

**Parish Offerings – 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost — Sept. 15, 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**

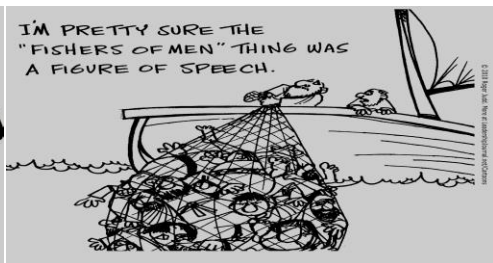
Regular Offering (\$1,686) YP (\$13) .....	\$1,699.00
Holy Days (\$286) YP (\$6) .....	292.00
Votive Candles .....	125.00
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	\$2,116.00

**Holy Ghost Church, North Side**

Regular Offering (\$712.50) YP (\$1) .....	\$713.50
Holy Day (\$50) (YP) (\$1).....	51.00
Votive Candles (\$57.50) Improvement (\$30) .....	87.50

**Church Attendance Last Week** \$852.00

Sat (MR), 4:00 p.m. (26)  
Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (62); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (24)



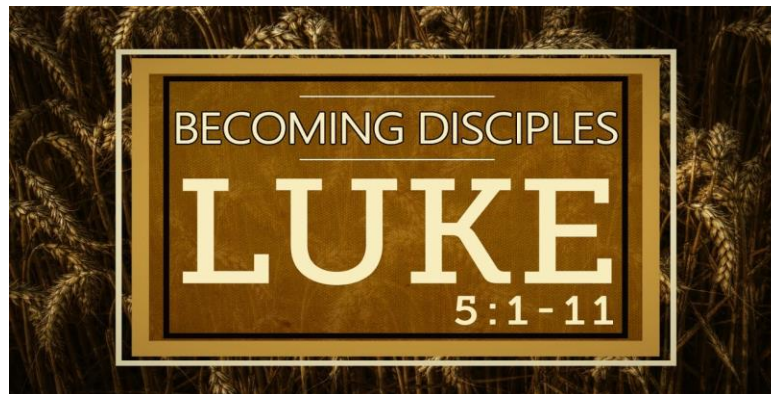
**HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

225 OLIVIA STREET  
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

**THE 18<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**Diaconal Ordination of Luke Iyengar — Sept. 22, 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 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.



**Valerian F. Szal**

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

Michael P. Ferrell,  
Supervisor, CFSP

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Be ye fishers of men -  
you catch them  
and He'll clean them.



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).

September 22, 2024 Seasonal Greeting: Volume XIV Number 38

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

## Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

### 18th Sunday After Pentecost

SUN, Sept 22 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Beverly Harsh (1<sup>st</sup> ann of passing) Helenea & Ed Conner  
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Ethel M. Galida (5<sup>th</sup> ann of passing) Dgr: Kathy L. Mullen  
3:00 p.m. (MR) Hierarchal Divine Liturgy: Diaconate Ordination of Luke  
Iyengar & Minor Orders of Reader & Subdiaconate of Nicholas Krivacs & Mark LeRoy

#### Conception of St. John the Baptist


Mon, Sept 23 8:00 a.m. (MR) John Kundrat Wife: Theresa  
(34<sup>th</sup> ann of passing 9/22)

Tues, Sept 24 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Alexander F. Perschy Son: Kurt  
(15<sup>th</sup> ann of passing)

Wed, Sept 25 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Kenneth M. Shanta Cousin: Janet Herczak

#### The Passing of the Holy Apostle & Evangelist, John

Thrs, Sept 26 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Monsignor Russell A. Duker Mary Elizabeth Olack &  
(Ordination 9/20) Kathy Kapaldo

**REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE** (no meat) or **Equivalent Penance** (your choice): for the  
 return of traditional & God righteous values leading all to salvation.

Fri, Sept 27 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mary Gramata Eleanor Gramata & Son: George  
(70<sup>th</sup> ann of passing 9/29)

Sat, Sept 28 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Dolores + George Hudanick Children

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#### Anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Eleanor Kapko Elizabeth Prostudy

### 19th Sunday After Pentecost

SUN, Sept 29 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes  
11:00 a.m. (NS) + John Spontak (21<sup>st</sup> ann of passing 10/2) Son: Robert

# 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

Sept 16 – MARY FRANCES SPONTAK; Sept 20 – LEONARD KALLOP, JR.;  
Sept 22 – Edward Cassidy, Margaret Nazak;; Sept. 23 — Kathleen Charochak, THERESA FITZURKA, TAMARA HARDING; Tam Revtai; Sept 25 — CINDY MEADERS.

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

**HOME:** Margaret Beliunas, Florence Charochak, DEACON MICHAEL MEADERS, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Bernice Herrick, Steve Kosko, Albert Kovach, Sr.; Bill Kress, Julia Kutchmark, ARLENE LATTA, KIRK LATTA, 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 Cifruk, Mildred Terrek.

**TAPESTRY SENIOR LIVING** (550 Cherrington Parkway, Moon Township, PA 15108): Eliz. Posnak  
**CEDAR HILL REHAB CENTER** (951 Broadhead Rd., Coraopolis, PA 15108): Nancy (Shanta) Wurthier.

**ALLEGHENY GENERAL HOSPIAL** (320 E. North Ave., Pittsburgh 15212): Regina Mell.

### Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

**Q.** Do female Anglican priests have the same power to consecrate the Eucharist as do male Anglican priests? **A. Catholic Answers Apologist:** The Catholic Church does not recognize the validity of Anglican orders, whether they are sought by men or women. In the Catholic Church's view, no Anglican priest, man or woman, can validly consecrate the bread and wine. During the reign of King Edward VI the Church of England no longer upheld the Mass (The Divine Liturgy) as a sacrifice. Therefore, the form of the sacrament of holy orders was compromised, rendering it invalid.

### This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

Sept. 22 — Sept. 27, 2024

(MR): In memory of John Kundrat (34<sup>th</sup> ann of passing (9/22)

offered by : Wife: Theresa Kundrat

(NS): In memory of David Bauch

(MR) AVAILABLE FOR 2024

offered by Aunt: A. Velma Seman

(NS) AVAILABLE 2025

# General Announcements

## McKees Rocks

**MAJOR & MINOR ORDINATION THIS AFTERNOON** — Our Parish (MR) Vocation, *Subdeacon Luke Iyengar will be ordained to the Diaconate here at Holy Ghost Church this afternoon, September 22, 2024 @ 3:00 p.m.* This is a tremendous honor for our parish! Also, Archbishop Skurla will be ordaining two Seminarians to the Minor Order of Reader & Subdiaconate, The are: **Nicholas Krivacs, and Mark LeRoy.** For those who have not registered for the luncheon, we are sorry, there are no extra seating arrangements, Unfortunately, the time has expired to sign for the luncheon which follows. However, if you wish to attend the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy of Ordination, you may do so.



**E.C.F. CLASSES POSPONED TODAY** — Many of you will be attending the Ordinations this afternoon and have to travel a distance to be present. Our religious education classes have been cancelled this Sunday. They will resume next Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup> following the 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy. Thank you for your understanding.

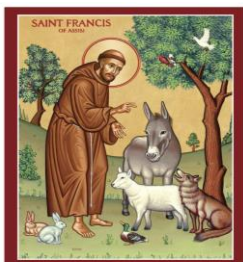
**GRATITUDE TO OUR VOLUNTEERS WHO MADE TODAY'S ORDINATION BUFFET POSSIBLE** — We are grateful to our Volunteer Committee for assisting the Iyengar Family with the social following the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy today! The social success of our volunteers can only be measured by those who step forward and sacrifice their time. You are truly amazing and appreciated.

## North Side

### No Particular Announcements this Week

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**FOURTH ANNUAL BLESSING OF ANIMALS FORTHCOMING** — 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, and whose feast is at the beginning of October, our pastor is inviting you to bring your pets for a short blessing serving on **Friday, October 4, 2024 @ 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.



Blessing of the Animals

**Attend the Daily Divine Liturgy!  
Grace will be there!**

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

## A Preposterous Request — LK 5:1-11

It all started with the Lord's preposterous request. He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." What's so out of line about that? Three things! **First**, anybody knows that the best net fishing is done at night when the fish can't see the net in the dark—not in broad daylight. **Second**, the fishermen had just come in from fishing all night, having caught nothing. Obviously the fish were somewhere else. **Third**, now their nets were all cleaned from their night's work. It was a messy job to clean those nets of seaweed and scum. Besides, these fishermen were tired and discouraged. Who wants to



start out on the day shift right after finishing a long night shift? What Jesus asked was beyond all reason and all fishing experience. How would Peter respond? Here's how he did respond. "Master," he began. So far, so good. This seems to imply complete obedience. But then Peter protested, "We have worked all night long but have caught nothing." Peter was sitting on the fence. On the one hand, he wanted to obey Jesus. On the other hand, he knew that it was utter foolishness. Something about Jesus struck Peter as different from any other person he had ever met. He heard promises more beautiful than the bewitching charm of blue Galilee, sparkling in the morning sun. Suddenly something snapped in Peter's heart. He jumped off the fence on the side of obedience, saying to Jesus, "**Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.**" At that precise point, Peter surrendered the keys of his life to Jesus—all the keys, including the master key. It was an electric encounter on the shore between the Carpenter and the fisherman. The base essence of Peter's reply was, "You say . . . I will." That was an obedient surrender of the keys based on an implicit trust in Jesus. James, John, and others followed Peter in heading out for the deep. After the Lord's preposterous request followed his fantastic gift. These fishermen netted a whopping catch. They had never seen a catch like that. Their net almost broke; their boats almost sank, and they hardly had enough men to haul in the fish. They were astounded that it happened in broad daylight. God was saying in language that fishermen understand what amazing things can happen when the keys of a lift are surrendered to Jesus. It illustrated the truth that God never ask of us anything, no matter how costly, but what he gives us back a hundred times more. The Twenty-third Psalm puts it in these words, "My cup runneth over." We ask God for a grain of sand and he gives us a whole beach. **God always gives far more than either we desire or deserve, according to our trust in him.**

# Calendar of Upcoming Events

September 22 ..... Major & Minor Orders here in (MS) @ 3:00 p.m.; No ECF Classes.  
October 1 ..... Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos — Feast of the Metropolitan Province (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.  
October 4 . Special Patriotic Rosary each October Friday for November's General Election @ (MR) 6:00 p.m. .... Blessing of animals (pets) following the Patriotic Rosary @ app. 6:30 p.m.  
October 6-10 ..... Annual Clergy Retreat at the Antiochian Village, Ligonier, PA  
October 12-13 ..... Metropolitan Centenary Celebration in Washington, DC.  
October 13 ..... (NS) PAC/FAC Meeting in Church following the Sunday Divine Liturgy.  
October 14 ..... (MR) PAC/FAC Meeting, Monday @ 7:00 p.m.  
October 29 ..... Sunday of Christ the King.  
November 3 ..... Annual Moleben for our 4 saintly bishops. @ 3:00 p.m.  
November 10 ... **Deanery Pasta Dinner from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. – St. Elias Church, Munhall.**

## Saint of the Week

### THE HOLY MARTYR CALLISTRATUS & COMPANIONS — September 27

Callistratus was born in Carthage. He was a Christian from birth, for his father and grandfather were Christians. One of Callistratus's ancestors, Neochorus by



name, was a soldier in Jerusalem under Pontius Pilate, at the time of the Crucifixion of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Witnessing the many miracles at the time of Christ's death, Neochorus believed in Him, and was instructed in the Faith and baptized by an apostle. Returning home to Carthage, Neochorus brought his Christian Faith with him as a precious pearl. So it was that in time Callistratus was born, baptized and raised a Christian. While he was in the army there were no other Christians in his regiment besides him. One of his companions, seeing how **St. Callistratus arose at night and prayed to God, reported him as a Christian to the commander, Persentinian.** Persentinian was a cruel torturer of Christians. In order to confirm that Callistratus was indeed a Christian, the commander ordered him to

offer sacrifice to the idols, which Callistratus straightway refused to do. He was then severely beaten and thrown into the sea. However, the power of God saved him, and he emerged from the sea in sound health. *Seeing Callistratus's endurance and miracles, forty-nine other soldiers came to believe in Christ.* They were beaten and thrown into prison with Callistratus. In prison Callistratus taught his companions the Faith, and strengthened them. They displayed great bravery in suffering, and the Lord manifested great power through them. Then the evil torturer sent soldiers to the prison by night, and they slew St. Callistratus and his forty-nine companions. They suffered for the truth in the year 304. A church was later built over their relics.

# General Announcements

## STILL TIME TO REGISTER: MARK YOUR CALENDAR: COME & SEE WEEKEND —

Young men 18-35 are invited to a weekend retreat, Friday through Saturday, **November 10-12, 2023** 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 [rector@bcs.edu](mailto:rector@bcs.edu) by *Wed. Oct 18.*

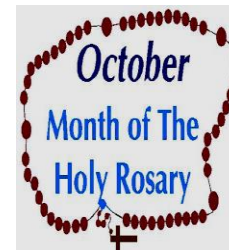


## PITTSBURGH DEANERY CLERGY TO SERVE PASTA DINNER — Mark your

calendars! The Priests and Deacons in the Pittsburgh Deanery will be again hosting a **FREE PASTA DINNER** at St. Elias Church, Munhall on **Sunday November 10, 2024** from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Clergy will be preparing and serving the dinner. A signup list will be forthcoming. We must know how many to prepare for! The final day for registration is Sunday, November 3. A *freewill offering will be taken to subsidize the project. Any profit that will be made will go to the Archieparchial Priests' Pension Plan.*



## UPCOMING MONTH OF OCTOBER: 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. In preparation for the upcoming General Election, a special Patriotic Rosary will be instituted. 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 seeking special intercession for our Country.

## BOOK HAS FNALLY ARRIVED — RESERVATIONS FOR DL & SANCTUARY LAMPS —

Divine Liturgy and Sanctuary Lamp reservations are 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 Sanctuary Lamp.** Several months ago, **the chancery raised the stipend fee per Divine Liturgy to \$20.00.** Place intentions and stipend in a regular white envelope with requested date(s) and place it in the collection basket.

