

Parish Offerings – 35TH Sunday after Pentecost – January 23, 2022

“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 (\$1,565) YP (\$7)	\$1,572.00
Holy Days	15.00
Initial (\$42) B.C.W. (\$84)	126.00
Votive Candles	133.30
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	\$1,846.30

Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering	\$693.00
Holy Days	20.00
Initial (\$50) Utilities (\$30) Improvements (\$10) B.C.W. (\$42)	132.00
Votive Candles	60.00

Church Attendance Last Week \$905.00

Sat (MR), 4:00 pm (31);

Sun., (MR) 9:00 am (55); (NS) 11:00 am (22)



Valerian F. Szal
 238 Helen St.,
 McKees Rocks, PA 15136
 Phone: (412) 331-9713
 Fax: (412) 331-6688
Michael P. Ferrell,
 Supervisor, CFSP
Our Family Still Serving Yours Since 1953



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 Greek Catholic Union of the USA
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 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 GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
 1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
 PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE SUNDAY OF ZACCHAEUS

**The 1st Pregreat Fast Sunday — Feast of 3 Holy Hierarchs
 January 30, 2022**



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).

January 30, 2022

Seasonal Christian Greeting: Volume XII, Number 5



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



Sunday of Zacchaeus

The 1st Pregreat Fast Sunday — Feast of 3 Holy Hierarchs

SUN, Jan 30 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Christina Michalisk Kulka & Wickline Families
(40th day of passing 1/31)

11:00 a.m. (NS) Health & Welfare. Anna Marie Demianczyk
of Kirk Lata (Birthday 1/21)

Mon, Jan 31 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Gary S. Hubal Family

Prefestive of the Encounter Feast

Tue, Feb 1 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Myron Kundrat Theresa Kundrat
(11th ann of passing)



Solemn Blessing of Candles prior to Divine Liturgy — Mirovanije

Wed, Feb. 2 *8:50 a.m. (MR) Special Intentions

*5:50 p.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

Thrs., Feb 3 8:00 a.m. (MR) + John J. Koza III Fr. Firko
(1st ann of passing)

First Friday of the Month — Reparation for the sins against the Sacred Heart of Jesus
REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice)

Fri, Feb 4 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Susan Gramata Cusatis Eleanor Gramata & Son: George
(6st ann of passing 2/5)



First Saturday of the month in reparation of the blasphemies
against the Most Holy Theotokos & Ever-Virgin Mary

Sat, Feb 5 9:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy for 2nd Pregreat Fast Sunday — Publican & Pharisee

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Francis E. Eberle (birthday 2/12) M/M Burt Cifrulak

Sunday of Publican & Pharisee

The 2nd Pregreat Fast Sunday

SUN, Feb 6 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Mosko Family Julia A. Mosko & George F. Mosko

11:00 a.m. (NS) + Esther M. Kallop. Valeriano & Kallop Families
(8th ann of passing 2/19)

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: Jan 31 – Burt Cifrulak, GARY MULLEN, DAMIAN TRAPL, Feb 1 – Karen Grzywinski; Feb 2 – Peggi Lucas, Rosemarie Nazak, William Zavidny; Feb 4 – Kerri Poloka.

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

HOME: Margaret Belionas, Irene Bordas, Florence Charochak, DEACON MICHAEL MEADERS, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Beverly Harsh, Tim Kacsur, Dolores Kosko, Steve Kosko, KIRK LATTA, BETTY LORINC, Joseph Mitro, Irene Muha, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Dan Pikras, Lisa Plutto, Betty Spisak, 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.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. I'm seriously thinking about becoming a Catholic. However, I keep wondering if my time at my Protestant church was false because it's not the Catholic Church. The other day I heard a priest on the radio say that the Holy Spirit does reside in Protestant churches but that the fullness of truth is in the Catholic Church. Can you help me better understand this? Answer by Catholic Apologist Peggy Frye: The priest is correct. Your time at your church wasn't false. The Holy Spirit was there. All Christian truths are found in the Catholic Church—no Christian truth is missing from the Catholic Church—but the Church acknowledges that many truths are found in other "ecclesial communions." God uses these separated churches as a means of salvation (Dominus Jesus). The destination of every convert's journey is "home." That's why when a non-Catholic becomes Catholic, you'll usually hear the cheer of "Welcome home!" In the Catholic Church, there's true Christian unity, one flock under one shepherd (John 10:16).

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

January 30 — February 5, 2022

(MR): In memory of the Hubal Family

offered by Hubal Family

(NS): In memory of Julia & Andrew Kittan

(MR) None available for 2022

offered by Family

(NS) None available for 2022



McKees Rocks Announcements

PARISH & FINANCIAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MOVED EARLIER — The members of the PAC/FAC are reminded of meeting change now slated for Saturday, February 5, 2022 @ 2:00 p.m. in the Church office. Major agenda is the 2021 Church Financial Report. Please place this date on your agenda.

North Side Announcements

SYMPATHY EXTENDED — The S.O.T. announces the passing of parishioner, **Olga (Sosnak) Manfredo, 92**, of Shaler Township on Sunday, January 16, 2022 at her home. She is survived by Sons, Gary and Dale. Funeral arrangement were in private at the family's discretion. A Funeral Divine Liturgy was offered on Thursday, January 27, in the Church @ 11:00 a.m. Interment took place at Mt. Royal Cemetery, Glenshaw. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, eternal rest, to your servant, Olga, and remember her forever. Vicnaja Jej Pamjat'!

PARISH & FINANCIAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING NEXT WEEK — The members of the PAC/FAC are reminded of meeting change now slated for Saturday, February 5, 2022 @ 12:00 noon in the Church office. Major agenda is the 2021 Church Financial Report. Please place this date on your agenda.



GRATITUDE TO OUR HANDIMEN — A special thank you is extended to Alan Valeriano, Leonard Kallop and all who assisted them in replacing burned out bulbs in the nave and sanctuary! We are especially grateful to the Kallop's for purchasing the bulbs. May God grant them many happy and blessed years in health and happiness! Na Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita!

THANK YOU FOR TRANSFORMING LIVES — The following letter from Light of Life Rescue Mission: *Dear North Side Holy Ghost Byzantine Catholic Church: This year we are celebrating our 70th year in existence. We are more committed than ever to helping our vulnerable and underserved neighbors. It is only through your support and the support of the Pittsburgh community that we are able to keep our lights on and serve our clients with dignity and respect. We are grateful of your monetary gift of \$175.00 which provides life-changing care to the poor and homeless of our area. I pray that the Lord blesses and protects you in this year. May you find peace and joy in this new year. Thank you for your prayers and donations .” — Rev. Jerrel T. Gilliam, Executive Director.*

SPECIAL FRIDAY & SPECIAL SATURDAY THIS WEEK — This week is the First



Friday and First Saturday of the month. The Church has for many years asked us to make reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on First Friday. We do so by worthily approaching and receiving Holy Communion for nine consecutive months; First Saturdays are reserved for making reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on five consecutive Saturdays of each month; we must also make a good Confession, receive Holy Communion, meditate on the 15 Mysteries for 15 minutes and to receive Holy Communion. Let us fulfill these requirements and console Jesus and Mary, the Theotokos.

Today's Gospel Meditation

The 1st of Five Sundays Prior to the Great Fast

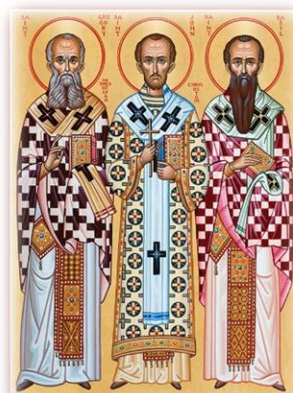
The DESIRE to Follow Jesus (Luke 19: 1-10)

Today commences the first of five Sundays in preparation to the Lenten Season which is still one month away. The theme of "Repentance" is set before us and continues for two forthcoming Sundays. Today lesson is the first Pregreat Fast **Sunday of Zacchaeus**. His name means PURE or JUSTIFIED. HE was the wealthy man of Jerusalem who gathered revenue for the Roman government, but who became a disciple of Christ (Luke 19:1-10). A "chief publican," Zacchaeus might have been of a higher grade than Matthew. Although not one of Christ's expected converts, Zacchaeus had heard much about Christ and **DESIRED** to see Him for himself. When ultimately Christ came his way there were two obstacles in his way—the crowd, and his own short stature. But he quickly overcame both hindrances. Our Lord called Zacchaeus down and invited Himself to his house. Zacchaeus was a sinner and Christ saved him. Quickly Zacchaeus revealed the depth of his **DESIRE** and surrendered to his newly found Master. There came an immediate and generous restitution. His **DESIRE** for Jesus teaches us that through Repentance we take our first serious step to surrender ourselves to Him and follow it by good deeds.



FEAST OF THE 3 HOLY HIERARCHS TODAY

In the month of January, each of these saints has their own feast day. **St. Basil the Great, January 1; St. Gregory the Theologian, January 25;** and the transposition of the relics of **St.**



John Chrysostom, January 27. This combined feast day, January 30, was instituted in the eleventh century during the reign of Emperor Alexius Comnenus. At one time a debate arose among the people concerning who of the three is the greatest? Some extolled Basil because of his purity and courage; others extolled Gregory for his unequaled depth and lofty mind in theology; still others extolled Chrysostom because of his eloquence and clarity in expounding the Faith. Thus, some were called Basilians, others Gregorgians, and the third were called Johannites. This debate was settled by Divine Providence to the benefit of the Church and to an even greater glory of the three saints. Bishop John of Euchite (June 14) had a vision in a dream: At first, all three of these saints appeared to him separately in great glory and indescribable beauty, and

after that all three appeared together. They said to him, "As you see, we are one in God and there is nothing contradictory in us; neither is there a first or a second among us." The saints also advised Bishop John that he write a common service for them and to order a common feast day of celebration. Following this wonderful vision, the debate was settled in this manner: **January 30** would be designated as the common feast of these three hierarchs. The Greeks consider this feast not only an ecclesiastical feast but their greatest national school holiday.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

February 2 Traditional Solemn Blessing of Candles prior to each Divine Liturgy (MR) 8:50 a.m.; (NS) 5:50 p.m.
February 5 (MR) PAC/FAC Meeting Saturday @ 2:00 p.m..
February 6 (NS) PAC/FAC Meeting following the DL.
February 18-19 First Universal All Souls Saturday: (NS) 6:00 p.m. & (MR) 9:00 a.m.
February 28 **PURE MONDAY: The Beginning of the Holy 40 Days Fast — NO MEAT AND DAIRY PRODUCTS.**
(MR) 1st & 3rd Greatfast Hours @ 9:00 a.m. (NS) Great Penitential Canon of St. Andrew with Great Metanies @ 6:00 p.m.

SOLEMN HOLY DAY THIS WEEK

The Encounter of the Lord – February 2

The fortieth day after His Nativity, the All-Holy Virgin brought her Divine Son into the Temple of Jerusalem, in accordance with the Law, to dedicate Him to God and to purify herself. "Consecrate to me every first-born that opens the womb among the Israelites both of man and beast, for it belongs to me" (Exodus 13:2 & Leviticus 12:2-7). Even though neither the one nor the other was necessary, nevertheless the Lawgiver did not, in anyway, want to transgress His own Law whom He had given through Moses, His servant and prophet. At that time, the high-priest Zachariah, the father of John the Forerunner, was on duty in the Temple ["serving as a priest before God in the order of his division" St. Luke 1:8]. Zachariah placed the Virgin, not in the temple area reserved for women but rather in the area reserved for virgins. On this occasion, two unusual persons appeared in the Temple: the



Righteous Simeon and the Prophetess Anna, the daughter of Phanuel. The righteous Simeon took the Messiah in his arms and said: "Now, Master, You may let Your servant go in peace, according to Your word, for my eyes have seen Your salvation" (St. Luke 2: 29-30). Simeon also spoke the following words about the Christ-child: "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel" (St. Luke 2:34). Then Anna, who from her youth served God in the Temple by fasting and prayer recognized the Messiah and glorified God and proclaimed to the inhabitants of Jerusalem about the coming of the long-awaited One. The Pharisees present in the Temple, who having seen and heard all, became angry with Zachariah because he placed the Virgin Mary in the area reserved for virgins and reported this to King Herod. Convinced that this is the new king about whom the Magi from the east spoke, Herod immediately sent his soldiers to kill Jesus. In the meantime, the Holy Family had already left the city and set out for Egypt under the guidance of an angel of God. The Feast of the Encounter of our Lord in the Temple was celebrated from earliest times but the solemn celebration of this day was established in the year 544 A.D. during the reign of Emperor Justinian.

General Announcements

SOLEMNLY BLESSED CANDLES AVAILABLE — It is an ancient tradition of our



Byzantine Catholic Church to have candles sanctified on February 2, the *Feast of the Encounter of the Lord with Simeon*. Candles symbolize "Christ the True Light that has come into the world." Candles will be available for purchase following the Divine Liturgy. Every home should have a blessed candle to be used throughout the year such as on anniversaries of Baptism, Chrismation, First Eucharist, Wedding Anniversaries, passing of a loved one, storms, etc. Be sure that your home has a blessed candle.

INDIVIDUAL FINANCE REPORTS STILL AVAILABLE— If MR Members would like a record of their 2021 individual financial report, please contact the office between 9:30 am to 1:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. If no answer, please leave a request on the voice-mail. Since there are few NS Members, Individual Financial reports are available in the narthex. Please discontinue using your 2021 envelopes. Your number may have changed!



HOUSE BLESSINGS CONTINUE — Our pastor continues with house blessings. If you would like to be a part in continuing this ancient tradition of the Annual House Blessing, please contact the Church office A.S.A.P. All Homes should always be blessed each year with this renewal blessing.

FIRST ALL SOULS FORTHCOMING — The first of five All Souls commemoration will take place on **Feb. 18-19**. You are encouraged to remember your loved ones by submitting their first names on the envelope provided in your contribution box. If you have participated last year, you need only to write new names. The Church has the previous names. It is so important that we remember and commemorate our loved ones who have gone into eternity!



THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC WORLD SUBSCRIPTION NOW DUE — Our *Archieparchial B.C.W. Newspaper* is an excellent source for providing news of our Church. Please renew



your annual subscription of \$14.00 in the church envelope. If you are a new subscriber, please indicate by writing NEW on the envelope. Also, several of our parishioners who are on Medicaid living in special needs facilities and/or cannot afford a subscription. *If you would like to*

subsidize a year's subscription for them, please consider donating the annual cost of \$14.00. To receive this gift subscription, they remain connected to their Church that cares for them throughout the year! Remaining funds will be used as postage to subsidize weekly Church bulletin postage for them! It would be greatly appreciated!

Pray for World Peace, especially in Ukraine!