

Parish Offerings – 10th Sunday after Pentecost — August 14, 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 (\$1,825) YP (\$10)	\$1,835.00
Holy Days (\$285) YP (\$3)	288.00
Votive Candles	114.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,237.00

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$581.00
Holy Days	25.00
Votive Candles	25.50
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	\$631.50

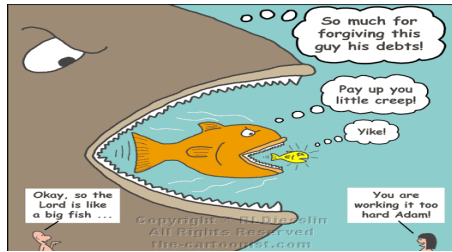
Church Attendance Last Week

Sat., 4:00 p.m. (31)

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

Dormition of the Theotokos (Obligation) Blessing of flowers & herbs

Sun., Aug. 14, – (MR) 7:00 p.m. (24); Mon., Aug. 15 – (MR) 9:00 a.m. (18); (NS) 6:00 p.m. (29)



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

Stay close to people
 who feel like sunshine

DESIGNS BY NANCY
 235 McCartney Drive,
 Moon Township 15108
 Phone: (412) 262-9141
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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

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.

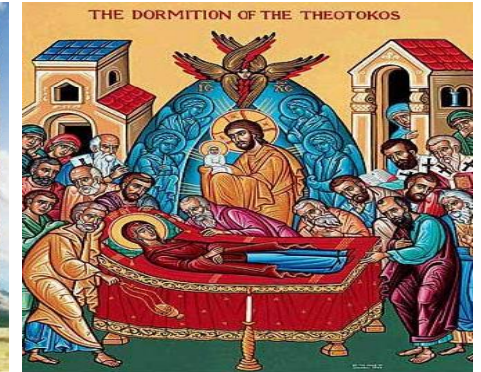
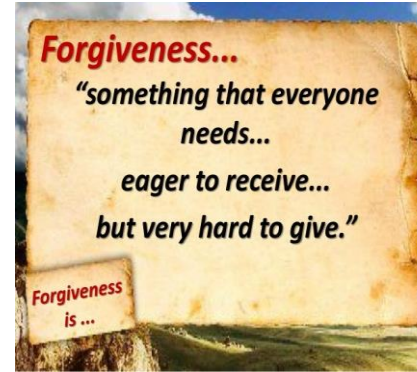
HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
 1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
 PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 11th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Postfestive of the Dormition — August 21, 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
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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).

August 21, 2022

Seasonal Greeting

Volume XII, Number 34



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date	Time	Intention	Requested By
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11th Sunday after Pentecost

Postfestive of the Dormition Feast

SUN., Aug 21	9:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Joseph W. Cehula	Joseph A. Cehula, T.O. Carm.
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Helen Meaders	Family
Mon, Aug 22	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ H. Jayne Skreptach	Julia Kowalchick
		<i>Final Day Of the Dormition Feast</i>	
Tue, Aug 23	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Mark Cifrulak	Irene Cifrulak
Wed, Aug 24	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Fr. Robert J. Karl	Norma & Peter Kacsur
This, Aug 25	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Julia (Miklos) Sibenak	Son: Steven

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

Fri, Aug 26 8:00 a.m. (MR) Health & Welfare of Andrew Petrilla Joseph A. Cehula, T.O. Carm.



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

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the 12th Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Claudia C. Verner (birthday 6/22) Husband: George

12th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN., Aug 28	9:00 a.m. (MR)	+ John Kulka	Children: Kathy & John.
		(16 th ann of passing 8/26)	
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Andrew Gecy, Sr.	Grandson: Robert & Joyce Spontak
		(70 th ann of passing 9/6)	

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: Aug 21 – Carmella Marie Rippole; Aug 22 – Albert Barnash; Aug 25 – Lori Lee Rippole; Aug 27 – Ilona Goyda.

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.
UPMC SHADYSIDE HOSPITAL (5230 Centre Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15232): Irene Bordas.
ALLEGHENY GENERAL HOSPITAL (320 E. North St., PGH, PA 15212) NANCY GOGAL.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. Are we obligated to forgive someone who has not asked for forgiveness? **A.**
Answer by a Catholic Apologist: Yes, we must forgive him. As Jesus makes clear in the Sermon on the Mount after providing the Lord's Prayer, "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses" (Matt. 6:14-15). Jesus sets the example on the cross in asking his Father to forgive those who have crucified him. On the other hand, we need not necessarily associate with a person we forgive, especially if the wrongdoing he has committed against us is grave. And even if someone has repented of a grave offense, we need not necessarily associate with him. For example, if a woman has been sexually assaulted by a friend, she is morally obligated to forgive that friend but not morally obligated to continue having a friendship.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

August 21 — August 27, 2022

MR: In memory of Claudia C. Verner (birthday 8/22)

offered by Husband: George

(NS): In memory of Alexander Zubritzky

All reserved for 2022

offered by Children

(NS) All reserved for 2022

General Announcements

McKees Rocks

CHURCH VOLUNTEERS GATHER TO CLEAN CHURCH LIBRARY THIS WEEK — We will continue cleaning the church basement next week! We will gather on **Wednesday, August 24, 2022 @ 9:00 a.m. Please join us in completing this work.**

North Side

BLESSING OF FLOWERS AND HERBS THIS PAST WEEK — At Both parishes on the



Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos, flowers and herbs were solemnly blessed. Each family was asked to bring them for this blessing which occurs on this holy day. since the aromatic fragrance came forth from her tomb and witnessed by the apostles. For those who may have forgotten, our pastor purchased red roses for distribution at the Mirovanije. Thanks to all who continue to participate and transmit this annual tradition.

Archbishop Skurla has made the following clergy appointments:

Effective August 1, 2022

Father Simeon B. Sibenik: Relieved as pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Warren, Ohio and retired from active ministry.

Effective August 17, 2022:

Father Will Rupp: Relieved as Administrator of Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Duquesne, Pa. and Appointed Administrator of Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Warren, Ohio.

Father David Abernethy: Accepted for service for the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh and appointed Administrator of Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Duquesne, Pa. and Director of Campus Ministry for the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh.

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY FOR THE ARCHEPARCHY OF PITTSBURGH —

A new initiative in the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh has been established. Beginning this Fall, a



Campus Ministry program will be established at the heart of the two largest universities in Pittsburgh (Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh) and extending out to all of the colleges in the region. It is our hope to develop a lasting outreach to Byzantine Catholic students, faculty and staff; providing them not only with access to the Sacraments but also the opportunity to be exposed to the full richness and beauty of a distinctively Eastern Catholic theological and spiritual tradition. To this end we will be offering Divine Liturgy on Sundays and

feast days, frequent opportunities for confession, monthly educational programs, opportunity for spiritual direction and pastoral counseling, days of recollection, retreats, community outreach and social events. The home of campus ministry will be Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church on Fifth Avenue. Three Chaplains have been entrusted with the work: Fr. David Abernethy (Director of Campus Ministry), Fr. Michael Kunitz (Administrator of Holy Spirit Parish), and Fr. Miron Kerul-Kmec (Pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish). David S. Abernethy Director, Byzantine Catholic Campus Ministry 4815 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Ways to contact: bzycatholic@gmail.com Facebook: [@bzycatholic](https://www.facebook.com/bzycatholic) | Instagram: [@bzycatholic](https://www.instagram.com/bzycatholic) GroupMe: <https://groupme.com/contact/105015905/cK3wG4xL>

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Forgiveness is NECESSARY to be Forgiven!

(Matthew 18: 23-35)

Unlimited forgiveness toward a brother or sister is illustrated by this parable. Sin is portrayed as a debt to God, a debt originated by neglecting God's will. Ten



thousand talents as an impossible sum, more than a laborer could earn in all lifetime - is contrasted to a hundred denarii, equivalent to about a hundred days' wages. Just as the king shows mercy and severity toward the servant, so does God show love and strictness toward us• depending on our willingness to forgive our brothers and sisters., The love of God is manifested in paying off the

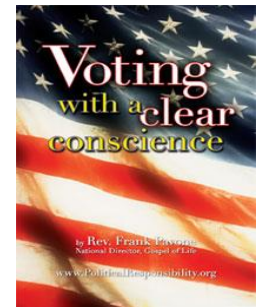
debt, a remission or letting go of sins. Because God forgives us, we in return are obliged to grant this gift of forgiveness to others. When each Christian forgives from his heart, true reconciliation and healing come to the Church by God's grace.

What are the 5 Non-Negotiables?

Voter's Guide for Serious Catholics — YOUR ROLE AS A CATHOLIC VOTER

For Catholics, some issues concern “non-negotiable” moral principles on which

there is no exception or compromise. There are numerous non-negotiable issues, but five of them are currently “in-play” politically in the United States. These five intrinsically evil actions are those that fundamentally conflict with the moral law and can never be performed under any circumstances. It is a serious sin to deliberately endorse or promote any of these actions, and citizens support these evils if they vote for candidates who do so. So, what are these five non-



negotiables? **Abortion:** The Church teaches that, regarding a law permitting abortions, it is “never licit to obey it, or to take part in a propaganda campaign in favor of such a law, or to vote for it.” (EV 73)

Euthanasia: Often disguised by the name “mercy killing,” euthanasia is actually a form of homicide. “True compassion cannot include intentionally doing something intrinsically evil to another person.” (EV 73). **Embryonic Stem Cell Research:** Human embryos are human beings. “Respect for the dignity of the human being excludes all experimentation or exploitation of the human embryo.” (CRF 4b). **Human Cloning:** Such attempts to create a human being “are to be considered contrary to the moral law, since they are in opposition to the dignity both of human procreation and of the conjugal union.” (RHL 1:6).

Homosexual “Marriage”: It is an objectively immoral arrangement, and “the Catholic lawmaker has a moral duty to express his opposition clearly and publicly and to vote against it. To vote in favor ... is gravely immoral.” (UHP 10).

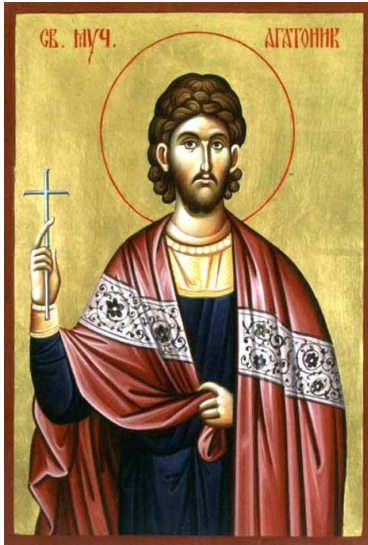
Calendar of Upcoming Events

August 20-21 This weekend, teachers and students receive a blessing for returning to school.
 August 29 Beheading Feast of St. John Baptist (Simple HD) – (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.
 September 1 Commencement of the New Ecclesiastical (Church) Year.
 September 2-5 86th Annual Uniontown Pilgrimage at Mount Saint Marina.
 September 5 Annual Labor Day — Federal Holiday. Morning Divine Liturgy (MR) 9:00 a.m.
 September 8 Feast of Nativity of the Theotokos (Solemn Holy Day)– (MR) 9:00 am & (NS) 6:00 p.m.
 September 11 Archdiocesan Celebration of Marriage for Jubilarians, St. Elias Church, Munhall @ 3:00 pm
 September 14 Universal Elevation of the Precious Cross (Solemn Holy Day)
 Divine Liturgies commence 15 minutes prior for the Solemn Enthronement of the Holy Cross — (MR) 8:45 a.m.; (NS) 5:45 p.m.
 September 18 Catechetical Sunday & Commissioning of the Catechists. Beginning of ECF school year
 October 1 Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos — Feast of the Metropolitan Province.
 (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.

Saints of the Week

Martyr Agathonicus of Nicomedia & His Companions who suffered under Emperor Maximian — August 22

The Martyrs Agathonicus, Zoticus, Theoprepus, Acindynus, Severian, Zeno and others accepted death for Christ during the reign of the emperor Maximian (284-305). The Martyr Agathonicus was descended from the illustrious lineage of the Hypasians, and he lived at Nicomedia. Well versed in Holy Scripture, he converted many pagans to Christ, including the most eminent member of the Senate (its “princeps” or leader). Comitatus Eutolmius was sent to the Pontine (lower Black Sea) region, where he crucified the followers of the Christian Zoticus, who had refused to offer sacrifice to idols. He took Zoticus with him. In Nicomedia, Eutolmius arrested the Martyr Agathonicus (together with the princeps), and also Theoprepus, Acindynus and Severian. After tortures, Eutolmius ordered that the martyrs be taken to Thrace for trial by the emperor. But along the way, in the vicinity of



Potama, the Martyrs Zoticus, Theoprepus and Acindynus were unable to proceed further behind the chariot of the governor because of wounds received during torture. Therefore, they were put to death. The Martyr Severian was put to death at Chalcedon, and the Martyr Agathonicus together with others was beheaded with the sword by order of the emperor, in Selymbria. The relics of the Martyr Agathonicus were in a church named for him at Constantinople, and were seen in the year 1200 by the Russian pilgrim Anthony. And in the fourteenth century Philotheus, the archbishop of Selymbria, devoted an encomium to the Martyr Agathonicus.

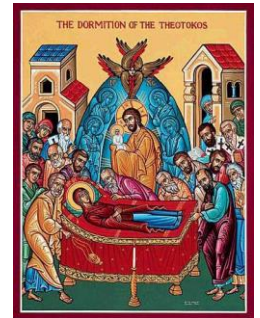
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General Announcements

BLESSING OF SCHOOL CHILDREN & TEACHERS THIS WEEKEND — Following each of the Divine Liturgies **next weekend of August 20 & 21, 2022** all Students and Teachers will be asked to come forward for a blessing as they commence the actual and/or virtual Academic Year of 2022-2023 in their various schools, colleges and universities. Since many of these institutions begin earlier each year, the opportunity to receive this blessing comes the third weekend of August. Receive God’s blessing and be enriched by His tender mercy.



HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION THIS PAST WEEK — Last Monday, Aug. 15 was *THE FEAST OF THE DORMITION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD* and a Holy Day of Obligation. The Canon Law of our Byzantine Catholic Church states: *“The Christian faithful are bound by the obligation to participate on Sundays and feast days (Holy Days of Obligation) at the Divine Liturgy”* (Canon 881#1); and *“are recommended to receive the Divine Eucharist on these days ...”* (Canon 881 #3); *“and should abstain from those labors or business matters which impede the worship to be rendered to God”* (Canon 881 #4). **Neglectful fulfillment of this precept renders one guilty of mortal sin, therefore, unworthy to receive the Holy Eucharist, until one makes a worthy sacramental Confession of this voluntary neglect.**



PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT DIVINE LITURGY & SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTIONS UNTIL ANNOUNCED — Until the 2023 Ecclesiastical Record Book arrives, the Church office will not be accepting intentions. An announcement will be appearing in a future edition of the S.O.T. when you may reserve your special date requests. Thank you for your patience.

PREPARING TO RECEIVE 2023 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES — Our contribution envelopes will be arriving shortly. The price per box escalates each year especially due to inflation. For those who haven’t been contributing for the **past two years**, it indicates that you are not interested in receiving envelopes for the new year. In due respect, your name will be eliminated from distribution and placed on the inactive list. Please help your church meet its fiduciary responsibilities by using this investment responsibility. However, if you wish to remain active please inform the Church Office A.S.A.P.