

Parish Offerings – 2nd Sunday after Pentecost — June 7, 2026

“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 (\$2,568) YP (\$5)	\$2,573.00
All Saints (\$330) Holy Days (\$20)	350.00
Special Donation	55.00
Votive Candles	242.50
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	\$3,220.50

Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering (\$515) YP (\$1)	\$516.00
Improvements	35.00
Votive Candles	118.00

Church Attendance Last Week \$669.00

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (27)
Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (38); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (28)



HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 3RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2nd Sunday of the Petrine Fast — June 14, 2026



Catholics of the Ruthenian – Byzantine Rite in full communion with the Pope of Rome

The Very Reverend Father Frank A. Firko, Pastor

The Reverend Deacon Michael Meaders (NS)

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

MR School Hall Kitchen: (412) 331-5155

Web-site: 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.



Valerian F. Szal
238 Helen St.,
McKees Rocks, PA 15136
Phone: (412) 331-9713
Fax: (412) 331-6688
Michael P. Ferrell,
Supervisor, CFSP

Happy Flag Day Red, White & Blue

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



Handyman Services

North Side Parishioner
Alan Valeriano
(412) 638-3417
PA #172378



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).

June 14, 2026

Seasonal Greeting:

Volume XVI Number 24



Glory to Jesus Christ! — Glory Forever!
Slava Isusu Christu! — Slava Na Viki!



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

2nd Sunday of the Petrine Fast — Annual Flag Day

SUN, Jun 14 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Margaret Kurtanich (22nd ann of pass 6/12) Children
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Olga Senchysyn (birthday 6/15) Dgtr: Joan

Mon, Jun 15 8:00 a.m. (MR) Thanksgiving
(46th wedding ann. 6/14) Mary Ann & Richard J. Cupka

Tue, Jun 16 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Monsignor Russell A. Duker Fr. Donald J. Voss

Wed, Jun 17 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Dorothy Pelescak (birthday 6/15) Family
Recommended SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice): for vocations

Thrs, June 18 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Nicholas Lemesh Sister: Monica
Pray Vocations

Fri, Jun 19 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Anna Marie Demianczyk (4th ann of pass) Anonymous
Federal Holiday — Juneteenth — Banks Closed & No Postal Service
REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice): for vocations

Sat, Jun 20 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
The First Day of Summer begins at 10:22 p.m.

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
4:00 p.m. (MR) + Margaret Cifrulak Russ Sidun Family

4th Sunday after Pentecost

3rd Sunday of the Petrine Fast — Annual Father's Day
SUN, Jun 21 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Sandra Derrick Sister: Barbara & Lee Feldman
11:00 a.m. (NS) For the Living & Deceased Fathers 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 to be published.

Note: Capitalized Names designate North Side parishioners

Jun 15 – Kathleen Kulka; Jun 16 – Karen Stebbins; Jun 19 – Eric Rudd.

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

HOME: Margaret Beliuнас, Dolores & William Boras, TAMARA HARDING, Michael Kachuta, Steve Kosko, ARLENE LATTA, KIRK LATTA, Monica Lemesh, BETTY LORINC, CINDY MEADERS, John W. Oslick, Kurt Perschy, Cindy Saber, Anita Wolsko.

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.

CEDAR HILL REHAB CENTER (951 Broadhead Rd., Coraopolis, 15108): Nancy Wauthier
HIGHLAND HILLS POST ACUTE (1105 Perry Highway, Pgh, PA 15237): Bernice Herrick.
FRIENDSHIP VILLAGE SOUTH HILLS (1290 Boyce Rd., Upper St. Clair, 15241): Bea Stempkowski.

CONCORDIA OF CRANBERRY (10 Adams Ridge Blvd., Mars, PA 16046): Theresa Kundrat.
PERRY HEALTH & REHAB CENTER (9850 Old Perry Highway, Wexford, PA 15090): DEACON MICHAEL MEADERS

CUMBERLAND CROSSING MANOR (1201 Cumberland Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15237): Susan Fejka.
GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPICE HOUSE (146 Neely School Rd., Wexford, PA 15090): Ted Babin.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. Is fighting a sin? A. Answer by Catholic Answers: It depends. If fighting is done out of aggression, especially for the purpose of seriously injuring another person, then it is a grave sin against the fifth commandment, "You shall not kill" (Ex 20:13; CCC 2258). This commandment refers not merely to killing but to any attempt to unjustly harm another person. (Note: Some modern translations of the Bible use the word "murder" instead of "kill" in this commandment. 'Murder is actually a more literal translation of the original Hebrew). Jesus taught that we should not try to "get even" for attacks on ourselves, even physical attacks, when they involve only ourselves and cause no serious harm. This is really what He meant by "turn the other cheek" (Mt 5:39; Lk 6:29). Jesus' command to "turn the other cheek" means that we should not start fights, and we should forgive people's offenses against us. It does not mean, though, that we have to be beaten up by a cruel aggressor. If attacks on others are also involved or there is a chance of injury to oneself, then the commandment "You shall not kill" does not apply (CCC 2265-65). We can defend ourselves and are obliged to protect others as best we can. We are to use only as much force as necessary to stop an aggressor.



This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

June 14 — June 20, 2026

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

(NS): In memory of Olga Senchysyn (birthday 6/15)

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2026 offered by Dgtr: Joan

(NS) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2026



General Announcements

(MR) & (NS) PARISHES PAC & FINANCIAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS TODAY & TOMORROW — The members of the PAC/FAC are reminded of our June meeting for (NS) Today following the Sunday Divine Liturgy and (MR) **Monday, June 15, 2026 @ 7:00 p.m. in the Church basement.** The agendas will include important parochial activities accomplished and still needed attention which will appear in next Sunday's S.O.T.

(MR) & (NS) ACT & SUPPORT FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM COMMENCES NEXT WEEK — DEFEND RELIGIOUS WEEK — Catholic eparchies and dioceses across

the Commonwealth are marking Religious Freedom Week which begins **June 22 and continues through June 29:** Let us stand up and learn, defend, proclaim the Truth of our Faith and by offering this prayer for Religious Freedom: **O God our Creator, from your provident hand we have received**



our right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. You have called us as your people and given us the right and the duty to worship you, the only true God, and your Son, Jesus Christ. Through the power and working of your Holy Spirit, you call us to live out our faith in the midst of the world, bringing the light and the saving truth of the Gospel to every corner of society. We ask you to bless us in our vigilance for the gift of religious liberty. Give us the strength of mind and heart to readily defend our freedoms when they are threatened; give us courage in making our voices heard on behalf of the rights of your Church and the freedom of conscience of all people of faith. Grant, we pray, O heavenly Father, a clear and united voice to all your sons and daughters gathered in your Church in this decisive hour in the history of our nation, so that, with every trial withstood and every danger overcome — for the sake of our children, our grandchildren, and all who come after us — this great land will always be "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. Amen."

THE OFFICIAL START OF SUMMER

The summer solstice in the Northern Hemisphere occurs on June 21, 2026, at 02:22 UTC (which is June 20 at 10:22 PM EDT for North America). This marks the longest day of the year and the official astronomical start of summer in the Northern Hemisphere, when the Sun reaches its highest point in the sky and daylight hours peak before gradually declining.

Display the Red, White & Blue Today!

3rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Don't Be Anxious — Seek First His Kingship Over You!

(Matthew 6:22-34)

What does "serving two masters" and "anxiety" have in common? They both have the same root problem -- being divided within oneself. The root word for



"anxiety" literally means "being of two minds." An anxious person is often "tossed to and for" and paralyzed by indecision. Fear of some bad outcome usually cripples those afflicted with anxiety. It is also the case with someone who wants to submit to God but also live according to the world's standards of success and fulfillment. Who is the master in charge of your life? Our "master" is that which governs our thought-life, shapes our ideals, controls the desires of the heart and the values we choose to live by. We can be ruled by many different things -- the love of money or possessions, the power of position, the glamour of wealth and prestige, the driving force of unruly passions and addictions.

Ultimately the choice boils down to two: God and "mammon." What is mammon? "Mammon" stands for "material wealth or possessions" or whatever tends to "control our appetites and desires". There is one Master alone who has the power to set us free from the slavery of sin and fear. That Master is the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus uses an illustration from nature — the birds and the flowers — to show how God provides for them in the natural order of his creation. How much more can we, as his children, rely upon God's providential care? God is utterly reliable. In the Lord's Prayer we are reminded that God is our provider when we pray: *Give us this day our daily bread.* What is bread, but the very staple of life and symbol of all that we need to live and grow. Anxiety is neither helpful nor necessary. It robs us of faith and confidence in God's help and it saps our energy for doing good. Jesus admonishes his followers to put away anxiety and preoccupation with material things and instead to seek first the things of God — his kingdom and righteousness. Anxiety robs the heart of trust in the mercy and goodness of God and in his loving care for us. God knows our needs even before we ask and he gives generously to those who trust in him. Who is your master -- God or mammon?

Calendar of Upcoming Events

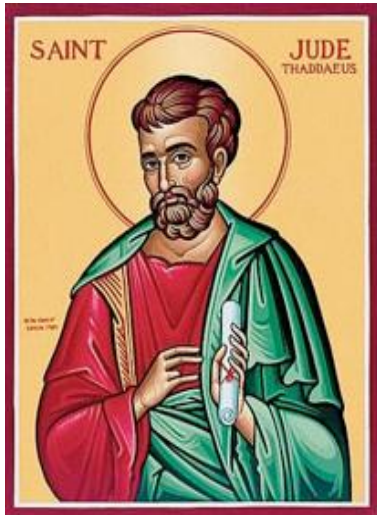
- June 14 Annual Flag Day following the Divine Liturgy ..(NS) PAC/FAC Meeting following the Divine Liturgy.
- June 15 (MR) PAC/FAC Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
- June 24 Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (MR) @ 9:00 a.m.; (NS) @ 6:00 p.m.
- June 28 **Great Vespers with Divine Liturgy of SS. Peter & Paul — (MR) 7:00 p.m.**
- June 29 ... **Holy Day of Obligation: Feast SS. Peter & Paul (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 p.m.**
- July 4(MR) 9:00 a.m. Patriotic Divine Liturgy commemorating our Country's 250th Birthday.
- July 20 Simple Holy Day: Feast of the Holy Prophet Elijah — Blessing of Vehicles. (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.
- July 23 GCU Byzantine Catholic Family Day, Kennywood Park. Tickets at gcuusa.com

Save the Dates

Archieparchial Altar Server Day (TBA); Archieparchial Marriage Jubilarian Celebration (Sept. 20 – cf. article under General Announcements)

Saint of the Week

Apostle Jude Thaddeus — June 19



The Holy Apostle Jude also had other names: the Evangelist Matthew terms him “Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddeus” (Mt. 10:3). The Holy Evangelist Mark also calls him Thaddeus (Mark 3:18), and in the Acts of the Holy Apostles he is called Barsabas (Acts 15: 22). This was customary at that time. After the Ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ, St Jude traveled about preaching the Gospel. He propagated the faith in Christ at first in Judea, Galilee, Samaria and Idumaia, and later in the lands of Arabia, Syria and Mesopotamia. Finally, he went to the city of Edessa. Here he finished the work that was not completed by his predecessor, St Thaddeus, Apostle of the Seventy (August 21). There is a tradition that St Jude went to Persia, where he wrote his catholic Epistle in Greek. In the

Epistle much profound truth was expressed in a few words. St Jude’s Epistle speaks about the Holy Trinity, about the Incarnation of the Lord Jesus Christ, about the good and bad angels, and about the dread Last Judgment. The Apostle urges believers to guard themselves against fleshly impurity, to be diligent in prayer, faith and love, to convert the lost to the path of salvation, and to guard themselves from the teachings of heretics. He also says that it is not enough just to be converted to Christianity, but faith must be demonstrated by good works. He cites the rebellious angels and men punished by God (verse 6) to support this. The Holy Apostle Jude died as a martyr around the year 80 near Mt. Ararat in Armenia, where he was crucified and pierced by arrows.

General Announcements

REGISTER 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 20, 2026 @ 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 specially marked anniversaries submitted will be published in a September issue of the SOT. *The final day of registration is Sunday, July 19.*



HOLY GHOST CHURCHES CONTINUE WITH 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. Currently, an additional facility is being constructed in Aspinwall to temporarily house Veteran Family Members as they visit their loved ones. Boxes are placed at the side vestibule and narthex areas of both parishes for the **collection that will extend to August 2.** A list of needed items may be obtained the the NS Narthex and MR Side Vestibule. For additional information, please contact Tina Burns (412) 618-6567.



PREPARING FOR OUR ANNUAL CHURCHES PICNIC — If you would like to help in organizing our upcoming Churches Picnic on Sunday, July 26, 2026 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. please attend next Sunday’s organizational meeting following the (MR) 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy in the church basement. Due to many families winding up their summer vacations and our younger members getting ready to return to school, we are trying another July date than having it in August. We need your ideas!



CHURCH VOLUNTEERS MUST CONPLY WITH CHILDREN PROTECTION ORDINANCES — At the recent Clergy Days, it was brought to all archieparchial pastors and administrators that those who wish to serve as Volunteers **MUST COMPLY** with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s Child Protection Act. All clergy had to be fingerprinted at this session. At each volunteer event, more will be discussed. This preliminary announcement serves as a forerunner of changes which must be complied according to law.

