

Parish Offerings – 6th Sunday after Pentecost — July 20, 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 (\$1,837) YP (\$2)	\$1,839.00
Holy Day (\$591) YP (\$11)	602.00
Special Donation (<i>In mem. of Joseph A. Cehula by Mother & Sisters</i>)	100.00
Votive Candles	128.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,669.00

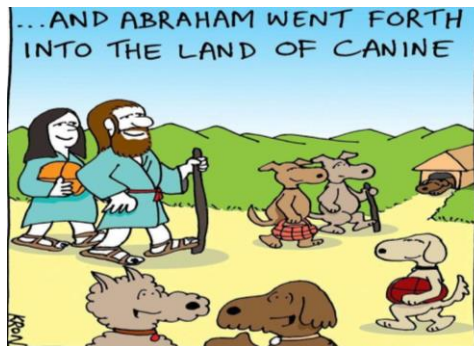
Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering	\$620.00
Holy Day (\$5) Improvements (\$30)	35.00
Votive Candles	76.00
	<hr/>
	\$731.00

Church Attendance Last Week

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (32)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (60); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (26)



Valerian F. Szal

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

Michael P. Ferrell,
Supervisor, CFSP

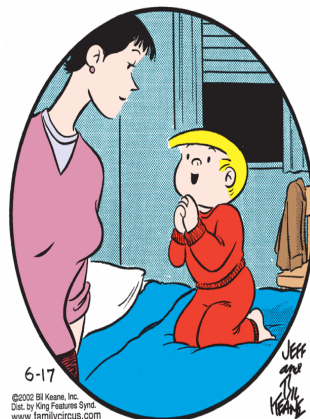
Our Family Still Serving Yours Since 1953



GCU offers Insurance and Annuity Benefits greater than most financial institutions. Info call Randy (412) 973-1085



Alan Valeriano
(412) 638-3417 PA 172370



"Sayin' 'Amen' is like pressing the 'SEND' button for your prayers."

HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

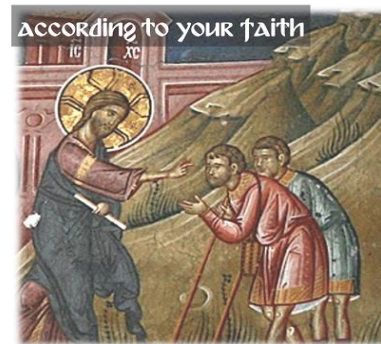
225 OLIVIA STREET

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136

.. 1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

The 7th Sunday after Pentecost July 27, 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 27, 2025

Volume XV, Number 31



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
7th Sunday after Pentecost			
SUN, Jul 27	9:00 a.m. (MR)	+ A. Velma Seman	Andrew Petrilla
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Gerard Slagle (<i>birthday</i>)	Wife: Alice & Family
Mon, Jul 28	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Richard Holm (<i>1st ann of passing</i>)	Zula Family
Tue, Jul 29	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ George Kurtanich	Helena & Ed Connor
Wed, Jul 30	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Myrona Duggan	Nancy & Michael Ferrell
Thrs, Jul 31	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Harry R. Brosky	Anonymous
REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (<i>no meat</i>) or Equivalent Penance (<i>your choice</i>): <i>in</i>  <i>reparation for sins committed in our Country</i>			
Commencement of the 14-day Savorial Fast (Spasovka) cf. article			
Fri, Aug 1	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Eleanor Kulka	Elva & Charles Sharpic
Sat, Aug 2	9:00 a.m. (NS)	<i>For the Parishioners of Both Parishes</i>	

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of Eighth Sunday after Pentecost			
	4:00 p.m. (MR)	+ Helen P. Petak	Family & Friends

8th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN, Aug 3	9:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Dorothy Billy	Family
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Louise Georgevich	Mary Ann Smoley

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 28 –Theresa Varga; **Aug 1** – Michael Sedon.

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, Michael Kachuta, Steve Kosko, Albert Kovacs, Sr; Karen 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.

HIGHLAND HILLS POST ACUTE (1105 Perry Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15237): Bernice Herrick.

ALLEGHENY GENERAL HOSPITAL (320 E. North Ave., Pittsburgh, 15212):Ted Babin.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. A friend of mine has used a Ouija board on several occasions. I have advised him against using it, but he insists it is used just for fun and that it is harmless. Is this true? **A. Catholic Answers Apologist:** No. The Ouija board is far from harmless, as it is a form of divination (seeking information from supernatural sources). The fact of the matter is, the Ouija board really does work, and the only "spirits" that will be contacted through it are evil ones. ... The Lord repeatedly condemns any and all occultic practices, including divination. While many Bible passages could be cited, the following one is typical of his view of occultic practices (cf. (Dt 18:10–12). ... Simply put, nothing positive can ever come from the use of the Ouija board, and God warns us against such things for our own spiritual safety.



This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

July 27 — August 2, 2025

(MR): **In memory of Irene & Alex Bilak**

offered by Grandson: Mike Tomchak

(NS): **In memory of Alphonse A. Siglow (birthday 7/28)**

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2025 offered by Dgtr: Kathe & Bill Kress (NS) NONE AVAILABLE 2025



General Announcements

(MR) SYMPATHY EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the unexpected passing of **Dolores (Tkacik). Babin, 92**, of McKees Rocks, PA at the Carnegie Park Post-Acute Care Facility, Greentree, on Monday, July 14, 2025. She is survived by her beloved husband, Ted of 73 years of marriage. They have three children: Theodore J., Jr (Allison), Cynthia (David) Anderson, and Gregory (Janine). Also several grandchildren, step-grandchildren along with nieces and nephews. Dolores also served many years as a faithful worker of the Pirohi Project. To pay tribute to her devotion, our dedicated Pirohi Workers stood vigil with candles prior and following the Divine Liturgy. The Valerian F. Szal Funeral Home handled arrangements. Interment was at the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies, Bridgeville, PA on July 23, 2025. We extend our most sincere condolences and prayer support to the Babin Families. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, eternal rest to your servant, Dolores, and remember her forever! Vicnaja Jej Pamjat'!



(MR) & (NS) PARISHES LEND A HELPING HAND TO FISHER HOUSE — Our Parishes are continuing 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 has been extended to August 10**. 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.



(NS) CONDOLENCE EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the passing of **Albert F. Strateimer, 76**, of Monongahela, PA at home on Saturday, July 12, 2025. He was a Vietnam Veteran serving in the U.S. Army. He is survived by his beloved wife Paula of 20 years of marriage. Also, two stepchildren, two grandchildren and step-grandchildren. He is also survived by two sisters, parishioner Mary Frances Spontak (Edward, Sr.) and Dolores. Interment will take place at the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies, Bridgeville, PA. We extend our most sincere sympathies and prayer support to the Strateimer and Spontak Families. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, eternal rest to your servant, Albert, and remember him forever! Vicnaja Jemu Pamjat'!



7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

They wanted desperately to be healed — Matthew 9: 27-35)

One of the reasons Jesus came to earth was to show us what God is really like. Although God had revealed himself continually to his people, it was difficult for them to understand how he thought because of their fallen minds. By giving us the Holy Spirit, Jesus enabled us to understand how he thought because of their fallen minds. By giving us the Holy Spirit, Jesus enabled us to understand the mind of God (see John 16:13). By living a perfect human life, Jesus showed how God wants us to live. The two blind beggars in today's reading were probably very needy individuals, both materially and emotionally. They wanted desperately to be healed of their blindness. From what they had heard about him, they realized that Jesus was their only hope. They

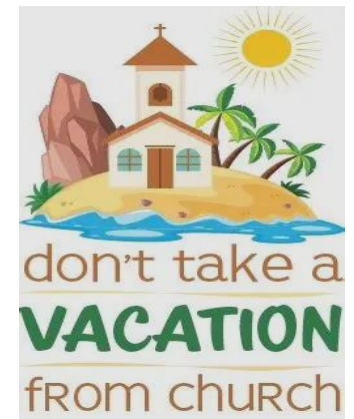


believed that he could heal them and so they came to him, begging for mercy. Seeing their faith, God granted their request. The gift that the Lord most wants to give us is spiritual life through knowledge of him. All the other healings we may need are dependent upon this. Our Father is delighted when his children want to know him more deeply. He will reveal himself to us. Pray in this fashion: "Holy Spirit, I want to know more about Jesus than I've ever known before. Make this a time of preparation and revelation. Teach me how to ask the Lord questions and give me the faith to expect answers."

SUMMER IS NOT A TIME TO VACATION FROM WORSHIPPING GOD — Now that

Summer is here many are vacationing. 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 most kind and merciful, sustaining and gifting us in all that we have and need. *A voluntarily absence without serious reason makes one guilty of mortal sin, and unable to worthily approach Holy Communion until the sinful neglect is confessed in the Holy Mystery of Reconciliation (making a sacramental Confession).*

If you know where you are traveling and that there is no Catholic Church, please inform the Pastor so that a dispensation may be considered. Also, *you can download an app on your cell phone called "Mass Times."*



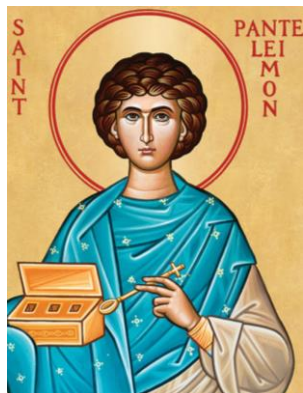
Calendar of Upcoming Events

August 1 - 14 Commencement of the Savorial Fast (Spasovka).
 August 4 Archieparchial Altar Server Faith & Fun Day Pirates vs. Giants (cf) encl. article.
 August 6 Feast of the Transfiguration – (MR) 9:00 a.m. (NS) 6:00 p.m. **Blessing of grapes and fruits.**
 August 14 (MR) Great Vespers w/DL for Feast of Dormition of Theotokos (Obligation) 7:00 pm
 August 15 Feast of the Dormition – Blessing: 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.

Saint of the Week — July 27

The Holy Great-Martyr Panteleimon the Healer

The Great Martyr and Healer Panteleimon was born in the city of Nicomedia into the family of the illustrious pagan Eustorgius, and he was named Panteleimon



His mother Saint Euboula (March 30) was a Christian. She wanted to raise her son in the Christian Faith, but she died when the future martyr was just a young child. His father sent Panteleimon to a pagan school, after which the young man studied medicine at Nicomedia under the renowned physician Euphrosynus. Panteleimon came to the attention of the emperor Maximian (284-305), who wished to appoint him as royal physician when he finished his schooling. The hieromartyrs Hermolaus, Hermippus and Hermocrates, survivors of the massacre of 20,000 Christians in 303 (December 28), were living secretly

in Nicomedia at that time. Saint Hermolaus saw Panteleimon time and again when he came to the house where they were hiding. Once, the priest invited the youth to the house and spoke about the Christian Faith. After this Panteleimon visited Saint Hermolaus every day. One day the saint found a dead child on the street. He had been bitten by a great snake, which was still beside the child's body. Panteleimon began to pray to the Lord Jesus Christ to revive the dead child and to destroy the venomous reptile. He firmly resolved that if his prayer were fulfilled, he would become a follower of Christ and receive Baptism. The child rose up alive, and the snake died before Panteleimon's eyes. After this miracle, **Panteleimon was baptized by Saint Hermolaus with the name Panteleimon (meaning "all-merciful")**. Speaking with Eustorgius, Saint Panteleimon prepared him to accept Christianity. When the father saw how his son healed a blind man by invoking Jesus Christ, he then believed in Christ and was baptized by Saint Hermolaus together with the man whose sight was restored. After the death of his father, Saint Panteleimon dedicated his life to the suffering, the sick, the unfortunate and the needy. He was arrested, tortured and was beheaded. An olive tree to which the saint was tied became covered with fruit. Many who were present at the execution believed in Christ. The saint's body was thrown into a fire, but remained unharmed, and was buried by Christians.

General Announcements

(MR & NS) LAST WEEK'S BLESSING OF VEHICLES — Following all Divine Liturgies, the Blessing of Vehicles took place in the parking lot. It is a custom of our Byzantine Rite to seek a special favor of God's grace and favor upon our vehicles on the Feast of the Holy and Glorious Old Testament Prophet Elijah. From the Old Testament Book of Kings, we hear that near the end of his earthly life, God sent a fiery chariot from heaven and took the Holy Prophet into eternity. May we be grateful to Our Lord for privileging us with this gracious sacramental. (Photo credit: Dr. Peter Zubritzky)



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. Thus far only 4 have registered.

AN OVER-SIGHT REGARDING OUR PARISH PICNIC RECOGNITION — MEA



CULPA !!! We would also like to acknowledge our (NS) GCU Representatives who worked hand-in-hand with those of (MR) HGC-NS! A round of applause is extended to Barbara & Peter Stecko who are our GCU representatives who also received funds for the hotdogs and hamburgers to add to this successful annual event. Also, to all the NS parishioners present who brought side dishes. Teamwork is so important and appreciated

to the success of our dual parochial activities! Thank you so much!

Thanks to all who attended Byzantine Catholic Family Day this past Thursday at Kennywood Park!