who believe in Him; how He permits pain and sorrow upon them that they may, later on, be strengthened in faith, in order to lead them into still greater joy. They lived and died in the Lord in the fifth century.

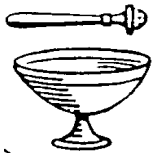
GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE 44TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROE VS. WADE — Today, January 22, marked the 44th anniversary of the shameful 1973 infamous Supreme Court Decision of *ROE VS. WADE* which legalized abortion. As a Pro-Life Parish, we must continue our prayers of supplication and sacrificial efforts to have this horrific law overturned. As we commemorate this Pro-Life Weekend, may we join other Prolifers as the outspoken voices for our silent brothers and sisters conceived awaiting birth. Prayer: ***O Lord, send down Your Holy Spirit and protect all children, born and unborn. Penetrate the hearts of all pregnant women and fill them with Your love as well as love for their precious unborn babies. May all victims of abortion find healing in You. Lord, enlighten all those who do not know the truth. Soften the hearts of the abortionists, and those who use their influence and power to bring about this end.***



For You are the Source of life, mercy and forgiveness and we render glory to You, Father, Son (+) and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

PASTOR CONTINUES HOUSE BLESSINGS THIS WEEK — It is so important to have your house blessed EVERY year. To have God's blessing renewed annually keeps it away from evil influence, cleanses it from the sin committed in it, and imparts God's protection upon it. If you would like to have your home blessed, please call the Church office and set up an appointment. Please read the article "In preparation for a house blessing" published in last week's S.O.T. available in the vestibule.



INDIVIDUAL FINANCE REPORTS STILL AVAILABLE— If MR Members would like a record of their 2016 individual financial report, please contact the office between 9:30 am to 1:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. If no answer, please leave a request on the voice-mail. Since there are few NS Members, Individual Financial reports are available in the narthex. Please discontinue using your 2016 envelopes. Your number may have changed!



EIGHT DAYS OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY — This Wednesday commences the *Annual Eight Days of Prayer* for the intention of Christian Unity. Each year from January 18-25, Christians unite to pray in the same sentiments that Jesus prayed to the Father: "That all may be one ... so that the world may believe." (John 17:21). **This year's theme is: "Reconciliation-The Love of Christ Compels Us."** (cf. 2 Cor 5:14-20). As Catholics who have the fullness of the faith that Jesus established, let us pray that others may be drawn into its truth. Pray each day: "O Almighty and Merciful God, You willed that the different nations should become one people through Your Son. Grant in Your kindness that those who glory in being known as Christians may put aside their differences and become one in truth and charity, and that all men, enlightened by the true faith, may be united in fraternal communion in the one Church. In this may Your name be glorified Father, Son (+), and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen."

