

Parish Offerings – 12th Sunday after Pentecost — August 28, 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 (\$1,758) YP (\$8)	\$1,766.00
Holy Days	134.00
Votive Candles	175.05
	<hr/>
	\$2,075.05

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

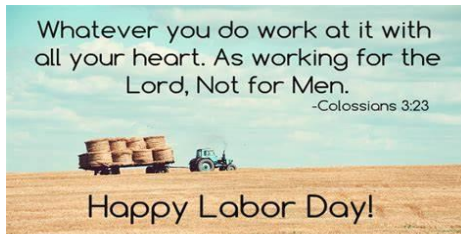
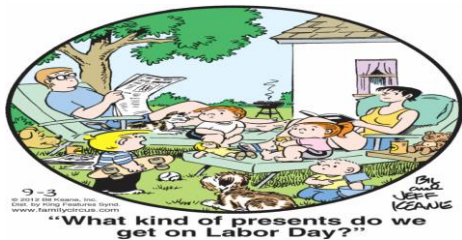
Regular Offering	\$741.00
Holy Days	65.00
Utilities (\$90) Improvements (\$10)	100.00
Votive Candles	51.50
	<hr/>
	\$957.50

Church Attendance Last Week

Sat., 4:00 p.m. (27)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (52); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (22)

Beheading of St. John the Baptist, Aug 29 — (MR) 9:00 am (6); (NS) 6:00 pm (7)



HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 13th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Labor Day Weekend — September 4, 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

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

HAPPINESS IS A THREE DAY WEEKEND!

Suzanne

DESIGNS BY NANCY
235 McCartney Drive,
Moon Township 15108
Phone: (412) 262-9141
Nanode@aol.com
Nancy C. Debranski
Sewing, Alterations, 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.

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!

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



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).

September 4, 2022 Seasonal Greeting Volume XII, Number 36

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

Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Mount St. Macrina 88th Pilgrimage — Labor Day Weekend

SUN, Sept 4 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Elizabeth Petruna Daughters
(Commemorating 100th birthday)
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Br. Thomas Sommerfeld Family
(4th ann of passing)

Annual Labor Day — Federal Holiday — No Banking or Postal Services

Mon, Sept 5 * 9:00 a.m. (MR) + William J. Kendrach Wife: Margaret & Family

Miracle of the Holy Angelic Commander, Michael the Archangel at Chonia

Tue, Sept 6 8:00 a.m. (MR) + William Gogal (3rd ann of passing) Wife: Nancy & Family

Prefestive of the Nativity of the Theotokos

Wed, Sept 7 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Debra Charochak (birthday 9/5) Nancy & Ron Wauthier



Nativity of the Holy Theotokos



Solemn Holy Day — Mirovanije

THRS, Sept 8 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
6:00 p.m. (NS) + Bishop John M. Bilock (28th ann. of passing)

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

Fri, Sept 9 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Justin L. Mendillo Kathy Mendillo
Sat, Sept 10 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Ann Onesi (birthday) Family

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of 14th Sunday after Pentecost — Postfestive of Theotokos' Nativity

4:00 p.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Postfestive of the Nativity of the Theotokos

& Sunday Before the Elevation of the Precious Cross

SUN, Sept 11 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Amelia M. Sotak (3rd ann of passing) Dgtr: Elaine
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Leonard R. Kallop, Sr. Valeriano & Kallop Families
(11th ann of passing 9/15)

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: Sept 4 – Lynn Kacsur; Sept 6 – Augustine Wenger; Sept 8 – AMBERLY VALERIANO.

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

HOME: Margaret Belionas, Florence Charochak, DEACON MICHAEL MEADERS, NANCY GOGAL, Iona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Beverly Harsh, 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 Cifruk, Dorothy Ann Karl, Mildred Terrek.
ASHTON COMMONS (551 Cooper St., Wexford, PA 15090): Irene Bordas.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. What difference does it make what religion you are, as long as you live like Christ? A. Catholic Answers Apologist: If someone does everything Jesus calls him to do, then he will--among other things--believe in Jesus and join his Church. Christ set up one Church for his believers to join. In Matthew 16:18, he says to Peter "Upon this Rock I will build my Church," not "I will build my churches...." Worship and religious affiliation are part of what Jesus commanded his followers, and so what religion you belong to *does* matter.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

Sept. 4 — Sept. 10, 2022

(MR): In memory of Amelia M. Sotak (3rd ann of passing 9/11)

offered by Dgtr: Elaine M. Cassidy

(NS): In memory of Betty Mowery (13th ann of passing 9/20)

(MR) All reserved for 2022 offered by Dgtr: Barbara "Babs" Mowery (NS) All reserved for 2022

General Announcements

McKees Rocks

GRATITUDE TO FLOWER DONARS AT THE HOLY THEOTOKOS ICON — During the month August, two anonymous donors graciously contributed flowers to our Blessed Mother's icon on the iconostasis. May God richly bless you for this sacrificial gesture, and may the Holy Virgin always extend her veil of protection over you and your beloved! Symbolically, we can all donate "flowers of prayer" each time that we meditate and pray the Holy Rosary, Akathist or Moleben.

CHURCH BASEMENT WORK CONTINUES — Our Church Volunteers continue to work in refreshing the four rooms in the church basement. The old acoustical ceiling needs replaced prior to any painting in the area. Our volunteers are working hard to make every area renewed and presentable. Thank you for sacrificing time, treasure and talent. God bless you all! We could still use some helping hands!

North Side

BAKELESS BAKE SALE & 50/50 RAFFLE FOR HALLOWEEN — We are launching these two social activities in time for Halloween. All the income will be matched by the GCU Northwest Pittsburgh Lodge. Tickets will be available at next weekend's Divine Liturgy. If you wish to contribute to the Bakeless Bake Sale, place your donation in a white envelope with your name, envelope number, and amount. Both the Raffle and bake less Bake Sale will terminate on Sunday, October 30.



ROOFERS RETURN TO FIX ADDITIONAL LEAKS — The McChesney Lueck Roofing, LLC arrived to repair 8 shingles, and caulked loose area shingles due to continued leaks in the main body of the Church undetected on their first visit. The cost totaled \$660.00. Hopefully, the problem has been fixed!?!

CAMPUS MINISTRY FOR BYZANTINE CATHOLICS IN THE PITTSBURGH AREA — It is with great joy that we inform you of a new initiative in the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh. 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 (Pastor of Holy Spirit Parish), and Fr. Miron Kerul Kmec Jr. (Pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish). **For more information contact Fr. David at bzycatholic@gmail.com**



THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

St. Basil the Great Commentary and Explanation of the Vineyard – Mt. 21:33-42

You need only to look at the vine to be reminded of your own nature, that is, if you observe it intelligently. No doubt you remember the image used by the Lord in which he says



Parable of the Tenants and the Vineyard

Matthew 21:33-46
Mark 12:1-12
Luke 20:9-19

that he is the vine and the Father the vinedresser. **Each of us who have been grafted onto the Church by faith he calls branches, and he urges us to bear much fruit so as not to be rejected as useless and thrown onto the fire.** Throughout the Scriptures the Lord continually likens human souls to vines. He says for instance: My beloved had a vineyard on a fertile hillside; and again: I planted a vineyard and put a

hedge round it. Clearly it is human souls that he calls his vineyard, and the hedge he has put round them is the security of his commandments and the protection of the angels; for the angel of the Lord will encamp around those who fear him. Moreover, by establishing in the Church apostles in the first place, prophets in the second, and teachers in the third, he has surrounded us as though by a firmly planted palisade. In addition, the Lord has raised our thoughts to heaven by the examples of saints of past ages. He has kept them from sinking to the earth where they would deserve to be trampled on, and he wills that the bonds of love, like the tendrils of a vine, should attach us to our neighbors and make us rest on them, so that always climbing upward like vines growing on trees, we may reach the loftiest heights. **He also requires that we allow ourselves to be weeded. To be spiritually weeded means to have renounced the worldly ambitions that burdened our hearts.** Anyone who has renounced the love of material things and attachment to possessions, or who has come to regard as despicable and deserving of contempt the poor, wretched glory of this world, is like a weeded vine. Freed from the profitless burden of earthly aspirations, that person can breathe again. Finally, following out the implications of the comparison, we must not run to wood, or, in other words, show off or seek the praise of outsiders. Instead, we must bear fruit by reserving the display of our good works for the true vinedresser.

The Basic Understanding of this Parable

As stated in this passage, the religious leaders realize that Jesus is talking about them. They are the wicked tenants. Therefore, these leaders become very angry and want to arrest Jesus, but they cannot because they are afraid of the large crowd who would get upset if they did. As for the rest of the parable, the vineyard represents Israel. The owner represents God the Father. The servants sent by the owner represent the prophets that God has sent in the past, many of whom have been mistreated and even killed by Israel and its leaders. The son represents Jesus. When Jesus tells this parable, his main purpose is to tell the religious leaders what the reality of the situation is: God has placed them over Israel, but they (including past leaders) have been evil by mistreating his prophets. However, Jesus is also making a statement about himself in relation to God, since he is the son of the owner of the vineyard. He is even predicting his death at the hands of the religious leaders.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

September 2-5 86 th Annual Uniontown Pilgrimage at Mount Saint Macrina.
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.

Solemn Holy Day This Week — Sept 8 Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos

The Holy Virgin Mary was born of aged parents, Joachim and Anne. Her father



was of the lineage of David, and her mother of the lineage of Aaron. Thus, she was of royal birth by her father, and of priestly birth by her mother. In this, she foreshadowed Him Who would be born of her as King and High Priest. Her parents were quite old and had no children. Because of this they were ashamed before men and humble before God. In their humility they prayed to God with tears, to bring them joy in their old age by giving them a child, as He had once given joy to the aged Abraham and his wife Sarah by giving them Isaac. The Almighty and All-seeing God rewarded them with a joy that surpassed all their expectations and all their most beautiful dreams. For He gave them not just a

daughter, but the Mother of God. He illumined them not only with temporal joy, but with eternal joy as well. God gave them just one daughter, and she would later give them just one grandson-but what a daughter and what a Grandson! Mary, Full of grace, Blessed among women, the Temple of the Holy Spirit, the Altar of the Living God, the Table of the Heavenly Bread, the Ark of God's Holiness, the Tree of the Sweetest Fruit, the Glory of the race of man, the Praise of womanhood, the Fount of virginity and purity-this was the daughter given by God to Joachim and Anne. She was born in Nazareth, and at the age of three, was taken to the Temple in Jerusalem. In her young womanhood she returned again to Nazareth, and shortly thereafter heard the Annunciation of the Holy Archangel Gabriel concerning the birth of the Son of God, the Savior of the world, from her most-pure virgin body.

General Announcements

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR 88TH PILGRIMAGE - MOUNT ST. MACRINA — It is our prayer that you may consider traveling to **the 88th Pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help this weekend**. If you have never attended a pilgrimage before, you are encouraged to make this one since it contains a myriad of graces. If you are experiencing any difficulties or problems, or just wish to thank God through Mary for an answered prayer, take them to the Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and lay them at her feet.



NEW STUDENT ENROLLMENT FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES — Our Eastern Christian Formation (E.C.F.) Classes will be commencing enrollment in the



next few weeks. These sessions are open to students from both parishes. Registration which follows all Divine Liturgies beginning next week. Due to the continued pandemic, adjustments will also be available. All classes begin on

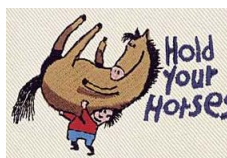
Catechetical Sunday, September 18, 2022 following the

9:00 a.m. (MR) DL. Parents, please enroll your children in this important program! Contact Coordinator, Steve Puluka (412) 897-4650.

AN ON-GOING ANNOUNCEMENT: PASTOR CONTINUES TO MAKE SACRAMENTAL CALLS — Our parishes have been opened and have been following the regular schedule of liturgical services. If you have been away from the Holy Mysteries (Sacraments) and desire to return, be assured you may continue to wear masks. However, if you would like the pastor to make a sacramental visitation, **please phone the parish office** and set a time when Father may visit you. Remember: **SACRAMENTS ARE VITALLY ESSENTIAL** for your immortal soul!



STILL AWAITING THE DIVINE LITURGY & SANCTUARY RECORD BOOK FOR



2023 — 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. Again, thank you for your patience.

PRAISING AND THANKING GOD THROUGH OUR HOLY DAYS — As we marked the

beginning of the new Church Year on September 1, we have the opportunity to renew the events of our salvation through all holy days. To praise and thank God for revealing His mercy to us with the promise of everlasting life, holy days remind us of each of these special salvific events. *Over the years, the attendance has been on the low side.* Show your love for God and His Church. The beauty of our Byzantine Catholic Church, emphasizes much solemnity by commemorating several salvific events in our holy days throughout the year other than the required Sundays.

