

Parish Offerings – 24th Sunday after Pentecost – November 7, 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 (\$3,640) YP (\$4)	\$3,644.00
Holy Days (\$125) Thanksgiving (\$5)	130.00
Archdiocesan Charities (\$485) Collection for the Poor (\$50)	535.00
Votive Candles	111.00
	\$4,420.00

Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering	\$588.00
Holy Days (\$35) Thanksgiving (\$20)	55.00
Improvement (\$40) Archdiocesan Charities (\$20)	60.00
Votive Candles	39.60

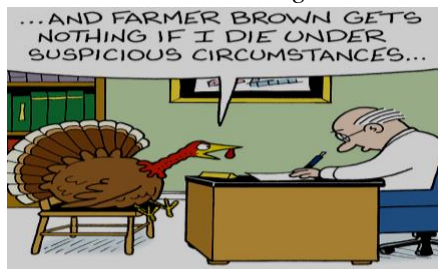
Church Attendance Last Week \$742.60

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (33)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (62); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (22)

Marian Moleben for Beatification & Canonization — Sun (MR) 3:00 p.m. (44)

St. Michael the Archangel — Mon. (MR) 9:00 a.m. (3); (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 25th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Commemoration of Apostle Philip — November 14, 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
Fax: (412) 331-6688
Michael P. Ferrell,
Supervisor, CFSP
111 Serving Yours Since 1953

STAY UP THERE! STOP FALLING! STOP FALLING, I SAY! STAY UP THERE!

DESIGNS BY NANCY
235 McCartney Drive,
Moon Township 15108
Phone: (412) 580-1545
Nancde@aol.com

Nancy C. Debranski
Sewing, Alterations, Custom Embroidery and Unique Gifts

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.

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

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).

Nov. 14, 2021

Seasonal Greeting:

Volume XI Number 46

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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

25th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN, Nov 14 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Mike J. Sotak (31st ann of passing) Dgtr: Elaine Cassidy
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Joseph R. Shamonsky (2nd ann of passing 11/4) Anonymous

Commencement of the Philippian Fast — 40 days before Christmas

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



for the intention of the return of our beloved to the Church

Mon, Nov 15 (1) 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Paula (Kurtanich) Wynn Cousin: Elaine Kurtanich

Feast of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew

Tue, Nov 16 (2) 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Fr. Ronald P. Larko Maria, Sem. Luke & Anita

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



for the intention of the return of our beloved back to God and His Church

Wed, Nov 17 (3) 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mary Hrivnak (50th ann of passing) Grandson: Fr. Firko

Thrs, Nov 18 (4) 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Helen Hopey Anonymous

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



for the intention of the return of our beloved back to God and His Church

Fri, Nov 19 (5) 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Irene Palahunik Family

Prefestive of the Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

Sat, Nov 20 (6) 9:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

Anticipated Divine Liturgy of Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

4:00 p.m. (MR) + John R. Debranski (15th ann. of passing) Dgtr: Nancy

26th Sunday after Pentecost

Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

1st Sunday of the Philippian Fast — Mirovanije

SUN., Nov 21 (7) 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Anna + Michael Sejka Children

11:00 a.m. (NS) + Marie Wittmer (birthday 11/23) Sister: Joan Senchyshyn

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: Nov 15 – Barbara Feldman; Nov 16 – Maria Iyengar, Paul Rubish;
Nov 17 – Kathleen Marks; Nov 19 – John R. Chomko.

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

HOME: Margaret Beliuinas, Irene Bordas, Florence Charochak, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Beverly Harsh, Dolores Kosko, Steve Kosko, 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 Cifrutak, Mildred Terrek.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. Is it a misnomer to call someone a "pro-choice Catholic"? **A. Catholic Apologist, Michelle Arnold:** The Church's concern is to teach the doctrine and morality of the Church. In political jargon, "pro-choice" is an inaccurate euphemism used to disguise abortion advocacy. Literally speaking though, to be "pro-choice" simply means to be for choice, or for the freedom to choose. The Church does not dispute anyone's right to choose, *per se*, assuming that the choice is for something either morally good or morally neutral; what the Church disputes is the idea that anyone has a right to choose to murder a human being, which is a morally evil choice. It would be more accurate for someone who advocates for abortion to be called "pro-abortion" than "pro-choice." If someone is a baptized member of the Catholic Church, he is a Catholic, no matter how well or how poorly he lives out his Catholic faith. While we may be rightfully angered that a Catholic who advocates for moral evils such as abortion is presenting himself as a "good Catholic," we should not deny that he indeed is a Catholic (although we can deny that he is a "good" Catholic).

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

November 14 — November 20, 2021

(MR): In memory of Mike J. Sotak (31st ann of passing)

offered by Dgtr: Elaine Cassidy

(NS): In memory of Mary Hrivnak (50th ann of passing 11/17)

(MR) Now available for 2022

offered by Grandson: Fr. Firko

(NS) Now available for 2022



McKees Rocks Announcements

PIROHI PROJECT CONTINUES THIS WEEK — Here are the remaining Friday sale dates: **Nov. 19 (no sales the Friday after Thanksgiving); Dec 3, 10 & 17.** The sale price for Potato/Cheese and Sauerkraut are \$12.00 per dozen which includes butter and onions. 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 the Pirohi Kitchen: (412) 331-5155.**



ANGEL TREE PROJECT FOR LESS FORTUNATE AREA CHILDREN — GCU Pittsburgh Northwest Lodge is, once again, holding a fraternal activity to help area children who may not be getting much for Christmas this year. This project is the ANGEL TREE located near the elevator in the side vestibule. Over the years, they really went fast! If you would like to participate and make a child's Christmas a little brighter this year you are asked to take an angel from the tree. It will have a child's age listed on the back. You are asked to purchase a gift and bring it back to the tree **UNWRAPPED with the angel taped on it** no later than **Sunday, December 6.** Holy Family Social Services and Family Foundation will distribute these gifts to the children in time for Christmas. Let's send this entire tree of angels in the form of gifts to these under-privileged children. You may call to make a donation to the project and we will do the shopping in your name. **Call Barb Stecko (412) 334-8245**

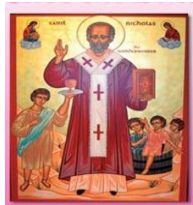


North Side Announcements

EXTRA ASSISTANCE FOR NS BAKELESS BAKE SALE: 3 WEEKS TO GO — Our parish is conducting a Bakeless Bake Sale. Since it is more expensive, laborious and really no area to set it up, this project seems to be the most beneficial way to reach the full amount of the GCU Expansion matching funds. We would be grateful if our McKees Rocks parish will join with us as they graciously did last year. In this issue of the S.O.T. special envelopes are contained for both parishes. We are praying that you will help us. Credit on your financial statement will be rendered. **Final day is Sunday, Nov. 28. Total results will appear in a Dec. S.O.T.**



ARCHIEPARICHAL ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION — The 64th Annual St. Nicholas Celebration will take place at the Cathedral and Cathedral Center on **Sunday, December 5, 2021.** Tickets are now priced at \$45.00 per adult and \$20.00 per child ages 12 and under. We'd like to get at least one full table per parish(s) family. Please sign the list in the (MR) Side Vestibule; (NS) Narthex. **Parish deadline is next Sunday, November 21.**



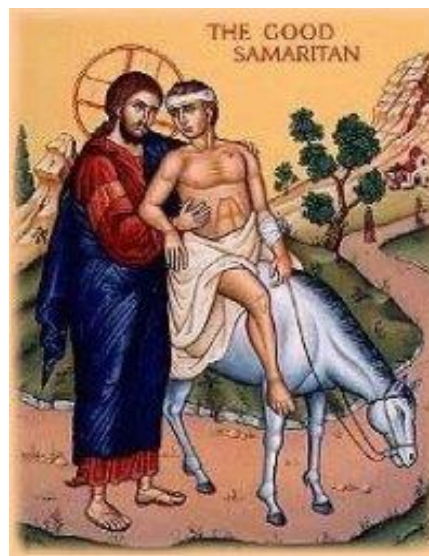
BOTH HGcs TO PARTICIPATE IN NOVEMBER-DECEMBER FOOD DRIVE — In our love for the less fortunate, our both parishes will be holding an annual non-perishable food drive to be delivered to the *Inter Faith Churches Food Bank, McKees Rocks* in time for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Please bring the non-expired items to the Church and place them at the entrance(s). For additional information contact Elaine Kurtanich (412) 370-9092. Once again, we are grateful to her for leading this project.



Meditation on today's Gospel

An Allegorical Meaning to the Parable (Luke 10:25-37)

The man that fell among robbers, represents *Adam* and his posterity; *Jerusalem*, the state of peace and innocence, which man leaves by going down to *Jericho*, which means the moon, the state of trouble and sin: the robbers represent the devil, who *stripped* him of his supernatural gifts, and *wounded* him in his natural faculties: the *priest and Levite* represent the old law: the *Samaritan*, Christ; and the *beast*, his humanity. The *inn* means the Church; *wine*, the blood of Christ; *oil*, his mercy; whilst the host signifies St. Peter and his successors, the bishops and priests of the Church. (Origen, St. Jerome, St. Ambrose, St. Augustine, and others)



Since all men possess a rational soul and are created in God's likeness, since they have the same nature and origin, have been redeemed by Christ, and enjoy the same divine calling and destiny, the basic equality of all must receive increasingly greater recognition. True, all men are not alike from the point of view of varying physical power and the diversity of intellectual and moral resources. Nevertheless, with respect to the fundamental rights of the person, every type of discrimination, whether social or cultural, whether based on sex, race, color, social condition, language, or religion, is to be overcome and eradicated as contrary to God's intent. --- Documents of Vatican II, *The Church Today*

Pope Francis Speaks

Pope's General Audience at St. Peter Square Nov. 10, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters, We conclude our series of catechesis on Saint Paul's Epistle to the Galatians. We have seen Paul speak in a variety of ways as apostle, theologian and pastor, opening up the inexhaustible riches of Jesus Christ. Paul's personal encounter with the Risen Lord led him to proclaim boldly the freedom from sin and death won by Christ's victory on the Cross, and the new life bestowed on us by the Holy Spirit at our baptism. Paul's insistence that charity is the fulfilment of the law should lead us enthusiastically to pursue the way of Christian love and to cultivate the fruits of the Holy Spirit. Nor should we ever grow weary or discouraged by our failures or apparent lack of progress. Saint Augustine evokes the image of Christ asleep in the boat amid the storm to remind us that whenever we feel weary and the tempests of life threaten to overwhelm us, we need but awaken Christ in our hearts, trusting in his faithful presence and the life-giving power of his Spirit. With Saint Paul, may we constantly rejoice in the newness, joy and freedom of the new life proclaimed by the Gospel and *to live by the Spirit and act in a way worthy of the calling we have received in Christ.*



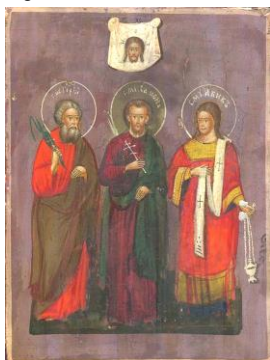
Calendar of Upcoming Events

- November 14 GCU Virtual Lodge Meeting @ 2:00 p.m.
- November 15 Commencement of the Philipian (Filipovka) Fast.
- November 21 Solemn HD: Entrance into the Temple of Theotokos.
- November 25 Annual Thanksgiving Day — (MR) Divine Liturgy @ 9:00 a.m.
- November 28 Decorating the (MR) Church for Christmas following the Divine Liturgy.
..... Decorating the (NS) Church for Christmas following the Divine Liturgy.
- December 5 Parish & Archeparchial St. Nicholas Celebration.
- December 6 Solemn Feast of St. Nicholas the Wonder-Worker — (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 p.m.

Saints of the Week — November 15

The Holy Martyrs Urias, Samonas & Habib

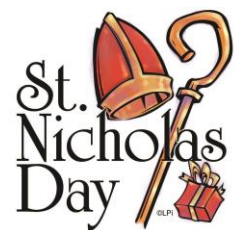
The Holy Martyrs and Confessors Gurias, Samonas and Habib: during the persecution against Christians under the emperors Diocletian (284-305) and Maximian (305-311). The two



friends Gurias and Samonas, preachers of the Word of God, were arrested in the city of Edessa. The saints refused to offer sacrifice to the gods, and boldly confessed their faith in Christ. For this they were subjected to cruel tortures: they were beaten, hung up by their hands, heavy weights were tied to their feet, and they were cast into a stifling prison. The martyrs endured everything with firmness. By night, they were taken out beyond the city and beheaded (+ 299-306). Christians buried their holy bodies with reverence. After some years, the last pagan emperor, Licinius (311-324), began a persecution against Christians. Habib, a deacon of the Church of Edessa whom the emperor ordered to be arrested for his zealous spreading of the

true Faith, presented himself before the executioners when he learned they were searching for him. The saint confessed his faith in Christ and was sentenced to be burned alive. The martyr went willingly into the fire and with a prayer surrendered his soul to the Lord. When the fire went out, the mother and relatives of the saint found his body unharmed. They buried the martyr next to Saints Gurias and Samonas. In an Akathist, the Holy Church addresses the martyrs: "Rejoice, Gurias, Samonas and Habib, Heavenly Patrons of honorable marriage." We pray to them for deliverance from family turmoil, and from marital difficulties, especially where one spouse hates the other without cause.

INVITATION OUR ANNUAL PAROCHIAL ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION — Sunday, December 5, 2021 following the 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy. RSVP will be required to attend # of adults, # of

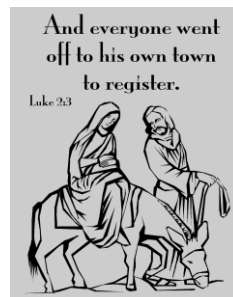


children grade 5 and under # of children grade 6 and up. This year we will have family pod seating and separate food service for those attending our annual St. Nicholas celebration. This requires RSVP with accurate numbers to prepare both the room and food. The youth group will have a brief presentation and photos with St. Nicholas will be available. **Program:** for Youth Group presentation focusing on life and inspiration of St. Nicholas. Presentations will be short and story based presented by some youth group members. **Seating:** Will be family pod based. We will setup tables and chairs in family pod groups with social distancing for the main

gym area. **Student gifts:** These will be prepared in the normal two groups pre-k to grade 5 and Middle/HS group. **Food Service:** This will be pod based individual or family style. We are committed in teaching the Faith to our children and pray that by your attendance it will inspire our children to a greater love of Christ and His Church. — Steve Puluka, E.C.F. Coordinator (412) 897-4650.

General Announcements

COMMENCEMENT OF THE SPIRITUAL PREPARATION PRIOR TO CHRISTMAS — Tomorrow, Nov. 15, marks the beginning of our journey through the **PHILIPPIAN FAST**. It is



called the Philipian Fast (**Filipovka** in Church Slavonic) since it begins the day after the Apostle Philip's Feast. It is comparable to the Western Rite's Advent Season. The Byzantine Catholic Church does not use the Latin Language to describe this penitential season, since it's traditional language is based on the Greek. This minor penitential period directs us to prepare ourselves for the spiritual meaning of Christmas. May we allow Him to be reborn in our souls by sanctifying the temple of our Body. Through prayer, abstinence, almsgivings of mercy, frequent confession of sins, and additional attendances at the Divine Liturgies we can accomplish

this end. Together as a parish, let us collectively join to practice simple abstinence (no meat) or an equivalent penance on Wednesdays (recommended) and Fridays (required) for the intention for the return of our beloved back to the fullness of the Faith.

GRATITUDE TO THOSE WHO CAME TO PRAY LAST SUNDAY AFTERNOON — The 35th Annual Archeparchial Moleben for the Beatification & Canonization of our four saintly European

Bishops was celebrated last Sunday afternoon. We were privileged to have our Archbishop Skurla to lead us in this intercessory prayer along with Bishop Burnette of the Passaic Eparchy. The Archeparchial Choir sang the responses and the Knights of Columbus escorted the special icons in procession. We were also proud to have our ECF Religious Education teachers and students involved throughout the ceremony. A special thank you to Elaine Kurtanich for organizing the social following the Moleben along with those that assisted her. Many thanks goes out to all who brought different variety of cookies for the coffee social that followed. Through the prayers of Bishops Romza, Gojdich, Hopko & Chira may they always intercede for all who call upon their assistance!



GCU NORTHWEST PITTSBURGH LODGE MEETING TODAY — The fourth quarter meeting will



be a VIRTUAL gathering for today's, **Sunday, November 14, 2021 @ 2:00 p.m.** meeting. All members are expected to participate by dialing 1 (605) 472-5352. Then type in the Access Code: 451303#. You may direct your questions and/or concerns to Steve Puluka @ (412) 897-4650.

MALE ALTAR SERVERS & ST. AQUILINA MINISTERS NEEDED — For both Parishes, this

announcement is extended to all male members, including elderly males wishing to join the *Ministry of Altar Server*. Also, all young girls and women desiring to assist the Church in distributing Church Bulletins, and assisting in the Mirovanije are invited to join in the *St. Aquilina Ministry*. You are to approach and declare your intention. These are important and fulfilling ministry! If you are interested, please contact Fr. Firko or by calling the church office (412) 771-3324.

