

Parish Offerings – 26th Sunday after Pentecost – November 21, 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	\$1,706.00
Holy Days (\$307) YP (\$2) Thanksgiving (\$70)	379.00
Archdiocesan Charities (\$20) Christmas (\$10) Décor (\$10)	40.00
Votive Candles	110.00
	\$2,235.00

Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering	\$821.00
Holy Days (\$55) Thanksgiving (\$75) Christmas (\$50)	180.00
Utilities (\$10) Special Donation (\$20) Improvement (\$10)	40.00
Votive Candles (\$60.26) Archdiocesan Charities (\$10)	70.26

Church Attendance Last Week \$1,111.26

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (21)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (61); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (30)

Thanksgiving Day — (MR) 9:00 a.m. (20)



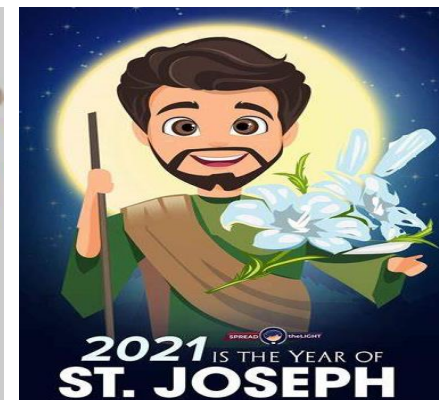
HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 27th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Thanksgiving Weekend — November 28, 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
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 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. 28, 2021

Seasonal Greeting:

Volume XI Number 48



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

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

Mon, Nov 29 (15) 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Fr. Ronald P. Larko Bunny Zavidny

The Holy & Glorious Apostle Andrew, the First-Called

Tue, Nov 30 (16) 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Andrew Wahal Patricia & John Pajak

The Old Testament Prophet Nahum

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, Dec 1 (17) 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Margaret "Peg" Krulac Helen & + Lester Best
(birthday)

The Old Testament Prophet Habakkuk

Thrs, Dec 2 (18) 8:00 a.m. (MR) Health & Welfare (Birthday) Kurt Perschy

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

for the Dual intention for the (1) return of our beloved to the fullness of the Faith; and on this First Friday of the month (2) in reparation of the offenses against the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Fri, Dec 3 (19) 8:00 a.m. (MR) Health & Welfare Robert Orris

First Saturday of the month in reparation of the blasphemies against the Most Holy Theotokos

Sat, Dec 4 (20) 9:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

Anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Twenty-Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Margaret + Steve Kosko Son: Steve & Dolores

28th Sunday after Pentecost

3rd Sunday of the Philippian Fast

SUN., Dec 5 (21) 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Cifrulak + Kulka Families Kathy & John Kulka

11:00 a.m. (NS) Health & Welfare Anna Demianczyk

of Katherine Schadel

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 29 – Leonora Haffly; Nov 30 – Irene Borrdas, Paul Rubish, Jr.; Dec 2 – Kurt Perschy; Dec 4 – William Bell.

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

HOME: Margaret Belunas, Irene Bordas, Florence Charochak, DEACON MICHAEL MEADERS, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Beverly Harsh, Dolores Kosko, Steve Kosko, 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. Is the penitent bound by the seal of confession? **A. Catholic Answers Apologist:** No, a penitent is not bound by the seal of confession. One should be prudent when discussing one's sins, but it's possible another person might benefit from the advice a penitent received in confession. A priest who celebrates the sacrament or anyone who deliberately or inadvertently hears a confession is bound to uphold the seal. In addition, while a priest may not break the seal, if a penitent brings up the same subject outside of confession, then the priest could prudently talk about that conversation. But the seal remains even after a penitent's death.



This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

November 28 — December 4, 2021



(MR): In memory of Bilak, Charochak & Tomchak Families
offered by Families

(NS): In memory of Helen (Seman) Lucy (2nd ann of passing 11/21)
(MR) Now available for 2022 offered by Anonymous (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.**



NEWLY RENOVATED CHURCH & GYM RESTROOMS OFFICALLY IN USE — The renovation project of these restrooms are nearly completed, but now can be used. Two electric gym heater units are still on order, along with soap dispenser refills at the sinks. Soap is available for washing of hands. One added important feature is that there will be hot water. Please treat these rooms as though they were yours at home.

North Side Announcements



EXTRA ASSISTANCE FOR NS BAKELESS BAKE SALE: LAST DAY — Today, is the final day for our Bakeless Bake Sale. We have been given the opportunity to double our donations through the GCU Expansion project. Since we have no other capital fund raising project due to our limited resources, we hope for another year of gaining matching funds. *Total results will appear in a Dec. S.O.T.*

GRATITUDE TO A GENEROUS DONATION FOR ROOF-FUND — A few weeks ago a generous donor contributed a check for \$10,000.00 toward the Church roof project. In the meantime, the amount has been deposited in our Archdiocesan Parish Savings and Share Savings Account, where the interest will be gaining the best interest and will be free from cathedral tax to the Chancery. God bless this special donor, and may God reward them with choicest remembrances.

BOTH HGCs TO PARTICIPATE IN DECEMBER FOOD DRIVE — In our love for the less fortunate, both parishes continue to gather non-perishable food items to be delivered to the Inter Faith Churches Food Bank, McKees Rocks in time for Christmas. Thanks to all who contributed towards the November Drive. Nonperishables were delivered to the area food pantry in time for Thanksgiving. 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



(continuation) These exercises should be performed on the first Saturday of five consecutive months with the intention of making reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. February 15, 1926, the Child Jesus to Sr. Lucia concerning the devotion of the consecutive Five First Saturdays: *"It is true my daughter, that many souls begin the First Saturdays, but few finish them, and those who do complete them do so in order to receive the graces that are promised thereby. It would please me more if they did Five with fervor and with the intention of making reparation to the Heart of your heavenly Mother, than if they did Fifteen in a tepid and indifferent manner..."* **The Five blasphemies against the Immaculate Heart:** Our



Lord revealed to Sr. Lucia that there are five ways in which people offend and blaspheme against the Immaculate Heart of Mary: (A) Against the Immaculate Conception; (B) Against her virginity; (C) Against the Divine Maternity, while refusing to receive her as the Mother of mankind (D) By those who try to publicly implant in the hearts of children indifference, disrespect, and even hate against the Immaculate Mother; and (E) By those who insult her directly in her sacred images.

Meditation on Today's Gospel

Sanctify the Lord's Day by good works not Selfish Acts

Luke 13:10-17

There are a number of important points to keep in mind about the sanctification of the Lord's Day. God's commandment prescribes the sanctification of the whole day. We



need to keep this in mind in our times when so many people feel that all we have to do is go to church for one hour on Sunday and rest of the day belongs to us. **WRONG!** ... The whole day is the Lord's Day. It belongs to Him! How do we keep it holy? It is a day of rest when people should put away their tools of labor. But it doesn't mean that people should be lazy or slothful because that too is a sin. Besides going to church it can be a time for visiting, or going to see the sick. To heal their bent spirits by lifting them up by our visitation. It should be a day for doing good. "Remember

that thou shall keep holy the Lord's Day." There are many things involved in this commandment. But there is a starting place, and the woman of the Gospel lesson today provides it. She was ill, she was crippled, but she was worshipping in church on the Lord's Day. We, too, can make such a start each Sunday in keeping the Lord's Day holy. Jesus said, "Wherever two or three are gathered in My Name, there am I amongst them." His special presence and power is felt when His family meets together that they might with one heart and one tongue raise a common plea to Him. When a hundred voices cry out: "Lord, have mercy," a situation is created which opens the gates of grace to flow.

First Five Saturdays Devotion Revealed by the Mother of God

During the July 13, 1917 apparition at Fatima, Our Lady said so kindly and so sadly: "You



have seen hell where the souls of poor sinners go. To save them, God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart..." **The Great Promise:** Eight years after the Fatima apparitions, on December 10, 1925, Our Lady appeared again to Lucia, who was then a postulant in the Dorothean convent at

Pontevedra, Spain. This time Our Lady appeared with the Child Jesus. She addressed Lucia as follows: "Look, my daughter, at my heart surrounded with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce me every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. You at least try to console me and say that I promise to assist at the hour of death, with the graces necessary for salvation, all those who, on the first Saturday of five consecutive months, shall confess, receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for 15 minutes while meditating on the 15 mysteries of the Rosary, with the intention of making reparation to me." **The Five First Saturdays of Reparation to Our Lady:** (1) Confession (8 days before or after) (2) Receive Holy Communion(can be at Saturday Vigil Divine Liturgy); (3) Recite five decades of the Rosary; (4) Keep Our Lady company for 15 minutes while meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary. **(Continuation near the end of the S.O.T)**

Calendar of Upcoming Events

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 pm
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 pm.
December 24	(MR) 8:00 am Royal Hours; (MR) 1:00 pm 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	2 nd Day of Christmas: Synaxis of the Theotokos — (MR) 9:00 a.m.. (NS) 11:00 am.
December 27	3 rd Day of Christmas – Feast of St. Stephen . (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 pm.
December 31	New Year's Day Anticipated: Feast of Circumcision & St. Basil - (NS) 6:00 pm.
January 1	New Year's Day: Feast of Circumcision & St. Basil - (MR) 9:00 am.

Saints of the Week — Nov. 29 The Martyrs Paramon & Philemon

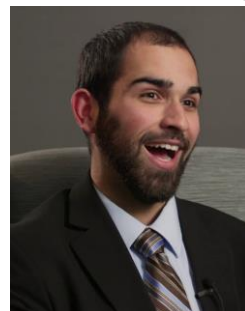
The **Holy Martyr Paramon** and the 370 Martyrs with him suffered for their faith in Christ in the year 250 during the rule of the emperor Decius (249-251). The governor of the Eastern regions, Aquianus, had locked up 370 Christians in prison, urging them to abjure Christ and instead offer sacrifice to idols. They subjected the captives to beatings, hoping by torture and the threat of death to persuade them to renounce Christ and worship the pagan gods. One of the local inhabitants, Paramon by name, openly denounced the cruel governor and **confessed his faith in the One True God, the Lord Jesus Christ.** They beheaded St Paramon after fierce tortures, together with the other 370 martyrs. The **Holy Martyr Philemon** suffered for Christ in the year 274, during the persecution against Christians by the emperor Aurelian (270-275). St Philemon was a bread merchant in Ancyra. Envious persons reported to the governor Felix that Philemon was a Christian, and so he came before a judge. **St Philemon did not renounce Christ.** For this they hammered nails into his hands, feet and head, and they forced him to walk. The holy martyr bravely endured the torments and he died from loss of blood, giving up his soul to God.



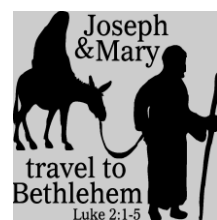
General Announcements

(MR) HOLY GHOST SEMINARIAN TO BE ORDAINED TO THE FIRST MINOR ORDER

— The Spirit Of Truth (S.O.T.) received a joyful announcement that **LUKE IYENGAR** will receive the minor order of Reader on Saturday, December 11, 2021 at St. John the Baptist Cathedral, Munhall at 10:00 a.m. Archbishop Skurla will be the ordaining prelate. Also, at this same Liturgical Service, Deacon Michael Kunitz (who is residing temporarily at the North Side Rectory with his wife, Jeannie) will be ordained to the Holy Priesthood. The **Minor Order of Reader** in the Ruthenian-Byzantine Catholic tradition is the first step to the Holy Priesthood. Immediately before ordination as a reader, the candidate is tonsured (an external act by the hierarch who cuts a piece of hair from the candidate head) as a sign of the candidate's submission and obedience upon entry into the clerical state. This is a separate act, making a layperson into a clergyman, and occurs immediately prior to his ordination as a Reader. After being tonsured, the reader is vested in a short phelonion (garment), which he wears while reading the Epistle for the first time. This short phelon is then removed (and never worn thereafter) and replaced with a sticharion, which the reader generally wears thereafter whenever he performs his liturgical duty of reading the Holy Scriptures mostly at Liturgical Celebrations. Although, now a cleric, the READER is given no other clerical title, and is referred to by his first name as prior to his reception to this minor order. May God grant to Seminarian Luke, health and happiness for many blessed years! Na Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita!



CONTINUING OUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM — We continue our

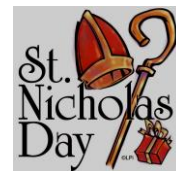


journey through the **PHILIPPIAN FAST**. May we allow Him to be reborn in our souls by sanctifying the temple of our Body. Through prayer, abstinence, almsgivings of mercy, frequent confession of sins, and additional attendances at the Divine Liturgies we can accomplish this end. Together as a parish, 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 — Next

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. The youth group will have a brief presentation and photos with St. Nicholas will be available. 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. — Contact: Steve Puluka, E.C.F. Coordinator (412) 897-4650.



Parents: Have the children place their shoes outside their room prior to going to sleep on St. Nicholas Eve, December 5.