

Parish Offerings – 16th Sunday after Pentecost — September 28, 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 (\$1,622) YP (\$12)	\$1,634.00
Holy Days (\$85) YP (\$2) Collection for Poor (\$20)	107.00
Votive Candles	172.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,913.00

Regular Offering (\$420) YP (\$2)	\$422.00
Utilities	5.00
Votive Candles	46.00
	<hr/>
	\$473.00

Church Attendance Last Week

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (36); Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (54); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (13)

Feast of Protection of the Theotokos (Oct. 1) — (MR) 9:00 a.m. (8); (NS) 6:00 p.m. (5)



Valerian F. Szal

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

Michael P. Ferrell,
Supervisor, CFSP

Our Family Still Serving Yours Since 1953



Greek Catholic Union of the USA
A Fraternal Benefit Society

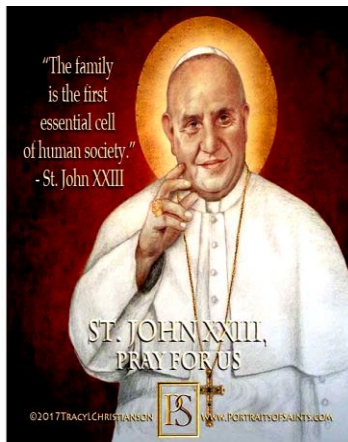
GCU offers Insurance and Annuity Benefits greater than most financial institutions. Info call Randy (412) 973-1085



North Side Parishioner

Alan Valeriano

(412) 638-3417 PA 172370



Feast Day, October 11

HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET

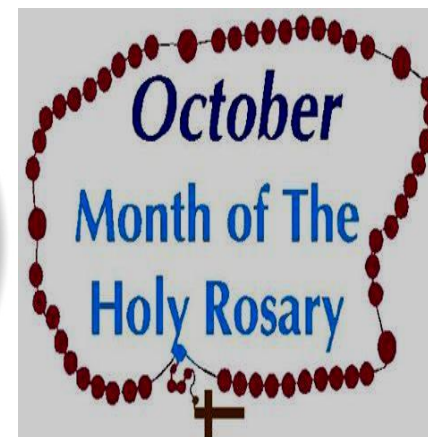
McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136

.. 1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

The 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Respect Life Month — October 5, 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

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).

October 5, 2025

Volume XV, Number 41



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

17th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN, Oct 5 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Michele (Terrek) Chiavetta Mother: Mildred & Family
 (birthday)
 11:00 a.m. (NS) + Joyce Spontak Husband: Robert
 (3rd ann of passing 10/7)

Mon, Oct 6 8:00 a.m. (MR) NO DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULED
 Tue, Oct 7 8:00 a.m. (MR) NO DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULED
 Wed, Oct 8 8:00 a.m. (MR) NO DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULED
 Thrs, Oct 9 8:00 a.m. (MR) NO DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULED



This week marks the Annual Clergy Retreat at the Antiochian Village, Ligonier, PA. Please keep our Pastor and all clergy in your prayers. Emergency: call office 24/7.



.REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice)

Fri, Oct 10 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Lorraine "Bunny" Zavidny Family
 6:00 p.m. (MR) Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary

Sat, Oct 11 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Ronald J. Hirschfield Dgtr: Susan & Family

Anticipated Divine Liturgy for the Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Mark A. Cifrulak Hubal Family

18th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN, Oct 12 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
 11:00 a.m. (NS) + Marian + Michael Bagala: Bagala & Bodnarchuk Families
 (wed. ann 10/13)

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

Oct 6 – Erin Bates; **Oct 7** – Nicholas Nazak, II; **Oct 8** – Mary Ann Goyda; **Oct 11** – Frank Revtai.

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

HOME: Ted Babin, Margaret Beliuнас, Dolores & William Boras, John Kutchmark, Sr., Monica Lemesh, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Michael Kachuta, Steve Kosko, Karen Krempasky, Theresa Kundrat, ARLENE LATTA, KIRK LATTA, BETTY LORINC, DEACON MICHAEL & CINDY MEADERS, Rosemarie Nazak, Kurt Perschy, Betty Spisak, Anita Wolsko, Judy Wovchko.

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. 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

October 5 – October 11, 2025

(MR): **In memory of Diane & William H. Bell**

offered by Dgtr: Kimberly Zoldos & Family

(NS): **In memory of Madelyn M. Harding**

NOW AVAILABLE FOR 2026

offered by Dgtr: Tamara Harding

(NS) NOW AVAILABLE 2026



General Announcements

ARRIVAL OF NEXT YEAR'S RECORD BOOK CONTINUES TO RECORD DIVINE LITURGIES AND SANCTUARY LAMPS FOR 2026 — Divine Liturgy and Sanctuary

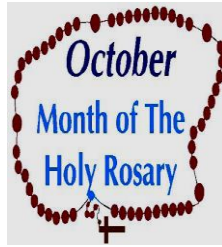


Lamp reservations continue to be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Due to a high demand of both areas only two weekends of each will be permitted until the demand subsides. When the demand lightens, you will be able to reserve additional weekend dates. Place your intention and **\$10.00 stipend per Sanctuary Lamp**. Also, please remember that **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 stipend; then place it in the collection basket.

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. If there's a time when our Country is in need of additional prayer, it is here! 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 and Ever-Virgin Mary seeking her special intercession for our Country.



(NS) DEACON MEADERS CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY — Congratulations and Best



Wishes are extended to our **Deacon Michael Meaders** on the occasion of his **14th anniversary to the Diaconate!** It's hard to believe that fourteen years ago on **October 9, 2011**, he was ordained to the Holy Order of the Diaconate. We offer him our most sincere congratulations and prayerful best wishes on his anniversary as he continues his sacred ministry here at his home parish! May God grant to Deacon Michael and his wife, Cindy, health and happiness for many blessed years! Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita!!!! Deacon Michael continues his convalesces at home. We pray for their healthy return.

Re-learn to Pray the Rosary especially for the intention: *That God may bless our nation with peace, that the division in our country may be healed and that the hearts of many will turn back to Our Lord and His Church.* Let us come and sacrifice this time as Our Country is depending on our prayer! — (MR) OCTOBER FRIDAYS @ 6:00 p.m.

General Announcements

18th Sunday after Pentecost

Living Beyond the Golden Rule— LK 6:31-36

We see in the gospel today that Jesus teaches us the golden rule, which bids us to do to others, as we would have them do to us. In reflecting upon the golden rule, we perceive that the important fact of **Christian conduct is that it consists not in refraining from bad things, but in doing good things toward our neighbor.** Jesus stresses that we are to do good toward our neighbor even he does not love us in return. No matter what a person does to you, (plots against you or slanders you),

CROSS REFERENCES

Do to others **as you would have them do to you.** Luke 6:31

Be indebted to no one, except to one another in love, for **he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the Law.** Romans 13:8

Love does **no wrong to its neighbor.** Therefore love is the fulfillment of the Law. Romans 13:10

The entire Law is fulfilled in a **single decree:** "Love your neighbor as yourself." Galatians 5:14

If you really keep **the royal law** stated in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. James 2:8

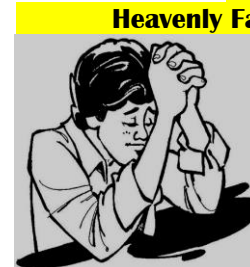


you are still called to be kind and good to him or her. Even though we may never get a "thank you." The Lord God, Who watches from on high, will give rewards to all who follow his golden rule. For Jesus says: "Your reward will be great and you will be the sons of the Most High, because he is kind both to the thankless and to the wicked." The second fact is that the Christian way of life is based on accomplishing extra deeds. There are too many people who desire to be just as good as their neighbors. **Jesus challenges us that we must strive to be better than the ordinary person.** It is not our neighbor with whom we must compare ourselves; it is God with Whom we must compare ourselves. The reason why we compare ourselves to God is that we are created in the image and likeness of God. By doing extra good deeds toward the church and toward our neighbor, we come closer to God. There are indeed many extra deeds that we can do. **We can pray more and attend the Divine Liturgy more often. We could also visit the sick in our hospitals and nursing homes.** So let us today follow Jesus Christ by doing the "extra."

October Respect-Life Month

2nd WEEK INTENTION OF REPECT LIFE MONTH:

Prayer for the Mentally Challenged



Heavenly Father, we have been created in the image of You. Help us to see Your image more clearly and strongly in all creatures of Your love, and particularly in those which we describe as mentally challenged, though they are whole in Your sight, and have a place and purpose in Your divine plan for all mankind. Help us to enable them to fully participate in the abundant life which is Your will for all mankind In this may Your Name be blessed and glorified, Father, Son (+) and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

October 5 Byzan-TEEN Bake Sale following the Sunday Divine Liturgy.
October 5-9 Annual Clergy Retreat & Clergy Days at the Antiochian Village, Ligonier, PA
October Fridays Each Friday: (MR) The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary @ 6:00 p.m.
October 12 (NS) PAC/FAC Meeting in Church following the Sunday Divine Liturgy.
October 19 **Deanery Pasta Dinner from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. – St. Elias Church, Munhall.**
October 20 (MR) PAC/FAC Meeting, Monday @ 7:00 p.m.
October 29 Sunday of Christ the King
November 2 Annual Moleben for our 5 saintly bishops. @ 3:00 p.m.

Saints of the Week

The Holy Soldier-Martyrs Sergius and Bacchus October 7



The Martyrs **Sergius and Bacchus** in Syria were appointed to high positions in the army by the emperor Maximian (284-305), who did not know that they were Christians. Envious people informed Maximian that his two trusted counselors did not honor the pagan gods. This was considered to be a crime against the state. The emperor, wanting to convince himself of the truth of the accusation, ordered Sergius and Bacchus to offer sacrifice to the idols, but they replied that they honored the One God and worshiped only Him. Maximian commanded that the martyrs be stripped of the insignia of military rank (their belts, gold pendants, and rings), and then dressed them in feminine clothing. They were led through the city with an iron chains around their necks, and the people mocked them. Then he summoned Sergius and Bacchus to him again and in a friendly manner advised them not to be swayed by Christian fables, but to return to the Roman gods. The saints refuted the emperor's words, and demonstrated the folly of worshipping the pagan gods. The emperor commanded that they be sent to the governor of the eastern part of Syria, Antiochus, a fierce hater of Christians. Antiochus had received his position with the help of Sergius and Bacchus. "My fathers and benefactors!" he said. "Have pity on yourselves, and also on me. I do not want to condemn my benefactors to cruel tortures." *The holy martyrs replied, "For us life is Christ, and to die is gain."* The enraged Antiochus ordered Bacchus to be mercilessly beaten, and the holy martyr surrendered his soul to the Lord. They shod Sergius with iron sandals with nails in their soles and sent him to another city, where he was beheaded with the sword.

General Announcements

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: COME & SEE WEEKEND — Young men 18-35 are invited to a weekend retreat, *Friday through Saturday, November 7-9, 2025 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 at bcs.edu/come-and-see-2025.*



Deadline for registration is Oct 15.

SIGN UP TODAY: PITTSBURGH DEANERY CLERGY TO SERVE PASTA DINNER PLUS MORE — 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, October 19, 2025** from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The event will be preceded by a short **MARYFEST** Singing Program presented by the Archieparchial Choir @ 2:00 p.m. The Clergy will be preparing and serving the dinner. A signup list is currently available. We must know how many to prepare for! The final day for registration is Sunday, October 12. A freewill offering will be taken to subsidize the project. Any profit that will be made will go to purchasing gifts card to our administratively retired priests. This small gesture demonstrates appreciation for their many years of spiritual service to the faithful



YOUTH GROUP BAKE SALE TODAY — Our Byzant-TEENS first bake sale is one week from today, following the Divine Liturgy. The election of new officers will then follow. Social activities will then be arranged for the upcoming months. The proceeds from this project will help them collect funds for their participation to the 2026



Byzan-Teen Youth Rally

Annual Clergy Retreat this week from October 5 through 9 at the Antiochian Village, Ligonier. Please keep all the Priests & Deacons in your prayers that God may refresh their zeal in the service of the Church. All emergency pastoral situations, please call the MR Rectory (412) 771-3324.

