

Parish Offerings – 7th Sunday after Pentecost — July 27, 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 (\$1,525) YP (\$1)	\$1,526.00
Holy Day	205.00
Votive Candles	83.00
	\$1,814.00

Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering (\$745) YP (\$1)	\$746.00
Holy Day (\$20) YP (\$1)	21.00
Utilities	55.00
Votive Candles	97.00
	\$919.00

Church Attendance Last Week

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (28) — Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (56); (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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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 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Within the Savioral Fast — August 3, 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).

August 3, 2025

Volume XV, Number 32



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

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
Mon, Aug 4	9:30 a.m. (MR) + Laura + Robert Kundrat	Theresa Kundrat
	<i>Prefestive of the Transfiguration Feast</i>	
Tue, Aug 5	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Andrew Nazak	Dgtrs & Grandchildren
	<i>(6th ann of passing)</i>	

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.

WED, Aug 6	9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
	6:00 p.m. (NS) + Dolores Hudanick	Children: George, Paul & Janice
	<i>(3rd ann of passing 7/24)</i>	

Thrs, Aug 7	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Sr. Vladimir, O.S.B.M.	MaryEllen & John W. Oslick
	<i>REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice):in reparation for sins committed in our Country</i>	



Fri, Aug 8	8:00 a.m. (MR) + Milo James Perreault	Wife: Karen
Sat, Aug 9	9:00 a.m. (NS) + Albert F. Stratemeier (memorial)	Sister: Mary Frances & Ed Spontak

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Michele J. (Terrek) Chiavette	Family & Friends
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9th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN, Aug 10	9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
	11:00 a.m. (NS) + Agnes + Anthony Knoll	Son: William

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

Aug 4 – Bernice Herrick; Aug 5 – Peter Stecko, Judy Wovchko; Aug 7 – Carol Lipchick; Aug 9 – Russell Keller, Frank Lipchick, Gregory Rosko.

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

HOME: Ted Babin, 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.

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 3 — August 9, 2025

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

offered by Dgtr: Evelyn

(NS): **In memory of William C. Poloka**

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2025

offered by Friend

(NS) NONE AVAILABLE 2025

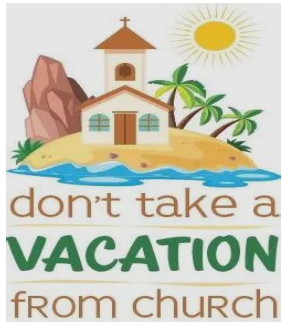


General Announcements

BLESSING OF SCHOOL CHILDREN & TEACHERS IN TWO WEEKS — Following each of the Divine Liturgies on the weekend of August 16 & 17, 2025 all Students and Teachers will be asked to come forward for a blessing as they commence the actual and/or virtual Academic Year of 2025-2026 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.*



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."*



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.

Don't Forget: Bring a basket of grapes and other fruits for its Solemn Blessing this week on The Feast of the Transfiguration

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Christ's Compassion: Feeding the Multitude (*Matthew 14: 14-22*)

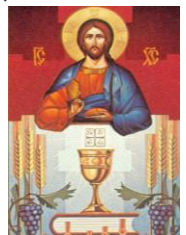
The great New Testament miracle of the multiplication of the loaves reminds us of another miracle, the one performed by God's Prophet Elijah. Elijah had told King Ahab and his wife Jezebel that God would punish the apostasy of Israel and its ruler for worshiping the heathen sun-god Baal. This punishment would be in the form of a long drought and famine. During the drought, Elijah went to Zerephath, where he was hospitably received by a poor widow and her son, who offered him their last meal. He rewarded their charity by miraculously increasing their flour and oil - just enough each day to feed them - throughout the three-and-a-half years the famine lasted. In the churches of our metropolitan province, we are reminded of this great miracle every time that there is festive anointing - 'mirovanije' - on the occasion of special holydays. During the Vesper Service preceding the feast day, the priest blesses five loaves of bread, and the prayer of blessing mentions the miracle of the feeding of over 5,000 people. Sacramental Bread — Why did Our Lord Jesus perform this great miracle of feeding over 5,000 people? He wanted to prepare them for still another miracle, an even greater one, the one that He performed at the Last Supper, when He changed the substance of bread into His own Body. This He did when He blessed the bread, saying: "Take and eat: this is My Body," and changed the wine into His Precious Blood. He thus instituted the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, through which we today receive the spiritual nourishment necessary for our souls. Jesus Himself said: I am the Bread of Life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst." In order to unite us with Him spiritually, Our Lord enables us to receive Him every time the Divine Liturgy is celebrated, for the nourishment and salvation of our souls. May we always approach Him worthily and thank Him, collectively and personally, for this Most Precious Gift!



Christos Posred'i Nas — Christ is Among Us!
Jest' I Budet — He is and shall be!

The Catechism on the EUCHARIST

"The Eucharist is the heart and the summit of the Church's life, for in it Christ associates his Church and all her members with his sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving offered once for all on the cross to his Father; by this sacrifice he pours out the graces of salvation on his Body which is the Church" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1407). "It is Christ himself, the eternal high priest of the New Covenant who, acting through the ministry of the priests, offers the Eucharistic sacrifice. And it is the same Christ, really present under the species of bread and wine, Who is the offering of the Eucharistic sacrifice" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1410).

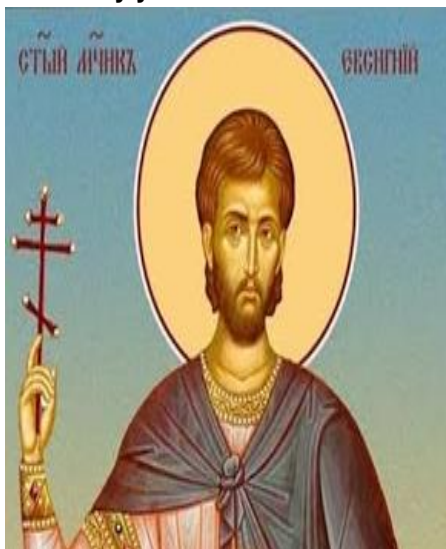


Calendar of Upcoming Events

August 1 - 14 The duration of Savorial Fast (Spasovka).
 August 4 Archieparchial Altar Server Faith & Fun Day Pirates vs. Giants.
 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 16-17 School Year Blessing of Students & Teachers.
 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 — Aug 5 The Holy Martyr Eusignius of Antioch

The Martyr Eusignius was born at Antioch in the mid-third century. For sixty years he served in the Roman armies of the emperors Diocletian,

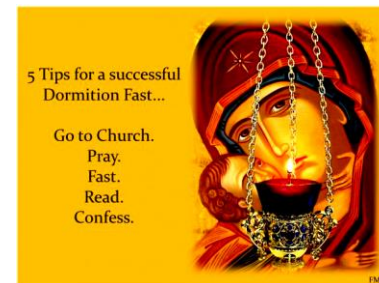


Maximian Hercules, Constantius Chlorus, Constantine the Great and his sons. Saint Eusignius was a companion of Saint Basiliscus (March 3 and May 22), and he provided an account of his martyrdom. At the beginning of the reign of Saint Constantine the Great, Saint Eusignius was a witness to the appearance of the Cross in the sky, a prediction of victory. Saint Eusignius retired in his old age from military service and returned to his own country. *There he spent his time in prayer, fasting, and attending the church of God.* So, he lived until the

reign of Julian the Apostate (361-363), who yearned for a return to paganism. During the time of Julian, two men who were arguing on the street asked him to be their judge. He dispensed justice to the correct one and the man at fault became angry and went to the emperor and accused Eusignius of being a Christian. The emperor summoned Eusignius to court but he strongly denounced the emperor for his apostasy from the Faith and reproached him with the shining example of Constantine the Great. Saint Eusignius stood trial as a Christian before the emperor Julian in the year 362. He fearlessly accused the emperor of apostasy from Christ, and reproached him with the example of his relative, Constantine the Great, and he described in detail how he himself had been an eyewitness to the appearance of the sign of the Cross in the sky. Julian did not spare the aged Saint Eusignius, then 110 years old, but ordered him beheaded.

General Announcements

CONTINUING THE PENITENTIAL SAVIORAL FAST 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 DAYS 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.

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 still only 4 have registered.*

