

**Parish Offerings – 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost — Nov. 5, 2023**

“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 (\$3,082) YP (\$7) .....	\$3,089.00
Holy Days (\$70) Thanksgiving (\$25) .....	95.00
Collection for the Poor (\$30) Bakeless Bake Sale (\$175) .....	205.00
Votive Candles (\$167.20) Archdiocesan Charities (\$368) .....	535.20
	<hr/>
	\$3,924.20

**Holy Ghost Church, North Side**

Regular Offering (\$570) YP (\$1) .....	\$571.00
Improvement (\$55) Archdiocesan (\$5) .....	60.00
Bakeless Bake Sale .....	75.00
Votive Candles .....	57.00
	<hr/>
	\$763.00

**Church Attendance Last Week**

Sat., 4:00 p.m. (29)

9:00 a.m. (74); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (24)

St. Michael the Archangel — Wed. (MR) 9:00 a.m. (7); (NS) 6:00 p.m. (10)



STAY UP THERE! STOP FALLING! STOP FALLING, I SAY! STAY UP THERE!



**Valerian F. Szal**

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

**Michael P. Ferrell,**  
Supervisor, CFSP

*Our Family Still Serving Yours Since 1953*



Please patronize our fabulous sponsors! They make it possible to bring you this weekly Church Bulletin (S.O.T) without incurring an added expense to the Church. New Sponsors are welcome, please Contact Church Office 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 pm Mon-Fri!



**HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

225 OLIVIA STREET  
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

**THE 24<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**November 12, 2023**



**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](http://www.holyghost-byzantinecatholic.org) – E-Mail: [ffaf334@verizon.net](mailto:ffaf334@verizon.net)

**SUNDAY RADIO (9:00 am WEDO 810 AM) & INTERNET DIVINE LITURGY**

**Liturgical Services LIVE: [www.Youtube.com](http://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.

Holy Mystery of Matrimony: Contact pastor one year in advance; Pre-Cana Classes required.

Sacramental Call to Homebound, Personal Care & Hospitalized: Phone Church Office ASAP.

Sponsor of Christian Initiation: Godparents must be practicing Catholics.

Religious Education Classes: (MR) Coordinator: Subdeacon Luke Iyengar (412) 863-3285.

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 last will and testament. This helps to secure its future & a Byzantine Catholic witness to all!



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**

# 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 12, 2023      Seasonal Greeting:      Volume XIII Number 46

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

## Liturgical Services for the Week

Date	Time	Intention	Requested By
<b>24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>			
SUN, Nov 12	9:00 a.m. (MR)	Health & Welfare of Mildred Terrek (Birthday 11/9)	Dgtrs: Monica & Christine
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Joyce Spontak (1 <sup>st</sup> ann of passing 10/7)	Husband: Robert
<b>Feast of our Holy Father among the Saints, John Chrysostom</b>			
Mon, Nov 13	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ William J. Kendrach (1 <sup>st</sup> ann of passing)	Son: Michael & Angie Kendrach
<b>Holy Apostle Philip</b>			
Tue, Nov 14	8:00 a.m. (MR)	Health & Welfare of Regina Mell	Joseph A. Cehula, T.O. Carm.
<b>Commencement of the Philippian Fast — 40 days before Christmas</b>			
<b>RECOMMENDED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice)</b>			
<i>for the intention of the return of our beloved to the Church</i>			
Wed, Nov 15 (1)	8:00 a.m. (MR)	Special Intention	Nancy & Michael Ferrell
<b>Feast of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew</b>			
Thrs, Nov 16 (2)	8:00 a.m. (MR)	Special Intention for Jacob Gasser	Carla & Mark Gasser
<b>REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice)</b>			
<i>for the intention of the return of our beloved back to God and His Church</i>			
Fri, Nov 17 (3)	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Mary Hrivnak (52 <sup>nd</sup> ann of passing)	Grandson: Fr. Firko
Sat, Nov 18 (4)	9:00 a.m. (NS)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
*****			
<b>Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost — 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Philippian Fast</b>			
	4:00 p.m. (MR)	+ Brittany Tomchak (2 <sup>nd</sup> ann of passing 11/29) Mike, Leyte & Mike	

## 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

SUN, Nov 19 (5) 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Helen Hopeny      Anonymous  
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Marie Wittmer (birthday 11/23)      Sister: Joan Senchyshyn

# 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

Nov 15 — Barbara Feldman; Nov 16 — Maria Iyengar, Paul A. Rubish; Nov 17 — Kathleen Marks.

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

**HOME:** Margaret Beliunas, Florence Charochak, DEACON MICHAEL MEADERS, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Bernice Herrick, Steve Kosko, Kathe Kress, Julia Kutchmark, ARLENE LATTA, KIRK LATTA, Nancy Lecci, BETTY LORINC, Irene Muha, Kurt Perschy, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Elizabeth Poznak, Betty Spisak, MONSIGNOR PETER TAY, Betty Warhola, Anita Wolsko, Nancy (Shanta) Wauthier.

**MAPLEWOOD PC HOME** (461 Maplewood Ave. Ambridge, PA 15003): Doris Naughton.  
**HIGHLAND PARK CARE CENTER** (745 North Highland Ave., Pgh, PA 15206): Linda Reiger.  
**CHIPPEWA PLACE** (7005 Stadium Dr., Apt 427, Brecksville, OH 44141): Stephen Katrenich.  
**VETERANS HOSPITAL** (1010 Delafield St., Pittsburgh, PA 15215): JOHN VEREB.  
**THE RESIDENCE AT WILLOW LANE** (30 Heckel Rd., McKees Rocks, PA 15136): Helen Best, Margaret Cifrulak, Mildred Terrek.  
**LUTHERAN SENIORLIFE** (500 Wittenberg Way, Mars PA 16046): A. SHIRLEY KALNAS.

### 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 12 — November 18, 2023**

(MR): **In memory of Mike J. Sotak** (33<sup>rd</sup> ann of pass 11/14)

offered by Dgtr: Elaine M. Cassidy

(NS): **In memory of Tommy Seman**

(MR) AVAILABLE FOR 2024

offered by Sister: Velma

(NS) AVAILABLE 2024

# General Announcements

## McKees Rocks

PIROHI PROJECT WILL RESUME PRIOR TO CHRISTMAS — *Here are the Friday sales dates: Nov. 17, Dec. 1, 8 & 15 (no sales on the Friday following Thanksgiving).* We would appreciate more volunteers especially pinchers! **Remember, all orders must be placed on the Wednesday prior to the sale date between 9:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon. Also, you may sign the list on weekends prior to Wednesday phone orders. Call the Pirohi Kitchen: (412) 331-5155.**



COLLECTION TO THE POOR DISTRIBUTED — Over the past few weeks there has been an envelope in your contribution box entitled “Collection for the Poor. Our parish has collected from **36 donators a total of \$692.00.** Half of which has gone to the McKees Rocks area “Meals-on-Wheels,” and the other half to Focus on Renewal to assist the area’s needy. God bless all of you who continue to make our local residents blessed by your sacrificial donation. Our Lord continues to remind us that what we do for others, we do for Him.



## North Side

BAKELESS BAKE SALE & 50/50 RAFFLE FOR THANKSGIVING — We are continuing these two social activities in time for Thanksgiving Holiday including a Bakeless Bake Sale. We will see if matching funds from GCU Headquarters are available. 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 Churches will be credited on your donation statement for tax purposes. Both the Raffle and Bakeless Bake Sale will terminate on **Sunday, November 26 and the day the drawing will take place.** The proceeds will be applied to our *Tower Bell Project.*



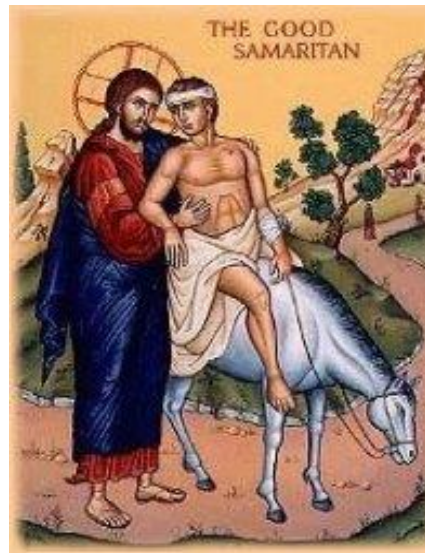
COLLECTION TO THE POOR DISTRIBUTED — Over the past few weeks there has been an envelope in your contribution box entitled “Collection for the Poor. Our parish has collected from **5 contributors a total of \$100.00.** It has been sent to Pittsburgh’s “Light of Life Mission to assist the area’s needy. God bless all of you who continue to make our local residents blessed by your sacrificial donation. Our Lord continues to remind us that what we do for others, we do for Him.



# Meditation on today's Gospel

## An Allegorical Meaning to the Parable (Luke 10:25-37)

The man that fell among robbers, represents Adam and his posterity; Jerusalem, the state of peace and innocence, which man leaves by going down to Jericho, which means the moon, the state of trouble and sin: the robbers represent the devil, who stripped him of his supernatural gifts, and wounded him in his natural faculties: the priest and Levite represent the old law: the Samaritan, Christ; and the beast, his humanity. The inn means the Church; wine, the blood of Christ; oil, his mercy; whilst the host signifies St. Peter and his successors, the bishops and priests of the Church. (Origen, St. Jerome, St. Ambrose, St. Augustine, and others)



Since all men possess a rational soul and are created in God's likeness, since they have the same nature and origin, have been redeemed by Christ, and enjoy the same divine calling and destiny, the basic equality of all must receive increasingly greater

recognition. True, all men are not alike from the point of view of varying physical power and the diversity of intellectual and moral resources. Nevertheless, with respect to the fundamental rights of the person, every type of discrimination, whether social or cultural, whether based on sex, race, color, social condition, language, or religion, is to be overcome and eradicated as contrary to God's intent. --- Documents of Vatican II, *The Church Today*

## CATECHESIS OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

### Pope's General Wednesday Audience, Nov. 8

*Dear brothers and sisters:* In our catechesis on apostolic zeal, we have been reflecting on the spread of the Gospel through the witness of Christians of every time and place. Today we turn to the Servant of God Madeleine Delbrêl, a 20th century French social worker, writer and mystic. After a period of agnosticism in her youth, Madeleine encountered Christ through the witness of her friends and, following her conversion, chose to live a life completely devoted to God, in the heart of the Church and the world. Madeleine was deeply moved by the plight of the poor and the anguish of those struggling to find meaning in life; she saw this as an urgent summons to reawaken missionary fervor in the Church of our day. For over three decades, she lived, prayed and worked among the poor in the peripheries of Paris. Madeleine Delbrêl's example of apostolic zeal reminds us of *our own baptismal mission to share the joy of the Gospel with others, and, in the process, to grow in fidelity to the twin commandments of love of God and love of all our brothers and sisters.*



## Calendar of Upcoming Events

November 13 ..... Greater Pittsburgh Deanery Meeting @ 12:00 noon at a place to be determined.  
 November 15 ..... Commencement of the Philippian (Filipovka) Fast.  
 November 19 ..... Moleben to Blessed-Martyr Theodore G. Romzha, Cathedral @ 3:00 p.m.  
 November 23 ..... Annual Thanksgiving Day Divine Liturgy @ 9:00 a.m.  
 November 26 ..... Decorating the (MR) Church for Christmas following the Divine Liturgy.  
 ..... Decorating the (NS) Church for Christmas following the Divine Liturgy.  
 December 3 ..... (MR) Parish & Archieparchial St. Nicholas Celebration.  
 December 6 ..... Solemn Feast of St. Nicholas the Wonder-Worker — (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 p.m.  
 December 8 ..... Solemn Feast of Immaculate Conception — (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 p.m.  
 December 10 ..... (MR) Extra Confessor for Holy Mystery of Reconciliation (Confessions) @ 3:00 p.m.  
 December 12 ..... (NS) Holy Mystery of Reconciliation (Confessions) @ 6:00 p.m.  
 December 17 ..... Holy Mystery of Reconciliation (Confessions) for ECF Students.

## Saints of the Week — November 15

### The Holy Martyrs Urias, Samonas & Habib

The Holy Martyrs and Confessors Gurias, Samonas and Habib: during the persecution against Christians under the emperors Diocletian (284-305) and Maximian (305-311). The two



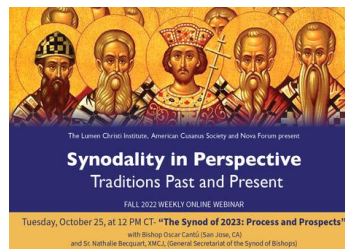
friends Gurias and Samonas, preachers of the Word of God, were arrested in the city of Edessa. The saints refused to offer sacrifice to the gods, and boldly confessed their faith in Christ. For this they were subjected to cruel tortures: they were beaten, hung up by their hands, heavy weights were tied to their feet, and they were cast into a stifling prison. The martyrs endured everything with firmness. By night, they were taken out beyond the city and beheaded (+ 299-306). Christians buried their holy bodies with reverence. After some years, the last pagan emperor, Licinius (311-324), began a persecution against Christians. Habib, a deacon of the Church of Edessa whom the emperor ordered to be arrested for his zealous spreading of the true Faith, presented himself before the executioners when he learned they were searching for him. The saint confessed his faith

in Christ and was sentenced to be burned alive. The martyr went willingly into the fire and with a prayer surrendered his soul to the Lord. When the fire went out, the mother and relatives of the saint found his body unharmed. They buried the martyr next to Saints Gurias and Samonas. In an Akathist, the Holy Church addresses the martyrs: "Rejoice, Gurias, Samonas and Habib, Heavenly Patrons of honorable marriage." We pray to them for deliverance from family turmoil, and from marital difficulties, especially where one spouse hates the other without cause.

**MOLEBEN TO BLESSED BISHOP-MARTYR THEODORE ROMZHA** — You are cordially invited for this special Moleben next **Sunday, Nov. 19, 2023 @ 3:00 p.m. at St. John Cathedral.** Bishop Nil Luschak, of Mukachevo will be the guest homilist.

# General Announcements

**ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PRESENTATION TODAY** — Following this

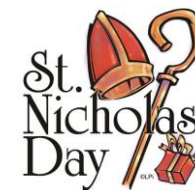


morning's Divine Liturgy, Subdeacon Luke will make a presentation on this past week's Synod gathering in Hillsboro, NJ. This Metropolitan Assembly gathering consisted of a host of top-notch speakers along with parishioners from all for (Arch) Eparchies who attended. Come and see what direction our Byzantine Catholic Church will initiate in the growth of our Church conforming to

the spirit of Evangelization. **Upcoming topics for the next few weeks are: November 19 - Catechesis on Baptism and Chrismation by Subdeacon Luke; and at a date to be announced a presentation on the Carpatho-Rusyns in the Old Country by Dean Poloka.**

**INVITATION TO OUR ANNUAL PAROCHIAL ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION — Sunday, December 3, 2023 following the 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy.**

**Program:** for Youth Group presentation focusing on life and inspiration of St. Nicholas. Presentations will be short and story based presented by some youth group members. **Student gifts:** These will be prepared in the normal two groups pre-k to grade 5 and Middle/HS group. We are committed in teaching the Faith to our children and pray that by your attendance it will inspire our children to a greater love of Christ and His Church.



**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 2024 we are hoping to send Teens to California. 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:

1. Go to [sarriscandiesfundraising.com](http://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!

**NOVEMBER-DECEMBER FOOD DRIVE** — In our love for the less fortunate, we will be holding our annual non-perishable food drive to be delivered to *Focus On Renewal* in time for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Please bring the non-expired items to the Church and place them at the entrance. For additional information contact Elaine Kurtanich (412) 370-9092. Once again, we are grateful to her for leading this project.

