

Parish Offerings – 18th Sunday after Pentecost — September 26, 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 (\$1,872) YP (\$3)	\$1,875.00
Holy Days	140.00
Votive Candles	86.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,101.00

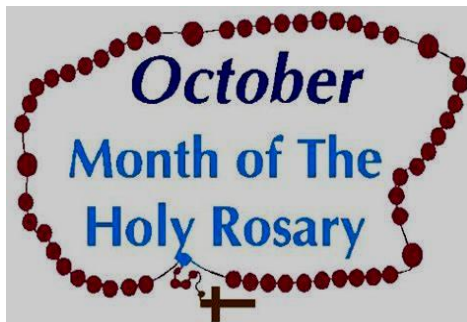
Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering	\$685.00
Holy Days	30.00
Utilities (\$40) Improvement (\$10)	50.00
Collection for the Poor	10.00
Votive Candles	47.00

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (22) \$822.00

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (68); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (24)

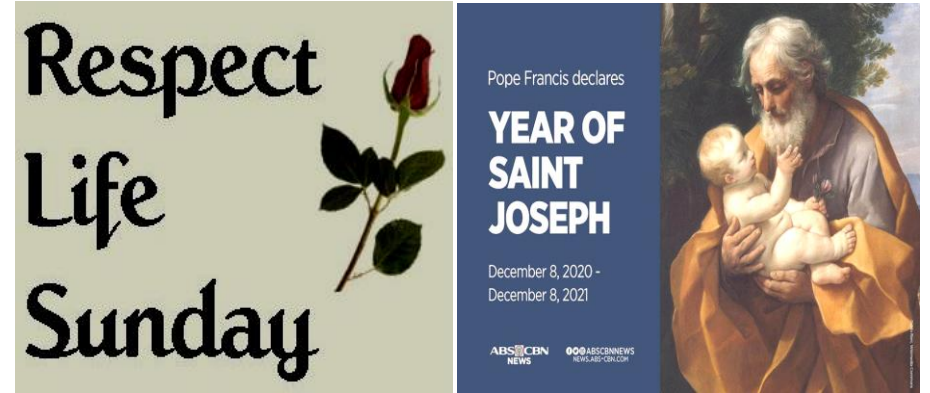
Protection of Theotokos (Oct 1) — (MR) 9:00 a.m. (6); (NS) 6:00 p.m. (10)



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

THE 19th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 3, 2021



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**

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
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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

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 Mystery 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!

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).

Oct. 3, 2021 Seasonal Greeting: Volume XI Number 40



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Respect Life Sunday

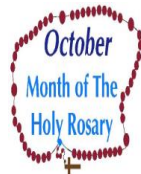
SUN, Oct 3 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
11:00 a.m. (NS) + John Spontak Son: Robert & Joyce
(18th ann. of passing 10/2)

Mon, Oct 4 8:00 a.m. (MR) NO DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULED

Tue, Oct 5 8:00 a.m. (MR) NO DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULED

Wed, Oct 6 8:00 a.m. (MR) NO DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULED

Thrs, Oct 7 8:00 a.m. (MR) NO DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULED



This week marks the Annual Clergy Retreat at the Antiochian Village, Ligonier, PA. Please keep our Pastor and all clergy in your prayers. Emergency: call office 24/7.

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

Fri, Oct 8 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mark A. Ciruela Aunt Helen & + Uncle Lester Best
(1st ann of passing)



6:30 p.m. (MR) Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary
7:00 p.m. (MR) Blessing of animals at side entrance of Church

Sat, Oct 9 9:00 a.m. (NS) + John Mudry Dgtr: Marlene Pfeiffer

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Michele J. (Terrek) Chiavetta (birthday 10/5) Mom: Mildred Terrek

20th Sunday after Pentecost

Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council

SUN, Oct 10 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Robert G. Galida (birthday 10/11) Dgtr: Kathy Mullen

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 3 – Michele Billy, Helenea Connor, James Eberle, George Verner; Oct 4 – MaryEllen Oslick, Steven Usouski, Oct 6 – Erin Bates; Oct 7 – Nicholas Nazak, II; Oct 8 – Mary Ann Goyda..

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

HOME: Margaret Beliuнас, Irene Bordas, Florence Charochak, Iлона Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Beverly Harsh, Kathe Kress, BETTY LORINC, OLGA MANFREDO, Irene Muha, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Dan Pikras, Lisa Plutto, Betty Spisak, ERIC STEHELE, 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 Cifrutlak, Mildred Terrek.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. In Luke 8:10, Jesus says that he speaks in parables so that "seeing they (the Pharisees and scribes, I presume) may not see, and hearing they may not understand." Why wouldn't Jesus want them to look and see and to hear and understand? A. Answer by a Catholic Apologist: God did not withhold grace so that the Pharisees and scribes could not understand; they put up barriers to God's grace and thus were unable to understand. God's grace is offered to everyone, including the Pharisees and scribes. But Jesus knows that their disposition is such that they will not respond to God's grace. (They don't want to give up their sins; they don't want a kingdom anywhere but here; they want to be in positions of power, not positions of service as Christ's message commands.) Therefore, they will not be able to grasp the deeper meaning that the parables help the willing mind to understand. So, Jesus wants to teach those willing to hear what he has to say without revealing information to those who, through their unwillingness to understand it properly, might use the information against him and others who follow him. Christ says, "Do not give dogs what is holy; and do not throw your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under foot and turn to attack you" (Mt 7:6).



This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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



October 3 — October 9, 2021

(MR): In memory of Anna Sojka (birthday 10/6)

offered by Children

(NS): In memory of John Spontak (18th ann of passing 10/2)

(MR) Now available for 2022 offered by Son: Robert & Joyce (NS) Now available for 2022

McKees Rocks Announcements

PIROHI REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING NEXT WEEK — There will be an important gathering to see if we have enough workers for the Pirohi Project. It will be a short meeting following next Sunday's Divine Liturgy on **Sunday, October 10, 2021**. Please mark this date on your calendar. All are welcome. We need committed workers to make this project a go!

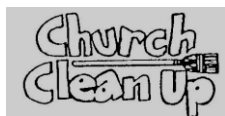
PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING FORTHCOMING — The members of the PAC/FAC are reminded of the meeting slated for **Monday, October 18, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.** Please place this date on your agenda.



RENOVATIONS ON-GOING FOR CHURCH BASEMENT & GYM RESTROOMS — The new mirrors were installed this past week in all four of the restrooms. We are awaiting the cleaning and polishing on terrazzo floor October 14. Once again, if you need to use the facilities, please continue to use the handicap rest room.

North Side Announcements

THANKS TO ALL WHO CAME TO CLEAN THE GROUNDS — A special thank you to the few that came to clean our grounds last Saturday as we head into the Fall Season. Cutting the grass and picking up trash and leaves around the Church area made our grounds look good. God bless all of you for sacrificing a few hours for your Church. *This cleanup had originally been cancelled due to some who had previous commitments, but a few did show up and did a few hours of grounds keeping.*



PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING FORTHCOMING — The members of the PAC/FAC are reminded of the meeting slated for **Sunday, October 17, 2021 following the Divine Liturgy**. Please place this date on your agenda.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR: A COME & SEE WEEKEND — Young men 18-25 are invited to a FREE retreat, Friday through Saturday, **November 5-7, 2021** 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. The seminary mandates that all participants are fully vaccinated. Contact the Seminary: (412) 321-8383. **Deadline for registration is October 13.**



PITTSBURGH DEANERY CLERGY TO SERVE PASTA DINNER — The Priests and Deacons in the Pittsburgh Deanery will be hosting a FREE PASTA DINNER at St. Elias Church, Munhall on **Sunday October 24, 2021** from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Clergy will be preparing and serving the dinner. A sign-up list is located in the Church. We must know how many to prepare for! The final day for registration is next Sunday, *October 17*. *A freewill offering will be taken to pay for the supplies. Any remaining funds will be sent to the Archieparchial Priests' Pension Plan.*



October Respect-Life Month

**United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
Respect Life Sunday, October 3, 2021**

Theme: “ St. Joseph, defender of Life, pray for us!”

(Statement of Respect for Life Month from Most Reverend Joseph F. Naumann, Chairman U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities)

The month of October brings with it our annual observance of Respect Life Month. As part of the Year of St. Joseph declared by Pope Francis, this year's celebration highlights the example of that great saint. As the faithful protector of both Jesus and Mary, we find in St. Joseph a profound reminder of our own call to welcome, safeguard, and defend God's precious gift of human life. Despite the mysterious circumstances surrounding Mary's pregnancy, St. Joseph took her into his home at the word of the angel. He guided their journey to Bethlehem, found shelter, and welcomed the infant Jesus as his son. When Herod threatened the life of the Christ Child, St. Joseph left his homeland behind



and fled with Jesus and Mary to Egypt. **Like St. Joseph, we are also called to care for those God has entrusted to us—especially vulnerable mothers and children. We can follow in the footsteps of St. Joseph as protector by advocating against taxpayer-funded abortion, which targets the lives of millions of poor children and their mothers here in the United States.** We can imitate his care and provision by helping to start Walking with Moms in Need at our parishes, "walking in the shoes" of mothers experiencing a difficult pregnancy, especially low-income mothers in our communities. At times, we may feel uncertain of our ability to answer the Lord's call. But He invites us to faithfully respond, despite our own fears or weaknesses: "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Cor 12:9). May we imitate St. Joseph's faithful trust and courage as we work to uphold the dignity of every human life. St. Joseph, defender of life, pray for us!

**1ST WEEK INTENTION OF REPECT LIFE MONTH:
Prayer for all Unborn Children & their Mothers & Fathers**

O God, Who adorn creation with splendor and beauty and fashion human lives in Your Image and Likeness, awaken in every heart reverence for the work of Your Hands, and renew among Your people a readiness to nurture and sustain Your precious gift of Human Life. 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 3-7	Archieparchial Clergy Retreat Center at Antiochian Village, Ligonier..
October ,8,15,22 & 29	(MR) The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary @ 6:30 p.m
October 8	Blessing of animals @ 7:00 p.m.
October 17	(NS) PAC/FAC Meeting following DL in Church
October 18	(MR) PAC/FAC Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
October 24 ..	Deanery Freewill Pasta Dinner, St. Elias Church, Munhall, PA from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.
October 31	Sunday of Christ the King.

Saint of the Week

Holy Woman-Martyr Charitina

October 5

Having been orphaned in infancy, Charitina was adopted by an eminent Christian man named Claudius, who raised her as his own daughter. Charitina was meek, humble, obedient and quiet. She studied



the Law of God day and night, and vowed to live her life in chastity, as a true bride of Christ. Since **Charitina also brought others to the Christian Faith**, Dometius, Emperor Diocletian's eparch, heard of her, sent soldiers to take her from her foster father, and brought her to trial. The judge questioned her: "Is it true, young maiden, that you are a Christian, and that you deceive others, leading them to this profane Faith?" Charitina courageously replied: "It is true that I am a Christian, but it is a lie that I deceive others; rather, I lead those in

error to the true path, by leading them to my Christ." The evil judge condemned her. Her hair was shorn and hot coals were poured onto her head. Even so, she was saved by the power of God. They threw her into the sea, but God delivered her again. They tied her to a wheel and began to turn it, but an angel of God stopped the wheel, and Charitina remained unharmed. Then the depraved judge sent some dissolute young men to defile her. Fearing this dishonor, St. Charitina prayed to God to receive her soul before those degenerates could defile her virginal body. While she knelt, praying to God, her soul departed from her and was translated to the Immortal Kingdom of Christ.

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 @ 6:30 p.m.** at our Parish in McKees Rocks. This sacred devotion has been a part of our Church since its founding over 100 years ago which our Founders and Benefactors brought with them from Carpathian Homeland. Come and join us as we pray for our Country & for the vanquishing of the coronavirus.



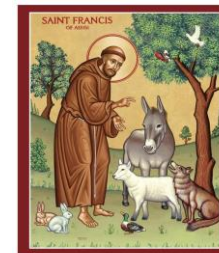
RESERVATIONS FOR WEEKEND DL & SANCTUARY LAMPS — Divine Liturgy and



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.

BLESSING OF ANIMALS THIS WEEK — Since our pets are very dear to us, our



pastor will beseech God to shower blessings upon them. In the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi, (Feast Day, Oct. 4), who loved animals and often spoke to them, and whose feast is at the beginning of October, our pastor is inviting you to bring your pets for a short blessing serving this **Friday, October 8, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m. at the (MR) Church's side entrance.** This blessing signifies our gratitude to Almighty God for the gift of companionship that our pets afford us.

ARCHIEPARICHAL ST. NICHOLAS 50/50 RAFFLE — Since many will not be able to attend the 65th Annual St. Nicholas Celebration at the Cathedral and Cathedral Center on **Sunday,**



December 5, 2021, a minimal number of tickets (17) 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 17 tickets. **They are \$10.00** and the first 3-digit number based on the Monday, **December 6, 2021** PA Daily Drawing at 7:00 p.m. Many prizes will be awarded. Tickets are now available.

MESSAGE FROM GCU NORTHWEST PITTSBURGH LODGE — *Attention all members. I would like all members to attend a special virtual meeting **October 10, 2021 @ 2:00** to discuss a Christmas fundraiser. 1 (605) 472-5351, Access Code: 451303#. Steve Pulka will be sending literature via e-mail to everyone on his list. If you do not have an e-mail please contact Steve @ (412) 897-4650 for printed literature. Thank you, Tina Burns, president.*