

Parish Offerings – 20th Sunday after Pentecost — November 2, 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 (\$1,449) YP (\$8)	\$1,457.00
Collection for Poor	55.00
Special Donation (In mem. of + Helen Best by Fr. Stephen Wahal)	100.00
Votive Candles	113.50
	\$1,625.50

Regular Offering (\$525) YP (\$2)	\$527.00
Utilities (40) Special Donation (by Charles M. Spontak- \$100)	140.00
Votive Candles	61.10
	\$728.10

Church Attendance Last Week

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (25); Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (63); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (23)



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



VOTE PRO-LIFE

HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136

.. 1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

The 21st Sunday after Pentecost

Annual Beatification & Canonization Moleben

November 2, 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.

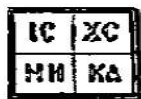
Remember the Church in Your Will: *Please be so kind to remember the Church in your will If you would like to request a Divine Liturgy (\$20) or Sanctuary Lamp \$10 Please contact the Church Office. Also, Blessed Decorative Sacramental/Easter Basket Candles (\$15).*

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).

November 2, 2025

Volume XV, Number 45



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
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21st Sunday after Pentecost

Daylight Savings Times Ends — Clocks FALL BACK 1 hour

Nov 2	9:00 a.m. (MR)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Peter P. Smoley (65 th ann. of passing 11/7)	Sister: Mary Ann
	3:00 p.m. (MR)	Marian Moleben for our holy hierarchs for the Canonization & Beatification	

Mon, Nov 3 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Bodzenski + Zula + Smorey + Kraly Families Zula Family

General Election Day 2025

Tue, Nov 4 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Dolores + John Koritsky Dgtr: Christine & Al Barnash

Wed, Nov 5 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Dan Pikras (birthday 11/3) Son: Dino & Family

Thrs, Nov 6 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Michele (Terrek) Chiavetta Cousin: Kurt W. Perschy

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

Fri, Nov 7 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Mike Palahunik, Sr. Dorothy Karpa



Anticipated Divine Liturgy for the Synaxis of St. Michael & All Angels

6:00 p.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

**Holy Angelic Commander Michael the Archangel
& All the Heavenly Incorporeal Powers**

Solemn Holy Day

Sat, Nov 8 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Anna Velma Seman Lynn Haffly & Audrey Hart

Anticipated Divine Liturgy for the Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Albert P. Kovacs, Sr. Evelyn Yakubik

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

SUN, Nov 9 9:00 a.m. (MR) Health & Welfare of Mildred Terrek (100th birthday) Dgtrs.

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

Nov 2 – KATHY MULLEN; Nov 3 – John Wovchko, JOAN SENCHYSHYN; Nov 4 – Rebecca Varga; Nov. 5 – Julia Mosko; Nov 6 – Barbara Stecko; Nov 7 – Mark Saber; Nov 8 – Nancy (Shanta) Wauthier.

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

HOME: Ted Babin, Margaret Beliunas, Dolores & William Boras, Monica Lemesh, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Michael Kachuta, Steve Kosko, 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): Rosemarie Nazak, Mildred Terrek.

CEDAR HILL REHAB CENTER (951 Broadhead Rd., Coraopolis, 15108): Nancy 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. **UPMC MERCY** (1400 Locust St., Pittsburgh, PA 15219): Andrew Petrilla.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. What is the official church teaching on what happens after our earthly bodies die: Are we "dead" until Judgment Day or do we immediately go to heaven, hell, or purgatory? A. Catholic Answers Apologist: Although physical human bodies die, human souls never die. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that every spiritual soul "is immortal: It does not perish when it separates from the body at death, and it will be reunited with the body at the final Resurrection" (CCC 366). So, at the moment of death, the soul separates from the body, is judged immediately, and enters either heaven (immediately or through purgatory) or hell. Each man receives his eternal retribution in his immortal soul at the very moment of his death, in a particular judgment that refers his life to Christ: either entrance into the blessedness of heaven—through a purification or immediately—or immediate and everlasting damnation. (CCC 1022). (For scriptural evidence of this, see Luke 16:22; 23:43; 2 Cor. 5:8; Phil. 1:23.). Every soul will unite with its resurrected body just prior to the Last Judgment ("Judgment Day") when Christ returns.



This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

November 2 — November 8, 2025

(MR): In memory of Dolores & John Koritsky
offered by Dgtr: Christine & Al Barnash

(NS) **Health & Welfare** (birthday 11/3)
offered by Joan Senchyshyn

(MR) NOW AVAILABLE FOR 2026 (NS) NOW AVAILABLE FOR 2026



General Announcements

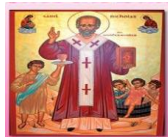
ADDITIONAL SANCTUARY LAMPS NOW AVAILABLE AT BOTH PARISHES — Divine Liturgy and Sanctuary Lamp reservations continue to be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. The demand has subsided thus you are now able to reserve additional weekend dates. Place your intention and \$10.00 stipend per Sanctuary 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.



ARCHIEPARICHAL ST. NICHOLAS 50/50 RAFFLE — Since many will not be able to attend the 67th Annual St. Nicholas Celebration at the Cathedral and Cathedral Center on Sunday, December 7, 2025, a minimal number of tickets (16) from GCU Headquarters have been sent to each parish in order to acquire additional capital for the Seminary. Very little profit is made from the dinner tickets themselves. To help subsidize this charity event, please support this worthy cause by purchasing a ticket. Each Parish is requested to sell these tickets. They are \$10.00 and the first 3-digit number based on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday December 8, 9 & 10, 2025 PA Daily Drawing at 7:00 p.m. Holiday Cash will be awarded..



ARCHIEPARICHAL ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION — The 67th Annual St. Nicholas Celebration will take place at the Cathedral and Cathedral Center on Sunday, December 7, 2025. Tickets will be available in the near future. We would like to get at least one full table per parish(s) family. Please sign the list in the (MR) Side Vestibule; (NS) Narthex.



YOUTH GROUP TAKING CANDY ORDERS THE VIRTUAL WAY — Every two years our Youth Group attends the **Byzan-TEEN Rally**. It is a wonderful chance for our youth to meet other Byzantine Catholics from across the country. In July 2026 we are hoping to send our teens and chaperones to Cleveland. In order to defray the cost, the Holy Ghost Youth Group is holding a virtual fundraiser from Sarris Candies. This is a contactless fundraiser, and all purchases will be shipped directly to the buyer free of charge. You can purchase anything from the company, and we will receive 25% of the sale. Just follow these steps and candy will be on the way:



FUNDRAISING

1. Go to sarriscandiesfundraising.com
2. Go to the "fundraising" tab.
3. Our group code is 10-3617.
4. You do not have to put in a teen's name unless you want to.
5. Shop!

North Side

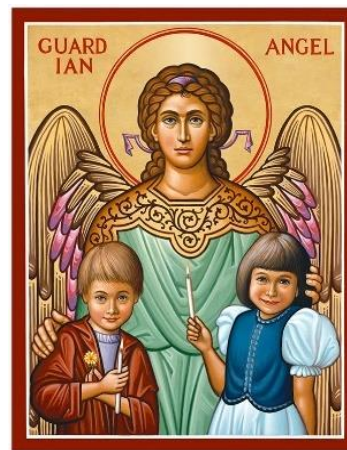
BAKELESS BAKE SALE & 50/50 RAFFLE FOR THANKSGIVING — We have launched three social activities in time for the Thanksgiving Holiday including a Bakeless Bake Sale, Raffle & through two anonymous contributors 2 Gift-Cards. GCU Headquarters will provide matching funds. Tickets will be available at the weekend Divine Liturgy. If you wish to contribute to the Bakeless Bake Sale, place your donation in a white envelope with your name, envelope number, and amount. Both the Raffle and Bakeless Bake Sale will terminate on *Sunday, November 23 and the day the drawing will take place*. The proceeds will be applied to our *Boiler Fund Project*.



Reflection On A Past Teaching

The Late Pope Francis: Teaches about the Guardian Angel

In his 2014 homily for the Feast of Holy Guardian Angels, Pope Francis told those gathered for daily Mass (Divine Liturgy) to be like children who pay attention to their "traveling companion". "No one journeys alone and no one



should think that they are alone", the Pope said. During the Morning Meditation in the chapel of Santa Marta, the Pope noted that oftentimes, we have the feeling that "I should do this, this is not right, be careful." This, he said, "is the voice of" our guardian angel. "According to Church tradition we all have an angel with us, who guards us..." The Pope instructed each, "Do not rebel, follow his advice!" The Pope urged that this "doctrine on the angels" not be considered "a little imaginative". It is rather one of "truth". It is "what Jesus, what God said: 'I send an angel before you, to guard you, to accompany you on the way, so you will not make a mistake'".

Pope Francis concluded with a series of questions so that each one can examine their own conscience: "How is my relationship with my guardian angel? Do I listen to him? Do I bid him good day in the morning? Do I tell him: 'guard me while I sleep?' Do I speak with him? Do I ask his advice? ...Each one of us can do so in order to evaluate "the relationship with this angel that the Lord has sent to guard me and to accompany me on the path, and who always beholds the face of the Father who is in heaven." He reiterated this in a homily on October 2, 2018: "Listen to the inspirations, which are always from the Holy Spirit – but the angel inspires them. But I want to ask you a question: Do you speak with your angel? Do you know the name of your angel? Do you listen to your angel? The Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments discourages assigning names to angels beyond those revealed in scripture: Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME 2024 ends on the first Sunday in November. We "fall back" one hour and return to Standard Time on Sunday, November 2, 2025 at 2 a.m. (2 a.m. on this date becomes 1 a.m.) Hope that you set your clocks back one hour before bed Saturday night! The return of standard time means the Sun will rise a little earlier according to your clock. If you're an early riser, you'll enjoy more natural light with your breakfast. You'll also "gain" one more hour of sleep. The bad news? It will be dark by the time most of us get out of work.

Remember



Take a PA PRO-LIFE Voting Guide with you to the polls this Election Day. They are located in the Narthex of both Churches, and the Side Vestibule in McKees Rocks. Let us speak up for the most vulnerable people awaiting to be born, in accordance with our Catholic Faith.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

November 2 Annual Moleben for our 5 saintly bishops. @ 3:00 p.m.
.... Standard Time Resumes. Clocks FALL BACK ONE HOUR.
... Byzan-TEEN Bake Sale following Sunday Morning's Divine Liturgy.
November 8 ... St. Michael & All Incorporeal Powers: Eve prior: (NS) 6:00-pm & (MR) 9:00 am
November 12 . Greater Pittsburgh Deanery Meeting @ 12:00 noon at a place to be determined.
November 15 Commencement of the Philipian (Filipovka) Fast.

Solemn Holy Day This Week — November 8

Synaxis of Holy Angelic Commander Michael & All Holy Incorporeal Powers

The angels of God were celebrated by men from earliest times but this celebration was often turned into the divinization of angels (II Kings 23:5). The local Council of Laodicea (four or five years before the First Ecumenical Council) rejected the worship of angels as gods and established the proper veneration of angels in its Thirty-fifth Canon. The Church celebrates all the bodiless Powers and is why the same feast is called the Synaxis (Assembly). In the fourth century, during the time of Sylvester, Pope of Rome, and Alexander, Patriarch of Alexandria, the present Feast of Archangel Michael and all the other heavenly powers was instituted for celebration in the month of November. *Why precisely in*



November? Because November is the ninth month after March, and March is considered to be the month in which the world was created. Also, as the ninth month after March, November was chosen for the nine orders of angels who were created first. St. Dionysius the Areopagite, a disciple of the Apostle Paul (who was taken up into the third heaven), described these nine orders of angels in his book, On the Celestial Hierarchies, as follows: (1) six-winged Seraphim, (2) many-eyed Cherubim, (3) God-bearing Thrones, (4) Dominations (also referred to as Dominions), (5) Powers, (6) Virtues, (7) Principalities, (8) Archangels, and (9) Angels. The leader of all the angelic hosts is the Archangel Michael. When Satan, Lucifer, fell away from God and drew a part of the angels with him to destruction, then Michael stood up and cried out before the faithful angels: "Let us attend! Let us stand aright! Let us stand with fear!" and all of the faithful angelic heavenly hosts cried out: "Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord God of Sabaoth! Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory!" Concerning the Archangel Michael, see Joshua 5:13-15 and Jude 1:9. Among the angels their reign perfect oneness of mind, oneness of soul, and love. The lower orders also show complete obedience to the higher orders, and all of them together to the holy will of God. Every nation has its guardian angel, as does every Christian. We must always remember that whatever we do, in open or in secret, we do in the presence of our guardian angel. May God have mercy on us and save us by the prayers of the Archangel Michael and all the holy incorporeal powers of heaven.

General Announcements

ANNUAL MOLEBEN FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CAUSES TODAY — The yearly prayer service for the advancement of the Causes of Beatification and



Canonization of our now five holy Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Bishops will take place at the Holy Ghost Church, McKees Rocks, PA today, November 2, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m. For the past 40 years faithful through the Pittsburgh Archeparchy have gathered in various Archieparchial parishes, monasteries, and the seminary to pray for the Canonization of *Bishop-Martyr Theodore G. Ramshaw, Uzhorod (+1947); Bishop-Martyr Paul P. Gojdich, O.S.B.M., Presov (+1960); Bishop-Martyr Basil Hopko, Presov (+1976); and newly beatified Priest-Martyr Peter Oros and for the beatification of the Servant of God Bishop Alexander Chira, Uzhorod (+1985).* A Marian Moleben

is offered seeking the aid of the Holy Mother of God in helping us achieve this end. Archbishop Skurla will be in attendance. Please invite your friends! *A complimentary light snack will follow below the church. We could use some volunteers to aid.*

Holy Ghost Pirohi Sales Commence This Week

Holy Ghost Church in McKees Rocks will be selling our award-winning pirohi



for six weeks prior to Christmas this year. Sale dates are November 7, 14, 21 and December 5, 12, 19. Prices are the same as last year – *but may be subject to change*: \$12/doz. Potato with cheese and \$13/doz. Kraut or Farmers' Cheese. Check weekly by phone for availability. All orders must be placed between 9 a.m. and 12 noon on Wednesday prior to the sale date. Call the Pirohi Kitchen at (412) 331-5155. We were "Best in the Burgh" two years in a row at Kennywood's Pierogi

Fest! Come on down to "The Bottoms!"

VOCATIONAL ICON AND PRAYER BOOKS NOW MAKING ITS ROUNDS – The

faithful of the Pittsburgh Metropolitan Province are encouraged to sponsor a week of prayer as a Harvest-Helper for an increase of Vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate and Monastic life. This renewed program has been recently initiated by the Archbishop and Bishops of the Metropolitan Province. Please consider sponsoring a week of intense prayer for this important cause. Please sign the list. On your week take the special icon from the tetrapod, and prayer booklets. This program is not just with families, but also individuals who must pray the from the booklets from Sunday through Saturday, and then return the icon to the tetrapod.

