

Parish Offerings – 12th Sunday after Pentecost — August 12, 2018

"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 (\$1,897) YP (\$15)	\$1,912.00
Holy Days (\$190) YP (\$1)	191.00
Votive Candles	135.50
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	\$2,238.50

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$536.38
Holy Days	50.00
Votive Candles	41.50
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Church Attendance Last Week \$627.88

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (59)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (62); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (30)

Dormition of the Theotokos, Blessing of flowers and herbs Aug. 15

Tues, (MR) 7:00 p.m. (29); Wed, (MR) 9:00 a.m. (30) & (NS) 6:00 p.m. (28)

THE GUARDRAIL



A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Whoever keeps commandments keeps their life, but whoever shows contempt for their ways will die. — PROVERBS 19:16 NIV

Valerian F. Szal

Funeral Home — 238 Helen St., McKees Rocks, PA 15136

Phone: (412)

331-9713

Fax: (412) 331-6688

Michael P. Ferrell, Supervisor, CFSP

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WHEN YOU CAN'T CONTROL WHAT IS HAPPENING AROUND YOU, CHALLENGE YOURSELF TO CONTROL THE WAY IN WHICH YOU RESPOND.



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Greek Catholic Union of the USA
A Fraternal Benefit Society

Lodge 390 offers Insurance and Annuity Benefits greater than most financial institutions. Info call Tina (412) 859-9597

This space available for ads for wishing someone birthday or anniversary greetings, get-well wishes, etc.

Call the office (412) 771-3324

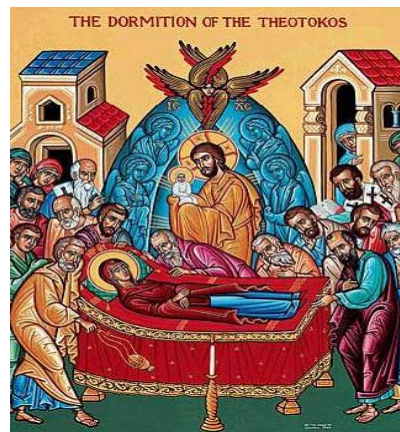
Please patronize our fabulous sponsors! They make it possible to bring you this weekly & informative S.O.T. without an added expense to the Church. New Sponsors please contact Church 9 til 1:00 p.m. Mon-Fri!



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

THE 13th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Postfestive of the Dormition — August 19, 2018



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 Tina Burns (412) 859-9597 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!

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 19, 2018

Seasonal Greeting

Volume VIII, Number 33



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By



13th Sunday after Pentecost

Postfestive of the Dormition Feast

SUN., Aug 19	9:00 a.m. (MR)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Agnes Knoll	Sally Sawicki
Mon Aug 20	8:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Pauline Wargo Gaydas	Anonymous
Tue, Aug 21	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Elinor Uram (40 th day of passing)	Anonymous
Wed, Aug 22	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Nicholas Niapas	Wife: Diane & Family
Thrs, Aug 23	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Judy A. Hopey	Family
Final Day of the Dormition of the Theotokos Feast			
REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice) for the intention of peace and harmony in our Country.			
Fri, Aug 24	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Julia (Miklos) Sibenik (2 nd ann of passing 8/25)	Son: Steven
Sat, Aug 25	9:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Nicholas Moyta	Sister: Sr. Martha Moyta, OSBM

Anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

14th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN., Aug 26	9:00 a.m. (MR)	+ John Kulka (12 th ann of passing)	Children: Kathy & John
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Michael Barbush	Anonymous

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

Aug 19 – IRENE JUGAN, Anne Keller; **Aug 20** – Nina Bella Lecci; **Aug 21** – Carmella Marie Rippole; **Aug 25** – Lori Lee Rippole.

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

HOME: Irene Bordas, Margaret Beliunas, MARY ANN CONTI, Andrew Drukalsky, Ilona Goyda, Beverly Harsh, Helen Hopey, MARTHA LUCAS, OLGA MANFREDO, Irene Palahunik, Elizabeth Petruna, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Betty Spisak, ANNA TOTH, EVELYN VENTO, Julia Wovchko, SHIRLEY YANOSKO.

MAPLEWOOD PC HOME (461 Maplewood Ave. Ambridge, PA 15003): Doris Naughton.
HIGHLAND PARK CARE CENTER (745 North Highland Ave., Pgh, PA 15206): Linda Reiger.
BRIGHTON REHAB & WELLNESS CENTER (246 Friendship Circle, Beaver, PA 15009): Mary Susan Dragosh.

MASONIC VILLAGE (1000 Masonic Dr., Sewickley, PA 15143): Helen M. Kriska, Marjorie Preganz.

MARIAN MANOR (2695 Winchester Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15220): Irene Bednar.

CHIPPEWA PLACE (7005 Stadium Dr., Apt 427, Brecksville, OH 44141): Stephen Katrenich.

FAIR OAKS ASSISTED LIVING (2200 W. Liberty Ave., Pgh, 15226): ANNA MARIE DEMIANCZYK.

LUTHERAN SENIORLIFE (500 Wittenberg Way, Mars PA 16046): William Zavidny.

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR (1028 Benton Ave., PGH 15212): MARY SAHAYDA

VETERANS HOSPITAL (1010 Delafield St., Pittsburgh, PA 15215): JOHN VEREB.

THE RESIDENCE AT WILLOW LANE (30 Heckel Rd., McKees Rocks, PA 15136): John Marks.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. If I cannot recall if I mentioned a particular sin the last time I went to confession but recall it now, should I mention it in my next confession, or was it absolved already? **A. Answer by a Catholic Apologist:** It was absolved already. If it is a venial sin, you do not need to confess it. If it was a mortal sin, it was absolved, provided you at least implicitly intended to mention it if you had remembered it. What this means is that you confessed all known sins and would have confessed whatever others you committed had you recalled them. So if you now recall a mortal sin, mention it the next time you go to confession.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

August 19 — August 25, 2018

(MR): **In memory of Claudia C. Verner** (birthday 8/22)

offered by Husband: George

(NS): **In memory of Michael Seman, Jr.**

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2018

offered by Sister: Velma Seman

(NS) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2018

McKees Rocks Announcements

SYMPATHY EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the sudden passing of **Fr. David A.**



Muczulski, O.F.M., 62, Guardian (Superior) of Holy Family Friary, Pittsburgh (Avalon), PA on Tuesday, August 14, 2018 at the Friary. It is the same Friary of our friends, Fr. Leonard, O.F.M. and Br. Regis, O.F.M. Among his many duties, Fr. David was the Catholic Chaplain at Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh. Funeral arrangements were handled by the Walter J. Zalewski Funeral Home, Pittsburgh. The Mass of Christian Burial was offered on Aug. 17 at 12:00 noon at St. Stanislaus Kostka Roman

Rite Church, Pittsburgh (Strip District). Interment took place at Christ our Redeemer Cemetery, Pittsburgh; also the passing of **Joseph B. Mackin, 96**, formally of Moon, who passed away at Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh on Friday, August 10, 2018. His wife is Olga Duker-Mackin & Brother-in-Law of our former pastor of Holy Ghost Church, Monsignor Russell A. Duker. Funeral arrangements were by the Copeland Funeral Home, Moon, PA. Mass of Christian Burial was at St. Margaret Mary Roman Rite Church, Moon Township.. Our parish offers it's prayerful solicitude for their immortal souls and most sincere condolences to Fr. Leonard, O.F.M. & Br. Regis, O.F.M. of Holy Family Friary and to the Mackin & Duker Families. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, to your servant the priest, Fr. David and to your servant, Joseph, and remember them forever! Vicnaja Jim Pamjat'!



KENNYWOOD PIROHI FEST FORTHCOMING — Following a brief meeting last Sunday in the Church Hall, members of our Pirohi Project expressed interest in making, selling and competing with other Pittsburgh area vendors at the *Kennywood Park Pierogi Fest* on **Sunday, September 23, 2018**. We are going to need your help. If you are interested in participating or for more information, please call Tam Revtai: (412) 480-3707

Holy Ghost, Northside

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 29, 2018 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. We need you!!! If you have any relatives needing extra credit for a scouting project or for school, our pastor will be happy to sign a form for them. Due to a lack of space, we are announcing this same event for our McKees Rocks Church on **Saturday, September 22, 2018**. Same format.



Continuation (p.3) of Mary's Assumption in the Eastern Tradition

(cont. from page 2) theologian who specializes in the area of the Dormition traditions, some of the common threads running through the Palm narratives are as follows: 1) An angel meets Mary on the Mount of Olives and announces to her that her time of death has come and brings to her a palm branch from the Tree of Life in paradise; 2) Mary goes back to her home in Jerusalem and informs her friends and family of the message of the angel, and the apostles, who were engaged in their respective missions all over the earth, re-gather miraculously in Jerusalem; 3) Peter, who is treated as the head of the apostles, delivers a homily to those who have come the night before to pray as Mary prepares for her death; 4) When the moment arrives, the crowds are put to sleep, all except the apostles and three virgins, who see Jesus and a host of angels appear; 5) Jesus receives the immaculate soul of Mary, appearing in the form of an Infant in white swaddling clothes, and gives it to Michael the Archangel; 6) The apostles carry Mary's body on a funeral bier to a tomb beside the Garden of Gethsemane; 7) Jephonias, one of the Jewish leaders, attempts to upend the funeral bier but as he does so his hands are severed by an angel, then later restored by his conversion and prayers to Mary; 8) After laying her body in the tomb, the apostles wait for Christ there for several days until he returns, resurrects Mary and takes her body, along with the apostles, to paradise; 9) The apostles, after being shown heaven and hell, then return to earth with Mary remaining, body and soul, in heaven. One of the later narratives also mentions a situation where Thomas arrives late. By the time he reaches the city and meets with the other apostles, Mary has been buried and he requests to see her body in the sealed tomb. When the tomb is opened, however, Mary's body is not to be found, but rather the relics of her funeral robe and her belt. The finding of the relics is also part of the Dormition traditions of Constantinople and Ephesus.

13th Sunday After Pentecost

Why God sent His Only-Begotten Son (Matthew 21: 33-42)

One may ask If everything else had failed, why did God send His Son? In the light of today's Gospel, here are some things to help us understand why God sent his Son. **1-GOD SENT HIS SON TO REVEAL HIS OWN HEART--** Through the years people had heard about God, they had felt his judgments. But really did not know his great heart or how much he really loved them. So when Jesus came, God said "This is my beloved Son, hear ye him" In saying this he was telling them feel his warmth, see his compassion, watch how he lives and loves and then you will see me. My Son and Me are one. Many things show the picture of God, but to love God and know God's love, one has to look into the face of Jesus Christ. **2-GOD SENT HIS SON TO TEACH A BETTER WAY OF LIVING** — The old rule was "An eye for an eye." But when Jesus came He said, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you". **3-GOD SENT HIS SON TO BE A PICTURE OF HIS POWER** — When He saw a blind man he gave him his sight. To a cripple he gave His walk, to a leper He gave cleansing, He brought the dead to life, gave comfort and hope to broken hearts, He stilled the storms and fed the hungry. All this He did to show how God could touch people and help them out of their sin. **4-GOD SENT HIS SON TO BECOME A BLOOD SACRIFICE** — Christ is the only and final sacrifice for sin. Rivers of animal blood could never do what Jesus done. No more going once a year, no more animals, and no more innocent life dying for my sin. Jesus did it once for all. The Blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin. **5-GOD SENT HIS SON TO BE A NEW AND LIVING WAY** — The only way to heaven is through Jesus. He is the ladder from earth to heaven, from man's sin to God's heart. People think they will stand in front of God and they can talk to Him and he will just let them pass through. Jesus said you must be born again (baptized and reform one's life to the Gospel), that is the way God designed it He settled it with the blood of Christ. **6-GOD WILL SEND HIS SON AGAIN SOME DAY** — In the New Testament alone, God said 318 times that Jesus would come again. One day the heavens will roll back and Jesus will step out on the cloud and call the dead in Christ first, then we which are alive and remain will be changed and go up to meet Him in the air to forever be with the Lord. No matter what Oprah, or Donahue says. John 1:12 wrote, "As many as received Him, to them he gave power to become the sons of God".



FROM A CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVE:

Mary's Assumption in the Eastern Tradition

The following article was written by a Catholic Answer writer, Deacon Daniel G. Dozer and taken from Catholic Answers Webpage. This abridges article briefly teaches us the importance of understanding the Dormition Feast. Space does not permit the entire article.

... We celebrate this holy end of Mary's life today with the Solemnity of the Assumption, in the East called the Dormition. Catholics of the Latin tradition often assume that Mary's final end has been sufficiently addressed by the dogma of the Assumption, that is, her translation, body and soul, into heaven as defined by Pius XII in 1950.... The Byzantine tradition, however, as part of the universal and fully Catholic patrimony of the Church, is not silent on this topic. It guards a rich treasury of teaching, iconography, and liturgy concerning the end of Mary's life....These three events—her death, her resurrection, and her assumption into heaven—complete the mosaic of the holy end of Mary's life. According to Stephen Shoemaker, a contemporary ... (cont. under Northside Announcements)

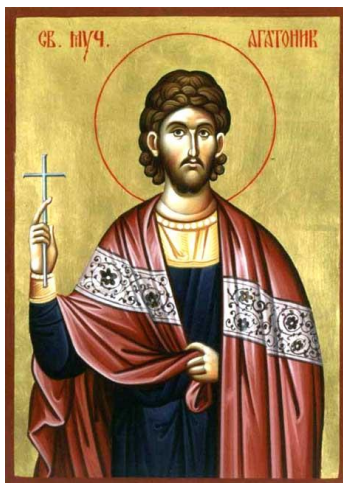


CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

August 19 ... Annual Parish Picnic, Robinson Clever Road, beginning @ 1:00 pm. – 6:00 pm.
 August 26 GCU District 15 Summer Afternoon at Narcisi Winery.
 August 29 ... Beheading Feast of St. John Baptist (Simple HD) – (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.
 September 1-2 84th Annual Pilgrimage to the Shrine of our Lady of Perpetual Help, Mt. St. Macrina
 September 7 Vigil Divine Liturgy of the Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos: (NS) 7:00 p.m..
 September 8 Solemn Holy Day: Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos: (MR) 9:00 a.m.
 Commencement of the New Ensemble Year for Slavjane at the (MR) 4:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy.
 September 8-9 (MR) Coffee Social commences following the weekend Divine Liturgies.
 September 10 Archieparchial Celebration of Marriage for Jubilarians, St. Elias Church, Munhall @ 3:00 pm
 September 16 Catechetical Sunday & Commissioning of the Catechists. Beginning of ECF school year
 September 16-18 Archieparchial Assembly 2018.
 September 22 MR Church grounds cleanup from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.
 September 23 Holy Ghost Pirohi Project to participate in Kennywood Park Pierogi Feast.
 September 29 MR Church grounds cleanup from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Saint of the Week

Martyr Agathonicus of Nicomedia & His Companions who suffered under Emperor Maximian — August 22

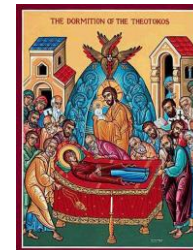


The Martyrs Agathonicus, Zoticus, Theoprepus, Acindynus, Severian, Zeno and others accepted death for Christ during the reign of the emperor Maximian (284-305). The Martyr Agathonicus was descended from the illustrious lineage of the Hypasians, and he lived at Nicomedia. Well versed in Holy Scripture, he converted many pagans to Christ, including the most eminent member of the Senate (its “princeps” or leader). Comitatus Eutolmius was sent to the Pontine (lower Black Sea) region, where he crucified the followers of the Christian Zoticus, who had refused to offer sacrifice to idols. He took Zoticus with him. In Nicomedia, Eutolmius arrested the Martyr Agathonicus (together with the princeps), and also Theoprepus, Acindynus and Severian. After tortures, Eutolmius ordered that the martyrs be

taken to Thrace for trial by the emperor. But along the way, in the vicinity of Potama, the Martyrs Zoticus, Theoprepus and Acindynus were unable to proceed further behind the chariot of the governor because of wounds received during torture. Therefore, they were put to death. The Martyr Severian was put to death at Chalcedon, and the Martyr Agathonicus together with others was beheaded with the sword by order of the emperor, in Selymbria. The relics of the Martyr Agathonicus were in a church named for him at Constantinople, and were seen in the year 1200 by the Russian pilgrim Anthony. And in the fourteenth century Philotheus, the archbishop of Selymbria, devoted an encomium to the Martyr Agathonicus.

General Announcements

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION THIS PAST WEEK — Last Wednesday, Aug. 15 was *THE FEAST OF THE DORMITION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD* and a Holy Day of Obligation. 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) at the Divine Liturgy*” (Canon 881#1); and “*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 fulfillment of this precept renders one guilty of mortal sin, therefore, unworthy to receive the Holy Eucharist, until one makes a worthy sacramental Confession of this voluntary neglect.**



PARISH PICNIC TODAY IN ROBINSON; BRING A LOUNGE CHAIR — Several tickets have been purchased for today’s annual social gathering and picnic. If you have not purchased a ticket, please feel free to bring a picnic basket like we did in the “olden days!” We will meet at Robinson Park, Rotary Shelter, 115 Robinson Pool Drive, McKees Rocks 15136 this afternoon at **1:00 p.m.** with various activities. **The food buffet will be served at 1:30 p.m.** At **2:15 p.m.** the wonderful and talented Slavjane Folk Ensemble will entertain us with a half hour performance. Following, games will continue, Parents, please encourage the children to attend the Slavjane show; this performance hopes to solicit new members of all ages. The Church will treat pizza to the Slavjane following the performance. The picnic will extend to 6:00 p.m. It is a good time to get acquainted with one another as a parish family.



84th 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 year on **Saturday, September 1** and/or **Sunday, September 2, 2018**. See the flyer in the narthex of the church!



ARCHIEPARCHIAL ASSEMBLY 2018 — The Archeparchy of Pittsburgh will be holding a revitalization assembly on September 16 through 18th to bring together Priests, Deacons, and the Faithful to address the needs of the Church and how we can ensure its growth, vitality and longevity. The major themes to promote revitalization will be: Education, Social Ministry and Outreach. If you are interested, please contact Fr. Firko for additional information by mid-week.



DISTRICT 15 INVITES ALL TO THE WINERY — GCU District 15 is hosting an Afternoon at the Narcisi Winery, 4578 Gibsonia Road, Gibsonia, PA 15044, on **Sunday, August 26, 2018** from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. Enjoy fraternalism, lunch, wine-tasting, door prizes and acoustic/Italian music of Jamie Wright. Cost: GCU Members: \$15.00 inclusive; non-members: \$25.00 inclusive. Make reservations and check out to GCU DISTRICT 15. Mail them to Elizabeth Harbist, 215 Thornwood Court, Moon Township, PA 15108. You may also phone: (412) 913-1446.