

Parish Offerings – 16th Sunday after Pentecost — September 25, 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 (\$1,814) YP (\$5)	\$1,819.00
Holy Days	55.00
Votive Candles (\$87.50) B.C.W. (\$14)	101.50
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		\$1,975.50

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$1,028.00
Holy Days	25.00
Utilities	25.00
Votive Candles	49.50
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		\$1,127.50

Church Attendance Last Week

Sat., 4:00 p.m. (32)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (61); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (25)



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



DESIGNS BY NANCY
 235 McCartney Drive,
 Moon Township 15108
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 Nancde@aol.com
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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.

 Come Join Us

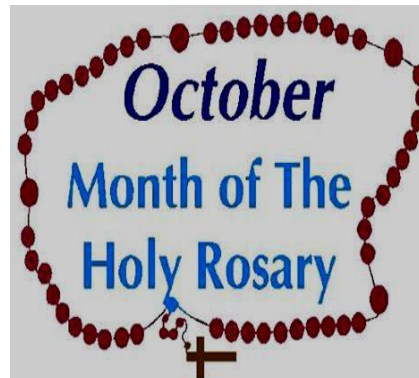
HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
 1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
 PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 17th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Respect Life Month — October 2, 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).

October 2, 2022

Seasonal Greeting

Volume XII, Number 40



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

17th Sunday after Pentecost

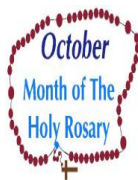
SUN, Oct 2 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Mark A. Cifrulak (2nd ann of passing) Peter Zubritzky
11:00 a.m. (NS) + John Spontak (19th ann of passing) Son: Bob & Joyce

Mon, Oct 3 8:00 a.m. (MR) NO DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULED

Tue, Oct 4 8:00 a.m. (MR) NO DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULED

Wed, Oct 5 8:00 a.m. (MR) NO DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULED

Thrs, Oct 6 8:00 a.m. (MR) NO DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULED



This week marks the Annual Clergy Retreat at the Antiochian Village, Ligonier, PA. Please keep our Pastor and all clergy in your prayers. Emergency: call office 24/7.

First Friday of the month in reparation for sins against the Sacred Heart of Jesus

REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or **Equivalent Penance** (your choice) in remembrance of Our Lord's Crucifixion and Death upon the Precious Cross & vanquishing of coronavirus

Fri, Oct 7 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Margaret Zula Zula Family

6:00 p.m. (MR) Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary

6:30 p.m. (MR) Blessing of animals at side entrance of Church

Sat, Oct 8 9:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes



Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the 18th Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Michele J. (Terrek) Chiavetta (birthday 10/8) Mom: Mildred Terrek

18th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN, Oct 9 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Irene Maniglia Lee & Barbara Feldman

11:00 a.m. (NS) + Robert J. Galida (birthday 10/11) Dgtr: Kathy L. Mullen

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: Oct 2 — BETTY LORINC; Oct 3 – Michele Billy, Helenea Conner, James Eberle, George Verner; Oct 4 – MaryEllen Oslick, Steven Usouski; Oct 6 – Erin Bates; Oct 7 – Nicholas Nazak II; Oct 8 – Mary Ann Goyda.

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

HOME: Margaret Beliuas, Florence Charochak, GEORGE FECIK, DEACON MICHAEL MEADERS, NANCY GOGAL, Ilona 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. In light of the ecumenism following Vatican II, are Catholics now under serious obligation (that is, binding under pain of sin) to skip Sunday Mass once in a while and worship instead at non-Catholic churches? **A. Answer by a Catholic Apologist:** "Required"? "Not allowed," you mean! A Catholic may *not* "worship instead at non-Catholic churches." To do so is to violate the First Commandment. (This is to be distinguished from engaging in, say, an ecumenical prayer service.) It is mandatory, under pain of mortal sin but allowing for exceptions arising from necessity, for every Catholic to attend Mass (Divine Liturgy) every Sunday (or Saturday evening) and on holy days of obligation. Catholics are under *no* obligation to attend non-Catholic services. Such visits are purely voluntary and may be undertaken so long as no scandal is given. Vatican II's *Directory on Ecumenism* allows some participation at such services in common responses or hymns that are not in variance with the Catholic faith.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

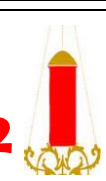
October 2 — October 8, 2022

(MR): In memory of Mark A. Cifrulak (2nd ann of passing 10/26)

offered by Family

(NS): In memory of Thomas F. Zon

(MR) Available for 2023 offered by Sister-in-Law: Theresa Fitzurka (NS) Available for 2023



General Announcements

McKees Rocks

SIGNUP TODAY: 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. Also, Seminarian Nathaniel Tapsak, a recent member of our parish, will be receiving the first step to the priesthood with the minor order of Reader, along with several others. Let us support them by our attendance, and at the same time witness this beautiful and meaningful ordination ceremony.

SOCIAL TIME FOLLOWING SUNDAY'S DIVINE LITURGY —

Our Church Volunteers had readied the Church Basement to commence our Coffee and Doughnut Social on the first Sunday of the Month. Please join us today for the first of many socials, and get to know one another. Thanks again to our Volunteers for making this event possible.



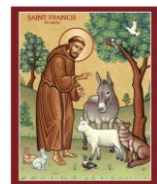
North Side

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 through the main GCU Office. 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 & NS Weekend Divine Liturgies for those who may be interested in this game of chance.

SECOND ANNUAL BLESSING OF ANIMALS THIS WEEK — 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. Our pastor encourages both parishes to bring your pets for this short blessing serving this **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.

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Living Beyond the Golden Rule— LK 6:31-36

We see in the gospel today that Jesus teaches us the golden rule, which bids us to do to others, as

CROSS REFERENCES

Do to others **as you would have them do to you.** Luke 6:31

Be indebted to no one, except to one another in love, for **he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the Law.** Romans 13:8

Love does **no wrong to its neighbor.** Therefore love is the fulfillment of the Law. Romans 13:10

The entire Law is fulfilled in a **single decree:** "Love your neighbor as yourself." Galatians 5:14

If you really keep **the royal law** stated in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. James 2:8



we would have them do to us. In reflecting upon the golden rule, we perceive that the important fact of **Christian conduct is that it consists not in refraining from bad things, but in doing good things toward our neighbor.** Jesus stresses that we are to do good toward our neighbor even he does not love us in return. No matter what a person does to you, (plots against you or slanders you), you are still called to be kind and good to him or her. Even though we may

never get a "thank you." The Lord God, Who watches from on high, will give rewards to all who follow his golden rule. For Jesus says: "Your reward will be great and you will be the sons of the Most High, because he is kind both to the thankless and to the wicked." The second fact is that the Christian way of life is based on accomplishing extra deeds. There are too many people who desire to be just as good as their neighbors. **Jesus challenges us that we must strive to be better than the ordinary person.** It is not our neighbor with whom we must compare ourselves; it is God with Whom we must compare ourselves. The reason why we compare ourselves to God is that we are created in the image and likeness of God. By doing extra good deeds toward the church and toward our neighbor, we come closer to God. There are indeed many extra deeds that we can do. **We can pray more and attend the Divine Liturgy more often. We could also visit the sick in our hospitals and nursing homes.** So let us today follow Jesus Christ by doing the "extra."

October Is Respect Life Month



The *Respect Life Program*, sponsored by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, started in 1972 and begins anew each October—the month set aside by the U.S. bishops as "**Respect Life Month.**" The program promotes respect for human life in light of our intrinsic dignity as having been created in God's image and likeness and likeness. **This year's theme, "Called to serve Moms in Need,"** is particularly suited for our times. While attacks against human life seem to grow ever more numerous and callous, we know that Christ has conquered sin and death. Through our Christian hope in the Resurrection, we are given the grace to persevere in faith. and called to an eternal destiny with him.

1ST WEEK INTENTION OF REPECT LIFE MONTH:

Prayer for all Unborn Children & their Mothers & Fathers

O God, Who adorn creation with splendor and beauty and fashion human lives in Your Image and Likeness, awaken in every heart reverence for the work of Your Hands, and renew among Your people a readiness to nurture and sustain Your precious gift of Human Life. In this may Your Name be blessed and glorified, Father, Son (+) and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

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. Blessing of animals @ 6:30 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.

Saints of the Week

The Holy Soldier-Martyrs Sergius and Bacchus October 7



The Martyrs **Sergius and Bacchus** in Syria were appointed to high positions in the army by the emperor Maximian (284-305), who did not know that they were Christians. Envious people informed Maximian that his two trusted counselors did not honor the pagan gods. This was considered to be a crime against the state. The emperor, wanting to convince himself of the truth of the accusation, ordered Sergius and Bacchus to offer sacrifice to the idols, but they replied that they honored the One God and worshiped only Him. Maximian commanded that the martyrs be stripped of the insignia of military rank (their belts, gold pendants, and rings), and then

dressed them in feminine clothing. They were led through the city with an iron chains around their necks, and the people mocked them. Then he summoned Sergius and Bacchus to him again and in a friendly manner advised them not to be swayed by Christian fables, but to return to the Roman gods. The saints refuted the emperor's words, and demonstrated the folly of worshiping the pagan gods. The emperor commanded that they be sent to the governor of the eastern part of Syria, Antiochus, a fierce hater of Christians. Antiochus had received his position with the help of Sergius and Bacchus. "My fathers and benefactors!" he said. "Have pity on yourselves, and also on me. I do not want to condemn my benefactors to cruel tortures." **The holy martyrs replied, "For us life is Christ, and to die is gain."** The enraged Antiochus ordered Bacchus to be mercilessly beaten, and the holy martyr surrendered his soul to the Lord. They shod Sergius with iron sandals with nails in their soles and sent him to another city, where he was beheaded with the sword.

General Announcements

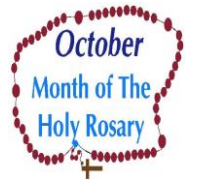
MARK YOUR CALENDAR: COME & SEE WEEKEND — Young men 18-35 are invited to a weekend retreat, Friday through Saturday, **November 4-6, 2022** at Saints Cyril & Methodius Seminary. *The purpose: to see if you might be interested in the possibility of becoming a priest. No pressure, no hype, no boring lectures. 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.