

Parish Offerings – 7th Sunday after Pentecost — July 28, 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 (\$1,765) YP (\$9)	\$1,715.00
Holy Days	43.00
Votive Candles	41.01
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	\$1,799.01

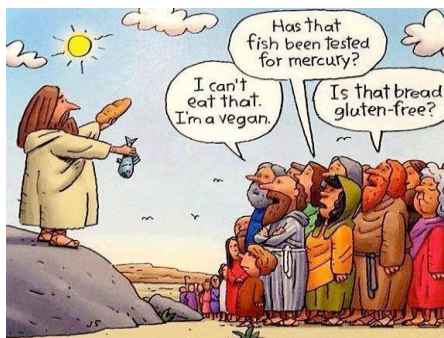
Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$304.00
Utilities	35.00
Votive Candles	37.00
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	\$376.00

Church Attendance Last Week

(MR) Sat, 4:00 p.m. (32)

Sun, (MR) 9:00 a.m. (80); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (29)



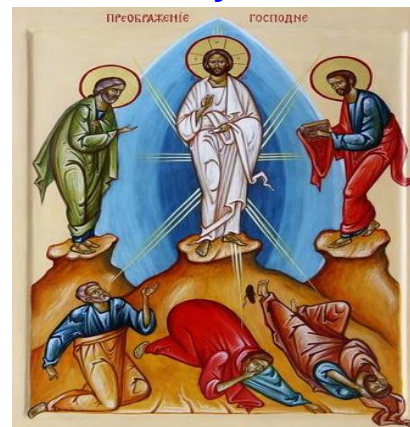
HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 8th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

First Sunday of the Savorial Fast — August 4, 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
238 Helen St.,
McKees Rocks, PA 15136
Phone: (412) 331-9713
Fax: (412) 331-6688
Michael P. Ferrell,
Supervisor, CFSP
Our Family Still Serving Yours Since 1953

It's HOT Outside!

DESIGNS BY NANCY
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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
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Call the office
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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 Northwest Pittsburgh Lodge: (MR) Contact Tina Burns (412) 859-9597 for membership.

Slavjane Folk Ensemble: (MR) Membership requirements contact Bob Bartko: rebartko@gmail.com.

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!

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).

Aug 4, 2019

Seasonal Greeting

Volume IX, Number 31



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date	Time	Intention	Requested By
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8TH Sunday after Pentecost

First Sunday of the Savioral Fast

SUN, Aug 4 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Frances + Joseph Saveikis Dgtrs: Anita Wolsko & Phyllis Murphy
11:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

Mon, Aug 5 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Lillian Buchko Mary & + Steve Malis

Holy Day anticipated DL for the Transfiguration Feast — Solemn Blessing of Grapes & other Fruits

6:00 p.m. (NS) + Esther M. Kallop Bro: Charles Kaiser

Transfiguration of Our Lord, God & Savior

Jesus Christ — Solemn Holy Day

Solemn Blessing of Grapes & Other Fruits — Mirovanije

RECOMMENDED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or **Equivalent Penance** (your choice)
for the intention of our beloved's return to the Church.

Tue, Aug 6 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

RECOMMENDED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or **Equivalent Penance** (your choice)
for the intention of our beloved's return to the Church.

Wed, Aug 7 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Charles Kundrat (7th ann of pass) M/M Kenneth Rubolino

Thrs, Aug 8 8:00 a.m. (MR) Health & Welfare (birthday) Anna Myers

Commemoration of the Holy Apostle Matthias

REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or **Equivalent Penance** (your choice)
for the intention of our beloved's return to the Church.

Fri, Aug 9 8:00 a.m. (MR) Health & Welfare of Lyn & Howard Manns Deb Charochak

Sat, Aug 10 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Lucy + John Holesh Dgtr: Nancy & Family

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Irene Bilak Grandson: Mike Tomchak
(11th ann of passing 8/11)



9TH Sunday after Pentecost

Postfestive of the Transfiguration — Within the Savioral Fast

SUN, Aug 11 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Karen (Hubal) Meloni (1st ann of passing 7/23) Anonymous
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

Aug 4 — Bernice Herrick, Maximus Puluka; **Aug 5** — Judy Wovchko; **Aug 7** — Carol Lipchick; **Aug 9** — Russell Keller, Frank Lipchick, Gregory Rosko; **Aug 10** — Betty Wickline.

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

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, 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 Hopeny.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. Is purgatory a punishment? Is it a hell-like existence? **A. Answer by a Catholic Apologist:** Purgatory is a final purification to achieve the holiness (final theosis) necessary to enter heaven—this is entirely different from the punishment of hell. The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains: "... we must understand that sin has a double consequence. Grave sin deprives us of communion with God and therefore makes us incapable of eternal life, the privation of which is called the "eternal punishment" of sin. On the other hand every sin, even venial, entails an unhealthy attachment to creatures, which must be purified either here on earth, or after death in the state called Purgatory. This purification frees one from what is called the "temporal punishment" of sin. These two punishments must not be conceived of as a kind of vengeance inflicted by God from without, but as following from the very nature of sin. A conversion which proceeds from a fervent charity can attain the complete purification of the sinner in such a way that no punishment would remain. (CCC 1472)." Unlike the damned, those in the state of purgatory have the joy of knowing that, upon purification, they will enter eternal life in heaven.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

August 4 — August 10, 2019

(MR): In memory of Loretta & Andrew Yakubic

offered by Dgtr: Evelyn

(NS): In memory of Esther M. Kallop

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2019

offered by Grandchildren

(NS) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2019



McKees Rocks Announcements

SUBJECT MATTER DISCUSSED AT PAC/FAC MEETING — At last Sunday's PAC/FAC Meeting, July 29, 2019, discussion on the following highlighted topics were reviewed (1) Forthcoming Restroom Projects for the Church & Gym. This project is being sponsored by the Pirohi Project. Thus far our Architect, Joel Farkas was only able to get one General Contractor to submit a working bid; one is still pending. (2) Church roof, which includes fixing shingles on the large area at the top, and the flat roof over the side porch area has been repaired due to rain water entering the interior of the second elevator entrance. Also, the roof at the school side entrance had to be replaced due to years of wear and tear. Kenyon Roofing's total cost for these combined projects was \$10,775.00; (3) *Tabs Asphalt* contracted in June for our Church Parking Lot, by repairing cracks, surface sealed, and parking lot lines replaced for a total of \$2,600.00. The funds from the Pirohi Project paid the invoice. We thank those who worked on this part time Project making these necessary repairs possible; (4) Agreed to present parishioner, Luke Iyengar, who was recently enrolled as a first year seminarian, with a check of \$300.00 to assist him with the purchase of books and needed capital for the semester academic courses; (5) Discussed the commencement of the Eastern Christian Formation (E.C.F.) on Sunday, September 15, 2019; (6) Placement of the school sign on the side of the school building since replacing it on the school side entrance would void the warranty of the new roof. It will face Helen Street for all to see. It is being preserved as a part of the building's history; and (7) Bethlehem Artifact will present items for purchase from the Holy Land the Weekend of November 23-24, 2019. This will enable us to purchase items for Christmas.



Holy Ghost, Northside

BACK FLOW VALVE INSTALLED THIS PAST WEEK — Matt Mertz Plumbing installed the required back flow valve just outside the ladies washroom area on Wednesday. The *Pittsburgh Water Authority* requires all commercial buildings (including churches) to have this item installed if not done so already. The total cost was \$995.00. Welcomed-donations of \$100.00 & \$50.00 were received this past week. If you would like to donate towards the cost of this project, you can make your check to Holy Ghost Church. The remaining invoice will be paid from our *Parish Savings & Share Fund*.

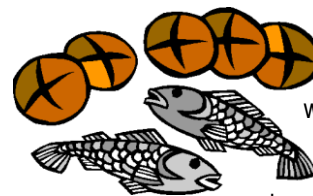
CATHOLIC HOSPICE: FAITH-BASED END-OF-LIFE CARE AVAILABLE — There are many Hospice Facilities throughout the area but not all are based on Catholic Teachings. *CATHOLIC HOSPICE* is perhaps the only non-profitable Medicare-certified hospice program in the Pittsburgh area that provides faith-based end of life care according to the doctrines of the Church and in conformity with Catholic tradition. Catholic Hospice offers its services at this particular time of life to all of the communities throughout Allegheny County. Additional information may be obtained by phoning (412) 933-6221. Keep this number handy if and when you choose this pro-life Hospice Service. *Many health care facilities offer a non-denominational hospice service that are contrary to Catholic Hospice.*

COMBINED LIVING WILL AND HEALTH CARE POWER OF ATTORNEY — Two very important documents are available to you regarding a Catholic approach to Health Care. Many Catholics are unaware of how our Faith directs us to respond in critical life situations. Perhaps, you may have been presented by a health care institution with a form to mark off the care you wish to receive. **Be advised that hydration and nutrition are not necessarily extraordinary means but Ordinary Means in most cases! It is ERRONEOUS to accept the statement that we are not to feed or hydrate human life since it is a process of dying! If we are going to succumb to biological death it must be due to the disease and not from a lack of hydration and nutrition. This is why Catholic Health Services forms were drawn up and given the blessing of our hierarchy. USE THIS FORM WHEN ASKED!** Additional complimentary copies are available in the vestibule or by contacting the Church Office. You may, also, make copies and give it to others even if not of our Faith.

8th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Christ's Compassion: Feeding the Multitude (*Matthew 14: 14-22*)

The great New Testament miracle of the multiplication of the loaves reminds us of another miracle, the one performed by God's Prophet Elijah. Elijah had told King Ahab and his wife Jezebel that God would punish the apostasy of Israel and its ruler for worshipping the heathen sun-god Baal. This punishment would be in the form of a long drought and famine. During the drought, Elijah went to Zerephath, where he was hospitably received by a poor widow and her son, who offered him their last meal. He rewarded their charity by miraculously increasing their flour and oil - just enough each day to feed them - throughout the three-and-a-half years the famine lasted.



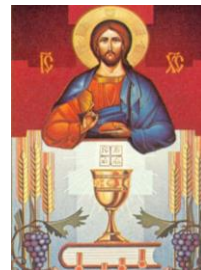
In the churches of our metropolitan province, we are reminded of this great miracle every time that there is festive anointing - '*mirovanije*' - on the occasion of special holydays. During the Vesper Service preceding the feast day, the priest blesses five loaves of bread, and the prayer of blessing mentions the miracle of the feeding of over 5,000 people.

Sacramental Bread — Why did Our Lord Jesus perform this great miracle of feeding over 5,000 people? He wanted to prepare them for still another miracle, an even greater one, the one that He performed at the Last Supper, when He changed the substance of bread into His own Body. This He did when He blessed the bread, saying : "**Take and eat: this is My Body,**" and changed the wine into His Precious Blood. He thus instituted the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, through which we today receive the spiritual nourishment necessary for our souls. Jesus Himself said: **I am the Bread of Life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.**" In order to unite us with Him spiritually, Our Lord enables us to receive Him every time the Divine Liturgy is celebrated, for the nourishment and salvation of our souls. May we always approach Him worthily and thank Him, collectively and personally, for this Most Precious Gift!

Christos Posred'i Nas — Christ is Among Us!
Jest' I Budet — He is and Shall Be!

The Catechism on the EUCHARIST

"The Eucharist is the heart and the summit of the Church's life, for in it Christ associates his Church and all her members with his sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving offered once for all on the cross to his Father; by this sacrifice he pours out the graces of salvation on his Body which is the Church" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1407). "It is Christ himself, the eternal high priest of the New Covenant who, acting through the ministry of the priests, offers the Eucharistic sacrifice. And it is the same Christ, really present under the species of bread and wine, Who is the offering of the Eucharistic sacrifice" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1410).



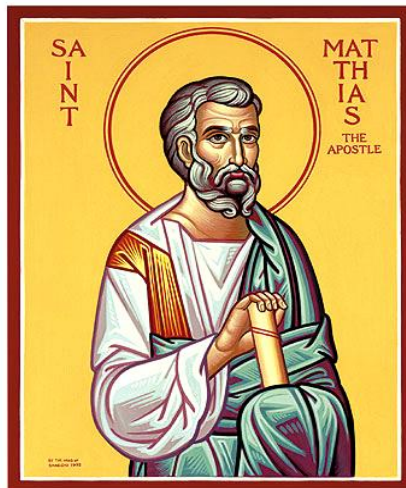
Calendar of Upcoming Events

August 4 - 14 Continuation of the Savorial Fast (Spasovka).
 August 4 GCU Northwest Pittsburgh Lodge Meeting @ 2:00 p.m. (MR).
 August 5 Vigil of the Feast (**Note well**): (NS) 6:00 p.m. Blessing of grapes and fruits.
 August 6 Feast of the Holy Transfiguration – (**Note well**): (MR) 9:00 a.m. Blessing of grapes and fruits.
 August 10-11 Blessing of Students and Teachers for the new Academic School Year following weekend DL.
August 14 Vigil of the Feast of the Dormition – Blessing of Herbs & Flowers – (MR) 7:00 pm — **Holy Day of Obligation**.
August 15 ... Feast of the Dormition – Blessing of Herbs & Flowers – (MR) 9:00 am; (NS) 6:00 p.m. — **Holy Day of Obligation**.
August 18 Annual Parish Picnic, Robinson Clever Road, beginning @ 1:00 pm.
 August 29 Beheading of St. John the Baptist (Simple Holy Day): (MR) 9:00 am & (NS) 6:00 pm.

Saint of the Week

The Holy Apostle Matthias — August 9

Matthias was born in Bethlehem of the tribe of Judah. He studied with St. Simeon the



"Receiver of God" in Jerusalem. When the Lord went out to preach about the Kingdom of God Matthias then joined the others who loved the Lord, for he himself loved Him with all his heart and with delight did he hear His words and witnessed His works. In the beginning, Matthias was numbered among the Seventy Lesser Disciples of Christ but following the resurrection of the Lord, since the place of Judas was vacated, the apostles, by drawing lots, chose this Matthias in place of Judas as one of the Twelve Great Apostles. "And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was surnamed Justus and Matthias. And they prayed and said: 'You Lord, who knows the hearts of all men, show which of these two You have chosen, that he may take part of this ministry

and apostleship from which Judas by transgression fell that he might go to his own place' " (Acts 1:23-26). Receiving the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, Matthias set out to preach the Gospel, first of all in Judea and after that in Ethiopia where he endured great tortures for the sake of Christ. It is held that he preached throughout Macedonia where they wanted to blind him but he became invisible to his torturers and thus escaped danger. Being in prison, the Lord appeared to him, encouraged him and freed him. Finally, he returned again to his work in Judea. There he was accused and brought to court before the high priest Ananias before whom he fearlessly witnessed for Christ. Ananias, the same Ananias, who before that, slew the Apostle James, condemned Matthias to death. They led Matthias out, stoned him to death and, after that, decapitated him with an axe (this was the Roman manner of killing a person who was sentenced to death and the hypocritical Jews applied this method on the dead man so as to show the Romans that the slain person was an enemy of Rome). Thus, this great apostle of Christ died and took up habitation in the eternal joy of his Lord

General Announcements

TRANSFIGURATION: A SOLEMN HOLY DAY — Christian theology assigns a great deal of significance to the Transfiguration, based on multiple elements of the narrative. In Christian teachings, the Transfiguration is a pivotal moment, and the setting on the mountain is presented as the point where human nature meets God: the meeting place for the temporal and the eternal, with Jesus himself as the connecting point, acting as the bridge between heaven and earth. The Transfiguration not only supports the identity of Jesus as the Son of God (as in his Baptism), but the statement "listen to him", identifies him as the messenger and mouth-piece of God. The significance of this identification is enhanced by the presence of Elijah and Moses, for it indicates to the apostles that Jesus is the voice of God "par excellence", and instead of Elijah or Moses, he should be listened to, surpassing the laws of Moses by virtue of his filial relationship with God. In 2 Peter 1:16–18, echoes the same message: at the Transfiguration God assigns to Jesus a special "honor and glory" and it is the turning point at which God exalts Jesus above all other powers in creation, and positions him as ruler and judge. The Transfiguration also echoes the teaching by Jesus (as in Matthew 22:32) that God is not "the God of the dead, but of the living". Although Moses had died and Elijah had been taken up to heaven centuries before (as in 2 Kings 2:11), they now live in the presence of the Son of God, implying that the same return to life can apply to all who face death and have faith. The faithful bring **Grapes and other fruits of the summer harvest to be blessed. From grapes come the wine at which the transfigured Jesus appears in the Eucharistic Form; and the fruits symbol God's bounty to us His people and His desire to feed us.**



GCU LODGE MEETING TODAY — All members are urged to attend this third quarterly meeting **this afternoon at 2:00 PM**. The meeting will be held in the Church Basement of the MR Church. The Lodge is offering a telephone conference bridge for members out of the Pittsburgh area that would like to participate in the lodge's general meeting. Dial-in number: (605) 472-5351 access code: 451303#. If you have any questions or comments, contact Lodge Secretary-Treasurer Steve Puluka at steve@puluka.com.

BLESSING OF SCHOOL CHILDREN & TEACHERS NEXT WEEKEND — Following each of the Divine Liturgies **next weekend August 10 & 11, 2019** all Students and Teachers will be asked to come forward for a blessing as they commence the 2019-2020 Academic Year in their various schools, colleges and universities. Since many of these institutions begin earlier each year, the opportunity to receive this blessing has been moved to the second weekend of August. Receive God's blessing and be enriched by His tender mercy.



TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR OUR PARISH PICNIC — Mark your calendars and set aside next Sunday, August 18, 2019 for our dual parish picnic. This year's event will be, once again, at Robinson Clever Recreational Park, Rotary Shelter, 115 Robinson Pool Drive, McKees Rocks 15136. It's the one with the newly renovated swimming pool which will be admitting all Holy Ghost attendees for a special admission price. Ticket prices are the same as last year: Adults — \$13.00, Children — \$6.00. Meal will be served at 1:30 p.m. — **SLAVJANE will perform at 2:15 p.m. Hopefully, they will be able to recruit new Holy Ghost members for the new school year.** The picnic will extend from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Games for children and adults will be presented. Tickets are being sold following the Divine Liturgies. **Last day for obtaining tickets is next Sunday, Aug. 11.**

