

Parish Offerings – 25th Sunday after Pentecost – November 14, 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 (\$1,600) YP (\$9)	\$1,609.00
Holy Days (\$50) YP (\$2)	52.00
Archdiocesan Charities	110.00
Votive Candles	113.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,884.00

Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering	\$658.00
Holy Days (\$15) Thanksgiving (\$5)	20.00
Utilities (\$10) Archdiocesan Charities (\$10) Improvement (\$10)	30.00
Votive Candles	42.00
	<hr/>

Church Attendance Last Week \$750.00

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (26)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (61); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (21)

*Thank You God
for everything in my life.
The good & bad.
Some were
Blessings
& some were
Lessons!* 😊



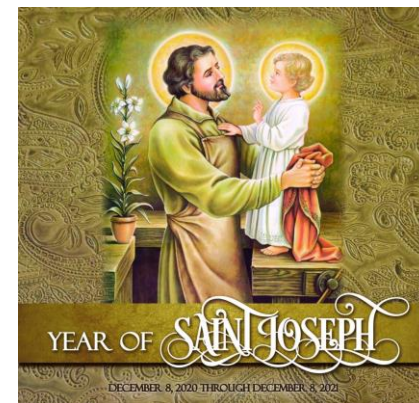
HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 26th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Entrance of Theotokos into Temple — November 21, 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.

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!

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

November is EAT HAM MONTH!

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

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).

Nov. 21, 2021

Seasonal Greeting:

Volume XI Number 47



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

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

Mon, Nov 22 (8) 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mary Farabaugh Dgr: Marianne
(3rd ann of passing 11/2)

Tue, Nov 23 (9) 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mark A. Cifrulak Br. Regis, O.F.M.

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 24 (10) 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Michael Gramata Eleanor Gramata & Son: George
(36th ann of passing 11/26)



Annual Thanksgiving Day

Thrs, Nov 25 (11) 9:00 a.m. (MR) Thanksgiving for all God's Blessings



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 26 (12) 8:00 a.m. (MR) + James M. Droter Marge & Tiny Lautenschlager
(59th ann of passing)

Sat, Nov 27 (13) 9:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

Anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Twenty-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + John Hustak (22nd ann. of passing) Maria, Sem Luke & Anita

27th Sunday after Pentecost

2nd Sunday of the Philippian Fast — Thanksgiving Weekend

SUN., Nov 28 (14) 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Alphonse A. Siglow Dgr: Kathe & Bill Kress
(11th ann. of passing 11/30)

11:00 a.m. (NS) + Martha Lucas (1st ann of pass 11/24) 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: Nov 21 – MARLENE PFEIFFER; Nov 22 – Michael A. Tomchak; Nov 23 – Harry Herron; Nov 25 – Matthew Grzywinski; Nov 27 – NANCY C. GOGAL, DIANE LASKO.

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 Cifrulak, Mildred Terrek.

ENCOMPASS HEALTH REHAB (351 Camp Meeting Rd., Sewickley, PA 15143): Tim Kacsur

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. It is my understanding that we should be cleansed of our sins before we receive the Eucharist.
A. Catholic Answers Apologist: Receiving Christ in the Eucharist forgives venial sins. The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains, "As bodily nourishment restores lost strength, so the Eucharist strengthens our charity, which tends to be weakened in daily life; and this living charity wipes away venial sins" (CCC 1394). However, the reception of the Eucharist does not forgive mortal sins, so a person who is conscious of mortal sin must go to confession before receiving communion. When a person conscious of mortal sin receives the Eucharist without prior forgiveness he commits another mortal sin and only compounds his desperate situation. Paul tells us, "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" (1 Cor. 11:27). The Church calls this a sacrilege which is profaning or treating unworthily the sacraments and other liturgical actions, as well as persons, things, or places consecrated to God (CCC 2120).

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

November 21 — November 27, 2021

(MR): In memory of Hubal Family

offered by Family

(NS): In memory of James M. Droter (59th ann of passing 11/26)

(MR) Now available for 2022 offered by Marge & Tiny Lautenschlager (NS) Now available for 2022

McKees Rocks Announcements

PIROHI PROJECT CONTINUES THIS WEEK — Here are the remaining Friday sale dates: Dec 3, 10 & 17. The sale price for Potato/Cheese, Sauerkraut, and Farmer's Cheese 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. No Sales the Friday following Thanksgiving Day.**



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: 2 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 next Sunday, Nov. 28. Total results will appear in a Dec. S.O.T.**



Annual Thanksgiving Day

Thanksgiving is a federal holiday in the United States, celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November. It originated as a harvest festival. Thanksgiving has been celebrated nationally on and off since 1789, with a proclamation by George Washington after a request by Congress. Thomas Jefferson chose not to observe the holiday, and its celebration was intermittent until the presidency of Abraham Lincoln, when Thanksgiving became a federal holiday in 1863, during the American Civil War. Lincoln proclaimed a national day of "Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens," to be celebrated on the last Thursday in November. Under President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the date was changed between 1939 and 1941 amid significant controversy. From 1942 onwards, Thanksgiving has been proclaimed by Congress as being on the fourth Thursday in November. Thanksgiving is regarded as being the beginning of the fall-winter holiday season, along with Christmas and the New Year, in American culture.



Meditation on today's Gospel

A godly life is more important than material things
A SUCCESSFUL Luke 12:16-21

In Luke 12:13-21, a listener in the crowd surrounding Jesus asks Him to instruct his brother to divide the inheritance due to him equitably. Jesus declines, saying that life should not be based on having many possessions. He uses this occasion to teach His disciples that a godly life is more important than material things. To explain this, He tells a parable about a rich man who builds larger and larger barns to store all his crops and goods. Since he had everything he could possibly want or need, the rich man's focus was on living an easy life.

God's response is that the man was foolish because, when he died later that night, his goods would do nothing for him. Someone else would inherit and enjoy them. A person whose life is caught up in what he owns is not rich toward God. The Parable of the Rich Fool illustrates Jesus' teaching to guard against every kind of covetousness.



Pope Francis Speaks

Pope's General Audience at St. Peter Square on St. Joseph Nov. 17, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters, In this year of Saint Joseph, today we begin a new series of catechesis on the humble carpenter of Nazareth, the foster-father of the child Jesus and the patron of the Universal Church. In Hebrew, the name Joseph evokes God's power to bring about growth and new life. Joseph teaches us to trust in God's providence quietly at work in our world. His life is principally associated with two small towns, Bethlehem and Nazareth, reminding us that God's preferential love is for the poor and those on the margins of life. God chose Bethlehem, the city of David, as the place where his Son was to be born under the watchful care of Joseph, who was himself of the house of David. By his life and example, Saint Joseph reminds us that, in our own day, the Church is called to proclaim the good news of Christ's coming, beginning with the existential peripheries of our world. The poor and forgotten in our midst can look to him as a sure guide and protector in their lives. Let us ask Saint Joseph to intercede for the Church, that we may always set forth anew from Bethlehem, in order to see and appreciate what is essential in God's eyes.



Calendar of Upcoming Events

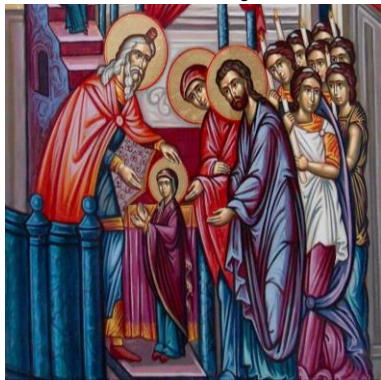
- November 25 Annual Thanksgiving Day — (MR) Divine Liturgy @ 9:00 a.m.
- November 28 Decorating the (MR) Church for Christmas following the Divine Liturgy.
..... Decorating the (NS) Church for Christmas following the Divine Liturgy.
- December 5 Parish & Archeparchial St. Nicholas Celebration.
- December 6 Solemn Feast of St. Nicholas the Wonder-Worker — (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 p.m.
- December 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception — (MR) 9:00 am & (NS) 6:00 pm.
- December 19 Holy Mystery of Reconciliation (Confessions) for ECF Students following the DL.
..... Special Holy Mystery of Reconciliation time for all — (MR) 3:00 pm.
- December 22 (NS) Holy Mystery of Reconciliation (Confessions) @ 6:00 p.m.
- December 24 (MR) 8:00 a.m. Royal Hours); (MR) 1:00 p.m. Vespers w/DL of St. Basil the Great.

- 8:00 p.m. (MR) Great Compline followed by Christmas Carols; 9:00 p.m. Christmas Divine Liturgy.**
- December 25 . 9:00 a.m. (MR) Christmas Divine Liturgy; 11:00 a.m. (NS) Christmas Divine Liturgy.**
- **** NO 4:00 PM ANTICIPATED SUNDAY DIVINE LITURGY ON SATURDAY, CHRISTMAS DAY ******

- December 26 2nd Day of Christmas: Synaxis of the Theotokos — (MR) 9:00 a.m.. (NS) 11:00 a.m.
- December 27 3rd Day of Christmas – Feast of St. Stephen . (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 p.m.
- January 1 New Year's Day: Feast of Circumcision & St. Basil - (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 11:00 am.

Solemn Holy Day of the Week — Nov. 21 Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

The origin of the feast is found in an account in the apocryphal Protoevangelium of Saint James. According to this document, after Saint Anne's miraculous birth-giving, the

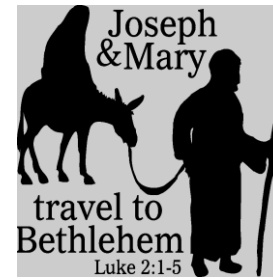


Most Holy Virgin having completed her second year, Joachim said to his wife: "Let us lead her to the Lord's Temple, as we promised Him." Ann said: "Let us yet wait until her third year, so that the child will not clamor for her father or mother, thus she will not walk straight before the Lord." When the child was three years old, Joachim said: "Let us call from among the daughters of the Hebrews those who are undefiled, and let them each take a lamp and let these lamps be lit, that the child not turn to look backward and her heart be not held captive outside the Lord's Temple."

They did thusly. Zachary the priest received her and said to her: "May the Lord crown your name with glory!", and he set her down on the altar step. There, Mary was nourished by an angel until she was twelve years old. When the time came for her to marry, Joseph received her from the priests' hands, and took her from the Lord's Temple. Whatever the foundations of this gracious legend may be, the Church invites us above all to meditate on the mystery of the internal preparation of Mary for her vocation as Theotokos. This preparation is a total self-commitment, in the "immaculate victim," "as a most holy vessel" which must receive the body of the Word incarnate, "a living temple and throne of the King, elected to be his Mother," "the spiritual ark enclosing the incomprehensible Word." The miracle of her subsistence by the hand of the Archangel is the symbol of her spiritual life entirely nourished by the will of God. **Offer the Rosary as a spiritual bouquet to her!**

General Announcements

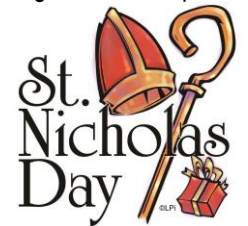
CONTINUING OUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM — We continue our journey through the **PHILIPPIAN FAST**. It is called the Philippian Fast (**Filipovka** in



Church Slavonic) since it begins the day after the Apostle Philip's Feast, and marks our 40-day journey with Mary and Joseph to Our Lord's Holy Nativity in the flesh on Christmas Day. 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 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.

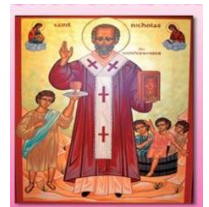
Come O Jesus Our Savior, Redeem and Save Us!

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.



St. Nicholas Day

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 today, 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

