

Parish Offerings – 11th 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	\$1,972.00
Holy Days	80.00
Votive Candles	83.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,135.00

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$460.00
Holy Days	25.00
Improvement	16.00
Votive Candles	46.00
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	\$547.00

Church Attendance Last Week

(MR) Sat, 4:00 p.m. (34)

Sun, (MR) 9:00 a.m. (75); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (29)

Beheading of St. John the Baptist — Wed, Aug 29; (MR) 9:00 a.m. (3); (NS) 6:00 p.m. (4)



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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for ads for wishing
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anniversary greetings,
get-well wishes, etc.
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(412) 771-3324**

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weekly & informative S.O.T.
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HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE
McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 12th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Labor Day Weekend — September 1, 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

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-Canas 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).

Sept 1, 2019

Seasonal Greeting

Volume IX, Number 35



Glory to Jesus Christ! — Glory Forever!
Slava Isusu Christu! — Slava Na Viki!
Liturgical Services for the Week



Date Time Intention Requested By

85th Annual Uniontown Pilgrimage, Mt. St. Macrina — Labor Day Weekend
Commencement of the New Ecclesiastical (Church) Year

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

Mon, Sept 2 ***9:00 a.m. (MR) + George E. Kraly Zula Family

Tue, Sept 3 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Jennie E. Timulak Becky & Michael Mozuch
(6th ann of passing 9/6)

Wed, Sept 4 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Joseph Vavarro Cousin: Kurt Perschy

Thrs, Sept 5 8:00 a.m. (MR) + George W. Hornak Sister: + Helena Barth & Family
(4th ann of passing)

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



for the intention of peace and harmony in our Country.

First Friday of the Month — Reparation against the sins of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Fri, Sept 6 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Margie Masilunas Deb Charochak

First Saturday of the Month — Reparation for the blasphemies against the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Sat, Sept 7 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Anna Toth (birthday) Niece: Carol & Joe Zurchin

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost & Nativity of the Theotokos

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Eleanor Kapko Elizabeth Prostuday

Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos & Ever-Virgin Mary

SUN, Sept 8 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Elizabeth Petruna Anonymous
(40th day of passing 9/11)

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

Sept 3 — Timothy Kacsur; Sept 4 — Ilona Goyda; Sept 5 — Debra Charochak; Sept 6 — Irene Palahunik; Sept 7 — George Rosko, Dennis Safranko.

HOME: Margaret Beliuinas, Helen Best, Irene Bordas, Florence Charochak, Margaret Cifrlak, 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. Is there a theological reason why a priest should celebrate Saturday morning Mass (Divine Liturgy) when he holds daily Mass (Divine Liturgy) Monday through Friday? **A. Catholic Answers Apologist:** A theological argument for celebrating Mass (Divine Liturgy) every day may be made in that doing so consecrates the fullness of the week to God... A quite significant reason to celebrate Mass (Divine Liturgy) on Saturday is for the pastoral good of those in the parish so that they can consecrate the day in this way (or the week, if they are in the habit of daily Communion). It is recommended that priests celebrate the Eucharist daily, but it is not required. *[Personal insert: although the Eastern Rite Code of Canon Law does not explicitly state this directive, it does, however, adhere to what is outwardly stated in the (Roman Rite) Code of Canon Law unless the local hierarch directs otherwise]:* Remembering that the work of redemption is continually accomplished in the mystery of the Eucharistic sacrifice, priests are to celebrate frequently; indeed daily celebration is strongly recommended, since even if the faithful cannot be present, it is the act of Christ and the Church in which priests fulfill their principal function. (CIC 904)

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

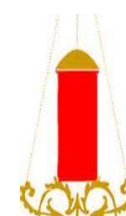
Sept. 1 — Sept. 7, 2019

(MR) In memory of Lee Honthy

offered by Sister: Peggi Lucas

(NS): In memory of George Krulac

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2019 offered by Dgtr: Barbara & Peter Stecko (NS) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2019



McKees Rocks Announcements

KENNYWOOD PIEROGIE FESTIVAL FORCOMING — On Sunday, September 23, 2019, Kennywood Park in West Mifflin, KP will be sponsoring the Annual Pierogi Festival which we are hoping, once again, to claim 1st place! To prepare for this event, **we are calling for all volunteers to attend a meeting next Sunday, Sept. 8 following the 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy.** Also, This will be our first of the year coffee social. A tentative schedule for cleaning the gym kitchen is slated for Tuesday, Sept. 10. We sure hope that you will be able to help us in preparation for this social event. As a member of Holy Ghost Church, you will be able to purchase discounted tickets to enter the Park. Additional information will be announced for purchasing the tickets online. And remember the Byzantine Catholic pronunciation of these delectable delights is rendered by the Ruthenian (Rusyn) language **PIROHI** not by the national Polish name **PIEROGIE** :)



BORN AGAIN OF WATER AND SPIRIT — Olga Margaret Stashkevych was Reborn of Water and Spirit and became a full member of the Church through the *Holy Mysteries of Initiation: Baptism, Chrismation and First Eucharist* on **August 17, 2019 at SS. Peter & Paul Church, Braddock, PA.** Archbishop Skurla performed the ceremony and Monsignor Russell A. Duker assisted. Her parents are Mary Elizabeth (Kascur) & Fr. Vitalii Stashkevych of St. Elias Church, Munhall. May God grant to Olga Margaret, Peace, Health & Salvation for many happy and blessed years! Na Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita!

Holy Ghost, Northside

SUBJECT MATTER DISCUSSED AT PAC/FAC MEETING — At last Monday's Parish & Financial Advisory Council Meeting, **August 26, 2019**, discussion on the highlighted topics were reviewed: (1) Preparing for the sale of the Holy Ghost Social Center and properties adjacent to it totaling app. 3 acres We are still awaiting the acknowledgement of the Archieparchial Lawyer to review the Berkshire Hathaway & Howard Hanna write up (2) The installation of a backflow valve was installed in the church due to a regulation from the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority. This is now a requirement for all commercial buildings which include churches. The total cost as was reported in a previous S.O.T. Church Bulletin was \$995.00. We had received a few donations totaling \$250.00. The Church is responsible for the remaining amount; (3) *The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority* contacted Holy Ghost Church to replace the rectory water meter. Upon installing the meter, they noticed that a lead piping elbow was in poor condition and needed replaced. They also indicated that if the entire pipe leading to the street is made of lead it would have to be replaced. It is still unclear at whose expense this will be, either the City or HGC. We are looking into the matter.



GROUNDS CLEANUP SLATED FORTHCOMING — 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. Please consider sacrificing two hours of your time in assisting us. Remember this is our Church and the need for all parishioners to assist us in this bi-annual activity!

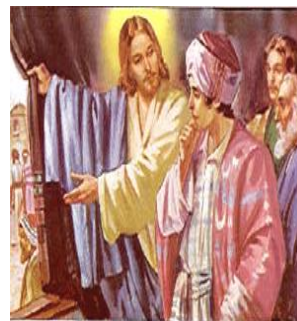


SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Jesus offers the same challenge today
As He offered the Rich Man in today's Gospel**

(Matthew 19: 16-26)

The great truth of this story lies in the way it illumines the meaning of eternal life. Eternal life is life such as God himself lives. The word for eternal is *aionios*, which does not



mean lasting or ever; it means such as befits God, or such as belongs to God, or such as is characteristic of God. The great characteristic of God is that He so loved and He gave. Therefore, the essence of eternal life is not a carefully calculated keeping of the commandments and the rules and the regulations; **eternal life is based on an attitude of loving and sacrificial generosity to our fellow-men.** If we would find eternal life, if we would find happiness, joy, satisfaction, peace of mind and serenity of heart, it shall not be by piling up a credit balance with God through keeping commandments and observing rules and regulations; it shall

be through reproducing God's attitude of love and care to our fellow-men. To follow Christ and in grace and generosity to serve the men for whom Christ died are one and the same thing. In the end the young man turned away in great distress. He refused the challenge, because he had great possessions. His tragedy was that he loved things more than he loved people; and he loved himself more than he loved others. Any man who puts things before people and self before others, must turn his back on Jesus Christ.

The Holy Father, Pope Francis Teaches

Dear Brothers and Sisters: In our catechesis on the Acts of the Apostles, we reflect on how the Lord strengthens the early Christian community, enabling it to grow and to serve those most in



need. The vitality of the emerging Church, even when threatened by attacks, can be seen in the ministry of Saint Peter. Like Jesus, he is drawn to the suffering, especially the sick and infirm, and – filled with the Spirit of the Lord – he carries out Christ's own work of healing. Yet such activity induces the hatred of the Sadducees, who imprison the Apostles and seek to put a stop to their teaching. Peter's response, however, that “we must obey God rather than

men” (Acts 5:29), provides us with a key to our Christian life. This means listening to God without delay or reservation, and remaining faithful to him. As we strive to be of service to our brothers and sisters, let us ask the Holy Spirit for the interior strength of knowing that the Lord is always at our side.

ECCLESIASTICAL NEW YEAR TODAY — Our Church marks the commencement of a brand New Year **today, Sept. 1.** It is referred to as THE YEAR OF INDICTION. In the Byzantine Empire 312 AD., the civil year began on Sept. 1. An “indiction” was a reoccurring cycle of 15 years and used for determining periods of time. *It is believed that Jesus began his public Ministry on this day.* Thus, the Byzantine Catholic Church continues to commemorate a new liturgical year at this time! **Let us make a resolution to attend ALL SUNDAYS & HOLY DAYS in this NEW (CHURCH) YEAR!**



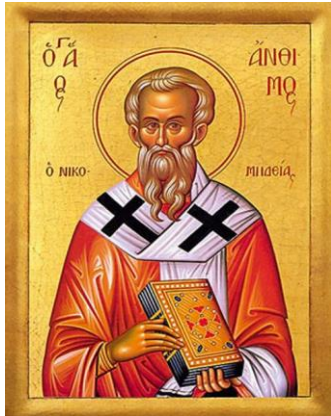
Calendar of Upcoming Events

August 31-Sept 1	85 th 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.
October 1	Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos — Feast of the Metropolitan Province.
	(MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.

Saint of the Week — September 3

The Bishop-Martyr Anthimus of Nicomedia

The Bishop-Martyr Anthimus of Nicomedia, and those with him suffered during the persecution against Christians under the emperors Diocletian (284-305) and Maximian (305-311). The



persecution became particularly intense after a fire at the imperial court at Nicomedia. The pagans accused the Christians of setting the fire and reacted against them with terrible ferocity. In Nicomedia alone, on the day of the Nativity of Christ, as many as twenty thousand Christians were burned inside a church. However, this monstrous inhumanity did not frighten the Christians, who firmly confessed their faith and endured martyrdom for Christ. Saints Dorotheus, Mardonius, Migdonius, Peter, Indes and Gorgonius died during this period. One of them was beheaded by the sword, others perished by burning, or being buried alive, or by drowning in the sea. The soldier Zeno boldly denounced the emperor Maximian, for which he was stoned, and then beheaded. Then the holy Virgin Martyr Domna, a former pagan priestess, perished at the

hands of the pagans, and also St Euthymius, because of their concern that the bodies of the holy martyrs should be buried. Bishop Anthimus, who headed the Church of Nicomedia, hid himself in a village not far from Nicomedia at the request of his flock. From there he sent letters to the Christians, urging them to cleave firmly to the holy Faith and not to fear tortures. One of his letters, sent with Deacon Theophilus, was intercepted and given to the emperor Maximian. Theophilus was interrogated and died under torture, without revealing to his torturers the whereabouts of Bishop Anthimus. After a while Maximian managed to learn where St Anthimus was, and sent a detachment of soldiers after him. The bishop met them along the way, but the soldiers did not recognize the saint. He invited them to join him and provided a meal, after which he revealed that he was the one they sought. The soldiers did not know what to do. They wanted to leave him and tell the emperor that they had not found him. Bishop Anthimus was not one to tolerate a lie, and so he would not consent to this. The soldiers came to believe in Christ and received holy Baptism. The saint ordered them to carry out the emperor's instructions. When Bishop Anthimus was brought before the emperor, the emperor ordered that the instruments of execution be brought out and placed before him. **"Do you think, emperor, to frighten me with these tools of execution?" asked the saint. "No indeed, you cannot frighten one who wishes to die for Christ!"** Execution is frightening only for the cowardly, for whom the present life is most precious." The emperor then directed that the saint be fiercely tortured and beheaded by the sword. Bishop Anthimus joyfully glorified God with his last breath, and received the crown of martyrdom.

General Announcements

A Short History of Labor Day

The first Labor Day was celebrated on **September 5, 1882**, in New York City, when 10,000 workers marched from city hall to Union Square. Those who participated took a day off without pay and voiced their demands. In 1884, the first Monday in September was selected as the official holiday, and the Central Labor Union, who organized the first Labor Day, encouraged organizations in other cities to celebrate the workingman's holiday on that specific date. The concept spread throughout the country and was celebrated in most major industrial cities. The first state law recognizing Labor Day was passed by Oregon in 1887. That same year, four more states, Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey and New York, recognized Labor Day. **By 1894**, a total of 28 states have adopted the holiday, and in June Congress passed a federal act, making the first Monday in September a legal holiday. *President Grover Cleveland signed the bill* right after sending troops to quell a strike against the Pullman railroad company. Have a Happy and Safe Labor Day! **Come and let us sanctify the day by participating in the Divine Liturgy at (MR) 9:00 a.m.**



85th 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 for details!

NEW STUDENT ENROLLMENT FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES — Our *Eastern Christian Formation* Classes will be commencing enrollment for two weeks. This program ranges from Pre-School through Senior High. These sessions are open to students from both parishes. Registration follows all Divine Liturgies today and next week. All begin on **Catechetical Sunday, September 18, 2019** following the 9:00 a.m. (MR) DL. Parents, please enroll your children in this important program! Call Coordinator, Steve Puluka (412) 897-4650.



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) 779-0195 for membership requirements and complete a membership form.

