

Parish Offerings – 10th Sunday after Pentecost — July 28, 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 (\$1,860) YP (\$4)	\$1,864.00
Holy Days	95.00
Votive Candles	112.50
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	\$2,071.50

Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering (\$589) YP (\$1)	\$590.00
Holy Day (\$15) Utilities (\$50) Improvements (\$5)	70.00
Special Donation (In Mem. of Anne Marie Demianczyk by Dgtr Dawn).....	500.00
Votive Candles	81.00

Church Attendance Last Week \$1, 241.00

Sat (MR), 4:00 p.m. (26)
Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (62); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (26)



Valerian F. Szal

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

Michael P. Ferrell,
Supervisor, CFSP

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WHAT IS HAPPENING
AROUND YOU, CHALLENGE
YOURSELF TO CONTROL
THE WAY
IN WHICH
YOU
RESPOND.



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North Side Parishioner

Alan Valeriano
(412) 638-3417
PA #172370

HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE
McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 11th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 4, 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 – 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 will.

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).

August 4, 2024

Seasonal Greeting:

Volume XIV Number 31



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

Liturgical Services for the Week

Date	Time	Intention	Requested By
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

Prefestive of the Transfiguration Feast

Mon, Aug 5	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Laura + Robert Kundrat	Theresa Kundrat
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Transfiguration of Our Lord, God & Savior

Jesus Christ — Solemn Holy Day

Solemn Blessing of Grapes & Other Fruits

RECOMMENDED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice)
for the intention of our beloved's return to the Church.

TUES, Aug 6	9:00 a.m. (MR)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
	6:00 p.m. (NS)	+ Dolores Hudanick	Children: George, Paul & Janice (2 nd ann of passing 7/24)

RECOMMENDED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice)
for the intention of our beloved's return to the Church

Wed, Aug 7	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Sr. Vladimir, O.S.B.M..	MaryEllen & John Oslick (8 th ann of passing 8/4)
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Thrs, Aug 8	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Milo James Perreault (birthday 8/6)	Wife: Karen
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REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice): for the return of our family, relatives and friends back to God and the Church.

Fri, Aug 9	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Edward Zotyak	Wife: Florence (8 th ann of passing 8/11)
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Sat, Aug. 10	9:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Marlene Pfeiffer	Eileen & Rick Fahert
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Anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Michele J. (Terrek) Chiavetta Mom: Mildred & Family

12th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN, Aug 11	9:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Julia + John Borsh	Dgtr: Audry Hart
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	For the Parishioners 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 to be published.

Note: Capitalized Names designate North Side parishioners

Aug 4 – Bernice Herrick; **Aug 5** – Peter Stecko, Judy Vovchko; **Aug 7** – Carol Lipchick; **Aug 9** – Russell Keller, Frank Lipchick, Gregory Rosko; **Aug 10** – Betty Wickline.

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, Julia Kutchmark, ARLENE LATTA, KIRK LATTA, BETTY LORINC, Irene Muha, JOHN NEWPORT, Kurt Perschy, Elizabeth Poznak, 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.

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

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

MONROEVILLE REHAB CENTER (4142 Monroeville Blvd. Monroeville, PA 15146): Nancy Wurthier.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. Is a priest obligated to baptize a baby even if the parents are not married or are not practicing the Catholic faith? **A. Catholic Answers Apologist:** If there is no reasonable assurance that after baptism the child will be raised in the faith, the priest has valid grounds for delaying the sacrament—or even refusing baptism altogether, if it is certain that the child will not receive a Catholic upbringing, something which is required by the sacrament itself. "The Church must have a well-founded hope that the baptism will bear fruit" (Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Instruction on Infant Baptism, 1980). The Church does not take the matter of refusal of the first and most important sacrament lightly. The priest is obligated to keep in contact with the family and to attempt to secure sufficient assurances necessary for the celebration of the sacrament. Once the priest is satisfied that assurances are met, such as the choice of godparents who will be diligent in seeing that the child is raised in the faith, he cannot refuse to celebrate the sacrament without delay.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

August 4 — August 10, 2024

(MR): **In memory of Loretta & Andrew Yakubik**

offered by Dgtr: Evelyn

(NS): **In memory of Michael Seman, Jr.**

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2024

offered by Sister: Velma

(NS) NONE AVAILABLE 2024

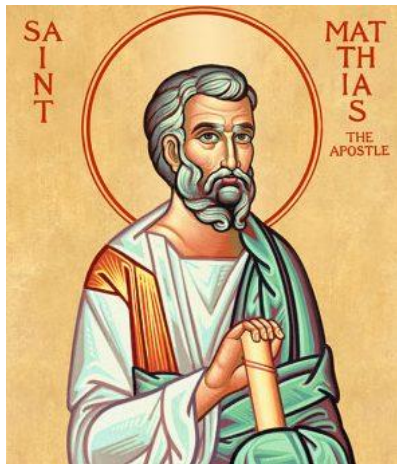
Calendar of Upcoming Events

August 1-14 Commencement of the Savorial Fast.
 August 6 Transfiguration DL w/ the blessing of fruits and grapes at (MR) @ 9:00 a.m.; (NS) @ 6:00 p.m.
 August 14 **Holy Day of Obligation** —Feast of the Dormition – Blessing of Herbs & Flowers – (MR) 7:00 pm
 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 90th 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

The Holy Apostle Matthias — Aug. 9

The Holy Apostle Matthias was born at Bethlehem of the Tribe of Judah. From his early childhood he studied the Law of God under the guidance of St Simeon the God-Receiver (February 3). When the Lord Jesus Christ revealed Himself to the world, St Matthias believed in Him as the Messiah, followed constantly after Him and was numbered among the Seventy Apostles, whom the Lord “sent them two by two before His face” (Luke 10:1). After the Ascension of the Savior, St Matthias was chosen by lot to replace Judas Iscariot as one of the Twelve Apostles (Acts 1:15-26). After the Descent of the Holy Spirit, the Apostle Matthias preached the Gospel at Jerusalem and in Judea together with the other Apostles (Acts 6:2, 8:14). From Jerusalem he went with the Apostles Peter and Andrew to Syrian Antioch, and was in the Cappadocian city of Tianum and Sinope. Here

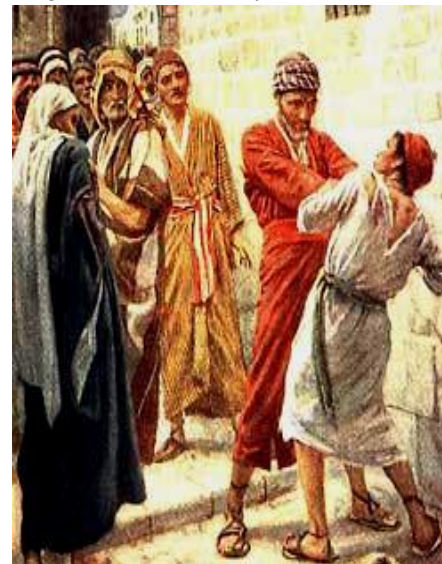


the Apostle Matthias was locked into prison, from which he was miraculously freed by St Andrew the First-Called. The Apostle Matthias journeyed after this to Amasea, a city on the shore of the sea. During a three-year journey of the Apostle Andrew, St Matthias was with him at Edessa and Sebaste. Once, pagans forced the saint to drink a poison potion. He drank it, and not only did he himself remain unharmed, but he also healed other prisoners who had been blinded by the potion. The Apostle Matthias returned to Judea and did not cease to enlighten his countrymen with the light of Christ's teachings. He worked great miracles in the Name of the Lord Jesus and he converted a great many to faith in Christ. The Jewish High Priest Ananias hated Christ and uttered a speech in which he blasphemously slandered the Lord. Using the prophecies of the Old Testament, the Apostle Matthias demonstrated that Jesus Christ is the True God, the promised Messiah, the Son of God, Consubstantial and Coeternal with God the Father. After these words the Apostle Matthias was sentenced to death by the Sanhedrin and stoned. The Apostle Matthias received the martyr's crown of glory in the year 63.

11th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

An Important Lesson on Forgiveness from the Fathers of the Church *(Matthew 18: 23-35)*

The beautiful mystery of seventy-seven is this: in that special number all sins of all generations were symbolized as having been forgiven. Since no generation was



omitted, no generation misses out on the full gift of divine forgiveness in the cross. So also, should we learn to forgive each other to the same extent that God has fully forgiven us. The frequency of pardon shows us there is never a time for anger, since God pardons us for all sins in their entirety by his gift rather than by our merit (Hilary of Poitiers).

In today's Gospel-parable, the unmerciful servant had lost a vast amount. Much had been loaned and entrusted to him, but he had brought no gain to his master (Origen). The master's teaching purpose was to show him with all justice precisely how much debt he was going to free him from. In this way at least he might in due time become gentler toward his fellow servant. Yet, even having learned of the weight of his debt and the greatness of the forgiveness, he continued to seize his fellow servant by the throat (Chrysostom). The forced sale of his wife and family portrays metaphorically utter separation from the joys of God (Cyril of Alexandria). God created us from nothing and made the whole visible world for us. To us alone he breathed a living soul. Yet after all this, when humanity proved ungrateful toward its benefactor, God thought us worthy of an even greater gift: forgiveness (Chrysostom). God forgives our immense debt often thousand talents on the proviso that we **ourselves release our fellow servants from the paltry hundred denarii, from the few** minor faults they have committed against us (Cyril of Alexandria). The king in the parable is the Son of God, and the kingdom belongs to the one who incomparably defines kingship itself and makes it possible (Origen). Compare the two servants: one was indebted for ten thousand talents, the other for a pittance. One was merely dealing with his fellow servant, while the other was dealing with his lord. The one received entire forgiveness, the other asked for delay (Chrysostom). The story demands two things of us: to remember our own faults and not to bear a grudge against one who stumbles (Apollinaris).

***Forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us!***

General Announcements

McKees Rocks & North Side

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, regular attendance is required to stand as a sponsor for Baptisms, and Chrismations, First Communions, Weddings, 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, 2024 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.

Prayer for Daily Neglects

(A Poor Clare Nun who had just passed away appeared to her Abbess, who was praying for her, and said, "I went straight to heaven, for, by means of this prayer, recited every evening, I paid my debts".) This prayer is not meant to replace Confession, but for venial sins and temporal punishment due to the guilt of sins forgiven.

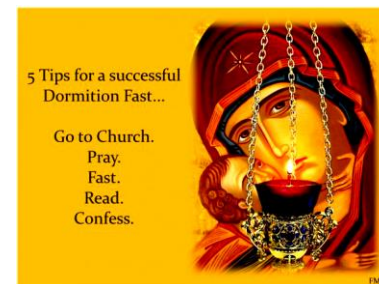
- (1) Eternal Father, I offer You the Sacred Heart of Jesus, with all its love, and its sufferings and all its merits **to expiate all the sins that I have committed this day and during my entire life.** Glory to the Father and to the Son (+) and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen
- (2) Eternal Father, I offer You the Sacred Heart of Jesus, with all its love, and its sufferings and all its merits **to purify the good that I have done badly this day and during my entire life.** Glory to the Father and to the Son (+) and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.
- (3) Eternal Father, I offer You the Sacred Heart of Jesus, with all its love, and its sufferings and all its merits **to supply for the good that I ought to have done, and that I neglected this day and during my entire life.** Glory to the Father and to the Son (+) and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen

General Announcements

CONTINUING THE PENITENTIAL PERIOD IN PREPARATION FOR THE DORMITION FEAST — During this fourteen-day penitential

period, 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.*



LAST DAY OF THE ANNUAL COLLECTION TO FISHER HOUSE — Since this is no longer a GCU Fraternal Event, both of our Holy Ghost Churches will sponsor the program collecting



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 are placed at the side vestibule and narthex areas of both parishes for the **collection ends next weekend, August 11.** For additional information, please contact Tina Burns (412) 618-6567.

BLESSING OF SCHOOL CHILDREN & TEACHERS IN TWO WEEKS — Following each of the Divine Liturgies **on the weekend of August 17 & 18, 2024** all Students and Teachers will be asked to

come forward for a blessing as they commence the actual and/or virtual Academic Year of 2024-2025 in their various schools, colleges, and universities. Since many of these institutions begin earlier each year, the opportunity to receive this blessing comes the third weekend of August. Receive God's blessing and be enriched by His tender mercy.

There is a RSVP for both teachers & students via phone call, or email if you plan to participate in this blessing by August 11.



PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT DIVINE LITURGY & SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTIONS UNTIL ANNOUNCED — Until the 2025 Ecclesiastical Record Book arrives, the Church office will not be accepting intentions. An announcement will be appearing in a future edition of the S.O.T. when you may begin reserving your special date requests. Thank you for your patience.