

## Parish Offerings – Sunday of All Saints — June 15, 2025

“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 .....	\$175.00
All Saints (\$1,116) YP (\$8) Pentecost (\$375) Holy Days (\$50) .....	1,549.00
Votive Candles .....	260.50

\$1,984.50

### Holy Ghost Church, North Side

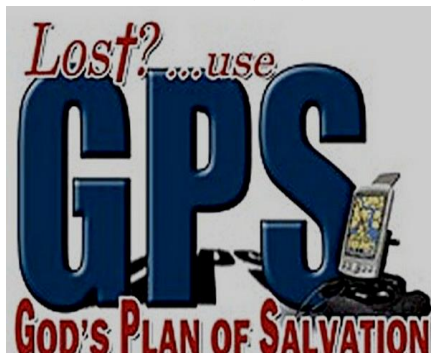
Regular Offering .....	\$108.00
All Saints (\$528) YP (\$1) Pentecost (\$10) Holy Days (\$50) .....	589.00
Improvements .....	45.00
Votive Candles .....	118.00

\$860.00

## Church Attendance Last Week

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

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (55); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (32)



**Valerian F. Szal**

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

**Michael P. Ferrell,**  
Supervisor, CFSP

*Our Family Still Serving Yours Since 1953*



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



## HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET

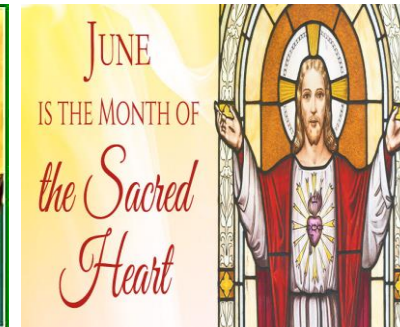
McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136

.. 1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

## THE 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

### First Sunday of the Petrine Fast — June 22, 2025



Catholics of the Ruthenian – Byzantine Rite in full communion with the Pope of Rome

## The Very Reverend Father Frank A. Firko

Pastor, Administrator & Protopresbyter

Reverend Father David A. Bosnich

Assistant Pastor (NS), Assigned to Chancery

The Reverend Deacon Michael E. Meaders (NS)

The Reverend Deacon Luke R. Iyengar (MR)

Rectory: (412) 771-3324; Church Fax: (412) 331-1870

MR School Hall Kitchen: (412) 331-5155

Website: [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.

Personal Care & Hospitalized: Phone Church Office ASAP.

Sponsor of Christian Initiation: Godparents must be practicing Catholics.

Religious Education Classes: (MR) Coordinator: Pastor (412) 771-3324.

Carpato-Rusyn Radio: Internet Sunday afternoon: Rusyn.fm at 3:30 pm. Archive: c-rsmedia.org.

Social Hall Rental: (MR) Contact Church Office.

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 **If you would like to request a Divine Liturgy (\$20) or Sanctuary Lamp (\$10)** Please contact the Church Office. Also, Blessed Decorative Sacramental/Easter Basket Candles (\$15).

# THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH

With unity of faith let us celebrate a solemn feast of those who from the ages have found grace before God. Let us remember all the Saints: the Patriarchs, Prophets, and Apostles of Christ, the Martyrs, and Ascetics of all ages. They intercede unceasingly for the peace of the world and for the salvation of our souls! (Great Vespers of All Saints)

June 22, 2025

Volume XV, Number 26



**Seasonal Christian Greeting:**  
**Glory to Jesus Christ! — Glory Forever!**  
**Slava Isusu Christu! — Slava Na Viki!**



## Liturgical Services for the Week

### 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

**SUN, June 22 9:00 a.m. (MR)** For the Parishioners of Both Parishes  
**11:00 a.m. (NS)** + Anna Marie Demianczyk  
 (3<sup>rd</sup> ann of passing 6/19) Dgtr: Dawn Ringes & Family

**Mon, June 23 8:00 a.m. (MR)** + Dorothy Pelescak (birthday 6/18) Family

**Feast of the Nativity of the Holy Prophet, Precursor, & Baptist of the Lord, John — Solemn Holy Day**

**Mon, Jun 24 9:00 a.m. (MR)** For the Parishioners of Both Parishes  
**6:00 p.m. (NS)** + Evelyn (Sosnak) Vento (birthday) Anonymous

**Final Day of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist**

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

**Wed, June 25 8:00 a.m. (MR)** + Elsie Eberle (birthday 6/24) Theresa Kundrat

**Thrs, June 26 8:00 a.m. (MR)** Health & Welfare of Geraldine Michalik Br. Regis. OFM.

**Commemoration of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Lover of Mankind**

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

**Fri, June 27 8:00 a.m. (MR)** + Agnes + Anthony Knoll Dgtr: Leslie O'Donnell

**Commemoration of the Immaculate Heart of Mary**

**Sat, June 28 9:00 a.m. (NS)** + Louise Georgevich Peggy Hurney

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**Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of Third Sunday after Pentecost — Feast of SS. Peter & Paul**

**4:00 p.m. (MR)** + Diane + William H. Bell Dgtr: Kim Zoldos & Family

## 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

**Feast of the Prime Apostles Saints Peter & Paul**

**SUN, June 29 9:00 a.m. (MR)** For the Parishioners of Both Parishes  
**11:00 a.m. (NS)** + Dolores + George Hudanick, Sr. Children: George, Paul & Janet  
 (4<sup>th</sup> ann of passing 6/19)

## 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 23** – Steve Vasko; **June 24** – BRADLEY SPONTAK; **Jun 26** – Patricia Porter

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

**HOME:** Margaret Beliunas, Dolores & William Boras, Nancy Debranski-Ferrell, Monica Lemesh, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Bernice Herrick, Michael Kachuta, Steve Kosko, Albert Kovacs, Sr; Ken Krempasky, Theresa Kundrat, ARLENE LATTA, KIRK LATTA, BETTY LORINC, DEACON MICHAEL & CINDY MEADERS, Kurt Perschy, Betty Spisak, Anita Wolsko.

**MAPLEWOOD PC HOME** (461 Maplewood Ave. Ambridge, PA 15003): Doris Naughton.

**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, Mildred Terrek.

**CEDAR HILL REHAB CENTER** (951 Broadhead Rd., Coraopolis, PA 15108): Nancy (Shanta) Wauthier.

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

**VANADIUM WOODS VILLAGE** (50 Vanadium Rd, Bridgeville, PA 15017): Bea Stempkowski.

**CONCORDIA OF BRIDGEVILLE** (3560 Washington Pike, Bridgeville, PA 15017): Flo Charochak.

**CARNEGIE PARK POST-ACUTE CARE** (1848 Greentree Rd, Pittsburgh, 15220): Dolores Babin.

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

**Q.** In a relationship, how far is "too far" before it is considered a sin? **A. Answer by Catholic Answers:** We are made in the image and likeness of God, which means we cannot treat another person as an object of pleasure (Gn 1:26). Therefore, actions that directly stimulate sexual passion are morally unacceptable (1 Tim 5:22). Our sexual gifts have a much higher and special purpose. Looser sexual behavior becomes a tyrant that keeps making more demands on those involved. Eventually, you and your date will get bored with just kissing and will most likely want to move on to other things. This is called the "law of diminishing returns." Kissing does not always give the same excitement as when you first did it. The more one feeds these passions, the more one's will becomes weakened.... Even when a man and a woman are engaged to be married, they must live chastely. The covenant and consecrated relationship begin only when enter the Holy Mystery (Sacrament) of Marriage WITH THE BLESSING OF God and the Church. The couple must reserve for marriage any expression of affection that belongs to the married life.



## This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

**June 22 — 28, 2025**

(MR): **In memory of Mary Agnes Kress** (birthday 6/28)

offered by Son: Bill & Kathe Kress

(NS): **In memory of Peter Stecko** (31<sup>st</sup> ann of passing 6/27)

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2025 offered by Son: Peter & Barbara Stecko (NS) NONE AVAILABLE 2025





# General Announcements

**UNITED IN HOLY MATRIMONY** — A Nuptial (Marriage) Ceremony was celebrated Saturday afternoon, June 14, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. at (MR) Holy Ghost Church for **Brandon Robert Hatton and Mickayla Elizabeth Poloka (MR-Holy Ghost Church)**. Our parish family extends to Brandon and Mickayla its most sincere congratulations and prayerful best wishes as they begin their new life together as husband and wife. May God grant them peace, health and salvation for many happy and blessed years! Na Mnohaja I Blahaja Lita!



**CONDOLENCES EXTENDED** — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the passing of **Eleanor L. "Nan" Siglow, 94**, a resident of the New Hope Personal Care Facility, Bellevue, who passed away on Pentecost Sunday, June 8, 2025. Funeral arrangements are handled by Lawrence T. Miller Funeral Home, Bellevue, PA. She is survived by her children especially Kathryn (William) Kress, parishioners of (MR) Holy Ghost Church. A Funeral Mass of Christian Burial was offered at Regina Coeli Roman Rite Church formally Assumption, Bellevue on Friday June 13. Interment took place at Christ Our Redeemer Cemetery, Pittsburgh, PA. Our parish extends its most sincere condolences to the Siglow and Kress Families. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, eternal rest to your servant, Eleanor, and remember her forever. Vičnaja Jej Pamjat'!



**OUR PARISHES LEND A HELPING HAND TO FISHER HOUSE** — Our Parishes are once again, 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 this collection! Needed items are listed at the entrances of both churches. Feel free to take one while shopping. Any question, please contact Tina Burns (412) 618-6567.

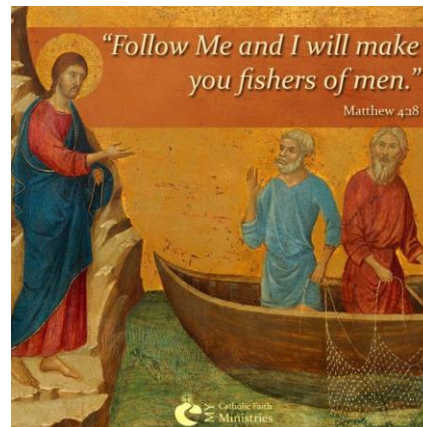


**PRAYER FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM** — *O God our Creator, from your provident hand we have received our right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. You have called us as your people and given us the right and the duty to worship you, the only true God, and your Son, Jesus Christ. Through the power and working of your Holy Spirit, you call us to live out our faith in the midst of the world, bringing the light and the saving truth of the Gospel to every corner of society. We ask you to bless us in our vigilance for the gift of religious liberty. Give us the strength of mind and heart to readily defend our freedoms when they are threatened; give us courage in making our voices heard on behalf of the rights of your Church and the freedom of conscience of all people of faith. Grant, we pray, O heavenly Father, a clear and united voice to all your sons and daughters gathered in your Church in this decisive hour in the history of our nation, so that, with every trial withstood and every danger overcome — for the sake of our children, our grandchildren, and all who come after us — this great land will always be "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. Amen."*

## 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Come, follow me!** (Matthew 4:18-23)

The second Sunday after Pentecost shows us the practical application of the great call to renunciation formulated by Jesus in the gospel for the first Sunday. The



gospel read today at the Divine Liturgy tells of the calling of the first apostles. On the shore of Lake Galilee, Jesus sees Simon and Andrew fishing. He says to them: 'Follow me'. He wants to make them fishers of men. 'And they straightway left their nets and followed him'. Further on Jesus meets James and John, also fishermen, in the company of their father, Zebedee. Jesus calls them. 'They immediately left the ship and their father and followed him.' The new disciples abandoned their nets and their ships: Jesus sometimes asks us to renounce our

profession, our instruments of work, whatever we possess. But some sons, at the call of Jesus, abandon their father too: sometimes he wants us to abandon family affections, human friendships, created love. This is not a purely negative attitude. Jesus' call has a very positive aspect: one must follow the Master. But the first apostles could not have followed the Master if they had not first of all left their ships, and their nets, and their father. And what have I abandoned in order to follow Jesus? What does he want me to leave?

## Special Commemoration this Week THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

On the Third Friday following Holy Pentecost, the Byzantine-Ruthenian Catholic Church has always commemorated the *Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (Prazdnik Najsvjatijsaho Serdca Isusa)*. On this day, the Church renders a special tribute to our Lord Jesus Christ as **THE LOVER OF MANKIND**. A person's heart is a symbol of love. Just as God loves us, we are to ask to beseech His grace to increase our love for God and neighbor. The founders and benefactors of our Churches have always had a special love for the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Every home had an image hanging on their walls. During the month of June, the Church exhorts us to honor the Lord Jesus because of His unflinching love for all. Join us on this festive day honoring Our Lord Jesus.



## Calendar of Upcoming Events

June 28 .....(changed from 6/10) ..... (MR) PAC/FAC Meeting @ 2:00 p.m.  
 June 24 ... Nativity of St. John the Baptist (Solemn Holy Day): (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 p.m.  
 June 29 ..... Feasts of SS. Peter & Paul.  
 July 4 ..... Special Patriotic (MR) Divine Liturgy of Independence Day @ 9:00 a.m.  
 July 13 ... Annual (MR) & (NS) Parish Picnic, Cleaver Recreational Park, Robinson Township  
 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## Solemn Holy Day of the Week

### Nativity of St. John the Baptist — June 24



Six months before his appearance in Nazareth to the All-holy Virgin Mary, the great archangel of God, Gabriel appeared to Zachariah the high priest in the Temple at Jerusalem. Before he announced the miraculous conception to the unwed virgin [Mary], the archangel announced the miraculous conception to the childless old woman [Elizabeth]. Zachariah did not immediately believe the words of the herald of God and this is why his tongue was tied with dumbness and remained as such until eight days after the birth of John. On that day, the relatives of Zachariah and Elizabeth gathered for the young child's circumcision and for the sake of giving him a name. When they asked the father, what name he wishes to give to his son and being dumb, he wrote on a tablet: "John." At that moment his tongue became

loosed, and he began to speak. The home of Zachariah was on the heights between Bethlehem and Hebron. The news of the appearance of the angel of God to Zachariah was spread throughout all of Israel, as well as of his dumbness and the loosening of his tongue at the moment when he wrote the name "John." The news concerning this even reached Herod. Therefore, when Herod sent soldiers to slay the children throughout Bethlehem, he directed men to the hilly dwelling place of the family of Zachariah to kill John also. However, Elizabeth promptly hid the child. Enraged, King Herod sent his executioners to Zachariah in the Temple to slay him (for it happened that it was Zachariah's turn again to serve in the Temple of Jerusalem). Zachariah was slain between the court and the temple, and his blood coagulated and petrified on the stone pavers and remained a perpetual witness against Herod. Elizabeth hid with the child in a cave where she died soon after. The young child John remained in the wilderness alone under the care of God and God's angels.

*St John the Baptist, pray to God for us!*

## General Announcements

**LAST DAY TO SIGN FOR DEACON LUKE'S ORDINATION & FIRST SOLEMN DIVINE LITURGY IN JULY** — One last announcement for registering for "Deacon Luke Iyengar upcoming Priesthood Ordination & First Solemn Divine Liturgy. It takes place on **Sunday, July 6, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Cathedral, Munhall** as well as his **First Solemn Divine Liturgy invoking the Aid of the All-Holy Spirit on Monday, July 7, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. at Holy Ghost Church, McKees Rocks.** Both Divine Liturgies will have a party afterwards. Come and let us show this parish vocation our support! If you are able to attend either social event, please inform him today @ (412) 863-3285. You may also sign the list located in the side vestibule and narthex area of both Churches. If you wish, he is also accepting e-mail responses: [Liyengar3@gmail.com](mailto:Liyengar3@gmail.com)."



**PARISHES PICNIC SLATED FOR JULY**— Only two weeks remaining before our Annual Parishes Picnic. on **Sunday, July 13** to be held once again in the Robinson Township Picnic Grove off Cleaver Road. In order to prepare the food, we need to know how many will be attending. **Please sign the sheet today!** please plan to join us as a member of our parish family.



**KENNYWOOD PARK: BYZANTINE CATHOLIC FAMILY DAY** — The **100<sup>th</sup> Annual GCU & Byzantine Catholic Family Day** will be celebrated on **Thursday, July 24, 2025**. GCU is offering prepaid discounted tickets to members, parishioners, and guests. Ride All Day Tickets (ages 4 and up): \$28.00; Details at [www.GCUusa.com](http://www.GCUusa.com). Order tickets online with a debit or credit card. You may also call 1 (800) 722-4428 ext. 3927 Churches will not be handling tickets. Gates open at 11:00 a.m. until close. Come join in the fun and set the day aside.



**REGISTER TO BE HONORED 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 7, 2025 @ 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. *Please call the church office A.S.A.P.*

**FORTNIGHT FOR FREEDOM — PENNSYLVANIANS IMPOLED TO DEFEND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY** — Catholic dioceses and eparchies across the Commonwealth are planning special events to mark the second annual "Fortnight for Freedom" which will take place between June 21 and July 4. The "Fortnight for Freedom" is a time of prayer that focuses on educating Catholics about the current threats to their religious liberty. Among those threats is a provision in the Affordable Care Act which requires employers to offer contraception, sterilization and abortion inducing drugs to employees. A redefinition of marriage in which the Supreme Court rules on same-sex marriages.

Archbishop Skurla is urging all the faithful of our parishes to participate in the effort to defend religious liberty, especially by prayer. Some ways to personally participate in this event are to (1) attend the daily Divine Liturgy and receive Holy Communion for this intention during this period; (2) spend an extra 5 minutes in Church following the Divine Liturgy and (3) pray the Holy Rosary.

