

Parish Offerings – 5th Sunday after Pentecost — July 2, 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 (\$3,326) YP (\$26)	\$3,352.00
Holy Days (\$326) YP (\$6)	332.00
Peter’s Pence	81.00
Votive Candles	211.50
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	\$3,976.50

Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering (\$631.50) YP (\$.75)	\$632.25
Holy Days (\$25) YP (\$5)	30.00
Improvement	45.00
Votive Candles	97.50
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Church Attendance Last Week \$804.75

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (30)

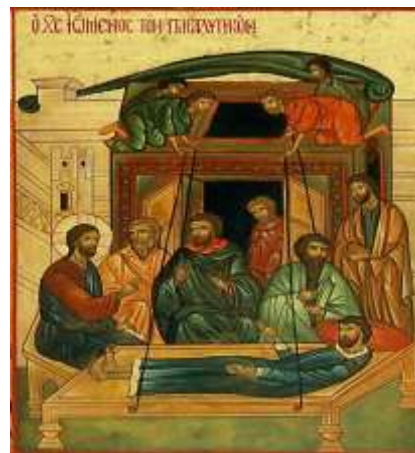
Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (60); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (37)



HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
 225 OLIVIA STREET
 1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE
 McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
 PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 6th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 9, 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 – 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

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

GCU
 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

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

Please patronize those who bring you this weekly Church report without an added expense to the Church. New sponsors are welcome, please contact Church 1:00 p.m. Mon-Fri!

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 9, 2023

Seasonal Greeting:

Volume XIII Number 28

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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6th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN, Jul 9	9:00 a.m. (MR)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Anna Marie Demianczyk (birthday 7/12)	Anonymous

Mon, Jul 10	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Kenneth M. Shanta (40 th day of passing 7/11)	Sister: Beverly Vento
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Tue, Jul 11	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ William J. Kendrach (wed. ann.)	Son: Michael & Angie
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Wed, Jul 12	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Paula (Timchak) Roman (40 th day of passing 7/11)	Kulka & Wickline Families
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Thrs, Jul 13	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Janet Trapuzzano	Anonymous
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REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice): in in reparation for sins against the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Fri, Jul 14	8:00 a.m. (MR)	+ Mary + Charles Kundrat	Theresa Kundrat
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Sat, Jul 15	9:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Lorinc Family	Family
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Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Irene Cifrulak (birthday 7/18) Kulka & Wickline Families

7th Sunday after Pentecost

Fathers of the first Six Ecumenical Councils

SUN, Jul 16	9:00 a.m. (MR)	For the Parishioners of Both Parishes	
	11:00 a.m. (NS)	+ Michael Sotak (birthday 7/19)	Wife: Jane

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

Jul 9 – Albert Kovacs, Sr., John Kutchmark, Sr. DEACON MICHAEL MEADERS; Jul 10 – Albert Kovacs, Jr.; Jul 12 – Michael S. Muska; Jul 13 – Michael Maslaney; Jul 15 – GEORGE HUDANICK.

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

HOME: Margaret Belionas, Florence Charochak, DEACON MICHAEL MEADERS, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Beverly Harsh, Bernice Herrick, Steve Kosko, Kathe Kress, ARLENE LATTA, KIRK LATTA, Nancy Lecci, BETTY LORINC, Irene Muha, Kurt Perschy, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Elizabeth Poznak, GERALD SLAGLE, Betty Spisak, MONSIGNOR PETER TAY, 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. Dorothy Ann Karl, Mildred Terrek.
LUTHERAN SENIORLIFE (500 Wittenberg Way, Mars PA 16046): A. SHIRLEY KALNAS.
BRIDGEVILLE REHAB & CARE CENTER (3590 Washington Pike, Bridgeville 15017): Dan Pikras.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. How can I be less hypocritical? I know what Jesus says and what I believe but I often go against these beliefs. **A. Answer by Catholic Answers:** So, does almost everyone in the world. SS. Peter & Paul and every saint in history (with the exception of Mary), struggle with this very problem (Rom 7:15-25). Here are some practical tips that will help you in this struggle: (1) Knowledge is power. If you know your faith, you will know more about how to fight the devil and the temptation to sin (1Peter 5:8-9; CCC 409); (2) Read the lives of the saints. These men and women have been where you are now, and their heroic example will inspire you (Phil 4:9); (3) Live a sacramental life. Attend the Divine Liturgy more than just on Sunday & Holy Days, pray the rosary, and go to Confession frequently, especially if you have sinned seriously (Heb 10:25; 1 Thess 5:17; CCC 1127, 1129). And (4) In prayer ask Jesus for guidance (Mt 7:7)

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

July 9 – Jul 15, 2023

(MR): **Health & Welfare of Hubal, Bordas & Stefanick Families**
offered by Hubal Family

(NS): **In memory of Ronnie (Seman) Bauch**

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2023 offered by Sister: Velma Seman (NS) NONE AVAILABLE 2023



General Announcements

McKees Rocks

SCHEDULE OF ALTAR SERVER FAITH & FUN DAY — The 2023 Faith & Fun Day for Archdiocesan Altar Servers will be on **Tuesday, July 18th**. The day will begin at Holy Ghost Byzantine Catholic Church, McKees Rocks, PA and end after the Pirates game.



The schedule for the day is:

11:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy at Holy Ghost Church, McKees Rocks

12:15 p.m. depart by bus to visit the Byzantine Catholic

Seminary

1:30 p.m. depart for Topgolf (Bridgeville) for lunch and game play

5:00 p.m. depart to PNC Park for the Pirates game vs. Cleveland.

Following the game, depart back to Holy Ghost Church for parental pick-up. Parental Consent Form must be completed for each altar server attending; Adult (Parent) sign-up (*must have all safe environment clearances on file at chancery*). Contact: Fr. Firko for these forms. The Parish will take care of the \$60.00 fee.

North Side

BORN AGAIN OF WATER AND SPIRIT — **Emilia Marie Harper** was Reborn of Water and Spirit and became a full member of the Church through the *Holy Mysteries of Initiation: Baptism, Chrismation and First Eucharist* on the **4th Sunday after Pentecost, June 25, 2023**. Her parents are Alan John Harper & Kayla Marie (Henderson) Harper of Pittsburgh. Sponsors were Olivia Chelsea Henderson and Corey James Henderson. *The Patron Saint assigned to Emilia is the Holy Venerable Mother Emmeleia (Emilia). She is the Mother of St. Basil the Great, St. Macrina and St. Gregory of Nyssa. Her Feast Day is May 30.* May God to Emilia Marie, Peace, Health & Salvation for many happy and blessed years! Na Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita!



FORMER PASTOR EXPRESSES GRATITUDE — Monsignor Peter Tay, retired priest of our Archeparchy, and former pastor, wishes to thank each of you for the birthday cards and pledges of prayers as he celebrated his 98th birthday on July 7! God Bless you!



6th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Trust that God will do the best — Read Matthew 9: 1-8

Those who brought the paralytic to Jesus did so because they believed in Him. It was faith in Jesus that inspired them to come to Him. It was also love for their



paralyzed friend that emboldened them to make their way through the crowd and bring him to Jesus. The carrying of the paralytic to Christ by his friends is an image of the Church. As members of the Body of Christ, we are called to carry our needy brethren to the Lord, through intercession and charity. St Paul says that we are to bear one another's burdens and thus fulfill the law of Christ (Gal. 6:2). At the same time, we have to accept the fact that we often need others to carry us, since we too are afflicted and weak and needy, in constant need of forgiveness and

healing. This is how the Lord wants his love to flow within the Church: when we happen to be strong, we are to carry others; when we are weak, others are to carry us. Jesus recognized both their faith in Him and their love for their paralyzed friend, yet what He first granted was not what they had originally come to Him for. They wanted physical healing, but Jesus first granted forgiveness of sins. When we encounter Jesus, we have to be prepared to let go of our presuppositions and expectations. He may manifest Himself in a way that runs counter to the image of Him we may have built up in our own thoughts and prayers. He may do things in our lives, in our souls, that we do not expect, and perhaps that we do not even like. He may upset our comfortable piety with a divine wake-up call that will leave us reeling and realizing that we didn't know it all after all, but were blind and ignorant until the light of Christ showed us both our sins and his glory. The paralytic wanted to walk, but Jesus took away his sins. Yet even if the paralytic was initially disappointed, he must have taken courage as Jesus told him to, and put his trust in the Lord. For Jesus did in fact give the man what he wanted, but only after giving him what *He* wanted to give, which was the most important thing. The lesson: Trust that God will do what is best!

Tip of the day: Jesus does not wait to see the faith of the ignorant ... Yet he does not refuse to help the faith of another, so that by grace alone he confers whatever is proper of the divine will (Chrysologus). In other words, bring others to prayer and place them at the feet of Christ!

Calendar of Upcoming Events

July 18 Archieparchial Altar Faith & Fun Day followed by a Pittsburgh Pirate Ball Game.
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 Annual Church Picnic at Cleaver Park, Robinson from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. Signup.
July 27 GCU Byzantine Catholic Family Day, Kennywood Park. Tickets at gcuusa.com
August 1-14 Commencement of the Saviorial Fast.
August 5 Anticipated Sunday & Transfiguration DL w/ the blessing of fruits & grapes.
August 6 Sunday & Transfiguration DL w/ the blessing of fruits and grapes at both Parishes.
Save the Date — Archieparchial Marriage Jubilarian Celebration (Sept. 10)

Saint of the Week — July 11

MIRACLE OF THE GREAT-MARTYR EUPHEMIA, THE ALL-PRAISED

The Miracle of St. Euphemia the All-Praised (whose feast day is September 16) suffered martyrdom in the city of Chalcedon in the year 304, during the time of the persecution against



Christians by the emperor Diocletian (284-305). In the light of next week's special commemoration of the victory of the first 6 Ecumenical Council (especially that of Chalcedon) at a time when the Christian Church had become victorious within the Roman Empire, God deigned that Euphemia should again be a witness and confessor of the purity of the true teaching. In the year 451 in the city of Chalcedon, in the very church where her glorified relics rested, the sessions of the Fourth Ecumenical Council (July

16) took place. The Council was convened for determining the precise dogmatic formulae of true Church teaching concerning the nature of the God-Man Jesus Christ. This was necessary because of the widespread heresy of the Monophysites ["mono-physis" meaning "one nature"], who opposed the true teaching of the two natures in Jesus Christ, the Divine and the Human natures (in one Divine Person). The Monophysites falsely affirmed that in Christ was only one nature, the Divine [i.e. that Jesus is God but not man, by nature], causing discord within the Church. At the Council were present 630 representatives from all the local Christian Churches. True-believers included: Anatolius, Patriarch of Constantinople (July 3), Juvenal, Patriarch of Jerusalem (July 2), and representatives of Saint Leo, Pope of Rome (February 18). The Monophysites were present in large numbers, headed by Dioscorus, the Patriarch of Alexandria, and the Constantinople archimandrite Eutychius. After prolonged discussions the two sides could not come to a decisive agreement. The holy Patriarch Anatolius of Constantinople proposed that the Council submit the decision of the Church dispute to the Holy Spirit, through His undoubted bearer St. Euphemia, whose wonderworking relics had been discovered during the Council's discussions. The true believing hierarchs and their opponents submitted their confessions of faith on separate scrolls and sealed them with their seals. They opened the tomb of the holy Great Virgin-Martyr Euphemia and placed both scrolls upon her bosom. Then, in the presence of the emperor Marcian (450-457), the participants of the Council sealed the tomb, putting on it the imperial seal and setting a guard to watch over it for three days. During these days both sides imposed upon themselves strict fast and made intense prayer. After three days the patriarch and the emperor in the presence of the Council opened the tomb with its relics: the scroll with the true believing confession was held by St. Euphemia in her right hand, and the scroll of the heretics lay at her feet. St. Euphemia, as though alive, raised her hand and gave the scroll to the patriarch. After this miracle many of the hesitant accepted the true believing confession, while those remaining obstinate in the heresy were consigned to the Council's condemnation and excommunication.

General Announcements

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. Boxes are placed at the side vestibule and narthex areas of both parishes for the **collection that will extend to August 6**. For additional information, please contact Tina Burns (412) 618-6567.



CHURCHES PICNIC UPDATED INFORMATION — Thus far, we have only 13 that have signed the posted list. Your presence is very much needed! The picnic is slated



at the Robinson Township Cleaver Road Picnic Grove **Sunday, July 23, 2023 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** It is necessary that all that attendees must register on the signup sheet located in the (NS) Narthex and (MR) Side Vestibule. The Churches must know how many hot dogs, hamburger, pasta salad and soft drinks to order. This will be a picnic basket style event. You are to bring your own

picnic basket. We are looking forward to this being an 'ol fashioned' event where we can relax and enjoy the day together. The pool will be opened at a discounted price for those who desire to swim. *The final day of registration is next Sunday, July 16.*

REGISTRATION ON-GOING 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 10, 2023 @ 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 next Sunday, July 16.*



BOTH PARISHES STILL IN NEED OF A REPRESENTATIVE FOR MATCHING FUNDS — Despite the relinquishing of local districts and lodges, GCU is offering each parish the ability of matching funds up to \$3,000.00. The Representative will act as Liaison between the Parish and GCU Headquarters. You would have to acquire permission from GCU for the event. Following through with the social activity, and submit an article, along with two pictures which are to appear in an Upcoming GCU Magazine. If you are interested, please contact the pastor.