

Parish Offerings – 5th Sunday after Pentecost — July 10, 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 (\$1,848) YP (\$4)	\$1,852.00
Holy Days	60.00
Peter’s Pence (\$20) Radio Ministry (\$50)	70.00
Votive Candles	104.00
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		\$2,086.00

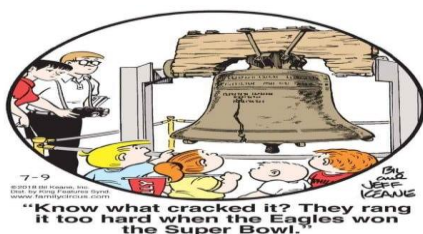
Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$699.00
Holy Days	30.00
Utilities (\$35) Improvements (\$15)	50.00
Votive Candles	57.50
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		\$836.50

Church Attendance Last Week

Sat., 4:00 p.m. (25)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (64); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (27)



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
Our Family Still Serving Yours Since 1953

Free will doesn't mean doing whatever you want. It means having the freedom to do what is right.

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Handyman Services
North Side Parishioner
Alan Valeriano
(412) 638-3417
PA #172378

Sponsors make it possible to bring you this weekly & informative S.O.T. without incurring an added expense to the Church. New Sponsors please contact Church 9 til 1.
Come Join Us

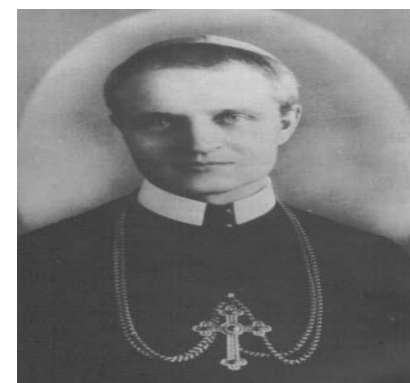
HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 6th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Fathers of the First 6 Councils — July 17, 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 Mysteries 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 Northwest Pittsburgh Lodge(MR) Contact Tina Burns (412) 859-9597 for membership.

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).

July 17, 2022

Seasonal Greeting

Volume XII, Number 29



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

6th Sunday after Pentecost

Fathers of the first Six Ecumenical Councils

Feast of the Bishop-Martyr Paul P. Gojdich, O.S.B.M.

SUN., Jul 17 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Joyce Buchko Sister: Peggy McCusker
(9th ann. of passing 7/18)

11:00 a.m. (NS) + Michael Sotak, Jr. (birthday 7/19) Wife: Jane

Mon, Jul 18 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Helen P. Petak Dgtr: Marilyn Furman & Family
(9th ann. of passing 7/22)

Tue, Jul 19 8:00 a.m. (MR) + John Oslick John & MaryEllen Oslick
(27th ann. of passing)

Feast of the Holy Glorious Prophet Elijah the Tishbite
Blessing of Vehicles following Divine Liturgies — Simple Holy Day

Wed, Jul 20 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Pearl Revtai Revtai Family
(1st ann. of passing 7/22)

6:00 p.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

Thrs, Jul 21 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Elizabeth Sosak MaryEllen & John Oslick

Commemoration of St. Mary Magdalene, Myrrh-Bearer & Co-Equal to the Apostles
REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice)

Fri, Jul 22 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Darko S. Gataric Family

The Passing of the Blessed Bishop-Martyr Basil Hopko

Sat, Jul 23 9:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Julia Wovchko Anonymous

7th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN., Jul 24 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Jennie + George Timulak Dgtr: Bernadette & Jim Gunkel

11:00 a.m. (NS) + Lucy + John Holesh Dgtr: Nancy Spisak

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: Jul 15 – GEORGE HUNDANICK; Jul 21 – Nancy Lecci, ROBERT SPONTAK, Andrea Usouski, Loraine (Bunny) Zavidny; Jul 23 – ALAN VALERIANO.

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

HOME: Margaret Beliuinas, Florence Charochak, DEACON MICHAEL MEADERS, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Beverly Harsh, Dolores Kosko, Steve Kosko, ARLENE LATTA, KIRK LATTA, BETTY LORINC, Irene Muha, Kurt Perschy, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Dan Pikras, Lisa Plutto, Betty Spisak, Anita Wolsko, Nancy (Shanta) Wauthier.

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.
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, Dorothy Ann Karl, Mildred Terrek.
THE HAVEN AT NORTH HILLS (1 Windsor Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15237): DOLORES HUDANICK.
UPMC HERITAGE PLACE (5701 Phillips Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15217): Irene Bordas.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. Is it necessary to confess how many times one has sinned? A. Catholic Answers Apologist: To the best of your ability, you should confess how many times you committed each grave sin. The Code of Canon Law is clear on this point: A member of the Christian faithful is obliged to confess in kind and number all grave sins committed after baptism and not yet remitted directly through the keys of the Church nor acknowledged in individual confession, of which the person has knowledge after diligent examination of conscience. If you don't know an exact number, you can give a best estimate or provide an approximation (e.g., "several times"). If you forget to do this or later remember additional occurrences of grave sins, your sins are still forgiven, but you should remember to acknowledge those sins at your next confession.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

July 17 — July 23, 2022

(MR): In memory of Lillian & Joseph Buchko

offered by Dgtr: Peggy & Chuck McCusker

(NS): In memory of Michael Sotak, Jr. (birthday 7/19)

All reserved for 2022

offered by Wife: Jane

(NS) All reserved for 2022



General Announcements

McKees Rocks

CHURCH ROOF REPAIR — Two weeks ago the McChesney Lueck Roofing, LLC was contracted to clean out gutters on the church and lower roofs. They replaced 4 church shingles; sealed seam in box gutter, main church; and re-secured metal counter flashing on the main church. This was classified a commercial project. The total cost was \$1,108.00.

CHURCH VOLUNTEERS CONTINUE TO CLEAN CHURCH LIBRARY THIS WEEK — A heart-felt thank you is extended again to all our volunteers who arrived to clean the library area this past Wednesday. Three quarters of the work has been completed! There still remains the additional quarter. It has been decided that the church basement will be painted once the cleaning has been accomplished, and floor flashing be restores with new material. It had been damaged when the basement was previously flooded. Once again, we will gather on **Wednesday, July 27, 2022 @ 9:00 a.m. Please join us with this ongoing project.**

North Side

SYMPATHY EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the passing of **Norman Arendas, 83**, of North Huntingdon, PA on Saturday, June 25, 2022 at Forbes Hospital in Monroeville. He was a lifelong member of Holy Trinity Byzantine Catholic Church in Wall, PA. Besides his immediate family, he is survived by a niece, parishioner, Leslie (Paul) Bodnarchuk, and daughters Larisa and Alexandra. Alfieri Funeral Home in Wilmerding handled the arrangements. A Funeral Divine Liturgy was offered Thursday, June 30 in Holy Trinity in Wall. Internment was at New St. Joseph Cemetery in North Versailles. Our Parish extends its most sincere condolences and prayerful support to the Arendas-Bodnarchuk



Families. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, to your servant, Norman and remember him forever! *Vicnaja Jemu Pamjat!*

CHURCH ROOF REPAIR — Two weeks ago the McChesney Lueck Roofing, LLC was contracted to clean out gutters on the church and lower roofs, along with our MR Parish. This project could not commence until our bee problem had been taken care of. They reattached a downspout on the rear of the church; secured the front wall metal and sealed it with caulking; cleaned out gutters of debris; sealed the flashing on a section on both sides of the lower roof. Also, they accessed that our roof is in fair condition and does not have to be replaced at this time (Chval'u Bohu – this is translated "Praise God.") This was classified a commercial project. The total cost was \$738.00.

ALTAR SERVER FAITH & FUN DAY — The 2022 Faith & Fun Day for Archdiocesan Altar Servers will be on **Thursday, August 18th**. The day will begin at Holy Ghost Byzantine Catholic Church, McKees Rocks, PA and end after the Pirates game verses the Boston Red Sox.. The schedule for the day is:



11:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy at Holy Ghost Church.
12:30 p.m. Depart by bus to St. Anthony Chapel, Troy Hill for an organized tour. **1:45 p.m.** Depart for Dave & Busters (McKnight Road) for lunch and game play. **5:00 p.m.** Depart to PNC Park for the Pirate game. Following the game departure back to Holy Ghost Church for parental pick-up. Forms are now available in the side vestibule. Fill them out and give to Fr.

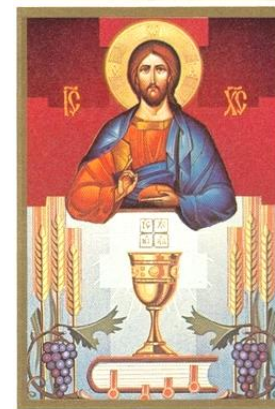
Fr. Firko. All forms are due by next **SUNDAY, JULY 24, 2022**. The parish will pay the requested fee of \$60.00 per server as a complimentary gift.

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The Fathers of the First 6 Ecumenical Councils — (John 17: 1-13)

Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils *Catholic Encyclopedia -- HISTORICAL SKETCH OF ECUMENICAL COUNCILS* --- The present article deals chiefly with the theological and canonical questions concerning councils which are Ecumenical in the

strict sense above defined. Special articles give the history of each important synod under the head of the city or see where it was held. In order, however, to supply the reader with a basis of fact for the discussion of principles of six of the twenty-one Ecumenical councils with a brief statement of the purpose of each.



First Ecumenical Council: Nicea I (325) – The Council of Nicea lasted two months and twelve days. Three hundred and eighteen bishops were present. Hosius, Bishop of Cordova, assisted as legate of Pope Sylvester I. The Emperor Constantine was also present. To this council we owe The Creed of Nicea, defining against Arius the true Divinity of the Son of God, and the fixing of the date for keeping Easter.

Second Ecumenical Council: Constantinople I (381) – The First General Council of Constantinople, under Pope Damascus and the Emperor Theodosius I, was attended by 150 bishops. It was directed against the followers of Macedonia's, who impugned the Divinity of the Holy Ghost. To the above-mentioned Nicene Creed it added the clauses referring to the Holy Ghost and all that follows to the end.

Third Ecumenical Council: Ephesus (431) — The Council of Ephesus, of more than 200 bishops, presided over by St. Cyril of Alexandria representing Pope Celestine I, defined the true personal unity of Christ, declared Mary the Mother of God (*Theotokos*) against Nestorius, Bishop of Constantinople, and renewed the condemnation of Pelagius.

Fourth Ecumenical Council: Chalcedon (451) — The Council of Chalcedon -- 150 bishops under Pope Leo the Great and the Emperor Marcian -- defined the two natures (Divine and human) in Christ against Eutyches, who was excommunicated.

Fifth Ecumenical Council: Constantinople II (553) — The Second General Council of Constantinople, of 165 bishops under Pope Vigilius and Emperor Justinian I, condemned the errors of Origen and certain writings (The Three Chapters) of Theodoret, of Theodore, Bishop of Mopsuestia and of Ibas, Bishop of Edessa; it further confirmed the first four general councils, especially that of Chalcedon whose authority was contested by some heretics.

Sixth Ecumenical Council: Constantinople III (680-681) — The Third General Council of Constantinople, under Pope Agatho and the Emperor Constantine Pogonatus, was attended by the Patriarchs of Constantinople and of Antioch, 174 bishops, and the emperor. It put an end to Monothelitism by defining two wills in Christ, the Divine and the human, as two distinct principles of operation. It anathematized Sergius, Pyrrhus, Paul, Macarius, and all their followers.

"The preaching of the Apostles and the teachings of the Fathers have confirmed the one faith of the Church, which she wears as a garment of truth, woven from the theology on high, as she faithfully imparts and glorifies the great mystery of devotion" (Kondakion of the Feast).

Calendar of Upcoming Events

July 20 Simple Holy Day: Feast of the Holy Prophet Elijah — Blessing of Vehicles. (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.
July 28 100th anniversary of GCU Byzantine Catholic Family Day, Kennywood Park
August 5 Anticipated Transfiguration DL w/ the blessing of fruits & grapes (NS) 6:00 p.m.
August 6 ... Transfiguration DL (Solemn HD) w/ the blessing of fruits and grapes (MR) @ 9:00 a.m.
August 14 **Holy Day of Obligation** — Feast of the Dormition — Blessing of Herbs & Flowers — (MR) 7:00 pm
August 15 Feast of the Dormition — Blessing of Herbs & Flowers — (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.
August 18 Archieparchial Altar Server & Pirate Game Outing (cf. General Announcements).
August 29 Beheading Feast of St. John Baptist (Simple HD) — (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.

Saint of the Week

The Holy Prophet Elijah the Tishbite — July 20 Simple Holy Day — Faithful are encouraged to attend the Divine Liturgy

Of all the Old Testament prophets it was St. Elijah (Greek: Elias) the Tishbite who, in a special way, captured the imagination of our Byzantine Slav people in Eastern Europe. The prophet, whose name means "strength of the Lord" was a man aflame with the fire of the love of God and was uncompromising in his faithfulness to the one true God. He was a powerful and courageous figure who had been given power over the elements: rain, wind, fire, etc. St. Elijah lived during the reign of Ahab, the seventh king of Israel (875-854 B.C.).

The king had married Jezebel, the pagan daughter of the king of Tiro. She brought with her hundreds of pagan prophets (ritual priests) to Samaria and introduced the worship of the Phoenician deity, Melkart, also known under the general name of Baal. Apart from the sacrifices they offered as part of their priestly function, they observed a special ritual dance accompanied by musical instruments. Every spring they had a ceremony of fire to mark the awakening of their god who had slept through the winter. They enkindled a great fire from which the god was supposed to renew his strength. During this time, the priest-prophets of Baal danced and whirled faster and faster in a frenzy, even to wounding themselves with swords and spears on their arms and legs. Under the influence of Queen Jezebel, the true prophets of Israel were persecuted and the Israelites became divided in their loyalty between Baal and Yahweh. They thought they could worship both, the God of their fathers and the pagan god, Baal, whom the Queen favored. Elijah's strong and determined opposition to this divided loyalty earned for him the hatred of the queen. St. Elijah's loyalty to God and uncompromising faithfulness is a model for those who are straddling between loyalty to God and to the world.



General Announcements

FEAST OF BLESSED PAUL P. GOJDICH, OSBM — Today, **July 17** marks his Martyrdom Feast. He excelled in knowing, loving and serving God. While in prison he excelled in holiness, and was reportedly gifted with bilocation, levitation and the stigmata of the Lord. He prayed for only two favors: (1) to pass peacefully to the Lord on his birthday, and (2) to have a priest near his side to anoint him with the Sacrament. Both requests were answered on July 17, 1960 just after 12 o'clock midnight. He was buried quickly in an uncommemorative grave with only a number to signify the placement of his mortal remains. He was beatified by the late Pope John Paul II on November 4, 2001. His relics were transferred to the Presov Cathedral where they remain for veneration to this day. He was posthumously awarded with the prestigious decree "Righteous Among the Nations" by the Hebrew Community due to his role

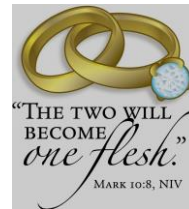


in saving thousands of Jewish people from extermination during World War II. Let us wholeheartedly resolve to pray daily for his immediate Canonization. The meaning of the O.S.B.M. is "The Order of St. Basil the Great. In Latin: **Ordo Sancti Basilii Magni**. Pray to God for a miracle through his intercession and advancement to Canonization.

HOLY DAY & BLESSING OF VEHICLES — This Wednesday, **July 20**, is the **Feast of the Holy Prophet, Elijah the Tishbite**. It is an annual custom of our Byzantine Catholic Church to bless vehicles on this day. This beautiful memorial arose from the fact that near the end of his life the Lord sent a fiery chariot from heaven to take Elijah away. This happened in the presence of his disciple Elisha to whom was given double the power of his mentor to carry on the ministry. Since our vehicles are "as fast as the wind" as indicated in the prayer blessing, we pray that God will protect us from harm, and at the same time praise and thank God for this gift to be able to glorify Him by assisting us in the service of God and neighbor. Please come for the blessing following each Divine Liturgy on **July 20 (MR) @ 9:00 a.m. and (NS) @ 6:00 p.m.**



CONTINUED REGISTRATION FOR A CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE — The Archeparchy wishes to honor those who are celebrating their 10, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70 etc. anniversary of marriage this year. This celebration continues to be extended on a new format. It will take place on **Sunday, September 11, 2022 @ 3:00 p.m. at St. Elias Church, Munhall**. If you are observing one of the above milestones, *please contact the Church office if you plan or DO NOT plan to attend!* All specially marked anniversaries submitted will be published in a September issue of the SOT. **The final day of registration is next Sunday, July 24.**



GCU NORTHWEST PITTSBURGH LODGE CONTINUE TO LEND A HELPING HAND TO VETERANS FISHER HOUSE — Our local GCU Lodge is continuing to collect items to help Pittsburgh's VA Fisher House. The Pittsburgh Fisher House is a 10-bedroom "home away from home" and provides a place for visiting families to stay, free of charge, while their loved ones receive inpatient medical care at VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System. The Pittsburgh Fisher House is professionally furnished and features a common kitchen, laundry facilities, spacious dining room, living room with a library, and toys for children. They are requesting assistance in keeping these areas stocked with supplies. Boxes will be placed at the side vestibule and narthex areas of both parishes for the **collection that will extend to July 31. Needed items are listed on a sheet in the narthex/side vestibule** or you may, phone Tina (412) 859-9597. Let's help our afflicted veterans and their families by supporting our GCU Lodge in this collection!

