

Parish Offerings – 21st Sunday after Pentecost – October 17, 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 (\$1,461) YP (\$7)	\$1,468.00
Holy Days	46.00
Collection for the Poor	490.00
Votive Candles	144.00
	\$2,148.00

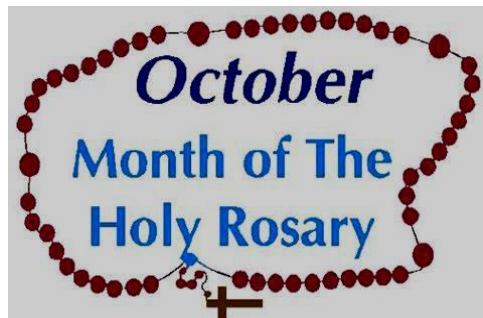
Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering	\$942.71
Collection for the Poor	55.00
Votive Candles	47.75
	\$1,045.46

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (27)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (50); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (30)

Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary (Oct 22) —(MR) 6:30 p.m. (6)



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



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Greek Catholic Union of the USA
A Fraternal Benefit Society
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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



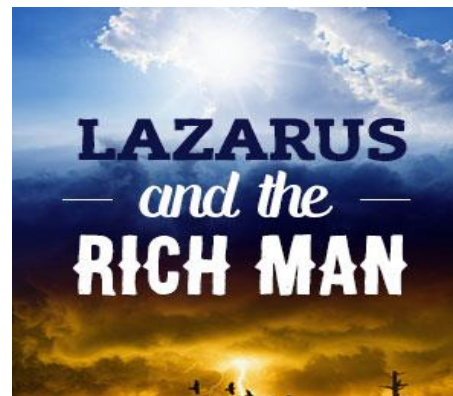
HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 22nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Respect Life Month — October 24, 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

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 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!

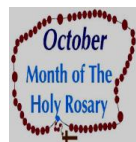
THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH

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. 24, 2021

Seasonal Greeting:

Volume XI Number 43



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

SUN, Oct 24 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Joe Babin Wife: Gerry
(13th ann of passing 10/27)
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Mike Pungras Dgtr: Anna Demianczyk

Mon, Oct 25 8:00 a.m. (MR) Health of the Revilak Family Julia Revilak



The Holy Great-Martyr Demetrius

Tue, Oct 26 8:00 a.m. (MR) Special Intention The Singing Revilla Family of Msgr. Russell A. Duker (birthday 8/24)

Wed, Oct 27 8:00 a.m. (MR) + William J. Hrivnak Wife: Joyce & Family
(3rd ann of passing 10/28)

Thrs, Oct 28 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mary Supack Niece: Martha & Bob Maletz

REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice)

Fri, Oct 29 8:00 a.m. (MR) + John Hrivnak (birthday) Nephew: Fr. Firko
*** 6:30 p.m. (MR) Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary

Sat, Oct 30 9:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Mary Kundrat Theresa Kundrat
(56th ann of passing)



23rd Sunday after Pentecost Sunday of Christ the King

SUN, Oct 31 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Michael Harsh Helenea & Ed Connor
11:00 a.m. (NS) + William C. Poloka, Jr. Anonymous

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: Oct 24 – Anastasia Bedard, Theresa Kundrat; Oct 25 – Gregory Stilwell, Emma Joy Usouski; Oct 28 – Dolores Boros; Oct 30 – Elias Wenger.

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

HOME: Margaret Beliuinas, Irene Bordas, Florence Charochak, Ilona 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 Cifrulak, Mildred Terrek.
VINCENTIAN HOME (111 Perrymont Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15237) Kathe Kress.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. My fiancé and I want to live together for the next year to save money. My mom is upset about this and says this is wrong. But if we both honor our commitment to live chastely until marriage, why would it be wrong? **A. Catholic Answers Apologist:** Even if you and your fiancé don't have sexual relations for the entire time of your living together, your actions give scandal. The Catechism warns: The person who gives scandal becomes his neighbor's tempter. He damages virtue and integrity; he may even draw his brother into spiritual death. Scandal is a grave offense if by deed or omission another is deliberately led into a grave offense. (CCC 2284). And remember Jesus' warning in Luke 17:1: "Temptations to sin are sure to come; but woe to him by whom they come!" Saving money for your future life together is commendable, but moving in with your fiancé is not the only way in which you can do so. You could also find a roommate of your own sex or move in with your parents until your wedding day. Surely, saving a few bucks is not worth the dishonor your parents will suffer if you follow through with your decision. Nor is it worth sacrificing your commitment to live according to the teachings of Christ and his Church in your preparation for marriage. Trust God for his grace to see you through.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

October 24 — October 30, 2021

(MR): In memory of Joe Babin (13th ann of passing 10/27)
offered by Wife: Gerry

(NS): In memory of Christine A. Voelker

(MR) Now available for 2022

offered by Voelker Family

(NS) Now available for 2022

McKees Rocks Announcements

SUBJECT MATTER DISCUSSED AT LAST WEEK'S PAC/FAC MEETING — At the **October 18, 2021 Parish & Financial Advisory Councils Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.**, the following virtual agenda

Parish Council



was discussed: (1) E.C.F. Religious Education will be organizing their annual St. Nicholas Celebration. This year's theme will continue include St. Nicholas helping us through the pandemic crisis; also, the Archdiocesan St. Nicholas Prayer & Dinner to benefit the SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary will be at the Cathedral Center on Sunday, Dec. 5 @ \$40.00 each; (2) Correcting and repairing masonry work which has cracked placing pressure on the outside basement entrance door facing the Church office is buckling the metal door.; (3) Due to vandalism in area Byzantine Catholic Churches throughout the Pittsburgh area, cameras will be installed on the Church premises; (4) Century Interiors, Inc. projects the completion of the 4 restroom projects by General Election Day, Nov. 2. The Pirohi Project has made it possible for this updated project to be a reality; and (5) Upcoming events (a) 2021 Archdiocesan Assembly will take place at the Cathedral Nov. 5-6; and the Annual Moleben for the Beatification and Canonization of our 4 Holy Byzantine Catholics will take place at our Parish on Nov. 7 (cf. article)..

PIROHI PROJECT WILL RESUMES IN NOVEMBER — Many who attended the reorganizational meeting two weeks ago, are willing to engage in this project prior to Christmas. **Here are the Friday sales dates: Nov. 5, 12, & 19 (no sales the Friday after Thanksgiving); Dec 3, 10 & 17.** We would appreciate more volunteers especially pinchers! **Remember, all orders must be placed on the Wednesday prior to the sale date between 9:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon. Call: (412) 331-5155.**



THANK YOU AGAIN FOR THE FLOWERS — Once again for the past four weeks, an anonymous donor(s) has been sending flowers to be placed at the feet of our Blessed Mother located on the iconostasis. We are grateful to whoever you are for this noble expression of love for the Holy Virgin whom we especially extol this month of October. May she be comforted seeing the expression of your heart.

North Side Announcements

SUBJECT MATTER DISCUSSED AT LAST WEEK'S PAC/FAC MEETING — At the **October 17, 2021 Parish & Financial Advisory Councils Meeting following the Sunday Divine Liturgy.** The

Parish Council



following virtual agenda was discussed: (1) Discussing the possibility of a new Church roof. Currently, we are not financially able due to a limited amount of funds, and our honey-bee infestation on the upper front side of the Church continues to be a problem. Bee-Control of Pittsburgh has been contacted to revisit the situation.; (2) New tenants are currently occupying our parish rectory. Deacon Michael Kunitz and his wife Janine, have been residing for several weeks here until he is given the date of priesthood

ordination. The chancery is taking care of the utility and house-hold expenses.; (3) It is determined to apply for the *GCU Expansion Matching Funds up to \$5,000.00*, we will once again have a Bake-less Bake Sale from October 31-Nov. 28. Special envelopes will appear in next week's S.O.T. We are praying that our (MR) Holy Ghost will assist us in this endeavor as they have graciously contributed in the past. All contributors will be given financial credit on their 2021 End-of-the-year Statements for income tax purposes; (4) Upcoming events (a) 2021 Archdiocesan Assembly will take place at the Cathedral Nov. 5-6; and the Annual Moleben for the Beatification and Canonization of our 4 Holy Byzantine Catholics will take place at (MR) Parish on Nov. 7 (cf. article)..

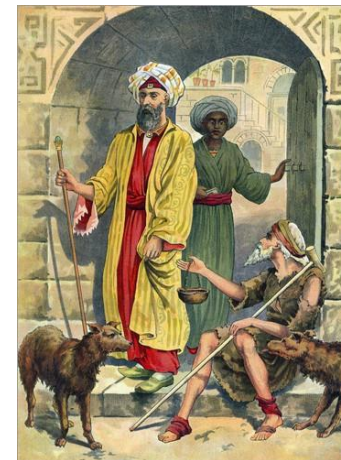
Meditation on today's Gospel

The Rich Man & Lazarus — A Lesson of Mercy

Luke 16:19-31

A parable is a story intended to convey a spiritual truth. The story doesn't have to be about real people or even real situations (such as a camel passing through the eye of a

needle). But to achieve its teaching goal, a parable must be striking and memorable, so that as the story is retold and remembered, the spiritual truth is reinforced again and again. The hearers must be able to imagine the situation. Many scholars believe that Jesus is drawing upon a popular Jewish folk tale that had roots in Egypt about a rich man and poor man whose lots after death are completely reversed. The story doesn't have to be true in all its particulars, but the popular mind can relate to its stereotyped characters – rich man, poor man, and Father Abraham. You've probably heard dozens of pointed jokes that began with popular mythology (loosely based on selected scriptures) that included the pearly gates (Revelation 21:21) and St. Peter who holds the keys to the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 16:19). Lawyers, especially, don't do well in genre of jokes. You don't stop the joke teller because his portrayal is inadequate, or leaves out the great white throne judgment (Revelation 20:11). You accept the semi-mythical props of the story and listen for the punch line. No, Jesus isn't trying to make a joke here – the subject is deadly serious. Nor do I think Jesus is trying to teach his disciples the details of the after-life in this parable. I believe he is using a popular story genre to make a spiritual point. **Wealth without active mercy for the poor is great wickedness.** If we close our eyes to the truth we are given, then we are doomed. In the context, Jesus is condemning the Pharisees for their love of money but lack of mercy for the poor.



October: Respect-Life Month

4th WEEK INTENTION OF REPECT LIFE MONTH:

Prayer for the Poor, Homeless and Abandoned

O Lord, make us worthy to serve our fellow men throughout the world that live and die in poverty and hunger. Give them through our hands this day their daily bread, and by our understanding love, give them peace and joy. In this may Your Name be blessed and glorified, Father, Son (+) and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Join us for the Holy Rosary this final October Friday (MR) at 6:30 p.m. Let us turn to our Holy Virgin Mother under the veil of her holy protection! **Our Intention: That God may place into the hearts of all responsible voters to elect those candidates who will align themselves to Our Merciful Lord's Commandments in the Spirit of Truth!** Let's sacrifice this time as though Our Country is depending on our prayer!



Calendar of Upcoming Events

October 24	.. Deanery Freewill Pasta Dinner, St. Elias Church, Munhall, PA from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.
October 29 (MR) The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary @ 6:30 p.m.
October 31 Sunday of Christ the King.
November 2 General Election Day — Defend the most vulnerable – Cast a Pro-Life Vote.
Nov. 7 Eastern Standard Time (clocks FALL BACK) & Annual Moleben to our 4 saintly bishops.
November 8 Synaxis of St. Michael & All Angels (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 p.m.
November 14 GCU LODGE MEETING @ 2:00 p.m.
November 15 Commencement of the Philippian (Filipovka) Fast.

Saint of the Week – October 26 The Holy & Glorious Demetrius of Thessalonica

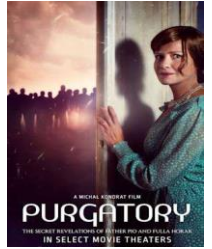
The Great Martyr Demetrius of Thessalonica was the son of a Roman proconsul in Thessalonica. Three centuries had elapsed and Roman paganism, spiritually shattered and defeated by the multitude of martyrs and confessors of the Savior, intensified its persecutions. The parents of St Demetrius were secretly Christians, and he was baptized and raised in the Christian Faith in a secret church in his father's home, By the time Demetrius had reached maturity and his father had died, the emperor Galerius Maximian had ascended the throne (305). Maximian, confidant in Demetrius' education as well as his administrative and military abilities, appointed him to his father's position as proconsul of the Thessalonica district. The main tasks of this young commander were to defend the city from barbarians and to eradicate Christianity. The emperor's policy regarding Christians was expressed simply, "Put to death anyone who calls on the name of Christ." The emperor did not suspect that by



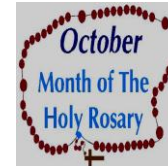
appointing Demetrius he had provided a way for him to lead many people to Christ. Accepting the appointment, Demetrius returned to Thessalonica and immediately confessed and glorified our Lord Jesus Christ. Instead of persecuting and executing Christians, he began to teach the Christian Faith openly to the inhabitants of the city and to overthrow pagan customs and idolatry. The compiler of his Life, St Simeon Metaphrastes, says that because of his teaching zeal he became "a second Apostle Paul" for Thessalonica, particularly since "the Apostle to the Gentiles" once founded at this city the first community of believers (1 Thess. and 2 Thess.). The Lord also destined St Demetrius to follow the holy Apostle Paul as a martyr..." He began to pray and fast, preparing himself for martyrdom. When the emperor came into the city, he summoned Demetrius, who boldly confessed himself a Christian and denounced the falsehood and futility of Roman polytheism. Maximian gave orders to lock up the confessor in prison. At dawn on **October 26, 306** soldiers appeared in the saint's underground prison and ran him through with lances. The body of the holy Great Martyr Demetrius was cast out for wild animals to devour, but the Christians took it and secretly buried it in the earth.

General Announcements

NEW ONE-TIME MOVIE RELEASE: PURGATORY — A special showing based upon Catholic Mystics such as St. Padre Pio, St. Faustina, etc., is being offered to the public on **Thursday, October 28, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.** One of several sites, we will be attending the **Settlers Ridge Cinema, Auditorium 12**. You must purchase your own tickets (\$12.50). *Cinema Mask Policy: Face Masks are required for non-vaccinated guests and strongly encouraged for all other guests, except where required by local mandates. Masks may be removed when eating and drinking inside the auditorium. Purgatory is a Doctrine of the Catholic Church (for ALL RITES). Come and deepen your knowledge and acceptance of the Article of Faith.*



FINAL GATHERING FOR THE OCTOBER HOLY ROSARY — This will be the final Friday to honor Our Blessed Mother in this special month of October, by reciting the Rosary according to our Byzantine-Ruthenian (Rusyn) tradition @ **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 Subcarpathian Homeland. Come and join us as we pray for our Country & for the vanquishing of the coronavirus.



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 7, 2021 @ 3:00 p.m.** For the past 35 years faithful through the Pittsburgh Archeparchy 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 start of the Process for 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. Archbishop Skurla will be in attendance and the Archieparchial Choir will sing the responses. Please invite your friends! **Since we will host this event, you are asked to bake or purchase some cookies for the fellowship that follows.**



DEANERY PASTA DINNER TODAY — A Big thanks to all who signed to attend PASTA DINNER at St. Elias Church, Munhall this afternoon from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Clergy will be preparing and serving the dinner. *A freewill offering will be taken to pay for the supplies. Any remaining funds will be sent to the Archieparchial Priests' Pension Plan.*