

Parish Offerings – Sunday after Theophany — Jan 13, 2019

“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 (\$1,334) YP (\$12)	\$1,346.00
Holy Days	118.00
Initial (\$70) B.C.W. (\$325)	395.00
Votive Candles	59.80
	<hr/>
	\$1,918.80

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

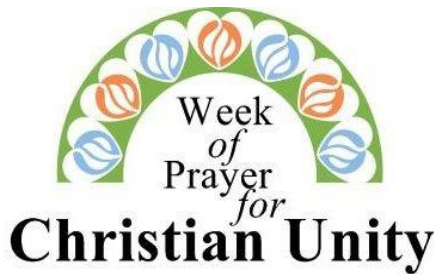
Regular Offering	\$263.00
Initial	5.00
B.C.W.	28.00
Votive Candles	33.10

Church Attendance Last Week \$329.10

Sat. (MR) 4:00 p.m. (47)

Sun. (MR) 9:00 a.m. (64); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (23)

WHEN DOES LIFE BEGIN?



HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

35TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Prayer for Christian Unity & Pro-life Sunday

January 20, 2019



RESPECT LIFE

**FROM THE WOMB
TO THE TOMB**

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

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
Our Famil Still Servina Yours Since 1953

**ABSTINENCE
and
ADOPTION**
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DESIGNS BY NANCY
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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.

GCU
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**

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without an added expense to
the Church. New Sponsors
please contact Church 9 til
1:00 p.m. Mon-Fri!**

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!

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).

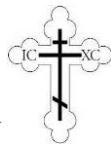
January 20, 2019



Seasonal Greeting

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

Volume IX, Number 3



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date	Time	Intention	Requested By
The 35th Sunday After Pentecost			
3rd day of prayer for Christian Unity — Prolife Weekend			
SUN., JAN 20	9:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Forgotten Souls in Purgatory	Joseph A. Cehula, T.O. Carm.
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Anna Pungras. (30 th ann of passing 1/16)	Dgtr: Anna Pungras Demianczyk
Federal Holiday — Martin Luther King, Jr.			
Mon, Jan 21	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Sharon Ann Maletz	Parents: Martha & Bob
46th anniversary of Roe v. Wade Supreme Court infamous decision legalizing abortion			
Tue, Jan 22	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Judy A. Hopey	Family
Wed, Jan 23	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Joyce D. Ray	Connie & George Bader
Thrs, Jan 24	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ John J. Jumba	Jen & Paul Lockerbie

Feast of Our Father Among the Saints, Gregory the Theologian

Final Day of the annual eight days of prayer for Christian Unity

REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINANCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance) for Peace in the whole world

Fri, Jan 25 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Helen P. Petak Dgtr: Marilyn Furman & Family

Sat, Jan 26 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Helen Petracosta Mary Sahayda

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy for the Thirty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Debra Ann Palahunik Ann & Ted Talkowski
(2nd ann of passing 1/23)

The 36th Sunday After Pentecost

SUN., JAN 27 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Deceased Members of Mosko Family George & Julia Ann
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

Birthdays: Jan 21 – KIRK LATTA, Nicholas Nazak I, Julia Wovchko; 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: Margaret Beliuas, Irene Bordas, MARY ANN CONTI, Andrew Drukalsky, Ilona Goyda, Beverly Harsh, GEORGE HUNDAICK, SR; MARTHA LUCAS, OLGA MANFREDO, Irene Palahunik, Elizabeth Petruna, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Betty Spisak, EVELYN VENTO, Anita Wolsko, 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.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. Do you have an official Church document that addresses the importance of dressing modestly for Mass (Divine Liturgy)? **A. Answer by a Catholic Apologist:**

Refer to *Happy Are Those Who Are Called to His Supper: On Preparing to Receive Christ Worthily in the Eucharist*, a document from the USCCB's Committee on Doctrine: "We should also come to the sacred liturgy appropriately dressed. As Christians we should dress in a modest manner, wearing clothes that reflect our reverence for God and that manifest our respect for the dignity of the liturgy and for one another" (available at www.usccb.org).

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

January 20, 2019 — January 26, 2019

(MR): In memory of Margaret & George Kurtanich (Wed Ann)

offered by Children

(NS): Intention of the Giver

(MR) None AVAILABLE FOR 2019

offered by Anonymous

(NS) AVAILABLE FOR 2019

Holy Ghost, McKees Rocks

SYMPATHY EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the passing of **Michael Kodik, 76**, of McKees Rocks at Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh on Friday, January 11, 2019. He is survived by two daughters: Lisa Hengelberg and Dyann Kodik; and brother to Parishioner Nick (Shirley) Kotik. Funeral arrangements were handled by the Anthony J. Sanvito Funeral Home, McKees Rocks. A Funeral Panachida was celebrated on Tuesday, Jan 15th. Interment followed at Resurrection Cemetery, Moon Township. Our parish offers its prayerful solicitude for his immortal soul and most sincere condolences to the Family. In blessed repose grant O Lord eternal rest to your servant, Michael, and remember him forever. Vicnaja Jemu Pamjat'.

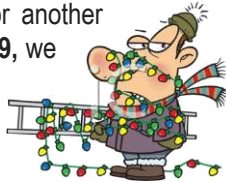


GRATITUDE TO ALL — A special thank you is extended to all who came to dismantle the Christmas decorations last week. Your sacrificial and unselfish gesture made it possible to complete the task within a reasonable time. Team-Work is awesome! God bless you for your assistance! Also a special belated thank you for the anonymous donors of the first poinsettia 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!



Holy Ghost, Northside

CHRISTMAS DECORATION TO BE DISMANTLED TODAY — We no sooner set the Church up for Christmas and it's time to dismantle it for another year. **Today**, following the Divine Liturgy on **January 20, 2019**, we are asking all volunteers to help put away the festive decorations. The more assistance we can get, the faster we can all depart. Please consider offering an hour of your time, especially if you weren't able to help in the set up.



SANCTUARY LAMPS STILL AVAILABLE — Additional (NS) Sanctuary Lamps are available for your intentions. They are \$10.00 each and are burned before the Tabernacle of Our Lord Jesus' Real Presence throughout the week. Submit your request and stipend in a regular envelope and who it is that is offering.



INDIVIDUAL FINANCE REPORTS BY REQUEST— If you would like a record of your 2018 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. Individual Financial reports will only be given on requests. We can get it to you more expediently by submitting your email.

The Byzantine Catholic World Subscription is now due to keep your subscription active. Please submit A.S.A.P. full payment of \$14.00! If you have not currently subscribed, please write NEW SUBSCRIPTION on the envelope. All subscriptions will be submitted at the end of this month.

A SCRIPTURAL MEDITATION

Do we set our heart on the highest treasure?

GOSPEL Luke 18:18-27

Why did the rich ruler go away from Jesus with sadness rather than with joy? His treasure and his hope for happiness were misplaced. Treasure has a special connection to the heart, the place of desire and longing, the place of will and focus. The thing we most set our heart on is our highest treasure. The Lord himself is the greatest treasure we can have. Giving up everything else to have the Lord as our treasure is not sorrowful, but the greatest joy. See Jesus' parable about the treasure hidden in a field (Matthew 13:44). Selling all that we have could mean many different things--our friends, our job, our "style" of life, what we do with our free time. Jesus challenged the young man because his heart was possessive. He was afraid to give to others for fear that he would lose what he had gained. Those who are generous towards God and others find that they cannot out give God in generosity. God blesses us with spiritual goods that far outweigh the fleeting joys of material goods. He alone can satisfy the deepest longing and desires of our heart. Are you willing to part with anything that might keep you from seeking true joy with Jesus? "Lord, you alone can satisfy the deepest longing in my heart. No other treasure can compare with you. Keep me free from being possessive or discontented and give me joy in having you alone as my Treasure and my Portion."



Our Holy Father's General Audience

Vatican City State on the 'OUR FATHER'— January 9, 2019

Dear brothers and sisters: In our catechesis on the Lord's Prayer, we now reflect on its very first words: "**Our Father**". Saint Paul's letters testify that the earliest Christians, guided by the Holy Spirit, prayed using the Aramaic word for "father" that Jesus himself had used: "**Abba**" (cf. Rom 8:15; Gal 4:6). At the beginning of the Lord's Prayer, then, we hear an echo of the voice of Jesus himself, who teaches the disciples that to pray is to share in his own intimate and trusting relationship with the Father. The parable of the prodigal son shows us most vividly how Jesus wants us to understand our heavenly Father and his infinite love, mercy and forgiveness. Indeed, there is also something maternal about this love of the Father, which accompanies and nurtures the development of our new life in Christ as his adoptive sons and daughters. All the newness of the Gospel, and the very heart of our prayer as Christians, is in some sense summed up in the one word: "Abba". Even in the most difficult times in our lives, may we never be afraid to turn in trust and confidence to the Father, praying in the words that Jesus taught us: "Abba", "Our Father".



Calendar of Upcoming Events

January 18-25	Annual 8 days of Prayer for Christian Unity.
January 20	Dismantling of the (NS) Christmas Decorations following the Divine Liturgy.
January 22	46 th anniversary of the infamous Roe vs. Wade Decision legalizing abortion.
January 30	Feast of 3 Holy Hierarchs: 9:00 a.m. (MR); 6:00 p.m. (NS).
February 1	Divine Liturgy and Sanctification of Candles 6:00 p.m. (NS).
February 2	Encounter of the Lord Divine Liturgy w/Sanctification of Candles 9:00 a.m. (MR).

Saint of the Week

Our Venerable Mother Xenia of Rome

January 24

Saint Xenia of Rome, in the world Eusebia, was the only daughter of an eminent Roman senator. From her youth she loved God, and wished to avoid the marriage arranged for her. She secretly left her parental home with two servants devoted to her, and set sail upon a ship. Through the Providence of God she met the head of the monastery of the holy Apostle Andrew in Milassa, a town of Caria (Asia Minor). She besought him to take her and her companions to Milassa. She also changed her name, calling herself Xenia [which means “stranger” or foreigner” in Greek]. At Milassa she bought land, built a church dedicated to St Stephen, and founded a woman’s monastery. Soon after this, Bishop Paul of Milassa made Xenia a deaconess, because of her virtuous life. The saint helped everyone: for the destitute, she was a benefactress; for the grief-stricken, a comforter; for sinners, a guide to repentance. She possessed a deep humility, accounting herself the worst and most sinful of all. In her ascetic deeds she was guided by the counsels of the Palestinian ascetic, St Euthymius. The sublime life of St Xenia drew many souls to Christ. The holy virgin died in 450 while she was praying. During her funeral, a luminous wreath of stars surrounding a radiant cross appeared over the monastery in the heavens. This sign accompanied the body of the saint when it was carried into the city, and remained until the saint’s burial. Many of the sick received healing after touching the relics of the saint.



General Announcements

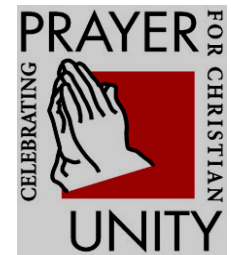
ANNIVERSARY OF ROE VS. WADE — This Tuesday, January 22, marks the 46st anniversary of the shameful 1973 infamous Supreme Court Decision of *ROE VS. WADE* which legalized abortion. As a Pro-Life Parish, we must continue our prayers of supplication and sacrificial efforts to have this horrific law overturned. 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.*



WHY YOUR HOME SHOULD BE BLESSED EACH YEAR — Traditionally, the priest personally visits his parishioners each year to pray with them in the place where they live, and to bless their surroundings with the newly sanctified water of Theophany. By the annual sanctifying of our homes we extend the grace of God to our individual dwellings. Just as our souls, so also our homes become frequently tainted by the sins of those living in them and consequently lose God’s protective power. As we cleanse our souls of sins at least once a year and the church is blessed with the newly blessed water every year, so should our homes receive this special blessing with Sanctified Water for the priest to invoke God’s favor and protection on it and its inhabitants. As we renew the insurance on our home every year, so we should renew our insurance of God’s protection which is of greater importance and most effective. If you would like to have your home blessed, please call the Church office and set up a time for the pastor’s visitation.



CONTINUING THE EIGHT DAYS OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY — As Catholics who have the fullness of the faith, let us pray that others may be drawn into its truth. We are already witnesses and we need to become better witnesses. Let us offer the following prayer each of these eight days: *“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.”*



Remember to discard last year’s Sanctified Water in a respectable manner and place! It is not to be poured down the sink drain!