

Parish Offerings – 8th Sunday after Pentecost — July 26, 2020

“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 (\$1,900) YP (\$8)	\$1,908.00
Holy Days (\$81) YP (\$2)	83.00
Votive Candles	94.50
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	\$2,085.50

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$484.00
Holy Days	42.00
Utilities (\$40) Peter’s Pence (\$20)	60.00
Candles	32.00
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	\$618.00

Church Attendance Last Week

Sat., 4:00 p.m. (25)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (40); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (19)



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

THE 9th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

First Sunday of the Savioral Fast — August 2, 2020



Catholics of the Ruthenian – Byzantine Rite in full communion with the Pope of Rome

The Very Reverend Father Frank A. Firko, Pastor
Pastor, Administrator & Protopresbyter
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.
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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 Lodge 390: (MR) Contact Tina Burns (412) 859-9597 for membership requirements.
Slavjane Folk Ensemble: (MR) Membership requirements contact Bob Bartko: (412) 779-0915.
Carpatho-Rusyn Radio Broadcast: Every Sunday from 2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. WPIT 730 AM.
Social Hall Rental: (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!

Valerian F. Szal
 238 Helen St.,
 McKees Rocks, PA 15136
 Phone: (412) 331-9713
 Fax: (412) 331-6688
Michael P. Ferrell,
 Supervisor, CFSP

It's HOT Outside!

DESIGNS BY NANCY
 235 McCartney Drive,
 Moon Township 15108
 Phone: (412) 262-9141
 Nancde@aol.com
Nancy C. Debranski
Sewing, Alternations, Custom Embroidery and Unique Gifts

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GCU
 Greek Catholic Union of the USA
 A Fraternal Benefit Society
 Northwestern Lodge offers
 Insurance & Annuity Benefits greater
 than most financial institutions. Info
 call Tina (412) 859-9597

Happy 60th Birthday, Michael Maslaney!
May God grant you many happy & blessed years! Na Mnohaja l Blahaja l'ital
From: Christine & Al

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 9 til 1.

THE 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).

August 2, 2020

Seasonal Greeting

Volume X, Number 31



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date	Time	Intention	Requested By
9th Sunday after Pentecost			
SUN., Aug 2	9:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Andrew Nazak <i>(1st ann of passing 8/5)</i>	Children & Grandchildren
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Alice Smoley <i>(birthday)</i>	Dgtr: Mary Ann
Mon, Aug 3	8:00 a.m. (MR)	Health of Sharon Elmquist	Carol & Thomas Nypaver & Family
Tue, Aug 4	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Josipa Opat	Dgtr: Dragica Krcelic & Family
Wed, Aug 5	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Karen (Hubal) Maloni <i>(2nd ann of passing 7/23)</i>	Anonymous

Transfiguration of Our Lord, God & Savior


Jesus Christ — Solemn Holy Day

Solemn Blessing of Grapes & Other Fruits

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

Thrs, Aug 6	9:00 a.m. (MR)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
	6:00 p.m. (NS)	+ Michael Begala	Dgtr: Leslie & Paul Bodnarchuk <i>(25th ann of passing)</i>

First Friday of the Month — Reparation for the blasphemies against the Sacred Heart of Jesus
REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or **Equivalent Penance** (your choice): for vanquishing covid-19

Fri, Aug 7	 8:00 a.m. (MR)	Health & Welfare <i>(birthday)</i>	Anne Myers
Sat, Aug 8	9:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Anna Pungras	Dgtr: Anna (Pungras) Demianczyk

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the 10th Sunday after Pentecost – Postfestive of Transfiguration
4:00 p.m. (MR) + Michele J. (Terrek) Chiavetta *(1st ann of passing 8/11)* Mom: Mildred Terrek

10th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN., Aug 9	9:00 a.m. (MR)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	Convalidation Nuptial Blessing of Thanksgiving Brad & Joanna Spontak	

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

Birthdays: Aug 3 – Olga Margaret Stashkevych; Aug 4 – Bernice Herrick; Aug 5 – Judy Wovchko; Aug 7 – Carol Lipchick.

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

HOME: Margaret Beliuonas, Helen Best, Irene Bordas, Florence Charochak, Margaret Cifrulak, MARY ANN CONTI, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Beverly Harsh, MARTHA LUCAS, Olga Manfredo, Irene Muha, Mike Muska, Irene Palahunik, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Lisa Plutto, Anna May Sejka, Betty Spisak, Anita Wolsko, 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.
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.
VANADIUM WOODS VILLAGE (50 Vanadium Rd, # 230, Bridgeville, PA 15017): Helen Hopey.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. What is the difference between the Catholic Faith and Mormonism? **A. Answer by Catholic Answers:** The basic difference is that Mormonism (also called the Church of the Latter-day Saints) is a quasi-Christian religion. That means it uses Christian terms like trinity and god but with different meanings than traditional Christianity. Sometimes, Mormonism actually contradicts traditional Christian doctrine. Although Mormons on the whole emphasize the family, morality, and patriotism, their religion denies fundamental Christian beliefs, most notably the existence of one and only one God (Dt. 32:39; Is. 44:24; CCC304). They believe there are many gods, made of flesh and bone as we are. They teach that a “worthy” Mormon man (but not a merman woman) will become a god and rule over his own planet or planets. Mormonism’s founder, Joseph Smith, wrote in the book Teachings of the Prophet, “God himself was once as we are now, and is an exalted man, and sits enthroned in the heavens (pp. 345-347). The Catholic Faith believes there is only one God and that He has always existed (Gen 21:33; Sir 42:21). Other Mormon teachings contrary to the Catholic Faith include the pre-existence of souls, Book of merman, etc.

This Week’s Sanctuary Lamps

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

Aug 2 — Aug 8, 2020

(MR): **In memory of John Smith**

offered by Bernetta

(NS): **In memory of Michael P. Harsh**

(MR) All reserved for 2020

offered by Velma Seaman

(NS) All reserved for 2020



General Announcements

McKees Rocks

CHURCH AIR-CONDITION UNIT IS STILL AWAITING A NEW MOTOR — It was discovered that one of the outdoor A/C units has a burned-out motor which has to be replaced and is currently on order. One unit is running. Also, the A/C in the Church Rectory second floor was up and leaking water through a ceiling light fixture, and is currently being repaired. The Church secretarial office will be having its overhead lights converted to LED bulbs to conserve energy and to brighten up the area. Even with A/C the room gets uncomfortable during the summer months. A ceiling fan will be installed to circulate airflow.



BID TO CLEAN & REPAIR OUTSIDE STATUE — Two years ago, a kind-hearted anonymous parishioner volunteered to clean the statue of the Holy Virgin Mary located near the flag pole of the Church. Much time and effort went into this project. It was cleaned as best as it could but still had some black residue on it. Recently, a professional outdoor company from New Castle which cleans, repairs and seals statuary arrived on the premises and evaluated it. They said that they could restore it. They also said that the pedestal need to be repaired with mortar and cleaned. May we be reminded that this statue is of significance importance to our parish which existed several decades and placed near the school building. It serves as a sign of our Blessed Mother's protection upon our grounds. Each year on Memorial Day area veterans and local fire companies stop before it and offer a short remembrance service. They place a wreath since the pedestal marks those who served our country.



More information will be forthcoming.

Northside

No particular announcements this week

BLESSING OF SCHOOL CHILDREN & TEACHERS IN TWO WEEKS — Following each of the Divine Liturgies **on the weekend of August 15 & 16, 2020** all Students and Teachers will be asked to come forward for a blessing as they commence the actual and/or virtual Academic Year of 2020-2021 in their various schools, colleges and universities. Since many of these institutions begin earlier each year, the opportunity to receive this blessing comes the third weekend of August. Receive God's blessing and be enriched by His tender mercy.



9th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Faith is measured by doing what He asks (Matthew 14:22-34)

Jesus said get out of the boat. Jesus told Peter he had little faith because he began thinking about the storm and doubted. How much faith did those who never got out of the boat have? Jesus is telling us to get out of the boat. Afraid of terrorists? Get out of the boat. Afraid to talk to your teenager? Get out of the boat. Talk to them anyway. Afraid of what people will think if you lead? Get out of the boat. Lead anyway. Have faith that people will follow. Getting out of the boat is taking the next step. Has God called you to do the impossible? Start! Get out of the boat! He won't leave you stranded. If He's given you the job, He'll give you the tools to get it done. If He hasn't, you'll find out sooner if you get out of the boat. Step out in faith. Refuse to be frozen in fear; of



failure, of what people think, of opposition. Think about this...Peter failed at walking on water. He began to sink. But Jesus was right there to pull him up. He'll be there for us, too. It wasn't being right that made Peter the one Jesus chose to carry on after Him. Peter was wrong much of the time, sometimes in very embarrassing ways. It wasn't his fearlessness. He denied Jesus at a crucial moment. It wasn't his careful, diplomatic use of words, he blurted out some of the most foolish things. What was it? Peter was willing to get out of the boat. Let's not be frozen in fear, but in faith, act.

DO NOT SUBMIT TO CASUAL CLOTHING FOR CHURCH

(The following is an abridged article taken from the Catholic Answers web-page. It is written by Catholic Apologist, Peggy Frye. It is offered here as a means of reflection.)

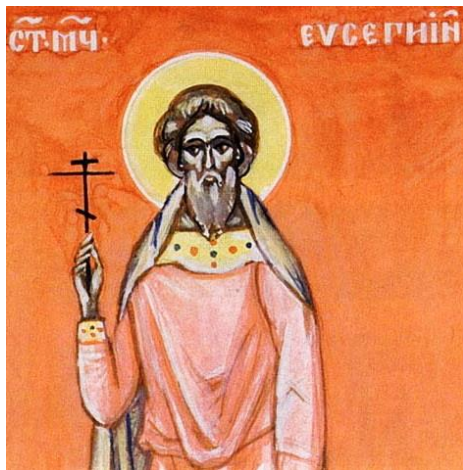
What do you wear to Sunday Mass (Divine Liturgy)? Sadly, seeing super-casual attire at Mass (Divine Liturgy) is all too common. Many who attend look like they're ready for the beach It's not just the women who dress inappropriately at Mass (Divine Liturgy). Men need to be checked too **Immodest dress at Mass (Divine Liturgy) is not a comfort problem but a spiritual problem, rooted in an over-sexed culture whose fashion influences have been trickling down into our parishes for decades.** The mentality that "It's nobody's business what I wear for Mass (Divine Liturgy) — God knows my heart" reflects a lack of humility and a poor understanding of what's actually happening at Mass (Divine Liturgy). It also shows a lack of respect for others, disregarding how our immodest dress can become an occasion of sin for the opposite sex. Church is "a house of prayer in which the Eucharist is celebrated and reserved, where the faithful assemble, and where is worshipped the presence of the Son of God our Savior, offered for us on the sacrificial altar for the help and consolation of the faithful" (CCC 1181). Church is not a place where temptation and sin should abound, where sexual distractions should be permitted to compete with our Lord who is present in the sacrament of the altar. When we pray the Lord's Prayer at Mass (Divine Liturgy) we say, "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." So, why are we allowing carnal temptations to be openly present? Why are we giving the Evil One permission to prowl throughout our sacred places seeking the ruin of innocent souls? Immodest dress appeals to the flesh I don't believe "modesty custodians" of the type found at some churches in Rome should be stationed at the door of every Catholic church, turning people away if they don't comply with the parish dress code. Nor do I believe that women should come to church dressed like they came right off the set of *Little House on the Prairie*, or that men should wear tuxedos to Mass (Divine Liturgy) on Sunday. We just need to use common sense when we dress for church.



Calendar of Upcoming Events

August 1 - 14 Commencement of the Savioral Fast (Spasovka).
August 6 ... Feast of the Holy Transfiguration – (MR) 9:00 a.m. (NS) 6:00 p.m. Blessing of grapes and fruits.
August 14 Vigil of the Feast of the Dormition – Blessing of Herbs & Flowers – (NS) 6:00 pm **Obligation.**
August 15 Feast of the Dormition – Blessing of Herbs & Flowers – (MR) 9:00 am; **Obligation.**
August 23 GCU Northwest Pgh Lodge 3rd quarterly meeting @ 2:00 p.m. in MR.
August 28 Vigil of Beheading Feast of St. John Baptist (Simple HD) – (NS) 6:00 p.m.
August 29 Feast of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist — (MR) 9:00 a.m.
September 1 Commencement of the New Ecclesiastical (Church) Year.

Saint of the Week — August 5 The Holy Martyr Eusignius of Antioch



The Martyr Eusignius was born at Antioch in the mid-third century. For sixty years he served in the Roman armies of the emperors Diocletian, Maximian Hercules, Constantius Chlorus, Constantine the Great and his sons. Saint Eusignius was a companion of Saint Basiliscus (March 3 and May 22), and he provided an account of his martyrdom. At the beginning of the reign of Saint Constantine the Great, Saint Eusignius was a witness to the appearance of the Cross in the sky, a prediction of victory. Saint Eusignius retired in his old age from military service and returned to his own

country. **There he spent his time in prayer, fasting, and attending the church of God.** So, he lived until the reign of Julian the Apostate (361-363), who yearned for a return to paganism. During the time of Julian, two men who were arguing on the street asked him to be their judge. He dispensed justice to the correct one and the man at fault became angry and went to the emperor and accused Eusignius of being a Christian. The emperor summoned Eusignius to court but he strongly denounced the emperor for his apostasy from the Faith and reproached him with the shining example of Constantine the Great. Saint Eusignius stood trial as a Christian before the emperor Julian in the year 362. He fearlessly accused the emperor of apostasy from Christ, and reproached him with the example of his relative, Constantine the Great, and he described in detail how he himself had been an eyewitness to the appearance of the sign of the Cross in the sky. Julian did not spare the aged Saint Eusignius, then 110 years old, but ordered him beheaded.

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 will 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.**



PENITENTIAL PERIOD IN PREPARATION FOR THE DORMITION FEAST — During this fourteen-day penitential period, the Church prescribes the Paraklis Service be held in honor of the Mother of God. The word "paraklis" has two different meanings: the first is "consolation," from which the Holy Spirit is called the "Paraclete," or "Consoler"; the second is "supplication" or "petition". The Paraklis Service consists of supplication hymns to obtain consolation and courage. It should be recited in times of temptation, discouragement or sickness. It is used more particularly during the two weeks before the Dormition of the Theotokos, from **August 1 to August 14.** The theme of this Paraklis Services centers around the petition. "Most Holy Mother of God, save us." *Following each of the daily Divine Liturgies we will offer a portion of this service for all our family, relatives and friends who have left our church so that they may return for the sake of their salvation. Also, as we continue in this pandemic era, we will pray the vanquishing of the coronavirus.*



GCU NORTHWEST PITTSBURGH LODGE CONTINUES TO ACCEPT AID TO FISHER HOUSE — They are requesting assistance in keeping these areas stocked with supplies. Boxes are now placed at the side vestibule and narthex areas of both parishes for the **collection that will extend to August 23 (the day of our 3rd quarterly meeting).** Needed items are listed on the flyer (please take one) near the Churches entrances. Let's help our afflicted veterans and their families by supporting the Lodge in this fraternal collection!

