

Parish Offerings – 17th Sunday after Pentecost — October 6, 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 (\$2,756) YP (\$30)	\$2,786.00
Holy Days (\$151) YP (\$1)	152.00
Votive Candles \$115.50) Sunday Coffee Social (\$23)	138.50
	\$3,076.50

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$505.00
Holy Days	25.00
Utilities (\$15) Improvement (\$35) Archdiocesan Charities (\$10)	60.00
Votive Candles	50.00
	\$640.00

Church Attendance Last Week

(MR) Sat, 4:00 p.m. (39)

Sun, (MR) 9:00 a.m. (88); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (30)

10/04 Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary— (MR) Fri. 6:00 p.m. (5)



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

THE 18th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council — October 13, 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

October
Month of The
Holy Rosary

DESIGNS BY NANCY
 235 McCartney Drive,
 Moon Township 15108
 Phone: (412) 580-1545
Nandce@aol.com
Nancy C. Debranski
Sewing, Alternations, Custom
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
someone birthday or
anniversary greetings,
get-well wishes, etc.
Call the office
(412) 771-3324

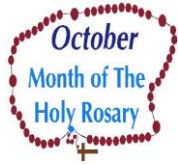
Please patronize our fabulous
sponsors! They make it
possible to bring you this
weekly & informative S.O.T.
without an added expense to
the Church. New Sponsors
please contact Church Office
1:00 p.m. Mon-Fri!

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).

Oct 13, 2019 Seasonal Greeting Volume IX, Number 41



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



Date Time Intention Requested By

18th Sunday after Pentecost Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council

SUN, Oct 13 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Agnes Knoll (2nd ann of passing 10/15) Son: William



Annual Columbus Day Federal Holiday — No Banking of Postal Services

Mon, Oct 14 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Muska Family Gladys Muska & Family
Tue, Oct 15 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Doris + Wasil Koblowski Sister: Eleanor & + Basil Gramata
Wed, Oct 16 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Holy Souls in Purgatory Joseph A. Cehula, T.O. Carm.
Thrs, Oct 17 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Frank Firko, Sr. Grandson: Fr. Firko

Holy Apostle & Evangelist Luke

REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice) in remembrance of Our Lord's Crucifixion and Death upon the Precious Cross

Fri, Oct 18 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Herbert Eisenman Dgtr: Martha & Bob Maletz
6:00 p.m. (MR) Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary



Sat, Oct 19 9:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes



Anticipated Divine Liturgy for the 19th Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Frances + Walter Grzywinski Son: Frank, Karen & Matthew

19th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN, Oct 20 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Elsie Eberle Son: James
(3rd ann of passing)
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Betty + Jay Mowery Dgtr: Barbara "Babs"

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

Oct 15 – LAURA KALLOP; Oct 16 – Nancy Debranski-Ferrell; Oct 18 – Jeno Lecci, Paul Zubritzky.

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

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. Is it very wise to attend a nondenominational bible study? Three non-denominational people came up to me and tried to convert me to their religion. They pretty much just attacked the Catholic Church.... I tried my best to support where they were wrong and why the church is the way it is, but had a hard time defending some things. All three of the evangelists were converted from Catholicism to this non-denominational Christianity.... They invited me to a bible study. Do you think it's very smart for me to attend? A. Answer by a Catholic Apologist: It is quite clear that the intention of the "Bible study" is to convert Catholics away from the Church. So I would not recommend attending. In general, ecumenical Bible studies can be difficult. As Catholics we believe that tradition is indispensable for interpreting the Bible, whereas most Protestants would reject tradition as a lens for Biblical interpretation. So we have an irreconcilable difference with Protestants that goes right to the core of how to understand the Bible.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

Oct. 13 — Oct. 19, 2019

(MR) In memory of George Lucas

offered by Son: George

(NS): In memory of Frances & Walter Grzywinski

(MR) NOW AVAILABLE FOR 2020 offered by Son: Frank, Karen & Matthew (NS) NOW AVAILABLE FOR 2020



McKees Rocks Announcements



YOUTH GROUP NEWS UPDATE — Our Parish Byzan-TEEN Youth Group held elections last Sunday. Here are the results: President: Ray Rippole; Vice President: Paul Rubish; and Secretary: Nina Lecci. \$160 was raised at the Bake Sale. Thank you to all who supported this cause.

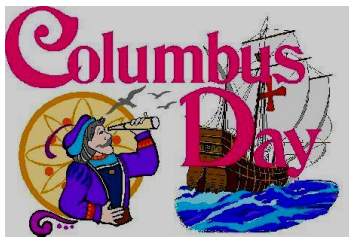
PIROHI PROJECT WILL RESUME NEXT MONTH — Since many of you are willing to participate in the upcoming Pirohi Project for Nov–Dec 2019, we will go ahead with this six-week project. **Here are the Friday dates: Nov. 1, 8, 15 & 22 (no sales the Friday after Thanksgiving); Dec 6 & 13.** Due to the Kennywood Event that gave our Church name, product and name recognition to a much wider area, we just may be in for another busier season. Therefore, we would appreciate more volunteers! Remember, all orders must be placed on the previous Wednesday of the sale between 9:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon. Call: (412) 331-5155.



Holy Ghost, Northside *No particular news this week*

GCU SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED — GCU will be accepting applications for their annual scholarship awards from October 1 to December 31. Scholarships are available for GCU members who are college students or those studying in any secondary education program. There are also two athletic scholarships (1 female and 1 male) available for high school students. For complete details and online application please visit: www.GCUusa.com/pages/scholarships

COLUMBUS DAY IS A U.S. HOLIDAY — It commemorates the landing of Christopher Columbus in the Americas in 1492, and Columbus Day 2019 occurs on Monday, October 14. It was unofficially celebrated in a number of cities and states as early as the 18th century, but



did not become a federal holiday until 1937. For many, the holiday is a way of both honoring Columbus' achievements and celebrating Italian-American heritage. But throughout its history, Columbus Day and the man who inspired it have generated controversy, and many alternatives to the holiday have proposed since the 1970s. Christopher Columbus was an Italian-born explorer who set sail in August 1492, bound for Asia with backing from the Spanish monarchs King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella. Columbus intended to chart a western sea route to China, India and the fabled gold and spice islands of Asia. Instead, on October 12, he landed in the Bahamas, becoming the first European to explore the Americas since the Vikings established colonies in Greenland and Newfoundland during the 10th century.

Re-learn to Pray the Rosary especially for the intention: *That God may bless us with peace, that the division in our country may be healed and that the hearts of many will turn back to Our Lord and His Church.* Let's sacrifice this short amount of time as Our Country is depending on our prayer! — (MR) OCTOBER FRIDAYS @ 6:00 p.m.

The True Veneration of Icons

The 7th Ecumenical Council of Nicea

TODAY'S GOSPEL John 7: 1-13 — Source: Wikipedia

The Seventh Ecumenical Council took place in [Nicea](#) in 787 AD, and is also known as the Second Council of Nicaea. The last of the seven Ecumenical Councils dealt with the icons. **The Controversy:** Disputes concerning the Person of Christ did not end with the [Sixth Council](#) in 681 AD, but continued through the eighth and ninth centuries. This time, the controversy focused on icons—pictures of Christ, the Theotokos, the saints, and holy events—and lasted for 120 years, starting in 726 AD. Icons were kept and venerated in both churches and private homes. The two groups in the controversy were: **Iconoclasts:** also called "icon-smashers," they were suspicious of any art depicting God or humans; they demanded the destruction of icons because they saw icons as idolatry. **Iconodules:** also called "venerators of icons," they defended the place of icons in the Church. The controversy, however, was more than a struggle over different views of Christian art. Deeper issues were involved, and it is these the Council addressed: The character of Christ's human nature; The Christian attitude toward matter; The true meaning of Christian redemption and the salvation of



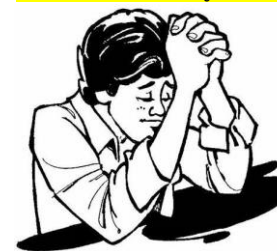
the entire material universe. The controversy falls into two periods: From 726 AD when Leo III began his attack on icons until AD 780 when Empress Irene ended the attacks. Again from 815 AD through 843 AD when Empress Theodora stamped out the attacks permanently. The iconoclasts had support from both inside and outside the Church. Outside the Church, there may have been influence from Jewish and Muslim ideas, and it is important to note that just prior to the iconoclast outbreak Muslim Caliph Yezid ordered the removal of all icons with his territory. Inside the Church there had always existed a "puritan" outlook which saw all images as latent idolatry. Largely through the work of **St. John of Damascus** (c. 676-749), who, ironically, was housed in Muslim-controlled lands and therefore outside the reach of the Empire, the iconodules' position won out. He addressed the charges of the iconoclasts thus: *Concerning the charge of idolatry: Icons are not idols but symbols, therefore when an Orthodox venerates an icon, he is not guilty of idolatry. He is not worshipping the symbol, but merely venerating it. Such veneration is not directed toward wood, or paint or stone, but towards the person depicted. Therefore, relative honor is shown to material objects, but worship is due to God alone. We do not make obeisance to the nature of wood, but we revere and do obeisance to Him who was crucified on the Cross... When the two beams of the Cross are joined together I adore the figure because of Christ who was crucified on the Cross, but if the beams are separated, I throw them away and burn them.* —St. John of Damascus

October Respect-Life Month

2nd WEEK INTENTION OF REPECT LIFE MONTH:

Prayer for the Mentally Challenged

Heavenly Father, we have been created in the image of You. Help us to see Your image more clearly and strongly in all creatures of Your love, and particularly in those which we describe as mentally challenged, though they are whole in Your sight, and have a place and purpose in Your divine plan for all mankind. Help us to enable them to fully participate in the abundant life which is Your will for all mankind.... In this may Your Name be blessed and glorified, Father, Son (+) and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.



Calendar of Upcoming Events

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.
November 3	Eastern Standard Time Resumes: Clocks FALL BACK one hour.
	Moleben for the advancement of the Causes of Our 4 saintly hierarchs (MR) @ 3:00 p.m.
November 5	General Election Day — Defend the most vulnerable: cast your Pro-Life Vote.
November 8	Synaxis of St. Michael & All Angels (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 p.m.
November 15	Commencement of the Philippian (Filipovka) Fast.

Saint of the Week — October 15

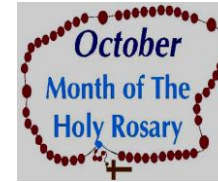
Venerable-Martyr Lucian, Presbyter of Antioch

Lucian was born of noble parents in the Syrian city of Samosata. In his youth, he acquired a very broad education, both secular and spiritual. He was a man distinguished in learning, as well as in the austerity of his ascetic life. Having distributed his goods to the poor, Lucian supported himself by compiling instructive works, and thus fed himself by the work of his hands. He performed a great service to the Church in that he corrected many Hebrew texts in Holy Scripture (that heretics, in accordance with their own false teaching, had distorted). Because of his learning and spirituality, he was ordained a presbyter in Antioch. During Maximian's persecution, when St. Anthimus of Nicomedia and St. Peter of Alexandria were tortured, St. Lucian was on the list of those the emperor wanted to kill. Lucian fled the city and hid, but an envious heretical priest, Pancratius, reported him. The persecution was horrible and not even young children were spared. Two boys who did not want to eat food sacrificed to idols were thrown into a boiling bath, where in torments they gave up their holy souls to God. A disciple of Lucian named Pelagia (October 8) preserved her virginal purity from dissolute attackers by praying to God on her roof-top: she gave up her soul to Him, and her body fell from the roof. Lucian was brought to Nicomedia before the emperor. Along the way, his counsels converted forty soldiers to the Christian Faith, and all died a martyr's death. Following interrogation and flogging, St. Lucian was cast into prison where he suffered starvation. St. John Chrysostom writes of St. Lucian: *"He scorned hunger: let us also scorn luxury and destroy the power of the stomach that we may, when the time that requires such courage comes for us, be prepared in advance by the help of a lesser asceticism, to show ourselves glorious at the time of battle."* He received Holy Communion in prison on the Feast of Theophany, and on the following day rendered his soul to God. St. Lucian suffered on January 7, 311 A.D.



General Announcements

OCTOBER CONTINUES DEVOTION OF THE HOLY ROSARY — We are continuing our fidelity to Our Blessed Mother by praying to her through the prayers of our ancestors according to our Byzantine-Ruthenian (Rusyn) tradition. We are setting aside a half hour **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!



ARCHIEPARICHAL ST. NICHOLAS 50/50 RAFFLE — Since many will not be able to attend the 63rd Annual St. Nicholas Celebration at the Cathedral and Cathedral Center on **Sunday, December 8, 2019**, a minimal amount of tickets (14) from GCU Headquarters have been sent to each parish in order to acquire additional capital for the Seminary. Very little profit is made from the dinner tickets themselves. To help subsidize this charity event, please support this worthy cause by purchasing a ticket. Each Parish is requested to sell at least 14 tickets. **They are \$10.00** and the first 3-digit number based on the Sunday, **December 15, 2019** PA Daily Drawing at 7:00 p.m. Many prizes will be awarded. Tickets are now available.



PITTSBURGH DEANERY CLERGY TO SERVE PASTA DINNER NEXT SUNDAY — The Priests and Deacons in the Pittsburgh Deanery will be again hosting a **FREE PASTA DINNER** at St. Elias Church, Munhall next **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 today, Sunday, *October 13*. *A freewill offering will be taken to subsidize the project. Any profit that is made will go to the Archieparichal Priests' Pension Plan as a way of appreciating our priests for their dedicated life-time of serve. Come join us; it's a bye week for the Steelers!*



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 Archieparchy 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.

