

**Parish Offerings – 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost — July 31, 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 (\$1,953.50) YP (\$4)	\$1,957.50
Holy Days	125.00
Special Donation (for the air conditioning – Richard Cifrulak)	100.00
Votive Candles	135.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,317.50

**Holy Ghost Church, Northside**

Regular Offering	\$668.88
Holy Days	25.00
Utilities	25.00
Votive Candles	52.25
	<hr/>
	\$771.13

**Church Attendance Last Week**

Sat., 4:00 p.m. (35)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (54); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (31)




**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*

**Faith is...**



Holding on tight when the going gets windy.

**DESIGNS BY NANCY**

235 McCartney Drive,  
Moon Township 15108  
Phone: (412) 262-9141  
Nancde@aol.com

**Nancy C. Debranski**  
*Sewing, Alterations, Custom Embroidery and Unique Gifts*



**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



**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 9<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**Postfestive of Transfiguration — August 7, 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](http://www.holyghost-byzantinecatholic.org) – E-Mail: [ffaf334@verizon.net](mailto:ffaf334@verizon.net)

**SUNDAY RADIO (9:00 am WEDO 810 AM) & INTERNET DIVINE LITURGY**  
**Liturgical Services LIVE: [www.Youtube.com](http://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 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 7, 2022

Seasonal Greeting

Volume XII, Number 32



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



## Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

### 9th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN., Aug 7 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Elizabeth Petruna Forsmark & Podsiadly Families  
(3<sup>rd</sup> ann of passing 8/2)

11:00 a.m. (NS) + Mary Frances Pungras Sister: + Anna Demianczyk

Mon, Aug 8 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Andrew Nazak Anonymous  
(3<sup>rd</sup> ann of passing 8/8)

Holy Apostle *Matthias*

Tue, Aug 9 8:00 a.m. (MR) + William J. Kendrach Wife: Margaret & Family

**RECOMMENDED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice)**  
for the intention of our beloved's return to the Church

Wed, Aug 10 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Gladys Muska (Memorial) Anonymous

Thrs, Aug 11 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Edward Zotyak Wife: Florence

**REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice): for the intention of**  
our beloved's return to the Church

Fri, Aug 12 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Sr. Ann Fedyszak, O.S.B.M. Julia A. & George F. Mosko

Final Day of the Transfiguration Feast

Sat, Aug 13 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the 10th Sunday after Pentecost — Prefestive of Dormition Feast

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Michele J. (Terrek) Chiavetta Mom: Mildred  
(3<sup>rd</sup> ann of passing 8/11)

### 10th Sunday after Pentecost

#### Prefestive of the Dormition Feast

SUN., Aug 14 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Helen Perschy (birthday) Son: Kurt

11:00 a.m. (NS) + Mary Sahayda Dgtr: Marlene "Mimi" Smith

Great Vespers with Divine Liturgy of the Dormition — Holy Day of Obligation

7:00 p.m. (MR) + Debra Charochak Bernadette & Jim Gunkel Family

## 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 7 – Carol Lipchick; Aug 9 – Russell Keller, Frank Lipchick, Gregory Rosko; Aug 10 – Betty Wickline; Aug 12 – Linda Reiger, Erik Wenger.

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

HOME: Margaret Beliuнас, 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.

ASHTON COMMONS (551 Cooper St., Wexford, PA 15090): Irene Bordas.

#### Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. Is a priest obligated to baptize a baby even if the parents are not married or are not practicing the Catholic faith? A. Catholic Answers Apologist: If there is no reasonable assurance that after baptism the child will be raised in the faith, the priest has valid grounds for delaying the sacrament--or even refusing baptism altogether, if it is certain that the child will not receive a Catholic upbringing, something which is required by the sacrament itself. "The Church must have a well-founded hope that the baptism will bear fruit" (Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Instruction on Infant Baptism, 1980). The Church does not take the matter of refusal of the first and most important sacrament lightly. The priest is obligated to keep in contact with the family and to attempt to secure sufficient assurances necessary for the celebration of the sacrament. Once the priest is satisfied that assurances are met, such as the choice of godparents who will be diligent in seeing that the child is raised in the faith, he cannot refuse to celebrate the sacrament without delay.

### This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

August 7 — August 13, 2022

(MR): In memory of Amelia M. Sotak (birthday 9/29)

offered by Dgtr: Elaine Cassidy

(NS): In memory of Edward Zotyak (6<sup>th</sup> ann of passing 8/17)

All reserved for 2022

offered by Wife: Florence

(NS) All reserved for 2022



# General Announcements

## McKees Rocks

**A NOTE FROM GCU LODGE PRESIDENT** — *The GCU Northwest Pittsburgh Lodge would like to express its gratitude to everyone that donated items and monetary gifts to make our Fisher House wish list drive a huge success. Although a little short from last year's goal, we collected a great amount. The staff at the Fisher House was again overwhelmed with this generosity. I would also like to personally thank everyone for their support from both Parishes in our Lodge's ongoing commitment to helping our parish family as well as our local community.— Tina Burns, GCU-NPL President.*



**MAYOR OF KINGSTOWN SEASON II** — *Paramount-Plus* is shooting its Fall episodes in *The Bottoms*. Our Holy Ghost School has been solicited to be a fictitious police station in the made-up city of Kingstown, MI. Our Church will not be part of this production. The movie is a crime and drama thriller with stars: Jeremy Renner, Diane Wiest and Hugh Dillion. The tentative date continuing production will be this Wednesday, August 10, 2022.



**PARKING LOT SEALED AND LINE STRIPPING** — Once again, we extend a heart-felt THANK YOU to all the members of our Pirohi Project whose sacrificial efforts made it possible to have our Church Parking Lot refurbished this year. It looks great! The TABS Asphalt & Concrete, Inc. of Pittsburgh was awarded the contract. It is the same company that our chancery and seminary sought out to do there parking lots. The total cost was \$4,170.00. God bless all Pirohi Workers that made this project a gem of The Bottoms!

## North Side

### *No particular news this week*

### Prayer for Daily Neglects

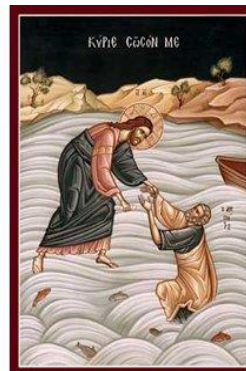
*(A Poor Clare Nun who had just passed away appeared to her Abbess, who was praying for her, and said, "I went straight to heaven, for, by means of this prayer, recited every evening, I paid my debts".) This prayer is not meant to replace Confession.*

- (1) Eternal Father, I offer You the Sacred Heart of Jesus, with all its love, and its sufferings and all its merits **to expiate all the sins that I have committed this day and during my entire life.** Glory to the Father and to the Son (+) and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen
- (2) Eternal Father, I offer You the Sacred Heart of Jesus, with all its love, and its sufferings and all its merits **to purify the good that I have done badly this day and during my entire life.** Glory to the Father and to the Son (+) and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.
- (3) Eternal Father, I offer You the Sacred Heart of Jesus, with all its love, and its sufferings and all its merits **to supply for the good that I ought to have done, and that I neglected this day and during my entire life.** Glory to the Father and to the Son (+) and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen

## THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### **Faith is measured by doing what He asks** (Matthew 14:22-34)

Jesus said get out of the boat. Jesus told Peter he had little faith because he began thinking about the storm and doubted. How much faith did those who never got out of the boat have? Jesus is telling us to get out of the boat. Afraid of terrorists? Get out of the boat. Afraid to talk to your teenager? Get out of the boat. Talk to them anyway. Afraid of what people will think if you lead? Get out of the boat. Lead anyway. Have faith that people will follow. Getting out of the boat is taking the next step. Has God called you to do the impossible? Start! Get out of the boat! He won't leave you stranded. If He's given you the job, He'll give you the tools to get it done. If He hasn't, you'll find out sooner if you get out of the boat. Step out in faith. Refuse to be frozen in fear; of failure, of what people think, of opposition. Think about this...Peter failed at walking on water. He began to sink. But Jesus was right there to pull him up. He'll be there for us, too. It wasn't being right that made Peter the one Jesus chose to carry on after Him. Peter was wrong much of the time, sometimes in very embarrassing ways. It wasn't his fearlessness. He denied Jesus at a crucial moment. It wasn't his careful, diplomatic use of words, he blurted out some of the most foolish things. What was it? Peter was willing to get out of the boat. Let's not be frozen in fear, but in faith, act.



### **CASUAL SUNDAYS?**

*(The following is an abridged article taken from the Catholic Answers web-page ([www.catholic.com](http://www.catholic.com)) where you may read the article in its entirety. It is written by Catholic Apologist, Peggy Frye. It is offered here as a means of reflection.)*

What do you wear to Sunday Mass (Divine Liturgy)? Sadly, seeing super-casual attire at Mass (Divine Liturgy) is all too common. Many who attend look like they're ready for the beach .... It's not just the women who dress inappropriately at Mass (Divine Liturgy). Men need to be checked too .... **Immodest dress at Mass (Divine Liturgy) is not a comfort problem but a spiritual problem, rooted in an over-sexed culture whose fashion influences have been trickling down into our parishes for decades.** The mentality that "It's nobody's business what I wear for Mass (Divine Liturgy) — God knows my heart" reflects a lack of humility and a poor understanding of what's actually happening at Mass (Divine Liturgy). It also shows a lack of respect for others, disregarding how our immodest dress can become an occasion of sin for the opposite sex. Church is "a house of prayer in which the Eucharist is celebrated and reserved, where the faithful assemble, and where is worshipped the presence of the Son of God our Savior, offered for us on the sacrificial altar for the help and consolation of the faithful" (CCC 1181). Church is not a place where temptation and sin should abound, where sexual distractions should be permitted to compete with our Lord who is present in the sacrament of the altar. When we pray the Lord's Prayer at Mass (Divine Liturgy) we say, "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." So, why are we allowing carnal temptations to be openly present? Why are we giving the Evil One permission to prowl throughout our sacred places seeking the ruin of innocent souls? Immodest dress appeals to the flesh ... I *don't* believe "modesty custodians" of the type found at some churches in Rome should be stationed at the door of every Catholic church, turning people away if they don't comply with the parish dress code. We just need to use common sense when we dress for church.

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

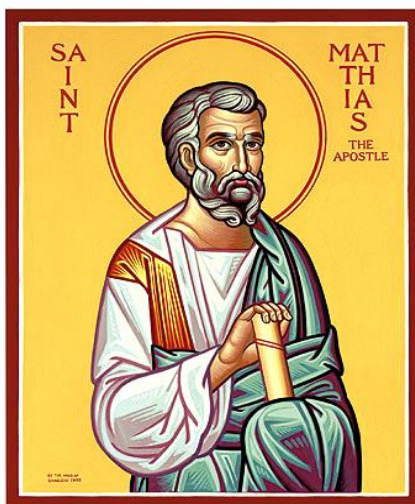
August 10 ..... Church school being used by Paramount Plus to shoot a scene for "Mayor of Kingstown."  
August 14 ..Anticipated Evening Feast of the Dormition (Obligatory) – Blessing of Herbs & Flowers – (MR) 7:00 pm  
August 15 ..... Feast of the Dormition – Blessing of Herbs & Flowers – (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (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.  
September 1 ..... Commencement of the New Ecclesiastical (Church) Year.  
September 2-5 ..... 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Uniontown Pilgrimage at Mount Saint Marina.  
September 5 ..... Annual Labor Day — Federal Holiday. Morning Divine Liturgy (MR) 9:00 a.m.

## Saint of the Week

### The Holy Apostle Matthias — August 9

**Matthias** was born in Bethlehem of the tribe of Judah. He studied with St. Simeon the "Receiver of God" in Jerusalem. When the Lord went out to preach about the Kingdom of God Matthias then joined the others who loved the Lord, for he himself loved Him with all his heart and with delight did he hear His words and witnessed His works. In the beginning, Matthias was numbered among the Seventy Lesser Disciples of Christ but following the resurrection of the Lord, since the place of Judas was vacated, the apostles, by drawing lots, chose this Matthias in place of Judas as one of the Twelve Great Apostles. "And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was surnamed Justus and Matthias. And they prayed and said: 'You Lord, who knows the hearts of all men, show which of these

two You have chosen, that he may take part of this ministry and apostleship from which Judas by transgression fell that he might go to his own place' " (Acts 1:23-26). Receiving the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, Matthias set out to preach the Gospel, first of all in Judea and after that in Ethiopia where he endured great tortures for the sake of Christ. It is held that he preached throughout Macedonia where they wanted to blind him but he became invisible to his torturers and thus escaped danger. Being in prison, the Lord appeared to him, encouraged him and freed him. Finally, he returned again to his work in Judea. There he was accused and brought to court before the high priest Ananias before whom he fearlessly witnessed for Christ. Ananias, the same Ananias, who before that, slew the Apostle James, condemned Matthias to death. They led Matthias out, stoned him to death and, after that, decapitated him with an axe (this was the Roman manner of killing a person who was sentenced to death and the hypocritical Jews applied this method on the dead man so as to show the Romans that the slain person was an enemy of Rome). Thus, this great apostle of Christ died and took up habitation in the eternal joy of his Lord.



## General Announcements

**PENITENTIAL PERIOD CONTINUES IN PREPARATION FOR THE DORMITION FEAST** — During this fourteen-day penitential period, the Church prescribes the Paraklis Service be held in honor of the Mother of God. The word "paraklis" has two different meanings: the first is "consolation," from which the Holy Spirit is called the "Paraclete," or "Consoler"; the second is "supplication" or "petition". The Paraklis Service consists of supplication hymns to obtain consolation and courage. It should be recited in times of temptation, discouragement or sickness. It is used more particularly during the two weeks before the Dormition of the Theotokos, from **August 1 to August 14**. The theme of this Paraklis Services centers around the petition. "Most Holy Mother of God, save us." *Following each of the daily Divine Liturgies we will offer a portion of this service for all our family, relatives and friends who have left our church so that they may return for the sake of their salvation.*



**BLESSING OF SCHOOL CHILDREN & TEACHERS IN TWO WEEKS** — Following each of the Divine Liturgies **on the 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. **There is a RSVP for both teachers & students via phone call, or email if you plan to participate in this blessing by August 15.**

**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.

**SPECIAL THANKS TO THIS WEEK'S HELPERS** — When Holy Days roll around, especially those that have special blessings attached to them, it is good to know that others are there to offer some sacrificial assistance. A note of gratitude it extended to those who purchased the grapes for the Transfiguration blessing; and to those who washed them and bagged them in such a way that they are kept free from the pandemic germ. Additional thanks is extended to all who offer assistance when the Church office call. If you would like to offer assistance when it's needed, please call the office. May God always remember your good deeds done in secret, and reward you!

