

Parish Offerings – 15th Sunday after Pentecost — September 18, 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 (\$1,617) YP (\$4)	\$1,621.00
Holy Days (\$225) YP (\$2)	227.00
Votive Candles	98.00
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	\$1,946.00

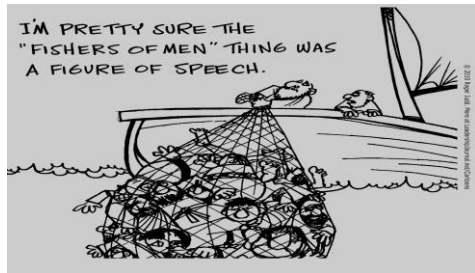
Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$697.20
Holy Days	25.00
Utilities (\$45) Improvement (\$20)	65.00
Votive Candles	64.50
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	\$851.70

Church Attendance Last Week

Sat., 4:00 p.m. (28)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (65); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (25)



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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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 office.

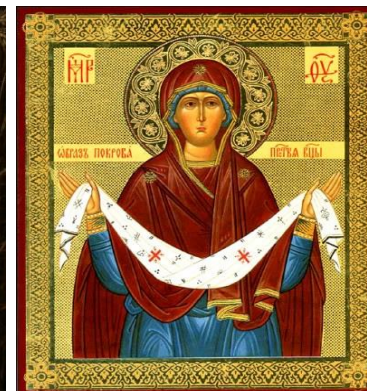
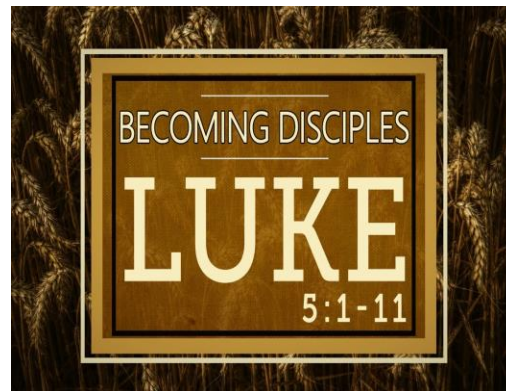
HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
 1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
 PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 16th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 25, 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.

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).

September 25, 2022 Seasonal Greeting Volume XII, Number 39



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

16th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN, Sept 25 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Christina Michalisk (birthday 9/13) Husband: Wallace & Family
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Ethel M. Galida Dgtr: Kathy L. Mullen
(3rd ann of passing 9/23)

The Passing of St. John the Evangelist

Mon, Sept 26 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mary Frissora (birthday 9/10) Nephew: Dr. Gordon & Kate


Tue, Sept 27 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Health & Welfare of Monica Lemesh Joseph A. Cehula, T.O. Carm.

Our Venerable Father Chariton the Confessor

Wed, Sept 28 8:00 a.m. (NS) + Julie Ann Bersavage Sister: Martha & Bob Maletz

Thrs, Sept 29 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mary Gramata Eleanor Gramata & Son: George
(68th ann of passing)

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

Fri, Sept 30  8:00 a.m. (MR) + Fr. Richard F. Zula Zula Family
(5th ann of passing 9/29)

Anticipated Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos

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

The Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos

Patroness of the Metropolitan Providence — Solemn Holy Day — Mirovanije

Sat, Oct 1 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Dolores Kosko (40th day of passing 9/30) Hubal Family

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the 17th Sunday after Pentecost

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

17th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN, Oct 2 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Mark A. Cifrulak (2nd ann of passing) Peter Zubritzky
11:00 a.m. (NS) + John Spontak (19th ann of passing) Son: Bob & Joyce

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 25 — CINDY MEADERS; Sept 29 — Kayla Marks; Oct 1 — Nanine Cifrulak, Frank Grzywinski, Steven Krempasky, KIMBERLY VALERIANO.

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

HOME: Margaret Beliuinas, 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 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. My siblings and I were raised in a good Catholic home but now, as adults, we no longer all share the same moral code—some follow authentic Catholic Church doctrine while others rationalize that their immoral lifestyles are actually moral. Any time I try to help family members, I'm viewed as an intolerant religious freak. Even my parents consider my efforts to be out of line and hurtful. A. Catholic Answers Apologist: You have an obligation to raise your children in the truth, teaching them genuine morals. This may mean unrest in your family, as you have already seen. But it may comfort you to know that Jesus recognized family division would sometimes be an issue for those who remain faithful to him: Do not think that I have come to bring peace on earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and a man's foes will be those of his own household. He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. (Mt 10:34-38).

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

Sept. 25 — Oct. 1, 2022

(MR): In memory of George Krulac (25th ann of passing 9/26)

offered by Dgtr: Barbara & Peter Stecko

(NS): In memory of John Kundrat (32nd ann of passing 9/23)

(MR) Open reservations for 2023 offered by Wife: Theresa (NS) Open reservations for 2023



General Announcements

McKees Rocks

THE SECOND STEP TO THE PRIESTHOOD — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the minor ordination of Subdeacon for our parish vocation, Luke Iyengar, slated for **Saturday, October 15, 2022 at St. John Cathedral, Munhall @ 10:00 a.m.** by Archbishop Skurla. Everyone is invited. If you are interested in attending, please phone Seminarian Luke (412) 863-3285 A.S.A.P. Our parish is very proud of Luke and his achievements. Let us support him with our attendance, and at the same time witness this beautiful and meaningful ordination ceremony.



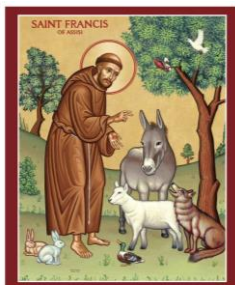
GRATITUDE TO OUR CHURCH VOLUNTEERS FOR THE BASEMENT PROJECT — A heart-felt expression goes out to all those who have faithfully put in many hours in cleaning and organizing our Church Basement! The Church recently purchased a new refrigerator for the basement kitchen to serve in providing the upcoming coffee and donut social. God bless all of you who have contributed your precious time for the sake of the Church.

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 the weekend 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 Bakeless Bake Sale will terminate on Sunday, October 30. The proceeds will be applied to our Tower Bell Project. A special thank you to Mary Frances & Ed Spontak, Sr. for spear-heading this project and to George Hudanick, Jr. for contributing generous gift cards. The Spontak's will also be available following the MR Weekend Divine Liturgies for those who may be interested in this game of chance.



SECOND ANNUAL BLESSING OF ANIMALS FORTHCOMING — Since our pets are very dear to us, our pastor will, once again this year, beseech God to shower blessings upon them. In the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi, (Feast Day, Oct. 4), who loved animals and often spoke to them, and whose feast is at the beginning of October, our pastor is inviting you to bring your pets for a short blessing serving on **Friday, October 7, 2022 @ 6:30 p.m. at the (MR) Church's side entrance.** This blessing signifies our gratitude to Almighty God for the gift of companionship that our pets afford us.



Blessing of the Animals

16th Sunday after Pentecost

A Preposterous Request — LK 5:1-11

It all started with the Lord's preposterous request. He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." What's so out of line about that? Three things! **First**, anybody knows that the best net fishing is done at night when the fish can't see the net in the dark—not in broad daylight. **Second**, the fishermen had just come in from fishing all night, having caught nothing. Obviously the fish were somewhere else. **Third**, now their nets were all cleaned from their night's work. It was a messy job to clean those nets of seaweed and scum. Besides, these fishermen were tired and discouraged. Who wants to start out on



the day shift right after finishing a long night shift? What Jesus asked was beyond all reason and all fishing experience. How would Peter respond? Here's how he did respond. "Master," he began. So far, so good. This seems to imply complete obedience. But then Peter protested, "We have worked all night long but have caught nothing." Peter was sitting on the fence. On the one hand, he wanted to obey Jesus. On the other hand, he knew that it was utter foolishness. Something about Jesus struck Peter as different from any other person he had ever met. He heard promises more beautiful than the bewitching charm of blue Galilee, sparkling in the morning sun. All of a sudden something snapped in Peter's heart. He jumped off the fence on the side of obedience, saying to Jesus, "**Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.**" At that precise point, Peter surrendered the keys of his life to Jesus—all the keys, including the master key. It was an electric encounter on the shore between the Carpenter and the fisherman. The base essence of Peter's reply was, "You say . . . I will." That was an obedient surrender of the keys based on an implicit trust in Jesus. James, John and others followed Peter in heading out for the deep. After the Lord's preposterous request followed his fantastic gift. These fishermen netted a whopping catch. They had never seen a catch like that. Their net almost broke; their boats almost sank, and they hardly had enough men to haul in the fish. They were astounded that it happened in broad daylight. God was saying in language that fishermen understand what amazing things can happen when the keys of a life are surrendered to Jesus. It illustrated the truth that God never ask of us anything, no matter how costly, but what he gives us back a hundred times more. The Twenty-third Psalm puts it in these words, "My cup runneth over." We ask God for a grain of sand and he gives us a whole beach. **God always gives far more than either we desire or deserve, according to our trust in him.**

Calendar of Upcoming Events

September 30 Anticipated Divine Liturgy for Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos (NS) 6:00 p.m.
October 1 Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos — Feast of the Metropolitan Province.
(MR) 9:00 a.m.
October 2-6 Annual Clergy Retreat at the Antiochian Village, Ligonier, PA
October 7 (MR) The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary @ 6:00 p.m.
October 9 (NS) PAC/FAC Meeting in Church following the Sunday Divine Liturgy.
October 24 (MR) PAC/FAC Meeting in Church Office @ 7:00 p.m.
October 30 Sunday of Christ the King.
..... Annual Moleben for our 4 saintly bishops.@ 3:00 p.m.

SOLEMN HOLY DAY THIS WEEK

Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos

Saturday morning, **Oct. 1**, marks the feast day of the appearance of the Mother of God at Blachernae (Lavra) in the tenth century. At the end of St. Andrew



also known as a “fool for Christ,” along with his disciple St. Epiphanius, and a group of people, saw the Mother of God, St. John the Baptist, and several other saints and angels during a vigil in the Church of Blachernae, nearby the city gates. The Blachernae Palace church was where several of her relics were kept. The relics were her robe, veil, and part of her belt that had been transferred from Palestine during the fifth century. The Theotokos approached the center of the church, knelt down and remained in prayer for a long time. Her face was drowned in tears. Then she took her veil off and spread it over the people as a sign of protection. During the time, the people in the city were threatened by a barbarian invasion. After the appearance of the Mother of God, the danger was averted and the city was spared from bloodshed and

suffering. The Protection is commemorated most fervently in Slavic churches, probably because St. Andrew was a Slav. The first celebration of the Theotokos's Protection in the Eastern Slavic Churches dates back from the 12th century and today is celebrated throughout the Byzantine Catholic Church. The feast day commemorating the miracle is celebrated with an All-Night Vigil, with many of the same elements as occur on Great Feasts of the Theotokos. However, this feast has no post-festive. ***This feast is of particular importance to the Metropolitan Province of Pittsburgh because 48 years ago October 6, 1974, Metropolitan Archbishop Stephen J. Kocisko along with the bishops of Passaic and Parma consecrated the entire metropolitan province to her heavenly protection at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC.***

General Announcements

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: COME & SEE WEEKEND — Young men 18-35 are invited to a weekend retreat, Friday through Saturday, **November 4-6, 2022** at Saints Cyril & Methodius Seminary. *The purpose: to see if you might be interested in the possibility of becoming a priest. No pressure, no hype, no boring lectures. Just recreation, relaxation, talking to God (a.k.a. prayer), and the opportunity to really listen to God's voice and to plan for your life. This worthwhile retreat of discovery in no way implies any future commitment other than your commitment to truly be yourself! There is no expense involved in participating in this retreat. Deadline for online registration is at www.bcs.eduon Wed. Oct 12.*



PITTSBURGH DEANERY CLERGY TO SERVE PASTA DINNER — Mark your calendars! The Priests and Deacons in the Pittsburgh Deanery will be again hosting a **FREE PASTA DINNER** at St. Elias Church, Munhall on **Sunday October 23, 2022** from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Clergy will be preparing and serving the dinner. A signup list is located in the Church. We must know how many to prepare for! The final day for registration is Sunday, October 16. *A freewill offering will be taken to subsidize the project. Any profit that will be made will go to the Archieparchial Priests' Pension Plan. Come join us! A signup sheet has been placed near the (MR) side vestibule entrance & (NS) narthex.*



MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY — At the request of several parishioners to honor Our Blessed Mother in this special month of October, the Rosary according to our Byzantine-Ruthenian (Rusyn) tradition will be prayed **each Friday throughout the month @ 6:00 p.m.** at our Parish in McKees Rocks. This sacred devotion has been a part of our Church since its founding over 100 years ago which our Founders and Benefactors brought with them from Carpathian Homeland. Come and join us as we pray together honoring and petitioning the Holy Theotokos.



RESERVATIONS FOR DL & SANCTUARY LAMPS — Divine Liturgy and Sanctuary Lamp reservation dates are now being taken on a first come, first serve basis. Due to a high demand of both areas only two weekends of each will be accepted. When the demand subsides, you will be able to reserve additional weekend dates. Place your intention and \$10.00 stipend (per candle/DL) in a regular white envelope with requested date(s) and place it in the collection basket. You may reserve unlimited weekday DL's! Please take care of this matter quickly to acquire your special dates.



YOUNG ADULT WEEKEND RETREAT — The theme for this special weekend will be “PRAYER.” It is for all young men and women between the ages of 18-40. It begins on **Friday, October 21 at 7:00 p.m. thru Sunday, October 23 at noon.** *Registration is due on Wednesday, Oct. 12. The suggested offering is \$110.00. Scholarships available. Phone Mt. St. Macrina @ (724) 438-7149.*