

Parish Offerings – 4th Sunday after Pentecost — July 6, 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 (\$2,450) YP (\$2)	\$2,452.00
Holy Day	95.00
Votive Candles	121.00

\$2,668.00

Holy Ghost Church, North Side

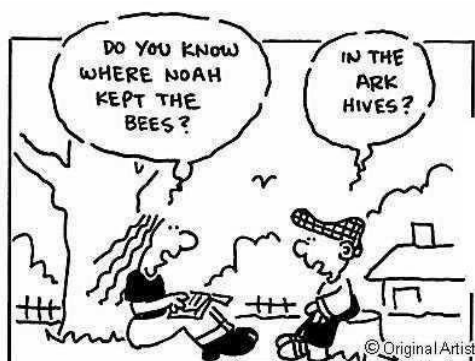
Regular Offering	\$500.00
Improvements	35.00
Votive Candles	134.00

\$669.00

Church Attendance Last Week

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (22)

Ordination of Fr. Iyengar - Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (33); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (19)



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

**Free will
doesn't mean
doing whatever
you want. It
means having the
freedom to do
what is right.**

HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET

.. 1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136

PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

The 5th Sunday after Pentecost

Annual Parishes Picnic — July 13, 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)

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

MR School Hall Kitchen: (412) 331-5155

Website: 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.

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.

Carpatho-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

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 13, 2025

Volume XV, Number 29



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

5th Sunday after Pentecost

Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils

Annual (MR) & (NS) Churches Picnic, Robinson Township Picnic Grove

SUN, Jul 13	9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
	11:00 a.m. (NS) + Daniel J. Galida (birthday 7/5)	Sister: Kathy Mullen
Mon, Jul 14	8:30 a.m. (MR) + Mary + Charles Kundrat	Theresa Kundrat
	St. Vladimir the Great, Equal to the Apostles	
Tue, Jul 15	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Marlene Pfeiffer	Anonymous
	(1 st ann of passing 6/28)	
Wed, Jul 16	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Anna Swayka	MaryEllen & John W. Oslick
	(29 th ann. of passing)	
	Blessed Bishop-Martyr Paul P. Gojdic, O.S.B.M.	
Thrs, Jul 17	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Stephen Opat	Dragica Krcelic Family & Family
	REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice):in	
	 reparation for sins committed in our Country	
Fri, Jul 18	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Sandy Donnelly	MaryEllen & John W. Oslick
	(2 nd day. of passing 7/20)	
Sat, Jul 19	9:00 a.m. (NS) + Ann Lecci	Son: Jenő & Nancy Lecci

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Julie Kutchmark Burt Cifrutlak

6th Sunday after Pentecost

Feast of the Holy O.T. Prophet Elijah — Blessing of Vehicles

SUN, Jul 20	9:00 a.m. (MR) + Joseph A. Cehula, T.O. Cam. Mom: Becky & Sisters	
	(1 st ann of passing 7/21)	
	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 be published.

Note: Capitalized Names designate North Side parishioners

Jul 13 – Michael Maslaney; Jul 15 – GEORGE HUNDANICH, JR.

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. I want to confess an obvious sin, but I do not feel remorse or regret for doing it. Do I need to be regretful to confess this sin or will it be forgiven even if I have no remorse? **A. Catholic Answers Apologist:** What 14s required is repentance, which is an act of the will. Remorse and regret are emotions, which you may or may not feel and do not have control over. Feelings of remorse and regret are not required, but they are helpful in keeping us from sinning again. One way to encourage such feelings is to develop a devotion to Christ's Passion. Meditation on the agonies Christ suffered to merit for us the grace we receive through confession helps in developing a horror for sin and a just remorse for the sins of one's life.



This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

July 13 — July 19, 2025

(MR): In memory of Stush, Stanley, Jr., Olga, Dan, & Mary Sulkowski
offered by Jodi Nazak Hernandez

(NS): In memory of Agnes Kacsur (birthday 7:25)

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



General Announcements

UR (MR) & (NS) 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.



KENNYWOOD PARK: BYZANTINE CATHOLIC FAMILY DAY — The 100th 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. 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.



SCHEDULE OF ALTAR SERVER FAITH & FUN DAY — The 2025 Faith & Fun Day for Archdiocesan Altar Servers has been set for **Monday, August 4, 2025**. The day will begin at 9:30 am at Holy Ghost Byzantine Catholic Church, McKees Rocks, PA with the Divine Liturgy and then at 10:45 a.m. off to the Pittsburgh Zoo (catered lunch at the Zoo); 2:45 p.m. depart from Zoo to Turf Attack (indoor nerf games) 4:45 p.m. depart to PNC Park for the Pirates game. The afternoon Pirates vs. the San Francisco Giants. Following the game, we will return to Holy Ghost Church to head back home. Please inform Fr. Firko if you plan to attend. Forms are needed to be filled A.S.A.P. the forms are Altar Server, Parents permission and Adult signup. Preparations determine how many altar servers and guardians will be attending.



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 anniversaries submitted will be published in a September issue of the SOT. Please call the church office A.S.A.P. and register.



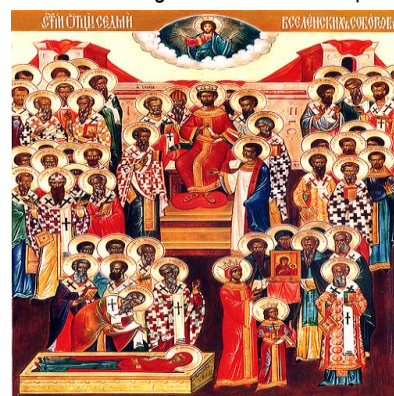
PARISHES PICNIC SET FOR TODAY — Our Annual Parishes Picnic. Is today **Sunday, July 13** at the Robinson Township Picnic Grove off Cleaver Road. The GCU is arraigning the hotdogs, hamburgers and beverages. If you would like, please consider bringing a side or a dessert. We will be meeting from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. It a great way to informally meet others that we pray with each week. Hope to see you there!



5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The Fathers of the First 6 Ecumenical Councils — (John 17: 1-13)

Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils *Catholic Encyclopedia* -- **HISTORICAL SKETCH OF ECUMENICAL COUNCILS** --- The present article deals chiefly with the theological and canonical questions concerning councils which are Ecumenical in the



strict sense above defined. Special articles give the history of each important synod under the head of the city or see where it was held. In order, however, to supply the reader with a basis of fact for the discussion of principles of six of the twenty-one Ecumenical councils with a brief statement of the purpose of each.

First Ecumenical Council: Nicaea I (325) – The Council of Nicaea lasted two months and twelve days. Three hundred and eighteen bishops were present. Hosius, Bishop of Cordova, assisted as legate of Pope Sylvester I. The Emperor Constantine was also present. To this council we

owe The Creed of Nicaea, defining against Arius the true Divinity of the Son of God, and the fixing of the date for keeping Easter.

Second Ecumenical Council: Constantinople I (381) – The First General Council of Constantinople, under Pope Damasus and the Emperor Theodosius I, was attended by 150 bishops. It was directed against the followers of Macedonius, who impugned the Divinity of the Holy Ghost. To the above-mentioned Nicene Creed it added the clauses referring to the Holy Ghost and all that follows to the end.

Third Ecumenical Council: Ephesus (431) — The Council of Ephesus, of more than 200 bishops, presided over by St. Cyril of Alexandria representing Pope Celestine I, defined the true personal unity of Christ, declared Mary the Mother of God (*Theotokos*) against Nestorius, Bishop of Constantinople, and renewed the condemnation of Pelagius.

Fourth Ecumenical Council: Chalcedon (451) — The Council of Chalcedon -- 150 bishops under Pope Leo the Great and the Emperor Marcian -- defined the two natures (Divine and human) in Christ against Eutyches, who was excommunicated.

Fifth Ecumenical Council: Constantinople II (553) — The Second General Council of Constantinople, of 165 bishops under Pope Vigilius and Emperor Justinian I, condemned the errors of Origen and certain writings (The Three Chapters) of Theodoret, of Theodore, Bishop of Mopsuestia and of Ibas, Bishop of Edessa; it further confirmed the first four general councils, especially that of Chalcedon whose authority was contested by some heretics.

Sixth Ecumenical Council: Constantinople III (680-681) — The Third General Council of Constantinople, under Pope Agatho and the Emperor Constantine Pogonatus, was attended by the Patriarchs of Constantinople and of Antioch, 174 bishops, and the emperor. It put an end to Monothelitism by defining two wills in Christ, the Divine and the human, as two distinct principles of operation. It anathematized Sergius, Pyrrhus, Paul, Macarius, and all their followers.

"The preaching of the Apostles and the teachings of the Fathers have confirmed the one faith of the Church, which she wears as a garment of truth, woven from the theology on high, as she faithfully imparts and glorifies the great mystery of devotion" (Kondakion of the Feast).

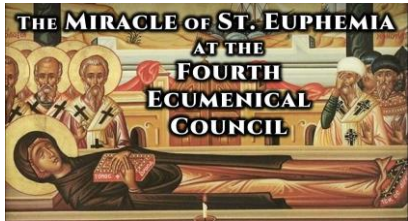
Calendar of Upcoming Events

July 13 ... Annual (MR) & (NS) Parish Picnic, Cleaver Recreational Park, Robinson Township from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
July 17 Feast of our Blessed Bishop-Martyr Paul P. Gojdich, OSBM.
July 20 Feast of the Holy Prophet Elijah followed by **Blessing of Vehicles**.
July 24 Annual Byzantine Catholic Family Day at Kennywood Amusement Park (cf. inside article on how to purchase discounted tickets)
August 1 - 14 Commencement of the Savorial Fast (Spasovka).
August 4 Archeparchial Altar Server Faith & Fun Day Pirates vs. Giants (cf. enclosure article).
August 6 . Feast of the Holy Transfiguration – (MR) 9:00 a.m. (NS) 6:00 p.m. **Blessing of grapes and fruits.**

Saint of the Week — July 11

MIRACLE OF THE GREAT-MARTYR EUPHEMIA, THE ALL-PPRAISED

The Miracle of St. Euphemia the All-Prayed (whose feast day is September 16) suffered martyrdom in the city of Chalcedon in the year 304, during the time of the persecution against Christians by the emperor Diocletian (284-305). In



In the light of next week's special commemoration of the victory of the first 6 Ecumenical Council (especially that of Chalcedon) at a time when the Christian Church had become victorious within the Roman Empire, God deigned that Euphemia should again be a witness and confessor of the purity of the true teaching. In the year 451 in the city of

Chalcedon, in the very church where her glorified relics rested, the sessions of the Fourth Ecumenical Council (July 16) took place. The Council was convened for determining the precise dogmatic formulae of true Church teaching concerning the nature of the God-Man Jesus Christ. This was necessary because of the widespread heresy of the Monophysites ["mono-physis" meaning "one nature"], who opposed the true teaching of the two natures in Jesus Christ, the Divine and the Human natures (in one Divine Person). The Monophysites falsely affirmed that in Christ was only one nature, the Divine [i.e. that Jesus is God but not man, by nature], causing discord within the Church. At the Council were present 630 representatives from all the local Christian Churches. True-believers included: Anatolius, Patriarch of Constantinople (July 3), Juvenal, Patriarch of Jerusalem (July 2), and representatives of Saint Leo, Pope of Rome (February 18). The Monophysites were present in large numbers, headed by Dioscorus, the Patriarch of Alexandria, and the Constantinople archimandrite Eutychius. After prolonged discussions the two sides could not come to a decisive agreement. The holy Patriarch Anatolius of Constantinople proposed that the Council submit the decision of the Church dispute to the Holy Spirit, through His undoubted bearer St. Euphemia, whose wonderworking relics had been discovered during the Council's discussions. The true believing hierarchs and their opponents submitted their confessions of faith on separate scrolls and sealed them with their seals. They opened the tomb of the holy Great Virgin-Martyr Euphemia and placed both scrolls upon her bosom. Then, in the presence of the emperor Marcian (450-457), the participants of the Council sealed the tomb, putting on it the imperial seal and setting a guard to watch over it for three days. During these days both sides imposed upon themselves strict fast and made intense prayer. After three days the patriarch and the emperor in the presence of the Council opened the tomb with its relics: the scroll with the true believing confession was held by St. Euphemia in her right hand, and the scroll of the heretics lay at her feet. St. Euphemia, as though alive, raised her hand and gave the scroll to the patriarch. After this miracle many of the hesitant accepted the true believing confession, while those remaining obstinate in the heresy were consigned to the Council's condemnation and excommunication.

General Announcements

PRIESTLY ORDINATION AT THE CATHEDRAL — Last Sunday, July 6, turned out to be a dream come true. An Ordination to the Priesthood for one who longed to see the day that. Archbishop



Skurla would impose his archiepiscopal hands on the head, invoking God the Holy Spirit, to raise **Fr. Luke R. Iyengar** to the Presbyterate. His proud and joyful Mother, Maria and Sister, Anita were elated to hear the clergy affirm this divine action by the raising of their voices of "Axios" a Greek word implying, "He is worthy!" Metropolitan Skula then bestowed the vestments of a priest upon him (as seen in this photograph). In contemporary times Holy Ghost Church witnessed the closeness of God to His people. Following the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, the

festive continued in the Cathedral Center for refreshments and photographs. The following day on Monday, July 7, Fr. Luke offered his First Solemn Divine Liturgy invoking the aid of the All-Holy Spirit upon his priesthood at his home parish in McKees Rocks at 9:30 a.m. Many of the faithful returned and witnessed for the first time, one of their own, now calling down upon ordinary bread and wine changing them into the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ. Following Liturgical Celebration, Fr. Luke then bestowed an individual special blessing upon each of the faithful. Also, he bestowed this traditional blessing upon all participating through the internet. Festivities followed in the School gym where food and refreshments were served. May God grant to the newly ordained priest, Fr. Luke Iyengar, health and happiness for many blessed years! Na Mnohaja I Blahaja Lita! (Photo credits: Nicholas Havrilla).

(MR) & (NS) HOLY GHOST PARISHIONERS ATTENDING THE ORDINATION — During the festivities at the Cathedral Social Center, all of the Holy Ghost Parishioners in attendance



were asked to gather outdoors for a special group photograph. Fr. Luke was most appreciative for the cooperation, and this special photo will always remind him of the love and support that we have for him. May we also pledge our prayers and support as he begins his work in the vineyard of the Lord. As of

this moment, the Archbishop is continuing to pray for where Fr. Luke will be assigned. When we hear of the breaking news, the Spirit Of Truth (S.O.T.) Church Bulletin will report it to you.

The Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry invites all teens aged 12-17 to **Take the Plunge 2025 - A ByzanTeen Splash Bash & More!** Date: **July 26, 2025 (Saturday)** Where?: **Saint Nicholas of Myra Byzantine Catholic Chapel, Pebble Beach Ct, Beaver, PA 15009** and **Seven Oaks Pool, 132 Lisbon Rd, Beaver, PA 15009** Register by **July 21, 2025** The registration fee is **\$25**, which includes lunch and all activities. Please make checks payable to "METROPOLITAN ARCHDIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH" and mail to: **METROPOLITAN ARCHDIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH, The Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, 66 Riverview Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15214**. Registration form: <https://forms.gle/9Nx4H87RpitXtSDT8> More details can be found here: [Take the Plunge 2025 – A ByzanTeen Splash Bash & More! | Archeparchy of Pittsburgh](#)