

## Parish Offerings – 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost — August 25, 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 (\$1,744) YP (\$10) .....	\$1,754.00
Holy Days (\$412) YP (\$4) .....	416.00
Votive Candles (\$104.25) .....	111.50
	<hr/>
	\$2,281.50

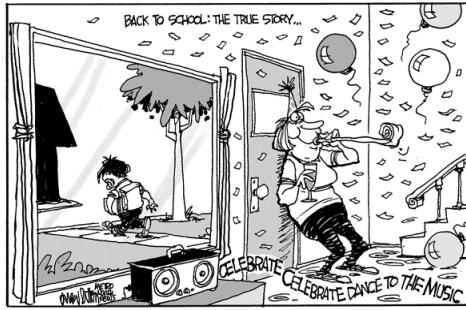
### Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering .....	\$451.00
Holy Days .....	35.00
Special Donation (by William Knoll) .....	100.00
Votive Candles (\$48.50) Utilities (\$25) .....	73.50
	<hr/>
	\$659.50

### Church Attendance Last Week

(MR) Sat, 4:00 p.m. (43)

Sun, (MR) 9:00 a.m. (91); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (21)



## HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET  
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

## THE 11<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 25, 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](http://www.holyghost-byzantinecatholic.org) – E-Mail: [ffaf334@verizon.net](mailto:ffaf334@verizon.net)

**SUNDAY RADIO (9:00 am WEDO 810 AM) & INTERNET DIVINE LITURGY**

**Liturgical Services LIVE: [www.Youtube.com](http://www.Youtube.com) then type: Holy Ghost Church Live Stream**

### Valerian F. Szal

238 Helen St.,  
McKees Rocks, PA 15136

Phone: (412)

331-9713

Fax: (412) 331-6688

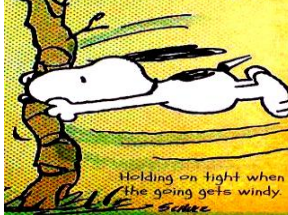
Michael P. Ferrell,

Supervisor, CFSP

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**This space available  
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the Church. New Sponsors  
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1:00 p.m. Mon-Fri!**



### 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 Northwest Pittsburgh Lodge: (MR) Contact Tina Burns (412) 859-9597 for membership.

Slavjane Folk Ensemble: (MR) Membership requirements contact Bob Bartko: (412) 779-0195.

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

Social Hall Rental for Parishioners: (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!


*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).*

Volume IX, Number 34



Requested By

<b>SUN, Aug 25</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. (MR)</b> + John Kulka <i>(13<sup>th</sup> ann of passing 8/26)</i>	Children: Kathy & John
	<b>11:00 a.m. (NS)</b> <i>For the Parishioners of Both Parishes</i>	
<b>Mon, Aug 26</b>	<b>8:00 a.m. (MR)</b> + John Burik <i>(40<sup>th</sup> day of passing 8/25)</i>	Wife: Irene
<b>Tue, Aug 27</b>	<b>8:00 a.m. (MR)</b> + George Kurtanich	M/M Peter Kacsur
<b>Wed, Aug 28</b>	<b>***7:30 a.m. (MR)</b> + Sr. Martha Moyta, O.S.B.M.	Cathy & Jack Securda

**REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE** (no meat) **or Equivalent Penance** (your choice)  . for the intention of peace and harmony in our Country.



Fri, Aug 30	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Amelia Firko ( <i>birthday</i> )	Son: Fr. Firko
Sat, Aug 31	9:00 a.m. (NS) + Milan Jugan ( <i>40<sup>th</sup> day of passing 8/28</i> )	Wife: Irene & Family

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4:00 p.m. (MR) + Karen + Vincent Meloni Hubal Family



## 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Uniontown Pilgrimage, Mt. St. Macrina — Labor Day Weekend

**SUN, Sept 1**      **9:00 a.m. (MR)** + Mary O. Culan      Alice & Tom Maxin  
                              (2<sup>nd</sup> ann of passing 9/4)  
**11:00 a.m. (NS)** *For the Parishioners of Both Parishes*

*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 25** – Lori Lee Rippole; **Aug 27** – Ilona Goyda; **Aug 28** – Amy C. Sclight; **Aug 29** – William Babin, Nikolai Stashkevych; **Aug 31** – David Burns.

**HOME:** Margaret Belunas, Helen Best, Irene Bordas, Florence Charochak, Margaret Cifrutlak, MARY ANN CONTI, WILLIAM GOGAL, Ilona Goyda, Beverly Harsh, MARTHA LUCAS, OLGA MANFREDO, Irene Palahunik, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Lisa Plutto, Millie Sotak, Betty Spisak, EVELYN VENTO, 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.

**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.

**Q.** I was granted an annulment, and I've begun to wonder: Was I living in sin with my "spouse" during those years? Are our children considered illegitimate? **A. Answer by a Catholic Apologist:** If by "living in sin" you mean fornication--a mortal sin--the answer is no. One requirement of mortal sin is full knowledge of the sin being committed. In a situation where the spouses are unaware of the invalidity of their union--what the Church calls a "putative marriage"--there is no sin of fornication, because this condition is not met. The Church teaches that children born of a putative marriage (which exists when at least one spouse is convinced of the validity of a marriage and lasts until both are convinced of its invalidity) are considered legitimate, even if the marriage is later declared null (CIC 1137). Illegitimacy is not a moral or spiritual state. It has no bearing on a child's soul or salvation. Historically, legitimacy impinged only upon canonical matters, being required for ordination or appointment as a prelate or abbot.

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

**(MR) In memory of Joe Babin**

offered by Wife: Gerry

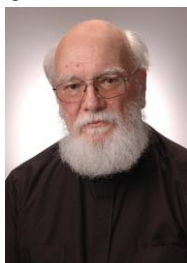
(NS): **In memory of Michael Seman, Jr.**

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2019      offered by Sister: Velma Seman      (NS) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2019



## McKees Rocks Announcements

**SYMPATHY EXTENDED** — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the passing of **Diane L. Harbaugh, 78**, of Kennedy Township on Monday, August 19, 2019. She was the cousin of parishioners, Maria, Luke and Anita Iyengar; and Helene (Edward) Connor. The McDermott Funeral Home, Kennedy Township handled the arrangements. Funeral Services were conducted by the Ken Mawr United Presbyterian Church on Aug. 22; **Fr. Roy Schubert**, who served Our Holy Ghost Church as an assistance pastor several decades ago, passed away at Mt. St. Macrina Nursing Home, Uniontown, PA on Sunday, July 25, 2019. The Funeral Divine Liturgy was offered at St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church, Beaverdale, PA on July 30. Interment followed in the parish cemetery. Our parish extends its most sincere condolences and prayerful solicitude to the family, relatives and friends. In blessed repose grant O Lord eternal rest to your servants, Diane and Fr. Schubert, and remember them forever! *Vicnaja Jim Pamjat'!*



## Holy Ghost, Northside

**PARISH ADVISORY/FINANCIAL COUNCIL MEETING TOMORROW** — The PAC/FAC Meeting will be held tomorrow, **Monday, August 26, 2019 @ 6:00 p.m.** in the Church Rectory. All appointed members are encouraged to be in attendance. Please make this meeting.

**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 28, 2019 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..



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## 11<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### Forgiveness is **NECESSARY** to be Forgiven! (Mt 18: 23-35)

Unlimited forgiveness toward a brother or sister is illustrated by this parable. Sin is portrayed as a debt to God, a debt originated by neglecting God's will. Ten thousand talents as an impossible sum, more than a laborer could earn in all lifetime - is contrasted to a hundred denarii, equivalent to about a hundred days' wages. Just as the king shows mercy and severity toward the servant, so does God show love and strictness toward us depending on our willingness to forgive our brothers and sisters. The love of God is manifested in paying off the debt, a remission or letting go of sins. Because God forgives us, we in return are obliged to grant this gift of forgiveness to others. When each Christian forgives from his heart, true reconciliation and healing come to the Church by God's grace.



## We Have a Holy Queen on Our Side

*The following article is taken from CATHOLIC EXCHANGE and presents the need of Mary, the Mother of God on our journey to eternity. It was written by Carl Donaldson).*

**Catholics are often accused of inventing theology**, of making things up that have no basis in Scripture. And few Biblical people draw as much non-Catholic ire as Mary and her place in Christian theology. There are four dogmas relating to Our Lady: her Immaculate Conception, her perpetual Virginity, that she was the Mother of God, and that she was Assumed bodily into heaven (immediately after her Dormition). In addition to those four dogmas, there are a number of doctrines which have not been elevated to dogmatic status, but nevertheless are understood to be part of divine revelation. One of them is the Queenship of Mary. The accusation that Catholics "make up" theology is easily dismissed. One simply has to look at the path Salvation history in the Old Testament to see that it took time — sometimes many, many generations, for aspects of the unchangeable Will of God to be understood by humanity. Look at the protoevangelium. Look at the understanding of the Passover as a prefigurement of the Last Supper (and, to us Catholics, of the Eucharist). Marian dogmas are



no exception. Consider the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, that, through a singular grace, Mary was preserved from the stain of Original Sin. While the dogma was declared in 1854, the Church had been slowly perceiving its existence since at least the 400s. The intervening 1400 years were filled with a slow understanding of the nature of Original Sin, its transmission, and the cleansing thereof. Far from some piece of novelty theology, created out of air on the whim of a pope, the truth of Mary's Immaculate Conception existed from all time, and is Biblically based. The Queenship of Mary is even more clearly spelled out in Scripture. The angelic greeting at the Annunciation clearly refers to Christ's Kingship, as the Catechism states, "*Mary's role in the Church is inseparable from her union with Christ and flows directly from it*" (CCC 964). Throughout space and time mothers of monarchs have themselves been known as queens. There are a number of places in the Old Testament, for example, where the mother of the king is referred to not only as a queen, but is honored as a valued councilor of the ruler. Our Lady's behavior at the wedding in Cana, particularly in light of her Son's response to it, echoes the Old Testament relationship between kings and their queen mothers. Contrary to non-Catholic suspicions, Marian doctrine is not idol worship with a thin veneer of Christianity slapped on it. What lies at the heart of all theology involving Mary is a deeper understanding of Christ. The Immaculate Conception helps us better understand Christ's salvific work on the Cross. The Assumption teaches us about the Resurrection and the Ascension, about the great desire God has to be united with all of us in Heaven. So too can we learn lessons about Our Lord from honoring the queenship of His mother. We see the dignity and glory Christ longs to bestow upon us as His disciples. We see the boundless generosity of God, to call us His children and offer us a share in His inheritance. We see that, just as Mary's queenship is entirely dependent on Christ, so are we dependent on Him for all things. And we see how in Christ, all things are made new, and even a humble young woman from a tiny village in an occupied nation can cooperate with grace to change the entire world. So today, take a moment to straighten your crown, you prince or princess in the Royal House of God, and remember that your queen is there to intercede for you. But be warned — her answer is like to be identical to the one she gave the servants at the wedding in Cana, "Do whatever He tells you".

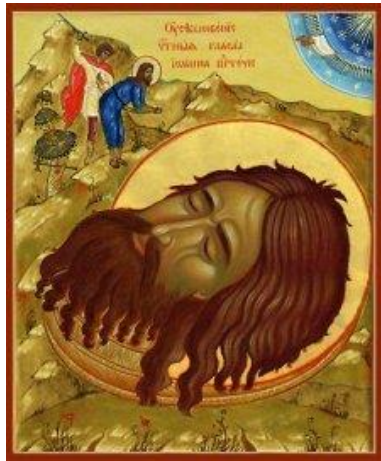
## Calendar of Upcoming Events

August 25 ... An afternoon at Narcisi Winery, Gibsonia. Call Elizabeth Harbist (412) 264-4349.  
 August 29 .... Beheading of St. John the Baptist (Simple Holy Day): (MR) 9:00 am & (NS) 6:00 pm.  
 August 31-Sept 1 ..... 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Uniontown Pilgrimage at Mount Saint Macrina.  
 September 1 ..... Commencement of the New Ecclesiastical (Church) Year.  
 September 7-8 ..... (MR) Coffee Social commences following the weekend Divine Liturgies.  
 September 8 ..... Archieparchial Celebration of Marriage for Jubilarians, St. Elias Church, Munhall @ 3:00 pm  
 September 15 .... Catechetical Sunday & Commissioning of the Catechists. Beginning of ECF school year  
 September 21 Commencement of a new Slavjane Season at the 4:00 p.m. DL. (rescheduled from Sept. 7).  
 September 22 ..... Holy Ghost Pirohi Project to participate in Kennywood Park Pierogi Feast.  
 September 28 ..... (NS) Church grounds cleanup from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

## Holy Day & Saint of the Week — Aug 29

### The Beheading of St. John the Baptist

Herod Antipas, son of the elder Herod, who was the slayer of the children of Bethlehem at the time of the birth of the Lord Jesus, was ruler of Galilee at the time when John the



Baptist was preaching. This Herod was married to the daughter of Aretas, an Arabian prince. But Herod, an evil sprout of an evil root, put away his lawful wife and unlawfully took unto himself Herodias as his concubine, the wife of his brother Philip, who was still living. John the Baptist stood up against this lawlessness and strongly denounced Herod who then cast John into prison. At the time of a banquet in his court in Sebastia in Galilee Salome, the daughter of Herodias and Philip, danced before the guests. The drunken Herod was so taken by this dance that he promised Salome that he would give her whatever she asked of him, even though it be half of his kingdom. Being persuaded by her mother, Salome asked for the head of John the Baptist. Herod gave the order and **John was beheaded in**

**prison and his head brought to him on a platter.** John's disciples took the body of their teacher by night and honorably buried it and Herodias pierced the tongue of John with a needle in many places and buried the head in an unclean place. However, God's punishment quickly befell this group of evil doers. Prince Aretas, in order to cleanse his daughter's honor, attacked Herod with his army and defeated him. The defeated Herod was sentenced by the Roman Caesar, Caligula, to exile at first to Gaul and later to Spain. As exiles, Herod and Herodias lived in poverty and humiliation until the earth opened up and swallowed them. Salome died an evil death on the Sikaris (Sula) river. The death of St. John occurred before the Passover but its celebration on *August 29 was established because*, on that day, a church which had been built over his grave in Sebastia by Emperor Constantine and Empress Helena was consecrated. In this church the relics of John's disciples, Eliseus and Audius, were also placed. **Divine Liturgies Tuesday, Aug. 29 (MR) @ 9:00 a.m. & (NS) @ 6:00 p.m. In the spirit of this feast try to avoid eating from a dish or platter, but use a humble paper plate. The founders and benefactors of our Churches ate from the kitchen pots and pans on this day in St. John's honor! Some did not cut anything that resembled a head (eg. cabbage, lettuce, even a tomato) with a knife!**

## General Announcements

**FUN AT THE PARISH PICNIC** — It was a beautiful day at last Sunday's Parish Picnic. The day was highlighted by a wonderful performance of the Slavjane Folk Ensemble. There was plenty of food and games for the young and the adults for the entire afternoon. We are grateful to those who organized the event: Staff: Elaine Kurtanich, Peggy McCusker, Helenea Connor and Susan Fejka, and those who assisted them. A special thanks to Slavjane for highlighting the day with an impact performance. Thank you to Dean Poloka for providing the Sound system for the day. God bless all of you for making this day a memorable one. Thank you to Jan Herczyk for providing the decorated basket for the raffle. Pictured are (L-R) playing Bingo are Gerry Babin and Ted & Dolores Babin.



**85<sup>th</sup> 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, August 31** and/or **Sunday, September 1, 2019**. See the flyer in the narthex of the church!



**DISTRICT 15 INVITES ALL TO THE WINERY TODAY** — GCU District 15 is hosting an Afternoon at the Narcisi Winery, 4578 Gibsonia Road, Gibsonia, PA 15044, today, **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.



**SLAVJANE COMMENCING FORTHCOMING NEW SEASON** — Slavjane will be attending the Divine Liturgy on **Saturday, September 21, 2019 (rescheduled from Sept. 7)** at the 4:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy in order to implore God for the Aid of the All-Holy Spirit as they began their new year. This very talented Rusyn Ensemble has been a part of the Pittsburgh Archeparchy with its home at (MR) Holy Ghost Church for several years. It continues to keep alive this cultural dynamic from the Old Country where the founders of our Byzantine-Rusyn (Ruthenian) Catholic Churches had its genesis. We offer special prayers that its legacy will continue and that the joy they manifest through song, instrumental expression and dance may give glory to God, and sustain our cherished heritage. Students wishing to join Slavjane may contact Bob Barko at (412) 877-9351 for membership requirements and complete a membership form.



**Take your Special Intentions to the Uniontown Pilgrimage and place them at the feet of Our Most Blessed Mother!**