

Parish Offerings – 25th Sunday after Pentecost — November 18, 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 (\$1,957) YP (\$19)	\$1,976.00
Holy Days (\$113) YP (\$1)	114.00
Archdiocesan Charities	50.00
Votive Candles	123.50
	<hr/> \$2,263.50

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$274.00
Holy Days (\$50) Thanksgiving (\$100)	150.00
Utilities (\$10) Improvement (\$10)	20.00
Votive Candles	41.75
	<hr/> \$485.75

Church Attendance Last Week

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (45)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (87); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (32)



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

THE 26th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

1st Sunday of the Philippian Fast — November 18, 2018



Help Me Thanksgiving Day Prayer

O God, when I have food,
help me to remember the hungry;
When I have work,
help me to remember the jobless;
When I have a home,
help me to remember those who have no home at all;
When I am without pain,
help me to remember those who suffer,
And remembering,
help me to destroy my complacency;
bestir my compassion,
and be concerned enough to help;
By word and deed,
those who cry out for what we take for granted.
Amen.

—Samuel F. Pugh

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

Liturgical Services LIVE: www.Youtube.com then type: Holy Ghost Church Live Stream

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 Bob Bartko: (412) 779-0915.

Carpatho-Rusyn Radio Broadcast: Every Sunday from 2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. WPIT 730 AM.

Social Hall Rental for (MR) Parishioners: Contact Rectory Office: (412) 771-3324.

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).

November 18, 2018

Seasonal Greeting

Volume VIII, Number 49



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

Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

26th Sunday after Pentecost

1st Sunday of the Philippian Fast

SUN., Nov 18 (4) 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Anna + Michael Sejka Children
11:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

Mon, Nov 19 (5) 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Marie Nowakowski Br. Regis, O.F.M.

Prefestive of the Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

Tue, Nov 20 (6) 8:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

Solemn Holy Day — Mirovanije

The Philippian Fast — 40 days before Christmas

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

for the intention of the return of our beloved to the fullness of the Faith

WED, Nov 21 (7) 9:00 a.m. (MR) + John Debranski (12th ann of passing) Dgtr: Nancy
6:00 p.m. (NS) + Andrew Latta (birthday) Wife: Arlene & Family



Annual Thanksgiving Day

Thrs, Nov 22 (8) 9:00 a.m. (MR) Thanksgiving for all God's Blessings



The Philippian Fast — 40 days before Christmas

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

for the intention of the return of our beloved to the fullness of the Faith

Fri, Nov 23 (9) 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Marie E. Jumba (birthday 11/24) Cifrlak Family

Sat, Nov 24 (10) 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Michael Sotak, Sr. Dgtr-in-law: Jane R. Sotak

Anticipated Divine Liturgy of Twenty-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Susan + Michael Hubal, Sr.: Hubal Family

27th Sunday after Pentecost

2nd Sunday of the Philippian Fast

SUN., Nov 25 (11) 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Alphonse A. Siglow (8th ann of pass. 11/30) K & B
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 name and date not be published.

Note: Capitalized Names designate North Side parishioners

Nov 18 — Andrew Nazak, Amanda Singel; Nov 21 — MARLENE PFEIFFER; Nov 22 — Michael A. Tomchak; Nov 23 — Harry Herron.

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

HOME: Margaret Belionas, Irene Bordas, MARY ANN CONTI, Andrew Drukalsky, Ilona Goyda, Beverly Harsh, MARTHA LUCAS, OLGA MANFREDO, Irene Palahunik, Elizabeth Petruna, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Betty Spisak, 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): 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.

NEW HOPE ASSISTED LIVING (300 Union Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15202): Helen Hopey.

VENCENTIAN HOME (111 Perrymont Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237): ANNA TOTH.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. It is my understanding that we should be cleansed of our sins before we receive the Eucharist.

A. Catholic Answers Apologist: Receiving Christ in the Eucharist forgives venial sins. The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains, "As bodily nourishment restores lost strength, so the Eucharist strengthens our charity, which tends to be weakened in daily life; and this living charity wipes away venial sins" (CCC 1394). However, the reception of the Eucharist does not forgive mortal sins, so a person who is conscious of mortal sin must go to confession before receiving communion. When a person conscious of mortal sin receives the Eucharist without prior forgiveness he commits another mortal sin and only compounds his desperate situation. Paul tells us, "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord" (1 Cor. 11:27). The Church calls this a sacrilege which is profaning or treating unworthily the sacraments and other liturgical actions, as well as persons, things, or places consecrated to God (CCC 2120).

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

November 18, 2018 — November 24, 2018

(MR): In memory of John R. Debranski (12th ann of passing 11/21)

offered by Dgtr: Nancy

(NS): In memory of Marie Wittmer (birthday 11/23)

(MR) STILL AVAILABLE FOR 2019

offered by Sister: Joan Senchyshyn

(NS) STILL AVAILABLE FOR 2019

McKees Rocks Announcements

PHILIPPIN FAST PIROHI SALES CONTINUE — There will be NO Pirohi Sales this Friday, November 23 but they will resume on November 30 & December 7 & 14. Orders must be placed on the sheet at the Church entrances following the weekend Divine Liturgies, or by phone on Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon @ (412) 331-5155. We will only be making a limited amount under this continued format. Eat-ins will still be available. Please leave your name, phone number and order on the voice mail if there is no answer. We could use additional help, especially pinchers when we resume! .



NOVEMBER-DECEMBER FOOD DRIVE — In our love for the less fortunate, we will be holding our annual non-perishable food drive to be delivered to *Focus On Renewal* in time for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Please bring the non-expired items to the Church and place them at the entrance. For additional information contact Elaine Kurtanich (412) 370-9092. Once again, we are grateful to her for leading this project



CHURCH DECORATING FORTHCOMING — We will begin decorating the Church for Christmas on Monday, **December 3, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.** Please make an effort to come and give a helping hand. We're going to need muscle power for the heavy work of setting up the trees.

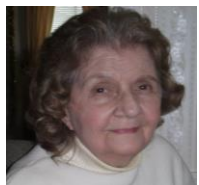


PLASTIC BAG COLLECTION FOR THE HOMELESS — One of our "Byzan-TEENS," Ray Rippole is a Freshman at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart High School. As President of our youth group, Ray is organizing a collection of plastic grocery bags from Holy Ghost parishioners. Sr. Francine Horos, a Felician Sister and Math Department Chair at OLSH, and the Heartstrings knitting activity work together to fashion a plastic yarn from the bags which is knit into a waterproof sleeping mat for the homeless. It takes 700 bags to make just one mat. **Please consider bringing in your plastic grocery bags** and leaving them in the collection box found at each entrance. Thank you for helping to recycle and care for the less fortunate.



Holy Ghost, Northside

SYMPATHY EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the passing of a long time former parishioner, **Mary J. Farabaugh, 89**, at her home in Somerdale, NJ on Friday, November 2, 2018. Surviving is her Husband, Ron and Daughter, Marianne Farabaugh. Funeral arrangements were handled by the Danks-Hinski Funeral Home, Lindenwold, NJ. Mass of Christian Burial was at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish Shrine on Thursday, Nov. 8 followed by the interment at St. Joseph Cemetery, Blackwood, NJ. Our parish offers its prayerful solicitude for her immortal soul and most sincere condolences to the Farabaugh Family. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, to your servant, Mary, and remember her forever! Vicnaja Jej Pamjat! Condolences may be sent to: 636 Southwick Rd., Somerdale, NJ 08083.



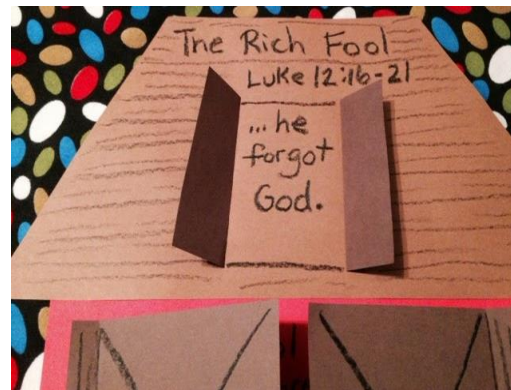
CHURCH DECORATING FORTHCOMING — We will begin decorating the Church for Christmas following the Sunday Divine Liturgy, **December 2, 2018.** Please make an effort to come and give a helping hand. We're going to need muscle power for the heavy work of setting up the trees



Come join us in giving THANKS to God on Thanksgiving Day!

Meditation on today's Gospel

A godly life is more important than material things
Luke 12:16-21



In Luke 12:13-21, a listener in the crowd surrounding Jesus asks Him to instruct his brother to divide the inheritance due to him equitably. Jesus declines, saying that life should not be based on having many possessions. He uses this occasion to teach His disciples that a godly life is more important than material things. To explain this, He tells a parable about a rich man who builds larger and larger barns to store all his crops and goods. Since he had everything he could possibly want or need, the rich man's focus was on living an easy life. God's response is that the man was foolish because, when he died later that night, his goods would do nothing for him. Someone else would inherit and enjoy them. A person whose life is caught up in what he owns is not rich toward God. The Parable of the Rich Fool illustrates Jesus' teaching to guard against every kind of covetousness.

Pope Francis Speaks — The Year of Faith

Pope's General Audience at St. Peter Square Nov. 14, 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters, In our continuing catechesis on the Ten Commandments, we now turn to the **eighth commandment: "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor"**. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* explains that this commandment "forbids misrepresenting the truth in our relations with others" (No. 2464). We are called to be truthful not only in our words but in our entire way of acting towards others. Our ultimate model in this regard is Jesus himself. He is the truth in person (cf. *Jn* 14:6), who, at his trial before Pilate, revealed that he came into this world to testify to the truth (cf. *Jn* 18:37). In the mystery of his life, death and resurrection, he disclosed the deepest meaning of our life on earth, and invited us to share in his divine life. His gift of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth, enables us to become adoptive sons and daughters of our heavenly Father and to dwell in his love as brothers and sisters. The eighth commandment bids us live this new life to the full, and thus to bear true witness to God's saving love, made incarnate in the humanity of Christ our Lord.



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

November 18 G.C.U. Lodge Meeting (election of new officers) @ 2:00 p.m.
 November 21 .. Solemn HD: Entrance into the Temple of Theotokos (MR) @ 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 p.m.
 November 22 Annual Thanksgiving Day — (MR) Divine Liturgy @ 9:00 a.m.
 December 2 (MR) Parish St. Nicholas Celebration.
 Decorating the (NS) Church for Christmas following the Divine Liturgy.
 December 3 Decorating the (MR) Church for Christmas @ 6:00 p.m.
 December 6 Solemn Feast of St. Nicholas the Wonder-Worker — (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 p.m.
 December 8 Solemn Feast of Immaculate Conception — (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 p.m.
 Slavjane Christmas Party following the Saturday afternoon Divine Liturgy.
 December 9 Holy Mystery of Reconciliation (Confessions) for ECF Students.
 December 16 Holy Mystery of Reconciliation (Confessions) for ECF Students.
 December 22 Tentative Installation of New Altar Servers & St. Aquilina Ministry
 December 23 Extra Confessor for Holy Mystery of Reconciliation (Confessions) @ 3:00 p.m.
 December 24 (MR) 8:00 a.m. Royal Hours; (MR) 1:00 p.m. Vespers w/DL of St. Basil the Great.

8:00 p.m. (MR) Great Compline followed by Christmas Carols; 9:00 p.m. Christmas Divine Liturgy.
December 25 . 9:00 a.m. (MR) Christmas Divine Liturgy; 11:00 a.m. (NS) Christmas Divine Liturgy.

 December 26 2nd Day of Christmas: Synaxis of the Theotokos — (MR) 9:00 a.m. (NS) & 6:00 p.m.
 December 27 3rd Day of Christmas – Feast of St. Stephen DL – (MR) 9:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
 December 28 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, Golden Corral @ 6:00 p.m.
 December 29 Sunday Vigil Divine Liturgy Schedule: (MR) 4:00 p.m.
 December 30 Regular Sunday Divine Liturgy Schedule: (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 11:00 a.m.
 January 1 New Year's Day: Feast of Circumcision & St. Basil - (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 11:00 am.

Solemn Holy Day of the Week — Nov. 21

Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

The origin of the feast is found in an account in the apocryphal Protoevangelium of Saint James. According to this document, after Saint Anne's miraculous birth-giving, the Most Holy Virgin having completed her second year, Joachim said to his wife: "Let us lead her to the Lord's Temple, as we promised Him." Ann said: "Let us yet wait until her third year, so that the child will not clamor for her father or mother, thus she will not walk straight before the Lord." When the child was three years old, Joachim said: "Let us call from among the daughters of the Hebrews those who are undefiled, and let them each take a lamp and let these lamps be lit, that the child not turn to look backward and her heart be not held captive outside the Lord's Temple." They did thusly. Zachary the priest received her and said to her: "May the Lord crown your name with glory!", and he set her down on the altar step. There, Mary was nourished by an angel until she was twelve years old. When the time came for her to marry, Joseph received her from the priests' hands, and took her from the Lord's Temple. Whatever the foundations of this gracious legend may be, the Church invites us above all to meditate on the mystery of the internal preparation of Mary for her vocation as Theotokos. This preparation is a total self-commitment, in the "immaculate victim," "as a most holy vessel" which must receive the body of the Word incarnate, "a living temple and throne of the King, elected to be his Mother," "the spiritual ark enclosing the incomprehensible Word." The miracle of her subsistence by the hand of the Archangel is the symbol of her spiritual life entirely nourished by the will of God. **Come and pray with us at the Divine Liturgy. See the liturgical schedule for times.**



General Announcements

1ST WEEK: SPIRITUAL PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS — We began our first full week in our journey through the **PHILIPPIAN FAST** this past Nov. 15. It is called the Philippian



Fast (Filipovka in Church Slavonic) since it begins the day after the Apostle Phillip's Feast Nov. 14). It is comparable to the Western Rite's Advent Season. The Byzantine Catholic Church does not use the Latin Language to describe this penitential season (eg. Advent), since its traditional language is based on the Greek. This minor penitential period directs us to prepare ourselves for the spiritual meaning of Christmas. May we allow Him to be reborn in our souls by sanctifying the temple of our Body. Through prayer, abstinence, almsgivings of mercy, frequent confession of sins,

and additional attendances at the Divine Liturgies we can accomplish this end. *Together as a parish, let us collectively continue to practice simple abstinence (no meat) or an equivalent penance on Wednesdays (recommended) and Fridays (required) for the intention for the return of our beloved back to the fullness of the Faith.*

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR TREE OF LIFE SYNAGOGUE TODAY — In the light of this horrible and local tragedy two weeks ago, Archbishop Skurla has announced that a special collection is to be made for the *Tree of Life Synagogue* in all Archieparichal Parishes. If you would like to participate in this charitable work place a regular white envelope marked with *Tree of Life Synagogue*, and your name and envelope number (if you have one), contribution amount, and if submitting a check make it out to the *Archebarchy of Pittsburgh* (under memo signify "Tree of Life Synagogue"). All funds will then be sent to the Chancery who in turn will send it collectively to our Jewish Brethren.



ARCHIEPARICHAL ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION — The 61st Annual St. Nicholas Celebration will take place at the Cathedral and Cathedral Center on **Sunday, December 9, 2018**. Tickets are priced at \$40.00 per adult and \$18.00 per child ages 12 and under. We'd like to get at least one full table per parish family. Please sign the list in the (MR) Side Vestibule; (NS) Narthex. *Parish deadline is extended today, Sunday, November 18.*

GCU LODGE 390 FOURTH QUARTERLY TODAY — Lodge members are reminded of the 4th quarterly meeting next Sunday, **November 18, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.** in the MR church basement. Members are urged to attend this important meeting since there will be the election of new officers.



LEARN ABOUT THE ANNULMENT PROCESS — Divorced Catholics and others who may be interested in learning about the annulment process are welcome to attend a free workshop with Jay Conzemius, JCL, judge and moderator; and Diane Kass, Tribunal Notary, of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Tribunal and Diocese of Pittsburgh Tribunal. Topics will include: theology of marriage; ministry of the tribunal; marriage annulment types; why, when and how to start the petition for annulment process; and a process overview. Afterward participants can ask questions and/or start the process. ***This important presentation will take place at St. John Byzantine Catholic Cathedral, 210 Greentree Road, Munhall, Pa. on Tuesday, Dec. 4 at 7:00 p.m.***

