

Parish Offerings – 14th Sunday after Pentecost — August 29, 2021

“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	\$2,042.00
Holy Days (\$264) YP (\$10)	274.00
Special Donation (In mem. Of + Ann A. Kohan by M/M Ted Babin) .	100.00
Votive Candles	128.40
	<hr/>
	\$2,544.40

Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering	\$460.00
Holy Days	95.00
Utilities (\$10) Improvements (\$65)	75.00
Votive Candles	41.50
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	\$671.50

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

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (60); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (29)



“Three day weekend”
has such a nice ring
to it don't you think?



Happy Labor Day Weekend!

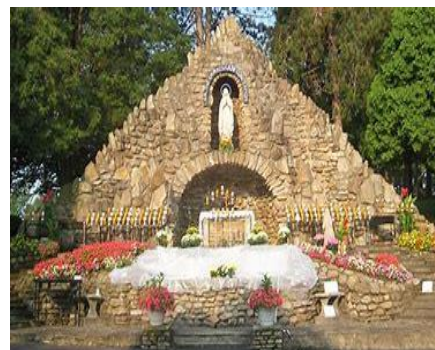
HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 15th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

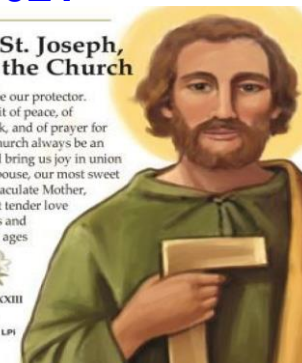
**Mount St. Macrina Pilgrimage — Labor Day Weekend
September 5, 2021**



**Prayer to St. Joseph,
Patron of the Church**

St. Joseph! Always be our protector.
May your inner spirit of peace, of
silence, of good work, and of prayer for
the cause of Holy Church always be an
inspiration to us and bring us joy in union
with your blessed spouse, our most sweet
and gentle and immaculate Mother,
and in the strong yet tender love of
Jesus, the glorious and
immortal King of all ages
and peoples.
Amen

—Pope St. John XXIII



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: Internet Sunday afternoon: Rusyn.fm at 3:30 pm. Archive: c-rsmedia.org.

New & Returning Parishioners: Welcome! Please register by phoning the Church Office.

Remember the Church in Your Will: Please be so kind 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
III Serving Yours Since 1953




DESIGNS BY NANCY
235 McCartney Drive,
Moon Township 15108
Phone: (412) 580-1545
Nancde@aol.com
Nancy C. Debranski
*Sewing, Alternations, Custom
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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**

**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**



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).

Sept 5, 2021 Seasonal Greeting: Volume XI Number 36



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Mount St. Macrina Pilgrimage — Labor Day Weekend

SUN., Sept 5 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Jennie E. Timulak (8th ann of passing) Becky & Michael Mozuch
11:00 a.m. (NS) + William (Bill) Gogal (2nd ann of passing) Wife: Nancy & Family

Annual Labor Day — Federal Holiday — No Banks & Postal Service

Miracle of the Angelic Commander, St. Michael at in Colossae (Chonae) Asia Minor

Mon, Sept 6 ***9:00 a.m. (MR) + Anna May Sejka Barb & Peter Stecko
Tue, Sept 7 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Dennis Bednar (birthday) Rippole Family



Nativity of the Holy Theotokos



Solemn Holy Day — Mirovanije

WED, Sept 8 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
6:00 p.m. (NS) + Bishop John M. Bilock (27th ann. of passing)

Thrs, Sept 9 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Alexander C. Alman (2nd ann of passing)

REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice)
for the intention of world peace & stability of our Country

Fri, Sept 10 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Frank Firko, Sr + Frank T. Firko + Ann + Sam Onesi



National Patriot Day — U.S. Flag is raised to half-staff

Sat, Sept 11 9:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Final Day of the Nativity of the Theotokos & Sunday Before the Elevation of the Precious Cross

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Amelia M. Sotak (2nd ann of passing) Dgtr: Elaine Cassidy



16th Sunday after Pentecost

Final Day of the Nativity of the Theotokos & Sunday Before the Elevation of the Precious Cross

SUN., Sept 12 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Jeanette + Alexander Zubritzky Dgtr: Sandra & Siblings
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Leonard R. Kallop, Sr. (10th ann of pass. 9/15) Valeriano & Kallop Families

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 5 – Debra Charochak; Sept 6 – Augustine Wenger; Sept 7 – George Rosko, Dennis Safranko; Sept 8 – AMBERLY VALERIANO; Sept 11 — Donna Herron, Katherine Leasure, JOHN NEWPORT.

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

HOME: Margaret Beliuas, Irene Bordas, Florence Charochak, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Beverly Harsh, BETTY LORINC, OLGA MANFREDO, Irene Muha, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Dan Pikras, Lisa Plutto, Betty Spisak, Anita Wolsko, Nancy (Shanta) Wauthier, Evelyn Yakubik

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.
VETERANS HOSPITAL (1010 Delafield St., Pittsburgh, PA 15215): JOHN VEREB.
THE RESIDENCE AT WILLOW LANE (30 Heckel Rd., MR, PA 15136): Helen Best, Margaret Cifrukak, Mildred Terrek.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. What difference does it make what religion you are, as long as you live like Christ? A. Catholic Answers Apologist: If someone does everything Jesus calls him to do, then he will—among other things—believe in Jesus and join his Church. Christ set up one Church for his believers to join. In Matthew 16:18, he says to Peter "Upon this Rock I will build my Church," not "I will build my churches...." Worship and religious affiliation are part of what Jesus commanded his followers, and so what religion you belong to does matter.



This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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



September 5 — September 11, 2021

(MR): In memory of Amelia M. Sotak (2nd ann of pass 9/11)
offered by Dgtr: Elaine Cassidy

(NS): In memory of Anna Sejka (birthday10/6)

(MR) None available 2021

offered by Children

(NS) None available 2021

McKees Rocks Announcements

SYMPATHY EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the passing of **Rose Mary (Ruggiero) Bradley, 66**, of Pittsburgh (Greenfield) on Tuesday, August 31, 2021. The Edward Kanai Funeral Home, Greenfield, handled the arrangements. She was sister of Subdeacon Raphael Ruggiero who served a short tenure here at Holy Ghost Parish. The Funeral Divine Liturgy was offered on Friday, Sept. 3 at Holy Spirit Church, Pittsburgh (Oakland). Our Parish extends its most sincere condolences to the Ruggiero and Bradley Families. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, eternal rest to your servant, Rose Mary, and remember her forever. Vicnaja Jej Pamjat'!



RENOVATIONS ON-GOING FOR CHURCH BASEMENT & GYM RESTROOMS — The restrooms continue to be renovated. Although no date of completion has been stated, it will more than likely continue through September.

North Side Announcements

RECTORY TO BE OCCUPIED LABOR DAY WEEKEND — The chancery office recently requested occupancy for a cleric of the Church beginning the weekend of September 4-5. Subdeacon Michael Kunitz and his wife, Janine, of Indiana State are being incarnated in the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh. In the meantime, the rectory will share the cost with the archeparchy to have it cleaned. Also, the chancery will assume the cost of utilities as it has done previously.



National Patriot Day this Week

On **September 11, 2001**, four planes were hijacked. The hijackers then deliberately flew three of the planes into two important buildings, the Pentagon in Washington DC and the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York. The fourth crashed into a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania. The loss of life and damage that these hijackings caused form the biggest act of terrorism ever on



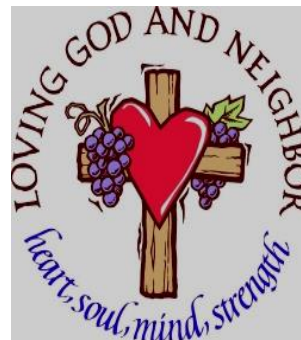
United States soil. Nearly 3000 people died in the attacks and the economic impact was immense. The attacks have greatly increased attention to national security in the United States. This has had huge implications for United States national and international politics. This is particularly true for the relationships between the United States and Islamic countries in the Middle East. On the direction of the President, the flag of the United States of America should be displayed on the homes of Americans, the White House and all United States government buildings in the whole world. The flag should be flown at half-staff as a mark of respect to those who died on September 11, 2001.

16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Love God, Love Neighbor in that Order

Gospel meditation: By the late Msgr. Eugene Chromoga (Mt. 22: 35-46)

A Scribe questioned Jesus: "Master, which is **the greatest commandment** in the Law? This subject was often debated in the rabbinic school. It was a real issue among the Jewish people. Jesus replied: "You must love the Lord your God with your whole heart and your whole soul, and your whole mind. This is the greatest and the chief commandment. The second is like it, you must love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments the whole law and the prophets depend."



Jesus quoted the Book of Deuteronomy (6:5) for the first commandment. This verse is the first part of the "Shema," the basic creed of Judaism. Every Jewish service opens with this sentence. It is also the first text every Jewish child memorizes. It is contained in the "Phylacteries" the tiny leather boxes devout Jews wear on their foreheads and their wrists when they pray. This is intended to remind of this creed in prayer. The "Shema" is also placed in a little round box called the "Mesurah" and fixed to each door in every Jewish house. They touch this whenever they come in or out to remind them of God. **The second commandment** which Jesus quotes is from the Book of Leviticus (19:18). Man is made to the image and likeness of God. It is for this reason we are to love one another. If we take the love of God away, the love of neighbor becomes sentimentality. Jesus was the first to put these two commandments together. But the love of God comes first. This is the first and greatest commandment; we must love God with our total love, a love which rules over our emotions, a love which directs our thoughts and a love which controls all our actions. It is a total commitment of self to God. Our love of neighbor is based on our love of God. It is only when we love God that people become lovable. Love of our fellowman is a sign of love for God.

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!



Calendar of Upcoming Events

September 5	.....	86 th Annual Uniontown Pilgrimage at Mount Saint Macrina.
September 6	.....	Annual Labor Day — Federal Holiday. Morning Divine Liturgy (MR) 9:00 a.m.
September 8	.....	Feast of Nativity of the Theotokos – (MR) 9:00 am & (NS) 6:00 p.m.
September 12	.....	Archieparchial Celebration of Marriage for Jubilarians, St. Elias Church, Munhall @ 3:00 pm
September 14	.....	Universal Elevation of the Precious Cross (Solemn Holy Day) Divine Liturgies commence 15 minutes prior for the Solemn Enthronement of the Holy Cross — (MR) 8:45 a.m.; (NS) 5:45 p.m.
September 19	.....	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.

Solemn Holy Day This Week — Sept 8 Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos

The Holy Virgin Mary was born of aged parents, Joachim and Anne. Her father



was of the lineage of David, and her mother of the lineage of Aaron. Thus, she was of royal birth by her father, and of priestly birth by her mother. In this, she foreshadowed Him Who would be born of her as King and High Priest. Her parents were quite old and had no children. Because of this they were ashamed before men and humble before God. In their humility they prayed to God with tears, to bring them joy in their old age by giving them a child, as He had once given joy to the aged Abraham and his wife Sarah by giving them Isaac. The Almighty and All-seeing God rewarded them with a joy that surpassed all their expectations and all their most beautiful dreams. For He gave them not just a daughter, but the Mother of

God. He illumined them not only with temporal joy, but with eternal joy as well. God gave them just one daughter, and she would later give them just one grandson-but what a daughter and what a Grandson! Mary, Full of grace, Blessed among women, the Temple of the Holy Spirit, the Altar of the Living God, the Table of the Heavenly Bread, the Ark of God's Holiness, the Tree of the Sweetest Fruit, the Glory of the race of man, the Praise of womanhood, the Fount of virginity and purity-this was the daughter given by God to Joachim and Anne. She was born in Nazareth, and at the age of three, was taken to the Temple in Jerusalem. In her young womanhood she returned again to Nazareth, and shortly thereafter heard the Annunciation of the Holy Archangel Gabriel concerning the birth of the Son of God, the Savior of the world, from her most-pure virgin body.

General Announcements

THE 86TH ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE - MOUNT ST. MACRINA — The time has arrived today for you to join *the 86th Pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help on September 5 and 6*. If you have never attended a pilgrimage before, you are encouraged to attend this shortened version which contains a myriad of graces. If you are experiencing any difficulties or problems, or just wish to thank God through Mary for an answered prayer, take them to the Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and lay them at her feet.



ACCEPTING NEW STUDENT ENROLLMENT FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES — Our *Eastern Christian Formation (E.C.F.)* Classes is accepting enrollment



to this year's Religious Education Classes. These sessions are open to students from both parishes. Registration follows all Divine Liturgies beginning today. Due to the continued pandemic, adjustments are an option. All classes begin on **Catechetical Sunday, September 19, 2021** following the 9:00 a.m. (MR) DL. Parents, please enroll your children in this

important program! Call Coordinator, Steve Puluka (412) 897-4650.

AN ON-GOING ANNOUNCEMENT: PASTOR CONTINUES TO MAKE SACRAMENTAL CALLS — Our parishes have been opened and have been following the regular schedule of liturgical services. If you have been away from the Holy Mysteries (Sacraments) and desire to return but are still unsure of its safety from the coronavirus, we assure you that there is plenty of room to extend physical distancing. However, if you would like the

pastor to make a sacramental visitation ahead of your return, **please phone the parish office** and set a time when Father may visit you. Remember: **SACRAMENTS ARE VITALLY ESSENTIAL** for your immortal soul!



CONTINUED AWAITING THE DIVINE LITURGY & SANCTUARY RECORD BOOK FOR



2022 — Until the 2022 Ecclesiastical Record Book arrives, the Church office will not be accepting intentions. An announcement will be appearing in a future edition of the S.O.T. when you may reserve your special date requests. Again, thank you for your ongoing patience.

PRAISING AND THANKING GOD THROUGH OUR HOLY DAYS — As we marked the beginning of the new Church Year on September 1, we, once again, have the opportunity to renew the events of our salvation through all holy days. To praise and thank God for revealing His mercy to us with the promise of everlasting life, holy days remind us of each of these special salvific events. *Over the past few years, the attendance has been on the low side.* Show your love for God and His Church. The beauty of our Byzantine Catholic Church, more than other rites of the Catholic Church, emphasize much solemnity by commemorating several salvific events in our holy days throughout the year other than the required Sundays.

