

Parish Offerings – 8th Sunday after Pentecost — July 14, 2024

“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 (\$4,381) YP (\$13)	\$4,394.00
Holy Days (\$40) YP (\$2)	42.00
Votive Candles	186.00
	<hr/>
	\$4,622.00

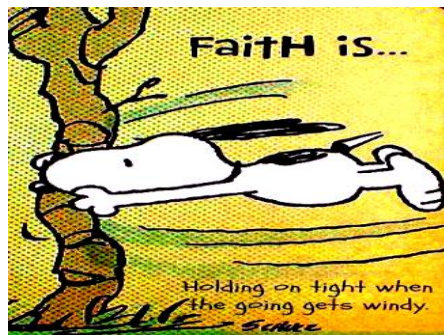
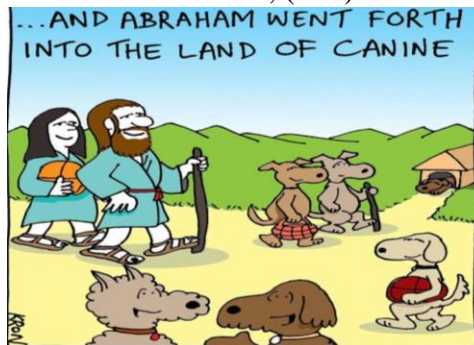
Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering (\$275) YP (\$1)	\$276.00
Votive Candles	55.25
	<hr/>
	\$331.25

Church Attendance Last Week

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

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (57); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (21)



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



HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 9th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Annual Parishes Picnic — July 21, 2024



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 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

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.

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.

Sponsor of Christian Initiation: Godparents must be practicing Catholics.

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

Carpetho-Rusyn Radio: Internet Sunday afternoon: Rusyn.fm at 3:30 pm. Archive: c-rsmedia.org.

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.

mmm

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).

July 21, 2024

Seasonal Greeting:

Volume XIV Number 29



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

Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

9th Sunday after Pentecost

Annual Churches Picnic, Clever Park

SUN, Jul 21 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Gerard Slagle (wedding ann 7/7) Jeffrey Warhola

Commemoration of St. Mary Magdalene, Equal to the Apostles

Mon, Jul 22 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Myrona Duggan Nancy & Michael Ferrell

Feast of the passing of Blessed Bishop-Martyr Basil Hopko

Tue, Jul 23 8:00 a.m. (MR) + George Herczak Beverly Vento & Family

Holy Long-Suffering Martyrs Boris and Gleb

Wed, Jul 24 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Elizabeth Sosak MaryEllen & John Oslick
(20th ann of passing 7/20)

Dormition of the Holy Righteous Saint Anne

Thrs, Jul 25 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Susan + Michael Baran Eleanor Gramata & Son: George

REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice):in reparation for sins committed in our Country

Fri, Jul 26 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Michael Sotak, Jr. Wife & Mother-in-law: Jane
+ Mary + Michael, Sr.

Holy Great-Martyr & Healer Panteleimon

Sat, Jul 27 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Monsignor Peter P. Tay Wittmer & Little Families

Anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Mark A. Cifrulak Kathy & Mike Tomsco

10th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN, Jul 28 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Anna Shirley Kalnas Mary Ann Smoley

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

Jul 21 – Nancy Lecci, Andrea Usouski, Lorraine (Bunny) Zavidny, ROBERT SPONTAK; Jul 23 – ALAN VALERIANO; Jul 24 – Subdeacon Luke Iyengar; Jul 25 – Elaine Kurtanich.

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, Albert Kovacs, Sr., Kathe Kress, William Kress, Julia Kutchmark, ARLENE LATTA, KIRK LATTA, Nancy Lecci, BETTY LORINC, Irene Muha, JOHN NEWPORT, Kurt Perschy, Betty Spisak, Anita Wolsko.

HIGHLAND PARK CARE CENTER (745 North Highland Ave., Pgh, PA 15206): Linda Reiger. 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.

FORBES REGIONAL HOSPITAL (2570 Haymaker Rd., Monroeville, PA 15146): Nancy (Shanta) Wurthier.

GREENTREE REHAB CENTER (1848 Greentree Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15220): Diane Bell.

TAPESTRY SENIOR LIVING (550 Cherrington Parkway, Moon Township, PA 15108): Eliz. Poznak

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. What is considered a valid Catholic Marriage. A. Answer by Catholic Answers: There are several components that need to be present in order for a marriage to be valid. They are *Compacity, Consent & Form*. **COMPACITY** – is the ability to get married. Impediments that would go against include one's age or already being married (CCC 1625). **CONSENT** – is the act of freely giving oneself to the other. The two people (male & female) must mean the words they are saying in the ceremony. If someone is planning not to allow the children to be raised Catholic or planning to "try out" marriage to see if it works, he or she is not consenting fully, and the marriage would probably be invalid. **FORM** – is the issue of how the marriage is contracted. A marriage of a Catholic before a Justice of the Peace, a non-Catholic minister, etc. is NOT VALID. A marriage without an official representative of the Catholic Church and two witnesses would not be valid (CCC 1630-31).



This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

July 21 — July 27, 2024

(MR): In memory of Rose Babin (birthday 7/24)

offered by Dgtr: Janet & Family

(NS): In memory of Veronica Seman Bauch

(MR) None available 2024

offered by Sister: Velma Seman

(NS) None available 2024

General Announcements

McKees Rocks

CONDOLENCES EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the passing of **Frank Sulzer, Jr., 79**, of Stowe Township on Friday, July 12, 2024 at home following a lengthy illness. He was also an Army Veteran. He is survived by his beloved Wife: Mildred, Sons: Frank and Keith (Monica), and Daughter: Heather (Robert) Combs. He is also survived by several grandchildren, and sister, Elaine (Joe). The Anthony Mussmanno Funeral Home handled the arrangements. Following a Funeral Panachida, he will be interred at the Cemetery of the Alleghenies, Bridgeville on July 25. Our parish extends its most sincere condolences to the Sulzer Family.. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, eternal rest to your servant, Joseph, and remember him forever. Vičnaja Jemu Pamjat'



North Side

No Particular News at this time

SUMMER IS NOT A TIME TO VACATION FROM WORSHIPPING GOD — Now that Summer is here many will be going on vacation. 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 so kind and merciful, sustaining and gifting us in all that we have and need. Voluntarily absenting oneself without serious reason makes us guilty of mortal sin, and unable to approach



Holy Communion until the sinful neglect is confessed in the Holy Mystery of Reconciliation. If you know that where you are traveling there is no Catholic Church, please inform Fr. Firko so that a possible dispensation may be given. Don't forget, Fridays are days of Simple Abstinence (no Meat) or to offer an Equivalent Penance even when you are on vacation.

FR. TAPSAK HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO PARISHES — Several assignments have been made by Archbishop Skurla effective August 1, 2024. **Fr. Nathaniel Tasaki** has been assigned as an administrator for two parishes. They are Holy Trinity Church, Sykesville, PA with its mission parish of St. Mary Church, DuBois, PA. Both of our parishes extend its most sincere congratulations and prayerful best wishes to Fr. Nate, his wife, Natalia, and daughter, Irena, as they commence their new home in Northern Pennsylvania.



ENCORE BROADCAST OF THE DIVINE LITURGY: SUNDAYS: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. WEDO 810 AM. Also, via internet on Youtube.com. (cf. address on front of the S.O.T. This is not to replace actual Sunday presence in Church.

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Faith is measured by doing what He asks (Matthew 14:22-34)

Jesus said get out of the boat. Jesus told Peter he had little faith because he began thinking about the storm and doubted. How much faith did those who never got out of the boat



have? Jesus is telling us to get out of the boat. Afraid of terrorists? Get out of the boat. Afraid to talk to your teenager? Get out of the boat. Talk to them anyway. Afraid of what people will think if you lead? Get out of the boat. Lead anyway. Have faith that people will follow. Getting out of the boat is taking the next step. Has God called you to do the impossible? Start! Get out of the boat! He will not leave you stranded. If He's given you the job, He'll give you the tools to get it done. If He has not, you will find out sooner if you get out of the boat. Step out in faith. Refuse to be frozen in fear; of failure, of what people think, of opposition.

Think about this...Peter failed at walking on water. He began to sink. But Jesus was right there to pull him up. He will be there for us, too. It was not being right that made Peter the one Jesus chose to carry on after Him. Peter was wrong much of the time, sometimes in very embarrassing ways. It was not his fearlessness. He denied Jesus at a crucial moment. It was not his careful, diplomatic use of words, he blurted out some of the most foolish things. What was it? Peter was willing to get out of the boat. Let us not be frozen in fear, but in faith, act.

DO NOT SUBMIT TO CASUAL CLOTHING FOR CHURCH

(The following is an abridged article taken from the Catholic Answers web-page. It is written by Catholic Apologist, Peggy Frye. It is offered here as a means of reflection.)

What do you wear to Sunday Mass (Divine Liturgy)? Sadly, seeing super-casual attire at Mass (Divine Liturgy) is all too common. Many who attend look like they are ready for the beach It is not just the women who dress inappropriately at Mass (Divine Liturgy). Men need to be checked too **Immodest dress at Mass (Divine Liturgy) is not a comfort problem but a spiritual problem, rooted in an over-sexed culture whose fashion influences have been trickling down into our parishes**

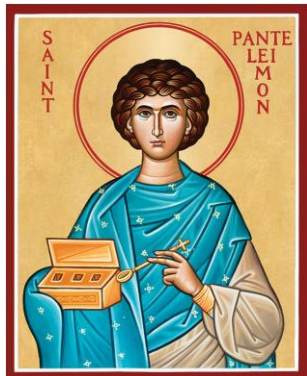


for decades. The mentality that "It's nobody's business what I wear for Mass (Divine Liturgy) — God knows my heart" reflects a lack of humility and a poor understanding of what is happening at Mass (Divine Liturgy). It also shows a lack of respect for others, disregarding how our immodest dress can become an occasion of sin for the opposite sex. Church is "a house of prayer in which the Eucharist is celebrated and reserved, where the faithful assemble, and where is worshipped the presence of the Son of God our Savior, offered for us on the sacrificial altar for the help and consolation of the faithful" (CCC 1181). Church is not a place where temptation and sin should abound, where sexual distractions should be permitted to compete with our Lord who is present in the sacrament of the altar. When we pray the Lord's Prayer at Mass (Divine Liturgy) we say, "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." So, why are we allowing carnal temptations to be openly present? Why are we giving the Evil One permission to prowl throughout our sacred places seeking the ruin of innocent souls? Immodest dress appeals to the flesh I *do not* believe "modesty custodians" of the type found at some churches in Rome should be stationed at the door of every Catholic church, turning people away if they do not comply with the parish dress code. Nor do I believe that women should come to church dressed like they came right off the set of *Little House on the Prairie*, or that men should wear tuxedos to Sunday Mass (Divine Liturgy). We just need to use common sense when we dress for church.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

July 21 Annual Church Picnic at Clever Park, Robinson from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.
 August 1-14 Commencement of the Savorial Fast.
 August 5 Anticipated DL w/ the blessing of fruits & grapes at (NS) 6:00 p.m.
 August 6 Transfiguration DL w/ the blessing of fruits and grapes at (MR) @ 9:00 a.m.
 August 14 **Holy Day of Obligation** —Feast of the Dormition – Blessing of Herbs & Flowers – (MR) 7:00 pm
 August 15 Feast of the Dormition – Blessing of Herbs & Flowers – (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.
 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.
 September Aug 31 – Sept 2 90th Annual Uniontown Pilgrimage at Mount Saint Macrina.
 September 2 Annual Labor Day — Federal Holiday. Morning Divine Liturgy (MR) 9:00 a.m.
 September 8 Feast of Nativity of the Theotokos.
 September 15 Archieparchial Celebration of Marriage for Jubilarians, St. Elias Church, Munhall @ 3:00 pm

Saint of the Week — July 27 The Holy Great-Martyr Panteleimon the Healer



The Great Martyr and Healer Panteleimon was born in the city of Nicomedia into the family of the illustrious pagan Eustorgius, and he was named Panteleimon His mother Saint Euboula (March 30) was a Christian. She wanted to raise her son in the Christian Faith, but she died when the future martyr was just a young child. His father sent Panteleimon to a pagan school, after which the young man studied medicine at Nicomedia under the renowned physician Euphrosynus. Panteleimon came to the attention of the emperor Maximian (284-305), who wished to appoint him as royal physician when he finished his schooling. The hieromartyrs Hermolaus, Hermippus and Hermocrates, survivors of the massacre of 20,000 Christians in 303 (December 28), were living secretly in Nicomedia at that time. Saint Hermolaus saw Panteleimon time and again when he came to the house where they were hiding. Once, the priest invited the youth to the house and spoke about the Christian Faith. After this Panteleimon visited Saint Hermolaus every day. One day the saint found a dead child on the street. He had been bitten by a great snake, which was still beside the child's body. Panteleimon began to pray to the Lord Jesus Christ to revive the dead child and to destroy the venomous reptile. He firmly resolved that if his prayer were fulfilled, he would become a follower of Christ and receive Baptism. The child rose up alive, and the snake died before Panteleimon's eyes. After this miracle, **Panteleimon was baptized by Saint Hermolaus with the name Panteleimon (meaning "all-merciful")**. Speaking with Eustorgius, Saint Panteleimon prepared him to accept Christianity. When the father saw how his son healed a blind man by invoking Jesus Christ, he then believed in Christ and was baptized by Saint Hermolaus together with the man whose sight was restored. After the death of his father, Saint Panteleimon dedicated his life to the suffering, the sick, the unfortunate and the needy. He was arrested, tortured and was beheaded. An olive tree to which the saint was tied became covered with fruit. Many who were present at the execution believed in Christ. The saint's body was thrown into a fire, but remained unharmed, and was buried by Christians.

General Announcements

CHURCHES PICNIC TODAY — Thus far, we have app. 40 that have signed the posted list. The picnic is slated at the Robinson Township Clever Road Picnic Grove **Today from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** The GCU is providing the all the foods to those who have registered. You may bring a dessert. We are looking forward to this being an 'ol fashioned' event where we can relax and enjoy the day together. *Thank you to all who have registered, and having organized this event.*



Dormition of the Holy & Righteous Anne, the Mother of the Most Holy Theotokos — July 25

Saint Anne was the daughter of the priest Matthan and his wife Mary. She was of the tribe of Levi and the lineage of Aaron. According to Tradition, she died peacefully in Jerusalem at age 79, before the Annunciation to the Most Holy Theotokos. During the reign of St. Justinian, the Emperor (527-565), a church was built in her honor at Deuterate. Emperor Justinian II (685-695; 705-711) restored her church, since St Anne had appeared to his pregnant wife. It was at this time that her body and ampoion (veil) were transferred to Constantinople. Portions of St Anne's holy relics may be found on Mount Athos: Stavronikita Monastery (part of her left hand), St Anna's Skete (part of her incorrupt left foot), Koutloumousiou Monastery (part of her incorrupt right foot). Fragments of her relics may also be found in her Monastery at Lygaria, Lamia, and in the Monastery of St John the Theologian at Sourota. Part of the saint's incorrupt flesh is in the collection of Saints' relics of the International Catholic Crusaders. The church of St Paul outside the Walls in Rome has one of the saint's wrists. St Anne is also commemorated on September 9 along with her husband Joachim.



FEAST OF PASSING OF BLESSED BISHOP-MARTYR BASIL HOPKO — Tuesday, July 23,

marks the passing to eternity of this beloved Byzantine Catholic hierarch. On April 28, 1950, the Communist government seized complete control of Czechoslovakia and liquidated the Presov Eparchy. Bishop Hopko was imprisoned and tortured. Many years of imprisonment and harsh treatment took a final toll on his health. In the Spring of 1968, a liberalization of the Communist regime took place and the government agreed to re-establish the Church. He became chaplain to the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate who also took care of him. On **Friday, July 23, 1976** following a light lunch, and being helped in an easy chair, he gave up his spirit to the Lord whom he loved and faithfully served. The late Pope John Paul II beatified him on September 14, 2004. His relics were solemnly transferred to the Presov Cathedral the following week, and rest beneath the altar adjacent to the chapel of Blessed Paul Gojdich. He was 72 years old. **His Feast Day is May 11th**. Let us continue to fervently pray for his Canonization. Veneration of his holy relics will follow the Divine Liturgy.

