

Parish Offerings – 2nd Sunday after Pentecost — June 2, 2024

“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 (\$2,782) YP (\$6)	\$2,788.00
All Saints (\$150) YP (\$2) Pentecost (\$70)	222.00
Holy Days	25.00
Votive Candles	237.30
	<hr/>
	\$3,272.30

Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering	\$553.00
Improvement	42.00
Votive Candles	70.50

Church Attendance Last Week \$665.50

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

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (42); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (19)

Priesthood Ordination of Fr. Nathaniel Tapsak — (MR) 3:00 p.m. (102)



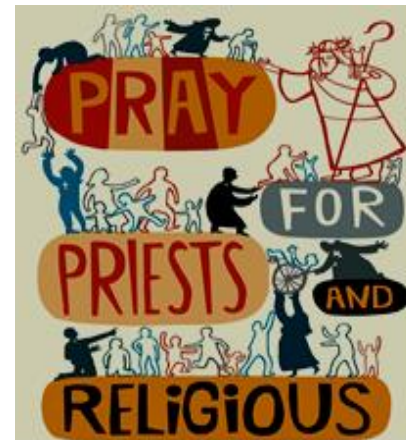
HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 3rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2nd Sunday of the Petrine Fast — June 9, 2024



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: Subdeacon Luke Iyengar (412) 863-3285.

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!

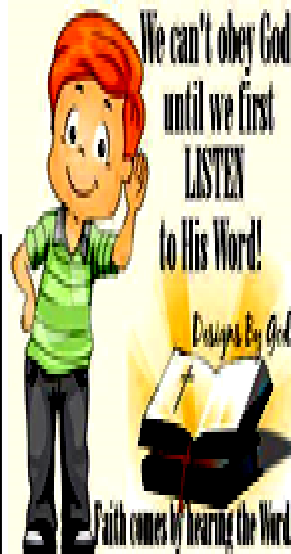


Valerian F. Szal

238 Helen St.,
Phone: (412) 331-9713

Michael P. Ferrell,
Supervisor, CFSP

Our Family Still Serving Yours Since 1953



Greek Catholic Union of the USA
A Fraternal Benefit Society

GCU offers Insurance and Annuity Benefits greater than most financial institutions. Info call Randy (412) 973-1085



North Side Parishioner

Alan Valeriano
(412) 638-3417
PA #172370

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).

June 9, 2024

Seasonal Greeting: Volume XIV Number 23



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

Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

2nd Sunday of the Petrine Fast


SUN, Jun 9 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Margaret Kurtanich (20th ann of pass 6/12) Children
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Olga Senchyshyn (birthday 6/15) Dgtr: Joan

Mon, Jun 10 8:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

The Holy Apostles Bartholomew & Barnabas

Tue, Jun 11 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Theodore Demianczyk, Jr. Dawn Ringes & Family

RECOMMENDED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice): for vocations

Wed, Jun 12  8:00 a.m. (MR) + Amelia + Frank T. Firko, Jr. Family
(Wedding Ann 6/10)

Thrs, June 13 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Dorothy Pelescak (birthday 6/15) Family

ANNUAL NATIONAL FLAG DAY

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

Fri, Jun 14  8:00 a.m. (MR) Special Intention for Bro-in-Law: Fr. Firko
Mary Ann & Richard J. Cupka (Wedding Ann 6/14)
6:45 p.m. (MR) Annual Flag Day Ceremony at the Flag Pole

Sat, June 15 9:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost — Father's Day

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Geraldine Babin Joe, Mary Ann & Jim

4th Sunday after Pentecost

3rd Sunday of the Petrine Fast — Annual Father's Day

SUN, Jun 16 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Anna + George Skalyo (Wed Ann 5/28) Dgtr: Joyce & Jim
11:00 a.m. (NS) For all the Deceased Fathers of Both Parishes

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

Jun 9 – KAYLA HARPER; Jun 10 – Cynthia Saber; Jun 11 – LEAH KALLOP;
Jun 13 – Susan Fejka, Anita Iyengar; Jun 15 – Kathleen Kulka

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

HOME: Margaret Beliuinas, Florence Charochak, DEACON MICHAEL MEADERS, Iona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Bernice Herrick, Steve Kosko, Albert Kovacs, Sr., Kathe Kress, William Kress, Julia Kutchmark, ARLENE LATTA, KIRK LATTA, Nancy Lecci, Frank Lipchick, BETTY LORINC, Irene Muha, JOHN NEWPORT, Kurt Perschy, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Betty Spisak, Anita Wolsko.

HIGHLAND PARK CARE CENTER (745 North Highland Ave., Pgh, PA 15206): Linda Reiger.

VETERANS HOSPITAL (1010 Delafield St., Pittsburgh, PA 15215): JOHN VEREB.

THE RESIDENCE AT WILLOW LANE (30 Heckel Rd., McKees Rocks, PA 15136): Helen Best, Margaret Cifrulak, Mildred Terrek.

FORBES REGIONAL HOSPITAL (2570 Haymaker Rd., Monroeville, PA 15146): Nancy (Shanta) Wurthier.

GREENTREE REHAB CENTER (1848 Greentree Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15220): Diane Bell.

TAPESTRY SENIOR LIVING (550 Cherrington Parkway, Moon Township, PA 15108): Eliz. Poznak

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. How do I reconcile the apparent contradiction of Vatican II and former teachings regarding salvation outside of the Catholic Church? A. Answer by Catholic Answers: A literal understanding of being an official/external member of the Catholic Church as necessary for salvation is not the teaching of the Church. A priest, Fr. Leonard Feeney, preached that message and was excommunicated in 1953 for disobedience in refusing to come to Rome and explain his views. This error is now named after him and is commonly called Feeneyism or the Boston Heresy. [The Holy Office in 1949 wrote to Fr. Feeney](#) and asked him to accept the Church's definition/understanding of the doctrine extra ecclesiam nulla salus: Therefore, that one may obtain eternal salvation, it is not always required that he be incorporated into the Church actually as a member, but it is necessary that at least he be united to her by desire and longing. However, this desire need not always be explicit, as it is in catechumens; but when a person is involved in invincible ignorance God accepts also an implicit desire, so called because it is included in that good disposition of soul whereby a person wishes his will to be conformed to the will of God.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

Jun 9 — Jul 15, 2024

(MR): In memory of Mildred & Michael Tomchak

offered by Son: Mike, Leyte & Mike

(NS): In memory of Olga Senchyshyn (birthday 6/15)

(MR) None available 2024

offered by Dgtr: Joan

(NS) None available 2024



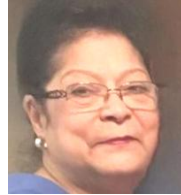
General Announcements

McKees Rocks & North Side

SYMPATHY EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the passing of, **George Thomas Herczak, 91**, of North Hollywood, CA on Friday, My 24, 2024.. He was related



to the Herczak parishioners of our MR parish. Interment will be at the San Fernando Mission Hills Cemetery, CA on Friday June 14; Also, **Carmen Evelyn Young- Ruud, 72**, who passed away at her Waterford, CT home on Tuesday, June 4, 2024. She was the Step-Mother of Eric (Kimberly) Ruud and leaves several nieces and nephews. Services will be offered at St. Mary Star of the Sea, New London, CT. *Our MR Parish offer it's*



most sincere condolences to the Herczak and Ruud Families. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, eternal rest to your servants, George & Carmen, and remember them forever. Vičnaja Jim Pamjat'!

PARISH & FINANCIAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS FORTHCOMING — members of the PAC/FAC are reminded of our June meetings on **(NS) Sunday, June 9, 2024 following the Divine Liturgy in Church; and (MR) Monday, June 10, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m. in the Church office** The agenda will include our E.C.F. review of the school year, upcoming Parish July 21 Picnic, etc. Members, please place this date on your agenda.

McKEES ROCKS BRIDGE AND ROAD CONSTRUCTION — Arriving at (MR) Holy Ghost Church is going to be challenging as work continues on the bridge. Both the up ramp going to Route 65, and the down ramp (on the other side) coming to Helen Street have be closed while construction takes place. Reports indicate that this will not be completed until July. Access to the Church from the MR side of the bridge, you will have to travel along River Road near the MR Plaza. From Bellevue to get on the bridge, the down ramp from to Helen Street is open. Departing the Church, the up ramp to Island Avenue is open. All traffic must turn left. If you are travelling to Route 65, you will have to make a turnaround at Speedway Gas Station and then to get on the bridge. Sorry for the inconvenience! Please do not allow this to deter you from making your way to the Church. Also, for those attending the Daily Divine Liturgy, please arrive no later than ten minutes after the hour. The side door is then locked. No worries if this happens. You can approach the rectory office, and then will be let into the Church.



North Side

SPECIAL PENTECOST COOKIE TREAT — On the Patronal Feast of Pentecost, those in attendance received a special edible treat at the mirovanije.



As last year, Parishioner, **Kathy Mullen**, baked homemade dove cookies and distributed them. What a nice and tasty treat it was to mark the celebratory occasion. A special thank you is extended to Kathy for making our Patronal Feast special with her special gift. God bless you for your unselfish display of

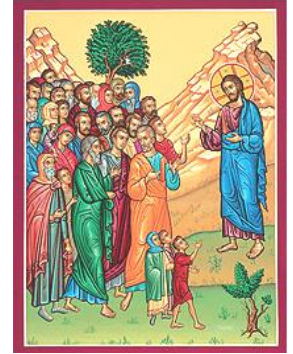
faith and love!

3rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Don't Be Anxious — Seek First His Kingship Over You!

(Matthew 6:22-34)

What does “serving two masters” and “anxiety” have in common? They both have the same root problem -- being divided within oneself. The root word for “anxiety” literally means “being of two minds”. An anxious person is often “tossed to and fro” and paralyzed by indecision. Fear of some bad outcome usually cripples those afflicted with anxiety. It's also the case with someone who wants to submit to God but also live according to the world's standards of success and fulfillment. Who is the master in charge of your life? Our “master” is that which governs our thought-life, shapes our ideals, controls the desires of the heart and the values we choose to live by. We can be ruled by many different things -- the love of money or possessions, the power of position, the glamour of wealth and prestige, the driving force of unruly passions and addictions. Ultimately the choice boils down to two: God and “mammon”. What is mammon? “Mammon” stands for “material wealth or possessions” or whatever tends to “control our appetites and desires”. There is one Master alone who has the power to set us free from the slavery of sin and fear. That Master is the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus uses an illustration from nature — the birds and the flowers — to show how God provides for them in the natural order of his creation. How much more can we, as his children, rely upon God's providential care? God is utterly reliable. In the Lord's Prayer we are reminded that God is our provider when we pray: *Give us this day our daily bread*. What is bread, but the very staple of life and symbol of all that we need to live and grow. Anxiety is neither helpful nor necessary. It robs us of faith and confidence in God's help and it saps our energy for doing well. Jesus admonishes his followers to put away anxiety and preoccupation with material things and instead to seek first the things of God — his kingdom and righteousness. Anxiety robs the heart of trust in the mercy and goodness of God and in his loving care for us. God knows our needs even before we ask and he gives generously to those who trust in him. Who is your master -- God or mammon?



Milestone Marriage Celebration

REGISTER FOR A CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE — The Archeparchy wishes to honor those who are celebrating their 10, 15, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70 etc. anniversary of marriage this year. This celebration has been extended on a new format. It will take place on **Sunday, September 15, 2024 @ 3:00 p.m. at St. Elias Church, Munhall**. If you are observing one of the above milestones, *please contact the Church office if you plan or DO NOT plan to attend!* All specially marked anniversaries submitted will be published in a September issue of the SOT. *The final day of registration is Sunday, July 14.*



Calendar of Upcoming Events

June 9 (NS) PAC/FAC Meeting following the Divine Liturgy.
June 10 (MR) PAC/FAC Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
June 14 Annual Flag Day Ceremony @ 6:45 p.m.
June 16 Annual Father's Day
June 24 Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (MR) @ 9:00 a.m.; (NS) @ 6:00 p.m.
June 28 Divine Liturgy of SS. Peter & Paul — (NS) 6:00 p.m.
June 29 Holy Day of Obligation: Feast SS. Peter & Paul (MR) 9:00 a.m.
July 8 Archdiocesan Altar Server Faith & Fun Days Pirates vs. Mets @ 12:35 p.m.

Saint of the Week

THE HOLY YOUNG MARTYR AQUILINA

June 13



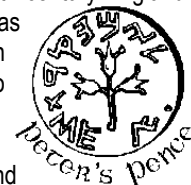
Aquilina was born in the Palestinian town of Byblus of honorable Christian parents. At age seven, little Aquilina was already completely versed in the true Christian life and at age ten she was so filled with divine understanding and the grace of the Holy Spirit that she, with great power and zealotry, preached Christ to her female companions. When Diocletian's persecution began, someone accused Aquilina before Volusian, the imperial deputy, who was more like a beast than a man. At first, Volusian ordered that Aquilina be flogged and after that, a red hot rod be pierced through her ears and brain. Until the last moment, the virgin Aquilina freely and openly confessed Christ the Lord and when her brain and blood began to flow from her head, she fell as though dead. The deputy, thinking Aquilina was indeed dead, ordered her body to be carried outside the city and thrown upon a dung heap for the dogs to consume. But, an angel of God appeared to her at night and said to her: "Arise, and be whole!" And the virgin arose and was whole and for a long time she offered up praise of thanksgiving to God imploring Him not to deprive her to fulfill her martyr's mortification. A voice from heaven was heard: "Go, it will be to you as you pray" and Aquilina set out for the town. The gates of the town opened on their own accord before her and she entered like a spirit into the palace of the deputy and appeared before his bed. The deputy was seized with unspeakable fear, seeing the virgin alive whom he thought was dead. The following day, according to his command, the executioners led Aquilina out to behead her. Before her beheading, the virgin Aquilina prayed to God on her knees and gave up her soul. The executioner beheaded her lifeless head. Her relics gave healing to many of the sick. **Aquilina was twelve years old** when she suffered for the Lord: suffered and crowned with the martyr's wreath in the year 293 A.D.

General Announcements

KENNYWOOD PARK: BYZANTINE CATHOLIC FAMILY DAY — Special discounted tickets are now available from GCU for this annual special event on **Thursday, July 25** from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Tickets are available online // gcuusa.com. For additional information contact: Fraternal Communications Dept. (800) 722-4428 ext. 3810 or ccchamberlain@GCUusa.com.



ANNUAL PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION THROUGHOUT JUNE — The History of the Peter's Pence Collection derives its name from an ancient custom. In ninth-century England, King Alfred the Great collected money, a "pence," from landowners as financial support for the Pope. Today, the Peter's Pence Collection supports the Pope's philanthropy by giving the Holy Father the means to provide emergency assistance to those in need because of natural disaster, war, oppression, and disease. In his address of March 20, 2013, Pope Francis spoke of our responsibility before the world and creation. *"There is much that we can do to benefit the poor, the needy and those who suffer, and to favor justice, promote reconciliation and build peace,"* he said. The Peter's Pence Collection unites us in solidarity to the Holy See and its works of charity to those in need. Your generosity allows the Pope to respond to our suffering brothers and sisters.



FLAG DAY CEREMONY THIS WEEK

Once again this year, our Parishes will sponsor the *Annual Flag Day Ceremony* on **Friday, June 14 @ 6:45 p.m.** It will take place at the flag pole located in the front of the MR Church. This short Program will be highlighted by the "Pledge of Allegiance" at 7:00 p.m. when all fraternal groups throughout our nation will salute Old Glory. Come and join us! Due to so many activities over the past few weeks, there will be no refreshments following the honor given to the red, white & blue. Please attend anyway!. All welcome!!!



OUR PARISHES LEND A HELPING HAND TO FISHER HOUSE — Our Parishes are commencing to collect items to help Pittsburgh's VA Fisher House. The Pittsburgh Fisher House is a 10-bedroom "home away from home" and provides a place for visiting families to stay, free of charge, while their loved ones receive inpatient medical care at VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System. The Pittsburgh Fisher House is professionally furnished and features a common kitchen, laundry facilities, spacious dining room, living room with a library, and toys for children. They are requesting assistance in keeping these areas stocked with supplies. Boxes will be placed at the side vestibule and narthex areas of both parishes for the **collection that will extend to August 4**. Needed items are listed on a stationery sheet near these boxes. Let's help our afflicted veterans and their families by supporting Lodge 390 in this collection!



SAVE THE DATE: PARISH PICNIC SLATED FOR JULY— Although details will follow in a later edition of the SOT, you are asked to set aside, **Sunday, July 21** for our parish picnic. It will be held once again in the Robinson Township Picnic Grove off Cleaver Road. Please plan to join us as a member of our parish family.

