

Parish Offerings – 35th Sunday after Pentecost — Jan 20, 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 (\$970) YP (\$3)	\$973.00
Holy Days (\$5) Christmas 2018 (\$30)	35.00
B.C.W.	42.00
Votive Candles	52.85
	<hr/>
	\$1,102.85

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$446.00
Holy Days (\$25) Christmas 2018 (\$50)	75.00
Utilities (\$25) Initial (\$35) B.C.W. (\$42)	102.00
Votive Candles	7.00

Church Attendance Last Week 630.00

1st snowfall weekend of Winter — Sat. (MR) 4:00 p.m. (27)
Sun. (MR) 9:00 a.m. (18); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (8)



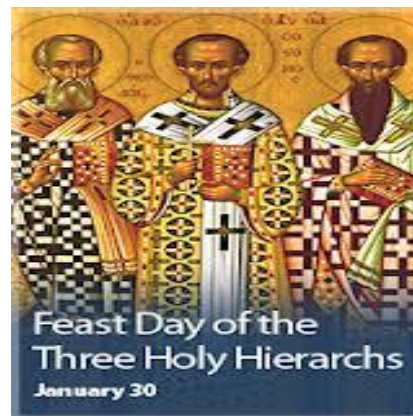
HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

36th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Transposition of the Relics of St. John Chrysostom
January 27, 2019



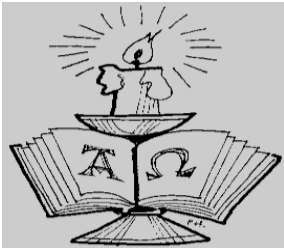
Catholics of the Ruthenian – Byzantine Rite in full communion with the Pope of Rome
The Very Reverend Father Frank A. Firko, Pastor
The Reverend Deacon Michael Meaders (NS)

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 Familj Still Servina Yours Since 1953



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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.

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!

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

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!

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 27, 2019

Seasonal Greeting

Volume IX, Number 4



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date	Time	Intention	Requested By
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	
Mon, Jan 28	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Michael Kodik (memorial)	Anonymous
Tue, Jan 29	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Irene Yakelis	Anonymous

Feast of the 3 Holy Hierarchs

Simple Holy Day

Wed., Jan 30	9:00 a.m. (MR)	Special Intention for the Intention of the Givers	
	6:00 p.m. (NS)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
Thrs, Jan 31	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Karen (Hubal) Meloni	Anonymous
		<i>Prefestive of the Encounter Feast</i>	
		REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance) for the ill and suffering members of our parishes	
Fri, Feb 1	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Myron (Rusty) Kundrat	Theresa Kundrat
		(8 th ann of passing)	



REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance) for the ill and suffering members of our parishes



Anticipated Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Encounter of the Lord

**5:50 p.m. (NS) + Lucy + John Holesh Dgtr: Nancy & Family

ENCOUNTER OF THE LORD

Solemn Blessing of Candles prior to Divine Liturgy — Mirovanije

Sat, Feb. 2 **8:50 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes



Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy for the Sunday of Zacchaeus

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Charles Petruna Wife: Elizabeth & Family
(40th ann of passing 1/18)

Sunday of Zacchaeus

The 1st Pregreat Fast Sunday — Postfestive of Encounter Feast

SUN., FEB 3 9:00 a.m. (MR) + John A. Jumba (4th ann of passing) Sharon & Matt Dworakowski
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 29 – Richard Cifrulak; Jan 31 – Burt Cifrulak, Krassimir Kassabov, GARY MULLEN, DAMIAN TRAPL; Feb 1 – Karen Grzywinski; Feb 2 – Peggi Lucas, Rosemarie Nazak, William Zavidny.

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

HOME: Margaret Belinas, 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. If a person is unconscious and receives the last rites but is unable to confess, is he cleansed of his sins? **A. Answer by a Catholic Apologist:** Yes, assuming his soul is properly disposed. In other words, assuming he has sorrow for his sins. The Church teaches: Individual and integral confession and absolution constitute the sole ordinary means by which a member of the faithful who is conscious of grave sin is reconciled with God and with the Church. Physical or moral impossibility alone excuses from such confession, in which case reconciliation may be attained by other means also. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states: "The special grace of the sacrament of the anointing of the sick has as its effects: the forgiveness of sins, if the sick person was not able to obtain it through the sacrament of penance" (CCC 1532).

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

January 27, 2019 — February 2, 2019

(MR): **In memory of the Mosko Family**

offered by George & Julia Ann Mosko

(NS): **Health & Welfare**

(MR) None AVAILABLE FOR 2019

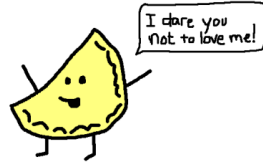
offered by Jane R. Sotak

(NS) AVAILABLE FOR 2019



Holy Ghost, McKees Rocks

PIROHI REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING NEXT SUNDAY — The Lenten Season will soon be here. Once again, we will discuss whether we will have a Pirohi Project. We will meet in the Church Basement for a short but important meeting following next Sunday's Divine Liturgy. This meeting will determine whether or not the Project will be possible.



PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING FORTHCOMING — The members of the PAC are reminded of the meeting slated for **Monday, February 11, 2019 @ TBA**. Please place this date on your agenda.

Holy Ghost, Northside

CHRISTMAS DECORATION RESCHEDULED TO BE DISMANTLED TODAY — Due to the incimate weather with only a few in Church, the dismantling of the Christmas decoration is slated following today's Divine Liturgy.

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.

PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING FORTHCOMING — The members of the PAC are reminded of the meeting slated for **Tuesday, February 12, 2019 @ TBA**. Please place this date on your agenda.

DEANERY PENITENTIAL VESPERS SCHEDULED — *The Great Fast Deanery Vespers* will be celebrated, each Sunday during The Great Fast Season at 4:00 p.m. preceded by The Holy Mystery of Reconciliation @ 3:30 p.m. The following churches have been selected to host a different week: (1) **March 10 — St. Pius X Church, Carrick — Homilist: Fr. Adam Hortsman;** (2) **March 17 — St. John the Baptist Church, Lyndora — Homilist: Monsignor Russell Duker;** (3) **March 24 — St. Gregory Church, Upper St. Clair — Homilist: Fr. Andrew Deskevich;** (4) **March 31 — St. John Chrysostom Church, Greenfield — Homilist: Fr. John Cuccaro;** and (5) **April 7 — Saints Peter & Paul Church, Tarentum — Homilist: Fr. Radko Blichar.** This will be a great penitential practice of prayer & self-denial if you wish to take it upon yourselves. Please make an effort to join us. Fellowship of meatless soups and bread will be served following the liturgical services.



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TODAY'S GOSPEL MEDITATION

Jesus stops for, responds to, reaches out to!

GOSPEL Luke 18:35-43

Now, to the folks in Jericho that day, this blind man was a noisy, stubborn nuisance.



They want to make a good impression on Jesus, and here's this man screaming obnoxiously. The people see nuisance. Jesus sees need. He knows that behind those screams is a man with a desperate need. And the man everybody else is trying to shut up Jesus stops for, responds to, reaches out to. When you try to see the need behind someone's deed, it changes the way you treat that person. There's probably someone in your world who needs that kind of understanding from you right now. It may be

someone who has hurt you deeply . . . mistreated you . . . used you . . . even attacked you. You may be increasingly annoyed or irritated or angry with someone whose attitude or actions or approach really rub you the wrong way. But there's a good chance there's pain underneath the way they are. Past battles that have almost programmed them to respond in a way that they think will protect them from more pain. Sometimes when people are bleeding emotionally, they bleed on us. If that person was injured in front of your house and physically bleeding, you'd respond with compassion and you'd do all you could to stop the bleeding. When you try to understand the needs behind their deeds, you can finally respond as Jesus told us to - **"Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you" (Luke 6:27, 28).** That person you struggle with doesn't need any more wounds . . . they need someone who will, in Jesus' love, help heal those wounds.

Why we refer to the Eucharist as an "unbloody sacrifice"?

First, the Eucharist or sacrifice of the Mass (Divine Liturgy) is not a re-sacrificing of Jesus. Jesus offered himself once for all (Heb. 7:27, 9:28), so the Mass (Divine Liturgy) is called unbloody because Jesus does not suffer and shed his blood anew. However, while Jesus suffers and dies only once, his sacrifice as a whole culminated in everlasting glory in the heavenly sanctuary and is made sacramentally present at every Mass (Divine Liturgy). The Catholic Church describes the Eucharist as "the source and summit of the Christian life" (CCC 1324). It's the source because the Eucharist enables us to make present and offer anew Jesus Christ's one redemptive sacrifice of Calvary, which began with his Passion (CCC 1362-68; 1341). It's the summit because the Eucharist is truly a foretaste of heaven, in which we partake of Jesus' body and blood as heaven and earth become most profoundly one. The Eucharist is a communion sacrifice, which means we partake of Jesus in a way similar to how the ancient Israelites ate the flesh of the Old Covenant Passover lambs. But the New Covenant Passover is much more profound, for there is only one Lamb—the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29, 35-36)—and eating Jesus' body and drinking his blood provides eternal life (John 6:52-59; see 1 Cor. 13:23-34). Jesus' one sacrifice is made sacramentally present and offered anew at every Mass (Divine Liturgy) according to the order of Melchizedek, i.e., under the forms of bread and wine.



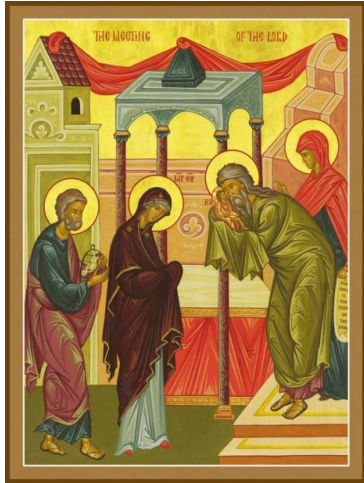
Calendar of Upcoming Events

January 27	Dismantling of the (NS) Christmas Decorations following the Divine Liturgy.
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).
February 11	MR Parish Advisory Council Meeting @ TBA
February 12	NS Parish Advisory Council Meeting @ TBA.
February 22	NS 1 st All Souls Saturday Vigil @ 6:00 p.m.
February 23	MR 1 st All Souls Saturday @ 9:00 a.m.

SOLEMN HOLY DAY THIS WEEK

The Encounter of the Lord – February 2

The fortieth day after His birth, the All-Holy Virgin brought her Divine Son into the

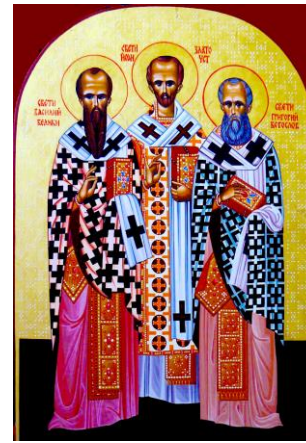


Temple of Jerusalem, in accordance with the Law, to dedicate Him to God and to purify herself. "Consecrate to me every first-born that opens the womb among the Israelites both of man and beast, for it belongs to me" (Exodus 13:2 & Leviticus 12:2-7). Even though neither the one nor the other was necessary, nevertheless the Lawgiver did not, in anyway, want to transgress His own Law whom He had given through Moses, His servant and prophet. At that time, the high-priest Zachariah, the father of John the Forerunner, was on duty in the Temple ["serving as a priest before God in the order of his division" St. Luke 1:8]. Zachariah placed the

Virgin, not in the temple area reserved for women but rather in the area reserved for virgins. On this occasion, two unusual persons appeared in the Temple: the Righteous Simeon and the Prophetess Anna, the daughter of Phanuel. The righteous Simeon took the Messiah in his arms and said: "Now, Master, You may let Your servant go in peace, according to Your word, for my eyes have seen Your salvation" (St. Luke 2: 29-30). Simeon also spoke the following words about the Christ-child: "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel" (St. Luke 2:34). Then Anna, who from her youth served God in the Temple by fasting and prayer recognized the Messiah and glorified God and proclaimed to the inhabitants of Jerusalem about the coming of the long-awaited One. The Pharisees present in the Temple, who having seen and heard all, became angry with Zachariah because he placed the Virgin Mary in the area reserved for virgins and reported this to King Herod. Convinced that this is the new king about whom the Magi from the east spoke, Herod immediately sent his soldiers to kill Jesus. In the meantime the Holy Family had already left the city and set out for Egypt under the guidance of an angel of God. The Feast of the Encounter of our Lord in the Temple was celebrated from earliest times but the solemn celebration of this day was established in the year 544 A.D. during the reign of Emperor Justinian.

General Announcements

FEAST OF THE 3 HOLY HIERARCHS ON WEDNESDAY — In the month of January, each of these saints has their own feast day. **St. Basil the Great, January 1; St. Gregory the**



Theologian, January 25; and the transposition of the relics of St. John Chrysostom, January 27. This combined feast day, January 30, was instituted in the eleventh century during the reign of Emperor Alexius Comnenus. At one time a debate arose among the people concerning who of the three is the greatest? Some extolled Basil because of his purity and courage; others extolled Gregory for his unequaled depth and lofty mind in theology; still others extolled Chrysostom because of his eloquence and clarity in expounding the Faith. Thus some were called Basilians, others Gregorgians, and the third were called Johannites. This debate was settled by Divine Providence to the benefit of the Church and to an even greater glory of the three saints. Bishop John of Euchaita (June 14) had a vision in a dream: At first, all three of these saints appeared to him

separately in great glory and indescribable beauty, and after that all three appeared together. They said to him, "As you see, we are one in God and there is nothing contradictory in us; neither is there a first or a second among us." The saints also advised Bishop John that he write a common service for them and to order a common feast day of celebration. Following this wonderful vision, the debate was settled in this manner: **January 30** would be designated as the common feast of these three hierarchs. The Greeks consider this feast not only an ecclesiastical feast but their greatest national school holiday.

SOLEMN BLESSING OF CANDLES THIS WEEK — On Saturday, **Feb. 2**, we commemorate the Solemn Feast of THE ENCOUNTER OF THE LORD. The Righteous Simeon was promised by God that he would not pass onto eternity until he had first seen the Messiah in the flesh. It is a day that Byzantine Catholics acknowledge Jesus coming to ENCOUNTER His people. Christ is the revelation light to the Gentiles and the glory of His people Israel. Jesus comes as the LIGHT OF THE WORLD. It is on this day that candles are solemnly blessed. Although the Church will provide candles, you may also wish to bring your own for the solemn blessing. **Please be advised: We start 10 minutes earlier for the Solemn Blessing.**



INDIVIDUAL FINANCE REPORTS STILL AVAILABLE— If MR Members would like a record of their 2018 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 2018 envelopes. Your number may have changed!

HOUSE BLESSING CONTINUE — 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.

