

**Parish Offerings – 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost — July 21, 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 (\$2,126) YP (\$5) .....	\$2,126.00
Holy Days (\$133) YP (\$1) .....	134.00
Votive Candles .....	146.00
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	\$2,406.00

**Holy Ghost Church, North Side**

Regular Offering (\$755) YP (\$1) .....	\$756.00
Holy Day .....	30.00
Votive Candles .....	86.50

**Church Attendance Last Week** \$872.50

Sat (MR), 4:00 p.m. (29)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (57); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (27)

The Holy O.T. Prophet — Fri. July 19 (NS) 6:00 p.m. (10) ; Sat. July 21 (MR) 9:00 a.m. (8)

Good Bye July ~

HELLO" August



...to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ; In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. — COLOSSIANS 2:2-3 KJV

**HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

225 OLIVIA STREET  
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

**THE 10<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

July 28, 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 Father David A. Bosnich**

Assistant Pastor (NS), Assigned to Chancery

**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](http://www.holyghost-byzantinecatholic.org) – E-Mail: [ffaf334@verizon.net](mailto:ffaf334@verizon.net)

**SUNDAY RADIO (9:00 am WEDO 810 AM) & INTERNET DIVINE LITURGY**

Liturgical Services LIVE: [www.Youtube.com](http://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](http://Rusyn.fm) at 3:30 pm. Archive: [c-rsmedia.org](http://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 will.



**Valerian F. Szal**

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

Michael P. Ferrell,  
Supervisor, CFSP

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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).

July 28, 2024

Seasonal Greeting:

Volume XIV Number 30



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

## Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

### 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

SUN, Jul 28	9:00 a.m. (MR)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Anna Shirley Kalnas	Mary Ann Smoley
Mon, Jul 29	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Eleanor + John Kulka (wed. ann)	Children: Kathy & John
Tue, Jul 30	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Michael Muska (40 <sup>th</sup> day of pass. 8/9)	Son: Michael
Wed, Jul 31	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Frank J. Sulzer, Jr. (Memorial)	Wife: Mildred & Family
<b>Commencement of the Savorial Fast</b>			
Thrs, Aug 1	8:00 a.m. (MR)	Health & Welfare of Fredric Mell (birthday)	Sister: Regina

### First Friday of the month of August

**REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice):** in reparation for sins committed in our Country & Reparation against the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Fri, Aug. 2	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Joseph A. Cehula (Memorial)	Anonymous
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**First Saturday of the month of August and in Reparation against the Immaculate Heart of Mary**

Sat, Aug. 3	9:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Mary Pungras	Dawn Ringes
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### Anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Andrew Nazak Dgtrs & Grandchildren

### 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

SUN, Aug 4	9:00 a.m. (MR)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Alice (Hudanich) Lamanna	Cousin: Alice Slagle

# 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

Aug. 1 — Michael Sedon, IRENE JUGAN.

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

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

**HIGHLAND PARK CARE CENTER** (745 North Highland Ave., Pgh, PA 15206): Linda Reiger.  
**THE RESIDENCE AT WILLOW LANE** (30 Heckel Rd., McKees Rocks, PA 15136): Helen Best, Margaret Cifrutlak, 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.** Are we obligated to forgive someone who has not asked for forgiveness? **A.** Answer by a Catholic Apologist: Yes, we must forgive him. As Jesus makes clear in the Sermon on the Mount after providing the Lord's Prayer, "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses" (Matt. 6:14-15). Jesus sets the example on the cross in asking his Father to forgive those who have crucified him. On the other hand, we need not necessarily associate with a person we forgive, especially if the wrongdoing he has committed against us is grave. And even if someone has repented of a grave offense, we need not necessarily associate with him. For example, if a woman has been sexually assaulted by a friend, she is morally obligated to forgive that friend but not morally obligated to continue having a friendship.



## This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

**July 28 — August 3, 2024**

(MR): In memory of Irene, Mike & Debra Palahunik

offered by a Friend

(NS): In memory of Alphonse A. Siglow

(MR) None available 2024

offered by Dgtr: Kathe & Bill Kress

(NS) None available 2024



# General Announcements

## McKees Rocks

**CONDOLENCES EXTENDED** — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the passing of **Joseph A. Cehula, 62**, resident of Stowe Township on Sunday, July 21, 2024 at home following heart failure. Originally a member of St. Nicholas Church, McKeesport, he lived in McKees Rocks for several years. He was a faithful attendee here at Holy Ghost. He was also of the Third Order Carmelites. He is survived by his beloved Mother, Patricia, who resides in East McKeesport. He also had several sisters. Arrangements were handled by the Forgie-Snyder Funeral home, East McKeesport. Following a Funeral Panachida, he was interred at St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Cemetery in North Versailles on July 26. Our parish extends its most *sincere condolences to the Cehula Family*. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, *eternal rest to your servant, Joseph, and remember him forever.* Vičnaja Jemu Pamjat'



## North Side

### *No Particular News at this time*

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**SUMMER IS NOT A TIME TO VACATION FROM WORSHIPPING GOD** — Now that Summer is here many will be going on vacation. Please remember to keep the worship of God in your plans. The first Precept of the Church is to participate in the Divine Liturgy on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. *This does not exclude vacation time!* The place to worship God is at the Divine Liturgy. He is so kind and merciful, sustaining and gifting us in all that we have and need. Voluntarily absenting oneself without serious reason makes us guilty of mortal sin, and unable to approach Holy Communion until the sinful neglect is confessed in the Holy Mystery of Reconciliation. If you know that where you are traveling there is no Catholic Church, please inform Fr. Firko so that a possible dispensation may be given. Don't forget, Fridays are days of Simple Abstinence (no Meat) or to offer an Equivalent Penance even when you are on vacation.



**DO YOU HAVE CHURCH CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES** — Soon the 2025 Church envelopes will be arriving here at the office. We are beginning to make the switch from this year to the next. If you have not used envelopes within the past two years, your name is probably not in the church's format. Church envelopes are a necessary part of the administrative workings of the parish. To be considered an active contributing member of the parish, which helps us meet our fiduciary responsibilities, we very much need your participation. Also, participation in capital donations is required to stand as a sponsor for Baptism, and Chrismation, Funerals, Weddings, etc. and other activities. You are encouraged to be enrolled in this aspect of the church. If you are currently without envelopes, and would like to become a contributing and active member with 2024 & 2025 envelopes, **please call the Church office before the August 31, 2023 deadline.** Our Church appreciates you and wishes to serve you as a fully active member. Adult envelopes begin with all who have graduated high school.



# TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## Upcoming Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord (Mt. 17: 1-9)

Christian theology assigns a great deal of significance to the **Transfiguration**, based on multiple elements of the narrative. In Christian teachings, the **Transfiguration** is a pivotal moment, and the setting on the mountain is presented as the point where human nature meets God: the meeting place for the temporal and the eternal, with Jesus himself as the connecting point, acting as the bridge between heaven and earth. The **Transfiguration** not only supports the identity of Jesus as the Son of God (as in his Baptism), but the statement "listen to him", identifies him as the messenger and mouth-piece of God. The significance of this identification is enhanced by the presence of Elijah and Moses, for it indicates to the apostles that Jesus is the voice of God "par excellence", and instead of Elijah or Moses, he should be listened to, surpassing the laws of Moses by virtue of his filial relationship with God. In 2 Peter 1:16-18, echoes the same message: at the **Transfiguration** God assigns to Jesus a special "honor and glory" and it is the turning point at which God exalts



Jesus above all other powers in creation, and positions him as ruler and judge. The **Transfiguration** also echoes the teaching by Jesus (as in Matthew 22:32) that God is not "the God of the dead, but of the living". Although Moses had died and Elijah had been taken up to heaven centuries before (as in 2 Kings 2:11), they now live in the presence of the Son of God, implying that the same return to life can apply to all who face death and have faith. The faithful bring **Grapes and other fruits of the summer harvest are blessed. From grapes come the wine at which the transfigured Jesus appears in the Eucharistic Form; and the fruits symbol God's bounty to us His people and His desire to feed us.**

## FROM A CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVE:

### The importance of Sunday and Participating at the Divine Liturgy

*The following article was written by a Catholic Apologist, Matt Nelson and taken from Catholic Answers Webpage. This abridges article briefly teaches us the importance of Sunday and worshipping at the Divine Liturgy. Space does not permit the entire article.*

Every Sunday "the whole Christ" is reunited in and through the Holy Eucharist. Moreover, our choice to participate is salvific: "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, you have no life in you" (John 6:53). Theologian Colin Donovan reminds us that "in the Mass (Divine Liturgy) it is Christ himself who worships the Father, joining our worship to His. In no other way is it possible to adequately give thanks (Eucharistic) to God . . . than by uniting our offerings to that of Jesus Christ himself." Christ does with us in the Mass (Divine Liturgy) what we cannot do alone: make a perfect offering to the Father. The key to understanding why Catholics must attend Sunday Mass (Divine Liturgy) lies above all in the essence of the Mass (Divine Liturgy) itself. Our duty to be willing participants **IS NOT rooted in how it makes us feel but in what it is.** As the sacred meeting place of God and man, the Mass (Divine Liturgy) reorients our lives towards God, reunites us with him in love, and thereby communicates the grace of salvation to our souls. In the long run, there can be nothing more productive than that.



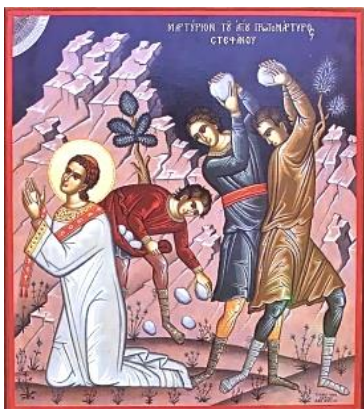
# Calendar of Upcoming Events

August 1-14 ..... Commencement of the Savioral Fast.  
 August 5 ..... Anticipated DL w/ the blessing of fruits & grapes at (NS) 6:00 p.m.  
 August 6 ..... Transfiguration DL w/ the blessing of fruits and grapes at (MR) @ 9:00 a.m.  
 August 14 ..... **Holy Day of Obligation** —Feast of the Dormition – Blessing of Herbs & Flowers – (MR) 7:00 p.m.  
 August 15 ..... Feast of the Dormition – Blessing of Herbs & Flowers – (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.  
 August 29 ..... Beheading Feast of St. John Baptist (Simple HD) – (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.  
 September 1 ..... Commencement of the New Ecclesiastical (Church) Year.  
 September Aug 31 – Sept 2 ..... 90<sup>th</sup> Annual Uniontown Pilgrimage at Mount Saint Macrina.  
 September 2 ..... Annual Labor Day — Federal Holiday. Morning Divine Liturgy (MR) 9:00 a.m.  
 September 8 ..... Feast of Nativity of the Theotokos.  
 September 15 ..... Archieparchial Celebration of Marriage for Jubilarians, St. Elias Church, Munhall @ 3:00 pm

## Saint of the Week — August 2

### THE FINDING AND THE TRANSPOSITION OF THE RELICS OF ST. STEPHEN, THE ARCHDEACON AND PROTO-MARTYR

When the wicked Jews slew St. Stephen by stoning, they left his body for the dogs to consume. However, God's Providence intended otherwise. The martyr's



body lay in an open place at the foothill of the city for one night and two days. The second night Gamaliel, Paul's teacher and secretly a disciple of Christ, came and removed the body and took it to Ciaramella on his estate and there he honorably buried it in a cave. Gamaliel also buried his friend Nicodemus who died weeping over the grave of Stephen in the same cave. Gamaliel also buried his baptized son Abibus there and according to his will, was buried there also. Since that time, many centuries passed and no one living knew where the body of St. Stephen was buried. However, in the year 415 A.D. during the reign of

John, the Patriarch of Jerusalem, Gamaliel appeared three times in a dream to Lucian, the priest at Caphargamala and, at length, related everything to him concerning the burial of all the afore-mentioned showing him the exact spot of their forgotten graves. Excited by this dream Lucian informed the patriarch and with his blessing went with a group of men and exhumed the four graves. Gamaliel had already told him in the dream whose grave was which. A strong sweet-smelling fragrance from the relics of the saints permeated the entire cave. The relics of St. Stephen were then solemnly translated to Zion and honorably buried there and the relics of the remaining three were moved to a hill above the cave and were placed in a church. That day, many healings of the sick occurred by the relics of St. Stephen. Later on, St. Stephen's relics were translated to Constantinople. Thus, the Lord crowned him for glorifying His Holy Name as he shed his blood in martyrdom.

**Holy Archdeacon Stephen, pray to God for us!**

# General Announcements

**TRANSFIGURATION: A SOLEMN HOLY DAY** — Christian theology assigns a great deal of significance to the Transfiguration, based on multiple elements of the narrative. In Christian teachings, the Transfiguration is a pivotal moment, and the setting on the mountain is presented as the point where human nature meets God: the meeting place for the temporal and the eternal, with Jesus himself as the connecting point, acting as the bridge between heaven and earth. The Transfiguration not only supports the identity of Jesus as the Son of God (as in his Baptism), but the statement "listen to him", identifies him as the messenger and mouth-piece of God. The significance of this identification is enhanced by the presence of Elijah and Moses, for it indicates to the apostles that Jesus is the voice of God "par excellence", and instead of Elijah or Moses, he should be listened to, surpassing the laws of Moses by virtue of his filial relationship with God. In 2 Peter 1:16–18, echoes the same message: at the Transfiguration God assigns to Jesus a special "honor and glory" and it is the turning point at which God exalts Jesus above all other powers in creation, and positions him as ruler and judge. The Transfiguration also echoes the teaching by Jesus (as in Matthew 22:32) that God is not "the God of the dead, but of the living". Although Moses had died and Elijah had been taken up to heaven centuries before (as in 2 Kings 2:11), they now live in the presence of the Son of God, implying that the same return to life can apply to all who face death and have faith. The faithful bring **Grapes and other fruits of the summer harvest will be blessed. From grapes come the wine at which the transfigured Jesus appears in the Eucharistic Form; and the fruits symbol God's bounty to us His people and His desire to feed us.**



### PENITENTIAL PERIOD IN PREPARATION FOR THE DORMITION FEAST —



During this fourteen-day penitential period referred to as the "Savioral Fast," (since it falls within the Savior's Transfiguration), the Church prescribes the Paraklis Service be held in honor of the Mother of God. The word "Paraklis" has two different meanings: the first is "consolation," from which the Holy Spirit is called the "Paraclete," or "Consoler;" the second is "supplication" or "petition." The Paraklis Service consists of supplication hymns

to obtain consolation and courage. It should be recited in times of temptation, discouragement or sickness. It is used more particularly during the two weeks before the Dormition of the Theotokos, from **August 1 to August 14**. The theme of this Paraklis Services centers around the petition. "Most Holy Mother of God, save us." *Following each of the daily Divine Liturgies we will offer a portion of this service for all our family, relatives and friends who have left our church so that they may return for the sake of their salvation.*

**FUN AT THE PARISH PICNIC LAST WEEK** — It was a beautiful day at last Sunday's Parishes Picnic. This was an 'old fashion style gathering at Clever Park underneath the large picnic shelter. There was plenty of food and games for the young and the adults for the entire afternoon. We are grateful to those who organized the event: Staff: Elaine Kurtanich, Norma Kacsur, Regina Mell, Donna, Harry & Stephanie Herron, and all that worked with them. Also, a special thank you to John Wovchko for reserving the shelter all the way back in January; Dean Poloka for providing the music God bless all of you for making this day a memorable one.

