

Parish Offerings – 15th Sunday after Pentecost — September 13, 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 (\$2,936) YP (\$8)	\$2,944.00
Holy Days (\$292) YP (\$2)	294.00
Votive Candles (\$159) Initial (\$5)	164.00
	\$3,382.00

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$890.00
Holy Days	37.00
Votive Candles	43.50
	\$970.50

Church Attendance Last Week

Sat., 4:00 p.m. (42)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (52); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (24)

Elevation of the Precious Cross — Mon. (MR) 9:00 a.m. (13); (NS) 6:00 p.m. (9)



WILL YOU PLEASE PICK UP ALL YOUR CLOTHES?



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



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

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

**This space available
 for ads for wishing
 someone birthday or
 anniversary greetings,
 get-well wishes, etc.
 Call the office
 (412) 771-3324**

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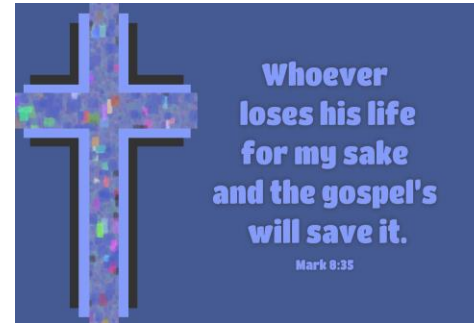
HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
 1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
 PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 16th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Sunday after the Precious Cross
 September 20, 2020**



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

The Very Reverend Father Frank A. Firko

Pastor, Administrator & Protopresbyter

The Reverend Deacon Michael E. 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-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!

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).

September 20, 2020 Seasonal Greeting Volume X, Number 38



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date	Time	Intention	Requested By
Sunday after the Elevation of the Precious Cross			
SUN., Sept 20	9:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Dorothy Billy (birthday 9/19)	Family
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Mary Arendas (birthday)	Leslie & Paul Bodnarchuk

Final Day of the Feast of the Universal Elevation of the Precious Cross

Mon, Sept 21	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Holy Souls in Purgatory	Joseph A. Cehula, T.O. Carm.
Tue, Sept 22	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Joan Watner	Sister: Kathleen Murphy
Wed, Sept. 23	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Carol Schaner (2 nd ann of passing)	M/M Steve Lisko
Thrs, Sept 24	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Alexander F. Perschy (11 th ann of passing)	Son: Kurt

REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice)
for the intention of our beloveds' return to the Church & the vanquishing of the coronavirus

Fri, Sept 25 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Stephen M. Yovino DMD (birthday) Wife: Stephanie & Family



Passing of the Holy Apostle & Evangelist John

Sat, Sept 26 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Darko S. Gataric Family

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
4:00 p.m. (MR) + Mildred + Michael Tomchak Grandson: Mike Tomchak

The 17th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN., Sept 27 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Ethel Galida Janet & Dan Laurion
(1st ann of passing 9/22)

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: Sept 20 – Dolores Babin, LEONARD R. KALLOP, JR., Laura Saber; Sept 23 – THERESA FITZURKA; TAMARA HARDING, Tam Revtai, Cecelia Rose Sclicht; Sept 25 – CINDY MEADERS.

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

HOME: Margaret Belionas, Helen Best, Irene Bordas, Florence Charochak, Margaret Cifrulak, MARY ANN CONTI, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Beverly Harsh, MARTHA LUCAS, Olga Manfredo, Joseph Mitro, 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.
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. If parents are in an invalid marriage, can their children be baptized in the Catholic Church? Are there any conditions that would have to be met? **A. Catholic Answers Apologist:** If parents are in an invalid marriage, their children can be baptized in the Catholic Church provided the following conditions are met: "That the parents, or at least one of them, or the person who lawfully holds their place, give their consent; "That there be a well-founded hope that the child will be brought up in the Catholic religion. If such hope is truly lacking, the baptism is, in accordance with the provisions of particular law, to be deferred and the parents advised of the reason for this. An infant of Catholic parents, indeed even of non-Catholic parents, may in danger of death be baptized even if the parents are opposed to it.



This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

Sept 20 — Sept 26, 2020

(MR): **In memory of Pizur & Sejka Families**

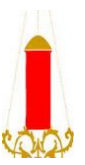
offered by Alice & Anna May Sejka

(NS): **In memory of John Kundrat**

(MR) Now available for 2021

offered by Wife: Theresa

(NS) Now available for 2021



General Announcements

McKees Rocks

SYMPATHY EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the passing of parishioner, **Irene Bednar, 96**, at Marian Manor, Pittsburgh, PA, on Sunday, August 23, 2020. The McDermott Funeral Home Kennedy Township handled the arrangements. She was the grandmother of parishioner, Lori L. (Ray) Rippole, and Great-Grandmother of parishioners, Ray Jr., Nicholas, and Carmella Rippole. A Funeral Parastas was offered on Saturday, August 29, 2020. She was then interred at St. Mark Cemetery, Kennedy Township; Our Parish extends its most sincere condolences to the families. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, eternal rest to your servant, Irene, and remember her forever. *Vicnaja Jej Pamjat!*



FORMER PASTOR CELEBRATES GOLDEN JUBILEE — This afternoon, a former pastor of Holy Ghost Parish who served our parish in the 1980's, will be marking his 50th anniversary of priestly ordination. Monsignor Russell A. Duker, S.E.O.D., current pastor of Holy Spirit Church, Pittsburgh (Oakland section) and the Administrator of St. Pius X Church, Pittsburgh (Carrick) will be celebrating this glorious milestone at a 3:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy. Archbishop Skurla, clergy, a few friends and parishioners will join in the Liturgical celebration. It was exactly on this day fifty years prior that Monsignor Duker was ordained to the priesthood by the late Archbishop Stephen J. Kocisko in 1970. If you wish to send him congratulatory sentiments, you may reach him at Holy Spirit Church, 4815 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213-2917. May God grant to his servant, the priest, Monsignor Duker, peace, health, salvation for many happy and blessed years! *Na Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita!*



Northside

SYMPATHY EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the passing of former parishioner, **Ronald L. Farabaugh, 87**, of Somerdale, New Jersey on Wednesday, September 2, 2020. Prior to moving out east the Farabaugh Family were active members of our Parish. He met his future wife, the late Mary at the West View Dance Land and was married for 61 years. Their daughter, Marianne, was the caregiver to her parents. A Mass of Christian Burial was offered on Sept. 8 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Roman Rite Church, Lindenwood, NJ. Entombment followed at St. Joseph Cemetery, Blackwood, NJ. Our Parish extends its most sincere condolences to the families in blessed repose, grant O Lord, eternal rest to your servant, Ronald, and remember him forever. *Vicnaja Jemu Pamjat!*



AUTUMN COMMENCES THIS WEEK

Autumn, interchangeably known as fall in North America, is one of the four temperate seasons. Autumn marks the transition from summer into winter, in September (Northern Hemisphere) when the arrival of night becomes noticeably earlier and the temperature cools considerably. One of its main features is the shedding of leaves from deciduous trees. Autumn begins Tuesday, September 22 at 9:31 a.m.



Catechism Lesson on the Holy Eucharist

(The following article appeared on the Catholic Answers webpage, September 15, 2016. It has been abridged to fit into the space of this page. This article is printed with permission.)

The Holy Eucharist is the most important of the seven sacraments because, in this and in no other sacrament, we receive the very body and blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ.



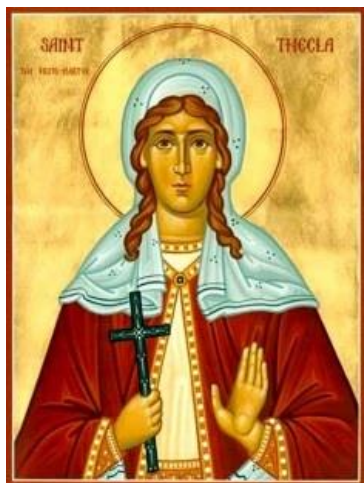
Innumerable, precious graces come to us through the reception of Holy Communion.... Because of the gravity of Jesus' teaching on receiving the Eucharist, the Church encourages Catholics to receive frequent Communion, even daily Communion if possible, and mandates reception of the Eucharist at least once a year during the Easter season. Before going to Communion, however, there are several things one needs to know. **First**, you must be in a state of grace. *"Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup"* (1 Cor. 11:27–28). This is an absolute requirement which can never be dispensed. **To receive the Eucharist without sanctifying grace in your soul profanes the Eucharist in the most grievous manner.** A mortal sin is any sin whose matter is grave, and which has been committed willfully and with knowledge of its seriousness. Grave matter includes, but is not limited to, murder, receiving or participating in an abortion, homosexual acts, having sexual intercourse outside of marriage or in an invalid marriage, and deliberately engaging in impure thoughts (Matt. 5:28–29). Scripture contains lists of mortal sins (for example, 1 Cor. 6:9–10 and Gal. 5:19–21). For further information on what constitutes a mortal sin, see the Catechism of the Catholic Church (which includes the Precepts of the Church). Out of habit and out of fear of what those around them will think if they do not receive Communion, some Catholics, in a state of mortal sin, choose to go forward and offend God rather than stay in the pew while others receive the Eucharist. The Church's ancient teaching on this particular matter is expressed in the Didache, an early Christian document written around A.D. 70, which states: *"Whosoever is holy [i.e., in a state of sanctifying grace], let him approach. Whosoever is not, let him repent"* (Didache 10). **Second**, you must have been to confession since your last mortal sin. The Didache witnesses to this practice of the early Church. *"But first make confession of your faults, so that your sacrifice may be a pure one"* (Didache 14). **Third**, you must believe in the doctrine of transubstantiation. *"For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment upon himself"* (1 Cor. 11:29). Transubstantiation means more than the Real Presence. According to transubstantiation, the bread and wine are actually transformed into the actual body, blood, soul, and divinity of Christ, with only the appearances of bread and wine remaining. **Fourth**, you must observe the Eucharistic fast. Canon law states, **"One who is to receive the most Holy Eucharist is to abstain from any food or drink, with the exception only of water and medicine, for at least the period of one hour before Holy Communion."** Elderly people, those who are ill, and their caretakers are excused from the Eucharistic fast. **Finally**, one must not be under an ecclesiastical censure. Canon law mandates, "Those who are excommunicated or interdicted after the imposition or declaration of the penalty and others who obstinately persist in manifest grave sin are not to be admitted to Holy Communion". **Provided they are in a state of grace and have met the above requirements, Catholics should receive the Eucharist frequently.**

Calendar of Upcoming Events

September 20 Catechetical Sunday & Commissioning of the Catechists. Beginning of ECF school year
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 Day This Week Protomartyr & Equal-to-the-Apostles, Thecla — September 24

The Holy Protomartyr and Equal of the Apostles Thecla was born in the city of Iconium. She was the daughter of rich and illustrious parents, and she was distinguished by extraordinary beauty. At eighteen years of age they betrothed her to an eminent youth. But after she heard the preaching of the holy Apostle Paul about the Savior, St Thecla with all her heart came to love the Lord Jesus Christ, and she steadfastly resolved not to enter into marriage, but rather to devote all her life to preaching the Gospel. St Thecla's mother was opposed to her daughter's plans and insisted that she marry her betrothed. St Thecla's fiancé also complained to the prefect of the city about the Apostle Paul, accusing him of turning his bride against him. The prefect locked up St Paul in prison. During the night St Thecla secretly ran away from her house, and she bribed the prison guards, giving them all her gold ornaments, and so made her way into the prison to



the prisoner. For three days she sat at the feet of the Apostle Paul, listening to his fatherly precepts. Neither the tears of her mother, nor her wrath, nor the threats of the prefect could separate St Thecla from her love for the Heavenly Bridegroom, the Lord Jesus Christ. Her mother in an insane rage demanded from the judges a death sentence against her unyielding daughter, and St Thecla was sentenced to be burned. Without flinching, the holy martyr went into the fire and made the Sign of the Cross over herself. St Thecla kept safe by the Lord. After this, St Thecla went with them preaching the

Gospel in Antioch. With the blessing of the Apostle Paul, St Thecla then settled in a desolate region of Isaurian Seleucia and dwelt there for many years, constantly preaching the Word of God, and healing the sick through her prayer. **St Thecla converted many pagans to Christ, and the Church appropriately names her as "Equal-to-the-Apostles."** When St Thecla was already a ninety-year-old woman, pagan sorcerers became incensed at her for treating the sick for free. They were unable to comprehend that the saint was healing the sick by the power of the grace of Christ, and they presumed that the virgin-goddess Artemis was her special helper. Envious of St Thecla, they sent their followers to defile her. When they came near her, St Thecla cried out for help to Christ the Savior, and a rock split open and hid the holy virgin, the bride of Christ. Thus, did St Thecla offer up her holy soul to the Lord.

General Announcements

ARCHEPARCHY HONORS WEDDING JUBILIARIANS — Last Sunday, Archbishop Skurla honored all Byzantine Catholic Wedding Jubilarians marking the special

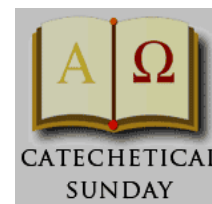


milestones this year at St. Elias Church, Munhall, PA at 3:00 p.m. The Jubilarians, whose names were submitted and included in the celebration were: (MR) Lydia and Charles Sell (40); (MR) Michele and Richard Billy (30); (NS) Laura and Leonard Callop, Jr. (30); Kerri and Dean Poloka (25) Karen and Gerald Stebbins (25) Christine and Albert Barnash (10); (NS) Aimee and John Helms (10); and

Barbara and Peter Stecko (10). May God grant to our Parishioner-Jubilarians peace, health, and happiness for many blessed years many happy! Na Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita!

COMMENCEMENT OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & COMMISSIONING CATECHETICS TODAY — Today commences our 2020-2021 Catechetical

Educational Year following the Sunday morning Divine Liturgy. All Catechist will be commissioned in a short ceremonial program and receive a blessing to go "forth in peace." Our Eastern Christian Formation (E.C.F.) Program is vital to the spiritual formation of our youth. Parents, please see that your children are enrolled in this program. Religious Education is important if any young teen-ager (14 and over) is asked to be a sponsor for Baptism and/or Chrismation (Confirmation). If you have any questions, please contact Coordinator, Steve Puluka (412) 897- 4650.



RESERVATIONS FOR DL & SANCTUARY LAMPS — Divine Liturgy and Sanctuary



Lamp reservation dates are being taken on a first come, first serve basis. Due to a high demand of both 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.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: A VIRTUAL COME & SEE WEEKEND — Young men 18-25 are invited to a FREE virtual retreat, Friday through Saturday, **November 6-7, 2020** 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. *E-mail your reply to:*



vocations@archeparchy.org.