

Parish Offerings – 18th Sunday after Pentecost — October 9, 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 (\$4,049) YP (\$5)	\$4,054.00
Holy Days	96.00
Votive Candles	80.00
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		\$4,230.00

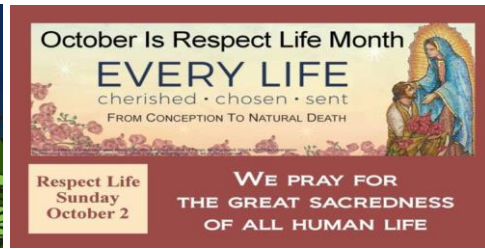
Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$680.00
Holy Days	5.00
Church Improvement (\$10) Utilities (\$10)	.....	20.00
Votive Candles (\$47.01) Collection for the Poor (\$5)	.....	52.01
		<hr/>
		\$757.01

Church Attendance Last Week

Sat., 4:00 p.m. (17)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (75); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (24)



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



DESIGNS BY NANCY
 235 McCartney Drive,
 Moon Township 15108
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 Nancde@aol.com
Nancy C. Debranski
Sewing, Alterations, Custom Embroidery and Unique Gifts

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

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.

Join Us

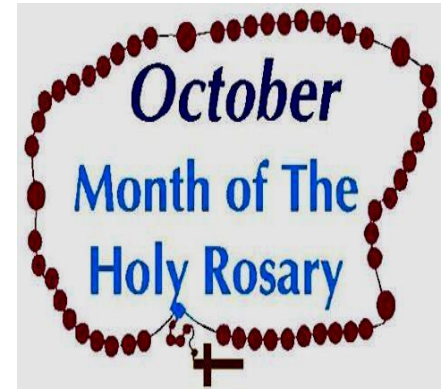
HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
 1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
 PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 19th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council — October 16, 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 16, 2022

Seasonal Greeting

Volume XII, Number 42



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council

SUN, Oct 16 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Ann Muska (birthday 10/15) Brother: Mike
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Michael Butchko Niece: Marlene Pfeiffer

Mon, Oct 17 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Frank Firko, Sr. Grandson
(39th ann of passing)

The Holy Apostle & Evangelist Luke

Tue, Oct 18 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mary + Frank Geleskie Son: Paul

Wed, Oct 19 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Herbert Eisenman Dgtr: Martha & Bob Maletz

Thrs, Oct 20 8:00 a.m. (MR) + John Kulka (birthday 10/22) Children: Kathy & John

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

Fri, Oct 21 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Andrew Revtai (birthday) Revtai Family
*** 6:00 p.m. (MR) Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary

Sat, Oct 22 9:00 a.m. (NS) Feast of Pope St. John Paul II
For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the 20th Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Fr. Robert J. Karl Theresa Kundrat

20th Sunday after Pentecost

Feast of the Holy Apostle James, Relative of the Lord

SUN, Oct 23 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Joe Babin Wife: Gerry
(14th ann of passing)

11:00 a.m. (NS) + David Bubalo Sister: Mary Ann & Steve Puluka
(40th day of passing 10/22)

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 16 — Nancy Debranski Ferrell; Oct 18 – Jeno Lecci, Paul Zubritzky; Oct 20 – Patricia Ference; Oct 21 – Charles McCusker.

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. May a Catholic politician or voter support a ban on abortion if it has an exception for pregnancies caused by rape and incest? A. Answer by Catholic Apologist Trent Horn: Catholic politicians and voters may not support laws that maintain or increase abortion access, but they can support laws that limit abortion even if those laws still allow some abortions to be legal. For example, in a country where abortion is legal for any reason, a Catholic politician could vote for an abortion ban with an exception for pregnancies caused by rape if he knows it's not politically possible to pass a total ban on abortion. Pope St. John Paul II said, "When it is not possible to overturn or completely abrogate a pro-abortion law, an elected official, whose absolute personal opposition to procured abortion was well known, could licitly support proposals aimed at limiting the harm done by such a law" (Evangelium Vitae 73).

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

October 16 — October 22, 2022

(MR): In memory of Eleanor & John Kulka

offered by Children: Kathy & John

(NS): In memory of John Spontak (19th ann of passing 10/2)

(MR) Available for 2023

offered by Son: Robert + Joyce

(NS) Available for 2023

General Announcements

McKees Rocks

UPCOMING PARISH ADVISORY/FINANCIAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING — A PAC/FAC Meeting will be conducted on **Monday, October 24, 2022 @ 7:00 p.m.** All appointed members are encouraged to be in attendance. Please mark your calendar.



YOU ARE INVITED TO GCU MEETING — See what's new with your GCU Northwest Pittsburgh Lodge and learn more about its Financial Programs and Financial Products. You may bring a friend to the meeting on **Sunday, November 6, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. in the School Gym.** There will be food & drinks and FREE door prizes including 8 gift cards, a computer tablet and a 50 inch television. RSVP to Steve Puluka: (412) 897-4650 or Tina (412) 859-9597 by this *Friday, October 21.*



Please bring a can good for our food drive and also a friend.

North Side

SYMPATHY EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the sudden passing of **Joyce Foster Pointer Spontak, 74,** of Kernersville, NC on Friday, October 7, 2022. She was the beloved wife of our former cantor and parishioner, Robert Spontak. and children. She was also the Sister-in-law of our present cantor, Edward Spontak Sr. (Mary Frances) and aunt to our Epistle Reader, Brad Spontak. The Pierce-Jefferson Funeral Chapel, Kernersville handled the arrangements. A celebration of life was celebrated on Wednesday, Oct 12 at the same location. Our Parish extends its most sincere sympathy to the Spontak, Foster, and Pointer Families. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, eternal rest to your servant Joyce, and remember her forever! Vicnaja Jej Pamjat'! *It would be a nice gesture to send a sympathy card to Bob: 161 Harmon Mill Rd., Kernersville, NC 27284-8883.*



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.*



PARISH & FINANCIAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING UPDATE — Following last week Divine Liturgy, our meeting convened in the church. Topics discussed: (1) seek out bids for a new church roof, since many leaks continue to be a problem despite contacting many roofers who tries patching several areas; (2) Still awaiting a bid from the White Clock & Carillion Company for three separate prices to get our church tower bells to function; (3) Still searching out a few bids to repair our crumbling steps and sidewalk. A few calls have been placed, but only one response came to the scene, but admitted he didn't want to take on the project.



COMMEMORATING TODAY

The Seventh Ecumenical Council – Nicea II



SITE: Nicea

YEAR: 787 A.D. **POPE:** Hadrian I, 772 - 795

EMPERORS: Constantine VI, 780 - 797 and Empress Irene (797 - 802)

ACTION: This council, called by Empress Irene (widow of Emperor Leo IV and regent for her son Constantine VI), with its doctrinal decree ratified by Pope Hadrian I, condemned **ICONOCLASM.** The Pope's letter here, just as with Pope St. Leo I at Chalcedon, set the tone of the council.

NOTE: Brewing beneath the surface at this time, however, was a rejection of papal authority. The Eastern Bishops, cut off from Rome and receptive to heresy under persecution, were held suspect by Rome. **ALSO:** Iconoclasm had been fostered by Emperor Leo III (717 - 741), who was opposed by Popes Gregory II (715 - 731) and Gregory III (731 - 741) and by St. John Damascene (d.749), priest and Doctor of the Church, who published three discourses in defense of images.

HERESY: **ICONOCLASM** (Destroyers of Icons) — The Second Council of Nicea, the seventh ecumenical council of the Christian church, was convoked by the Byzantine empress Irene in 787 (on the front cover to the right) to rule on the use of saints' images and icons in religious devotion. At that time a strong movement known as iconoclasm, which opposed the pictorial representation of saints or of the Trinity, existed in the Greek church. At the prompting of Irene the council declared that whereas the veneration of images was legitimate and the intercession of saints efficacious, their veneration must be distinguished from the worship due God alone.

October Respect-Life Month

3rd WEEK INTENTION OF REPECT LIFE MONTH:

Prayer for the Elderly

O Lord of Life, grant that the Elderly may lovingly accept Your will, and place themselves each day in Your merciful hands.



When the moment of their passing comes, grant that they may face it with serenity, without regret for what they shall leave behind. For in meeting, You after having sought You for so long, they shall find once more every authentic good which they have

known here on earth in the company of all who have gone before them marked with the sign of faith and hope. Grace the Elderly with this wisdom so that they and we may bless and glorify Your Great Name Father, Son (+) and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Join us in praying the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary for world peace on Fridays in October @ 6:00 p.m.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

October 21	..... (MR) The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary @ 6:00 p.m.
October 23	.... Deanery Freewill Pasta Dinner – St. Elias Church, Munhall rom 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm.
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.
November 6	..... GCU Northwest Pittsburgh Lodge meeting @ 2:00 p.m. in gym. Eastern Standard Time Resumes: Clocks FALL BACK one hour.
November 8	Feast of Synaxis of St. Michael & All Angels — (MR) @ 9:00 am; (NS) 6:00 pm General Election Day — Defend the most vulnerable: cast your Pro-Life Vote.
November 15	..... Commencement of the Philipian (Filippova) Fast.

Saint of the Week

Pope St. John Paul II — October 22

Pope Saint John Paul II was born Karol Józef Wojtyła on May 18, 1920 and passed away on April 2, 2005). He was head of the Catholic Church from 1978 to 2005. He was elected by the second Papal conclave of 1978, which was called after Pope John Paul I, who had been elected in August to succeed Pope Paul VI, died after thirty-three days. Cardinal Wojtyła was elected on the third day of the conclave and adopted his predecessor's name in tribute to him. John Paul II is recognized as helping to end Communist rule in his native Poland and eventually all of Europe. John Paul II significantly improved the Catholic Church's relations with Judaism, Islam, the Eastern Orthodox Church, and the Anglican Communion. He upheld the Church's teachings on such matters as artificial contraception and the



ordination of women, but also supported the Church's Second Vatican Council and its reforms. He was one of the most travelled world leaders in history, visiting 129 countries during his pontificate. As part of his special emphasis on the universal call to holiness, he beatified 1,340 people and canonized 483 saints, more than the combined tally of his predecessors during the preceding five centuries. By the time of his death, he had named most of the College of Cardinals, consecrated or co-consecrated a large number of the world's bishops, and ordained many priests. A key goal of John Paul's papacy was to transform and reposition the Catholic Church. His wish was "to place his Church at the heart of a new religious alliance that would bring together Jews, Muslims and Christians in a great religious armada". John Paul II was the second longest-serving pope in modern history after Pope Pius IX, who served for nearly 32 years from 1846 to 1878. Born in Poland, John Paul II was the first non-Italian pope since the Dutch Pope Adrian VI, who served from 1522 to 1523. John Paul II's cause for canonization commenced in 2005 one month after his death with the traditional five-year waiting period waived. On December 19, 2009, John Paul II was proclaimed Venerable by his successor Pope Benedict XVI and was beatified on May 1, 2011 (Divine Mercy Sunday) after the Congregation for the Causes of Saints attributed one miracle to his intercession, the healing of a French nun from Parkinson's disease. A second miracle attributed to John Paul II's intercession was approved on July 2, 2013, and confirmed by Pope Francis two days later (two miracles must be attributed to a person's intercession to be declared a saint). John Paul II was canonized on 27 April 2014 (again Divine Mercy Sunday), together with Pope John XXIII. It is traditional to celebrate saints' feast days on the anniversary of their deaths, but that of John Paul II (22 October) is celebrated on the anniversary of his papal inauguration. **The above picture was taken in 1982 in the papal apartments following the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Our pastor was in his 5th year of the Holy Priesthood having received his Licentiate Degree in Sacred Theology (S.T.L). It is the same University that the Holy Father attended**

General Announcements

PITTSBURGH DEANERY CLERGY TO SERVE PASTA DINNER NEXT WEEK — Mark

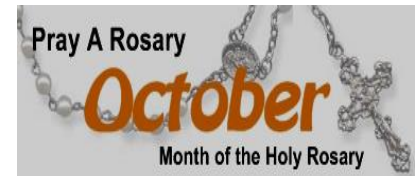


your calendars! The Priests and Deacons in the Pittsburgh Deanery will be again hosting a FREE PASTA DINNER at St. Elias Church, Munhall next **Sunday October 23, 2022** from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Clergy will be preparing and serving the dinner. A signup list is located in the Church. We must know how many to prepare for! **The final day for registration is today, October 16.** A freewill offering will be taken to

subsidize the project. Any profit that will be made will go to the Archieparhial 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.

ANNUAL MOLEBEN FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CAUSES — The yearly

prayer service for the advancement of the Causes of Beatification and Canonization of our four holy Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Bishops will take place at the **Holy Ghost Church, McKees Rocks, PA on Sunday, October 30, 2022 @ 3:00 p.m.** For the past 37 years faithful through the Pittsburgh Archeparchy have gathered in various archieparchial parishes, monasteries and the seminary to pray for the Canonization of *Bishop-Martyr Theodore G. Romzha, Uzhorod (+1947); Bishop-Martyr Paul P. Gojdich, O.S.B.M., Presov (+1960); Bishop-Martyr Basil Hopko, Presov (+1976); and for the beatification of the Servant of God Bishop Alexander Chira, Uzhorod (+1985).* A Marian Moleben is offered seeking the aid of the Holy Mother of God in helping us achieve this end. The Archieparhial Choir will sing the responses. Please invite your friends! **Since we will host this event, you are asked to bake or purchase some cookies for the fellowship that follows.**

