

Parish Offerings – 15th Sunday after Pentecost — September 22, 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

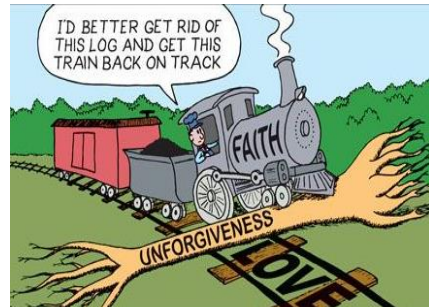
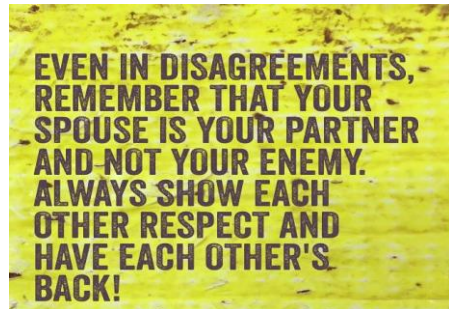
Regular Offering (\$1,496) YP (\$9)	\$1,505.00
Holy Days	40.90
Votive Candles	102.54
	<hr/>
	\$1,647.54

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$508.00
Utilities	25.00
Votive Candles	40.50
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	\$573.50

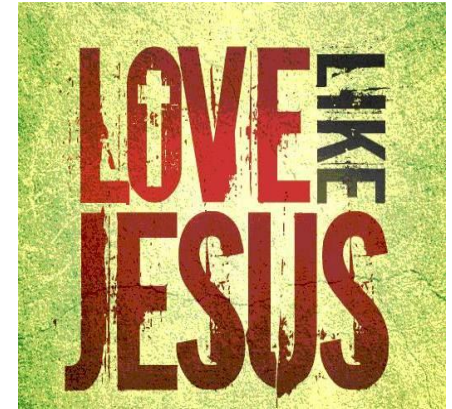
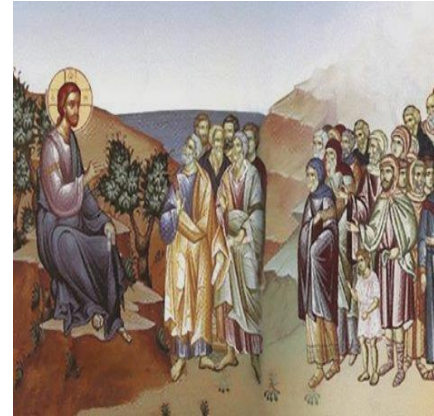
Church Attendance Last Week

(MR) Sat, 4:00 p.m. (58)
Sun, (MR) 9:00 a.m. (76); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (30)



HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE
McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 16th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
September 29, 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
331-9713
Fax: (412) 331-6688
Michael P. Ferrell,
Supervisor, CFSP
Ill Serving Yours Since 1953

LIFE IS LIKE A
CAMERA
JUST FOCUS
ON WHAT'S IMPORTANT &
CAPTURE
THE GOOD TIMES
DEVELOP
FROM THE NEGATIVES
& IF THINGS
DON'T WORK OUT
JUST TAKE
ANOTHER SHOT

DESIGNS BY NANCY
235 McCartney Drive,
Moon Township 15108
Phone: (412) 580-1545
Nancde@aol.com

Nancy C. Debranski
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Embroidery and Unique Gifts*

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
NWPL 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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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 Office
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 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!*

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).

Sept 29, 2019 Seasonal Greeting Volume IX, Number 39



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



Date	Time	Intention	Requested By
16th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST			
SUN, Sept 29	9:00 a.m. (MR)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	+ John Spontak (16 th ann of passing 10/02)	Son: Bob & Joyce
Mon, Sept 30	*** 7:30 a.m. (MR)	+ Mary Gramata (65 th ann of passing 9/29)	Bro: + Basil & Eleanor

The Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos Patroness of the Metropolitan Providence — Solemn Holy Day Mirovanije

TUE, OCT 1	9:00 a.m. (MR)	Health of Michael Muska	Jospeh A. Cehula, T.O. Carm.
	6:00 p.m. (NS)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
Wed, Oct 2	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Margaret Zula	Zula Family
Thrs, Oct 3	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Julia (Miklos) Sibenik (3 rd ann of passing 8/25)	Son: Steven

Feast of St. Francis of Assisi

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

First Friday of the month in reparation for sins against the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Fri, Oct 4	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Ronald Herczak (memorial)	Jan Herczak
	6:00 p.m. (MR)	Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary	

First Saturday of the month in reparation for blasphemies against the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Sat, Oct 5	9:00 a.m. (NS)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
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Anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Helen + George Lucas Son: George (Peggi) & Son

17th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN, Oct 6	9:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Robert Wolsko	Wife: Anita
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	+ William Gogal (40 th day of passing 10/15)	Velma Seman

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

Sept 29 – Irene Bednar, Kayla Marks; **Oct 1** – Nanine Cifrulak, Frank Grzywinski, Stephen Kremasky, KIMBERLY VALERIANO; **Oct 2** – BETTY LORINC; **Oct 3** – Michele Billy, Helenea Connor, James Eberle, George Verner; **Oct 4** – MaryEllen Oslick, Hayden Spisak, Steven Usouski.

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

HOME: Margaret Beliuнас, Helen Best, Irene Bordas, Florence Charochak, Margaret Cifrulak, MARY ANN CONTI, Ilona Goyda, Beverly Harsh, GEORGE HUDANICK, SR., 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 Hopley.

MANORCARE HEALTH SERVICES (505 Weyman Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15236): Nancy Wauthier.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. My siblings and I were raised in a good Catholic home but now, as adults, we no longer all share the same moral code—some follow authentic Catholic Church doctrine while others rationalize that their immoral lifestyles are actually moral. Any time I try to help family members, I'm viewed as an intolerant religious freak. Even my parents consider my efforts to be out of line and hurtful. **A. Catholic Answers Apologist:** You have an obligation to raise your children in the truth, teaching them genuine morals. This may mean unrest in your family, as you have already seen. But it may comfort you to know that Jesus recognized family division would sometimes be an issue for those who remain faithful to him: Do not think that I have come to bring peace on earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and a man's foes will be those of his own household. He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. (Mt 10:34-38)

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

Sept. 29 — Oct. 5, 2019

(MR) **In memory of Mildred & Michael Tomchak**

offered by Grandson: Mike Tomchak

(NS): **In memory of John Spontak** (16th ann of passing 10/2)

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2019

offered by Son: Robert & Joyce

(NS) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2019



McKees Rocks Announcements

SYMPATHY EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the passing of **Archpriest, Fr. Dennis M. Bogda, 78**, a retired priest of the archeparchy who was residing at the St. Barnabas Nursing Home, Gibsonsia, PA. He is survived by a sister: Elaine. Funeral arrangements are being handled by the Savolskis-Wasik-Glenn Funeral Home, Munhall, PA. Viewing at the Cathedral as his body lie in repose from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Sunday, Sept 29 followed by a Parastas for a Priest at 7:00 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Cathedral, Munhall. Archbishop Skurla will be the principle celebrant at the Funeral Divine Liturgy on Monday, Sept 30 at 10:00 a.m. Interment will follow at the Cathedral Cemetery; also, **Ronald “Turk” Herczak, 77**, of McKees Rocks on Sunday, September 22,



2019 at Caring Heights Personal Care Facility, Coraopolis, PA. He is survived by wife: Susan, and daughter, Linda. Funeral arrangements were handled by the Valerian F. Szal Funeral Home, McKees Rocks. A Funeral Service was offered on Sept 26 at 10:00 a.m. Condolences are extended to the Herczak and Shanta Families. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, to your servant the Archpriest Dennis, and to your servant, Ronald and remember them forever! Vicnaja Jim Pamjat!



KENNYWOOD PIEROGIE FESTIVAL DONS FIRST PLACE TO HOLY GHOST FOR A SECOND YEAR — A beautiful sunny day brought nearly 7,000 people out to KP for the Annual Pierogi Festival. Once again, our HGC did extremely well, and received the most votes by those in attendance for the best tasting PIROHI. No other vender came close! A special thank you is extended to all our volunteers who sacrificed several days in preparation for this event. Visit us on Facebook.com.



Holy Ghost, Northside

INDOOR CLEANUP RESCHEDULED FOR NEXT SATURDAY — Thank you to the five parishioners that came to clean the Church grounds! Your sacrifice is duly noted and appreciated! Due to a conflict, the inside Church cleaning, has been moved to next **Saturday, October 5 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.**

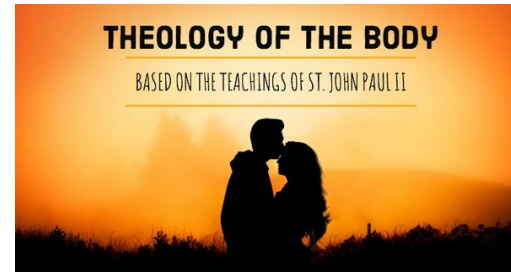


Continuation of the article Unreasonable Sex — In other words, the sexual act has a natural and internal logic to it, and a couple should intend to speak that “language of the body” when they have sex. **Here is where the self-contradiction** of such actions comes most clearly to light. If a couple has sex while intentionally thwarting its procreative end, it follows that they contradict its objective meaning—they “falsify” the meaning of the sexual act. What they give with one hand, engaging in an act that has the objective meaning of procreation, they take away with the other, intentionally rendering a procreative act non-procreative. In other words, the sexual act has a natural and internal logic to it, and a couple should intend to speak that “language of the body” when they have sex. To engage in sex in a way that goes against its internal logic is thus irrational behavior, since the behavior contradicts what reason knows about the truth of sex. When there is harmony between the two, sex is reasonable. When there is disharmony between the two, sex violates reason. And this can't possibly be good for us. Sex is a good and natural thing, and it is healthy to desire sexual union. But, like all actions, that which makes us properly human must govern this instinct: namely, our gift of *reason*. Otherwise, our sexual acts would involve a betrayal of our intellects, and that's not something we should let happen, especially if we want to be a person of reason and good will....

Unreasonable Sex

(The following abridged article was written by Catholic Apologist, Karlo Broussard, recently appeared on the Catholic Answers Webpage and gives insight to the immoral sexual expression of same sex relationships which is contrary to the Sacred Scripture)

Did you miss the political candidates boasting their “Pride” credentials at the [LGBTQ Presidential forum](#) on September 20? If so, don't worry: on October 10, [CNN will be hosting](#) the



Human Rights Campaign Foundation's “Power of our Pride” town hall meeting, in which the candidates will again be taking questions on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer issues. Most likely we're going to hear the same ol' tune: “Love is love,” “Who am I to judge?” “Love always wins,” and other rehearsed and tested professions of acceptance. All catchphrases, no

substance. **The catchphrase is all about feelings, and not about thinking....** “Are these sorts of life choices befitting of us as human beings?” “Are they really just different choices?” “Is it really bigotry to oppose these life choices?” I'm betting you won't hear these from the candidates at the upcoming town hall. So, let's consider one here: “Are these sorts of life choices befitting of us as human beings?” **For the purposes of this article, we're going to focus specifically on same-sex sexual activity, since this lies at the heart of the life choices involved with the LGBTQ movement.** When you get down to it, it's really all about trying to justify the claim that gender doesn't matter when it comes to having sex. **So why is same-sex sexual activity not an act befitting a human being? Here's one answer: it goes against our rational nature.** The end or goal of man's intellect is to know the truth.... Now, the order of our intellect toward the truth not only pertains to our ability to understand and judge propositions... it also allows us to judge the intelligibility of human actions. In other words, we use our intellect to direct our will in a rational way—to do and say what makes sense—and to avoid doing and saying things that don't make sense. For example, if I were to go around saying, “I'm actually dead,” I'd be guilty of self-contradiction, since my saying the statement makes it not true. What the statement gives with one hand, the act of a living person saying it takes back with the other. So, if I were to go around saying “I'm actually dead,” you'd think me a fool. And you'd be right! The intellect recognizes this type of behavior as going against human reason, so it directs the will away from affirming it. This is a natural, logical response to foolishness. The same natural principle applies to same-sex sexual activity, because it entails the use of the sexual faculty in a way that although it is terribly out of step with popular culture to say that it is irrational to use sex for intentionally non-procreative purposes, the underlying logic is actually easy to grasp. most in our culture rightly condemn sexual coercion: they recognize such coercion as irrational and evil both because it treats a human being as a tool to be used and because sex is *supposed* to be an act of love, which is free. Forcing someone into sexual activity is at odds with the other natural end of our sexuality—unitive love. It amounts to an anti-love act of love. Similar irrationality is found in same-sex sexual activity, which thwarts what the sexual faculty naturally aims at—namely, procreation. As such, it's an anti-procreative procreative act. **Just as a healthy intellect recognizes** the inherent contradiction in sexual coercion and thus directs the will away from it, so too a healthy intellect ought to recognize the inherent contradiction in same-sex sexual activity. Neither are befitting of our rational *human* nature. This is the same rationale behind the Church's condemnation of contraception, as articulated in Pope St. John Paul II's “theology of the body,” and in his earlier writings. In his essay [“The Teaching of the Encyclical ‘Humane Vitae’ on Love: An Analysis of the Text,”](#) then Archbishop Karol Wojtyla writes that when couples have sex, they “can and should intend by it precisely what it means essentially.” **Continued near the last page ...**

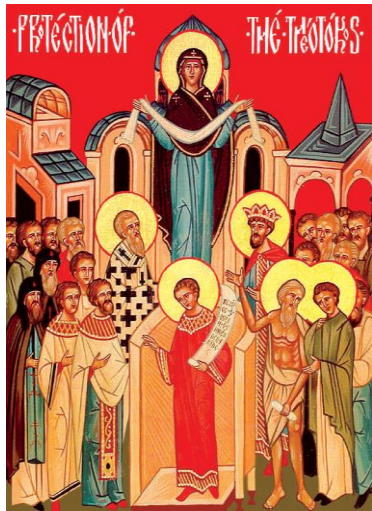
Calendar of Upcoming Events

October 1 Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos — Feast of the Metropolitan Province. (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.
October 4 (MR) The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary @ 6:00 p.m.
October 5-6 Coffee & Doughnut Social following each of the weekend Divine Liturgies.
Oct 6-10 Annual Archieparchial Clergy Retreat at Antiochean Retreat Center, Ligonier.
October 11 (MR) The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary @ 6:00 p.m.
October 18 (MR) The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary @ 6:00 p.m.
October 20 Freewill Pasta Dinner, St. Elias Church, Munhall, PA from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.
October 25 (MR) The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary @ 6:00 p.m.
October 27 Sunday of Christ the King.

SOLEMN HOLY DAY THIS WEEK

Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos

Tuesday, **Oct. 1**, we celebrate the feast day of the appearance of the Mother of God at Blachernae (Vlaherna) in the tenth century. At the end of St.

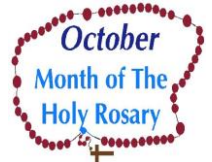


Andrew also known as a “fool for Christ,” along with his disciple St. Epiphanius, and a group of people, saw the Mother of God, St. John the Baptist, and several other saints and angels during a vigil in the Church of Blachernae, nearby the city gates. The Blachernae Palace church was where several of her relics were kept. The relics were her robe, veil, and part of her belt that had been transferred from Palestine during the fifth century. The Theotokos approached the center of the church, knelt down and remained in prayer for a long time. Her face was drowned in tears. Then she took her veil off and spread it over the people as a sign of protection. During the time, the people in the city were threatened by a barbarian invasion. After

the appearance of the Mother of God, the danger was averted and the city was spared from bloodshed and suffering. The Protection is commemorated most fervently in Slavic churches, probably because St. Andrew was a Slav. The first celebration of the Theotokos's Protection in the Eastern Slavic Churches dates back from the 12th century and today is celebrated throughout the Byzantine Catholic Church. The feast day commemorating the miracle is celebrated with an All-Night Vigil, with many of the same elements as occur on Great Feasts of the Theotokos. However, this feast has no post-festive. ***This feast is of particular importance to the Metropolitan Province of Pittsburgh because 45 years ago October 6, 1974, Metropolitan Archbishop Stephen J. Kocisko along with the bishops of Passaic and Parma consecrated the entire metropolitan province to her heavenly protection at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC.***

General Announcements

MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY — At the request of several parishioners to honor Our Blessed Mother in this special month of October, the Rosary according to our Byzantine-Ruthenian (Rusyn) tradition will be prayed **each Friday throughout the month @ 6:00 p.m.** at our Parish in McKees Rocks. This sacred devotion has been a part of our Church since it's founding over 100 years ago which our Founders and Benefactors brought with them from Subcarpathian Homeland. Come and join us!



RESERVATIONS FOR DL & SANCTUARY LAMPS — Divine Liturgy and Sanctuary Lamp



reservation dates are still being taken on a first come, first serve basis. Due to a high demand of both of these areas only two weekends of each will be accepted. When the demand subsides, you will be able to reserve additional weekend dates. Place your intention and \$10.00 stipend (per candle/DL) in a regular white envelope with requested date(s) and place it in the collection basket. You may reserve unlimited weekday DL's! Please take care of this matter quickly to acquire your special dates.

PITTSBURGH DEANERY CLERGY TO SERVE PASTA DINNER — Mark your calendars!

The Priests and Deacons in the Pittsburgh Deanery will be again hosting a **FREE PASTA DINNER** at St. Elias Church, Munhall on **Sunday October 20, 2019 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** The Clergy will be preparing and serving the dinner. A signup list is located in the Church. We must know how many to prepare for! The final day for registration is **Sunday, October 13.** *A freewill offering will be taken to subsidize the project. Any profit that is made will go to the Archieparchial Priests' Pension Plan. Come join us; it a bye week for the Steelers!*



MARK YOUR CALENDAR: COME & SEE WEEKEND — Young men 18-35 are invited to a Weekend of Discovery retreat, Friday through Sunday, **November 1, 2, & 3, 2019** at Saints Cyril &



Methodius Seminary. *The purpose: to see if you might be interested in the possibility of becoming a priest.* No pressure, no hype, no boring lectures. Just recreation, relaxation, talking to God (a.k.a. prayer), and the opportunity to really listen to God's voice and to plan for your life. This worthwhile retreat of discovery in no way implies any future commitment other than your commitment to truly be yourself! There is no expense involved in participating in this retreat. Only men who register online office@bcs.edu by October 9th will be eligible.

ANNUAL MOLEBEN FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CAUSES — The yearly prayer service

for the advancement of the Causes of Beatification and Canonization of our four holy Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Bishops will take place at the **Holy Ghost Church, McKees Rocks, PA on Sunday, November 3, 2019 @ 3:00 p.m.** For the past 34 years faithful through the Pittsburgh Archeparchy have gathered in various archieparchial parishes, monasteries and the seminary to pray for the Canonization of *Bishop-Martyr Theodore G. Romzha, Uzhorod (+1947); Bishop-Martyr Paul P. Gojdich, O.S.B.M., Presov (+1960); Bishop-Martyr Basil Hopko, Presov (+1976); and for the beatification of the Servant of God Bishop Alexander Chira, Uzhorod (+1985).* A Marian Moleben is offered seeking the aid of the Holy Mother of God in helping us achieve this end. Please mark your calendar and attend this important prayer for their advancement.

