

Parish Offerings – 20th Sunday after Pentecost — Oct. 15, 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 (\$3,990) YP (\$6)	\$3,996.00
Holy Days	11.00
Collection for the Poor ..	426.00
Votive Candles (\$142) Coffee Social (\$37)	179.00
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	\$4,612.00

Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering (\$566) YP (\$1)	\$567.00
Holy Days	20.00
Improvements (\$20) Collection for the Poor (\$80)	100.00
Votive Candles	133.50

Church Attendance Last Week \$820.50

Sat., 4:00 p.m. (33)


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





Valerian F. Szal Funeral Home
 238 Helen St.,
 McKees Rocks, PA 15136
 Phone: (412) 331-9713
 Fax: (412) 331-6688
Michael P. Ferrell, Supervisor, CFSP
Our Family Still Serving Yours Since 1953

“THE ultimate TEST OF YOUR greatness IS THE WAY YOU TREAT every HUMAN BEING”
 - POPE JOHN PAUL II -



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



Handyman Services
 North Side Parishioner
Alan Valeriano
(412) 638-3417
PA #172370

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, contact Church Office 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 pm Mon-Fri!



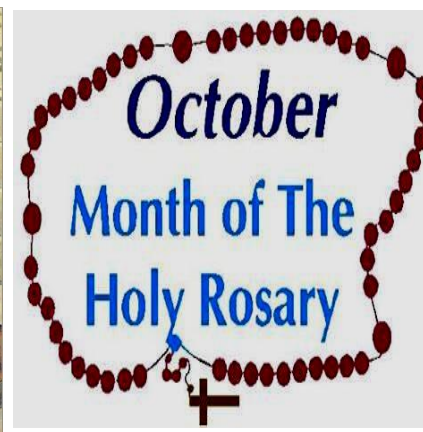
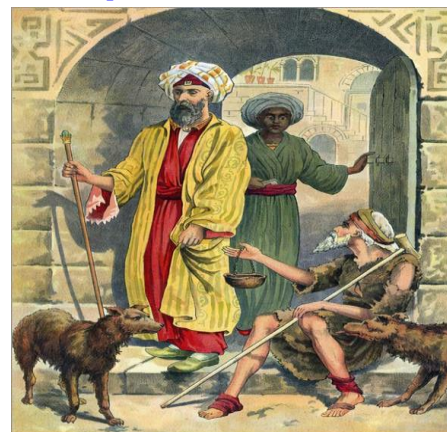
HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
 1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
 PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 21st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Respect Life Month — October 22, 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

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.
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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!

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).

October 22, 2023 Seasonal Greeting: Volume XIII Number 43



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

21st Sunday after Pentecost

SUN, Oct 22 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Joe Babin Wife: + Gerry
(15th ann of passing 10/27)
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Gerard Slagle (40th day of passing) Wife: Alice & Family

Feast of the Holy Apostle James the Less — Relative of the Lord

Mon, Oct 23 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Margaret Zula Zula Family

Tue, Oct 24 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Sandy Donnelly MaryEllen & John Oslick

The Holy Apostle & Evangelist Luke

Wed, Oct 25 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Barb Moskal Anita, Luke & Maria Iyengar

The Holy Great-Martyr Demetrius

Thrs, Oct 26 8:00 a.m. (MR) Health & Welfare (Birthday 11/24) Theresa Kundrat

REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice)
for peace and protection in the nation of Israel

Fri, Oct 27 8:00 a.m. (MR) Health & Welfare Joseph A. Cehula, T.O. Carm
of Michael Muska



6:00 p.m. (MR) Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary

Sat, Oct 28 9:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Geraldine Babin (40 day of passing 7/21) Joe, Mary Ann & Jim

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday of Christ the King

SUN, Oct 29 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Patricia Putruna Sisters
(10th ann of passing 10/27)

11:00 a.m. (NS) Health & Welfare Alice Slagle & Family
of Betty Warhola

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

Oct 24 — Anastasia Bedard, Theresa Kundrat; Oct 25 – Gregory Stilwell, Emma Joy Usouski; Oct 28 – Dolores Boros.

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

HOME: Margaret Beliuonas, 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. My fiancé and I want to live together for the next year to save money. My mom is upset about this and says this is wrong. But if we both honor our commitment to live chastely until marriage, why would it be wrong? **A. Catholic Answers Apologist:** Even if you and your fiancé don't have sexual relations for the entire time of your living together, your actions give scandal. The Catechism warns: The person who gives scandal becomes his neighbor's tempter. He damages virtue and integrity; he may even draw his brother into spiritual death. Scandal is a grave offense if by deed or omission another is deliberately led into a grave offense. (CCC 2284). And remember Jesus' warning in Luke 17:1: "Temptations to sin are sure to come; but woe to him by whom they come!" Saving money for your future life together is commendable, but moving in with your fiancé is not the only way in which you can do so. You could also find a roommate of your own sex or move in with your parents until your wedding day. Surely, saving a few bucks is not worth the dishonor your parents will suffer if you follow through with your decision. Nor is it worth sacrificing your commitment to live according to the teachings of Christ and his Church in your preparation for marriage. Trust God for his grace to see you through.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

October 22 — October 28, 2023

(MR): In memory of Joe Babin (15th ann of passing 10/27)

offered by Wife: + Geraldine

(NS): In memory of Michael Sotak, Jr.

(MR) AVAILABLE FOR 2024

offered by Wife: Jane

(NS) AVAILABLE 2024

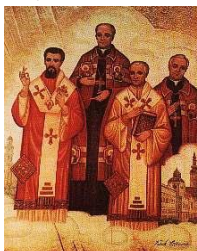
General Announcements

McKees Rocks

PIROHI PROJECT WILL RESUME PRIOR TO CHRISTMAS — Plans have been finalized for the upcoming Pirohi Project. *Here are the Friday sales dates: Nov. 3, 10, 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. Call: (412) 331-5155.*



ANNUAL MOLEBEN FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CAUSES — The yearly prayer service for the advancement of the Causes of Beatification and Canonization of our four holy Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Bishops will take place at the **Holy Ghost Church, McKees Rocks, PA on Sunday, October 29, 2023 @ 3:00 p.m.** For the past 38 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. Romzha, Uzhorod (+1947); Bishop-Martyr Paul P. Gojdich, O.S.B.M., Presov (+1960); Bishop-Martyr Basil Hopko, Presov (+1976); 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. Please invite your friends! **We are grateful to those who will be baking for this event. Please bring a friend!**



ONCE AGAIN MORE FRESH FLOWERS FOR THE HOLY THEOTOKOS — This is the fourth consecutive week that an anonymous donor has been sending flowers to be placed at the feet of our Blessed Mother located on the iconostasis. We are grateful to whoever you are for this noble expression of love for the Holy Virgin whom we especially extol during this month of October. May she be comforted seeing the expression of your heart.



North Side

BAKELESS BAKE SALE & 50/50 RAFFLE FOR THANKSGIVING — We are launching 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 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.*



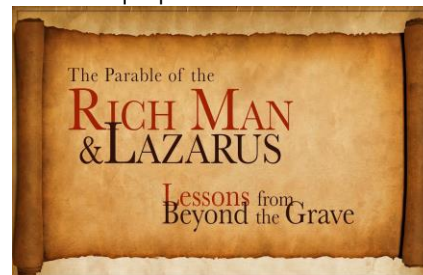
ADULT ENRICHMENT CLASSES — Today, Sunday, Oct. 22 — Natalia Tapsak will explain how to dialogue religion with non-Catholics. Coffee and Doughnuts will be served.

Meditation on today's Gospel

The Rich Man & Lazarus — A Lesson of Mercy

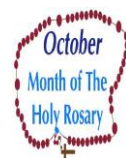
Luke 16:19-31

A parable is a story intended to convey a spiritual truth. The story doesn't have to be about real people or even real situations (such as a camel passing through the eye of a needle). But to achieve its teaching goal, a parable must be striking and memorable, so that as the story is retold and remembered, the spiritual truth is reinforced again and again. The hearers must be able to imagine the situation. Many scholars believe that Jesus is drawing upon a popular Jewish folk tale that had roots in Egypt about a rich man and poor man whose lots after death are completely reversed. The story doesn't have to be true in all its particulars, but the popular mind can relate to its stereotyped characters – rich man, poor man, and Father Abraham. You've probably heard dozens of pointed jokes that began with popular mythology (loosely based on selected scriptures) that included the pearly gates (Revelation 21:21) and St. Peter who holds the keys to the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 16:19). Lawyers, especially, don't do well in genre of jokes. You don't stop the joke teller because his portrayal is inadequate, or leaves out the great white throne judgment (Revelation 20:11). You accept the semi-mythical props of the story and listen for the punch line. No, Jesus isn't trying to make a joke here – the subject is deadly serious. Nor do I think Jesus is trying to teach his disciples the details of the after-life in this parable. I believe he is using a popular story genre to make a spiritual point. **Wealth without active mercy for the poor is great wickedness.** If we close our eyes to the truth we are given, then we are doomed. In the context, Jesus is condemning the Pharisees for their love of money but lack of mercy for the poor.



October: Respect-Life Month
4th WEEK INTENTION OF REPECT LIFE MONTH:
Prayer for the Poor, Homeless and Abandoned
O Lord, make us worthy to serve our fellow men throughout the world that live and die in poverty and hunger. Give them through our hands this day their daily bread, and by our understanding love, give them peace and joy. In this may Your Name be blessed and glorified, Father, Son (+) and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Re-learn to Pray the Rosary especially for the intention: That God may bless our nation with peace, that the division in our country may be healed and that the hearts of many will turn back to Our Lord and His Church; and for protection and peace for the nation of Israel.. Let us come and sacrifice this time as Our Country is depending on our prayer! — (MR) OCTOBER FRIDAYS @ 6:00 p.m.



Calendar of Upcoming Events

October 27 Each Friday: (MR) The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary @ 6:00 p.m.
 October 29 Sunday of Christ the King.
 Annual Moleben for our 4 saintly bishops. @ 3:00 p.m.
 November 5 Daylight STANDARD Time begins. Clocks FALL BACK ONE HOUR.
 November 7 General Election Day — Defend the most vulnerable – Cast a Pro-Life Vote.
 November 8 Synaxis of St. Michael & All Angels (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 p.m.
 November 15 Commencement of the Philipian (Filipovka) Fast.

Saint of the Week — October 26

The Holy & Glorious Demetrius of Thessalonica

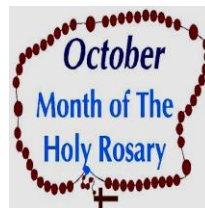
The Great Martyr Demetrius of Thessalonica was the son of a Roman proconsul in Thessalonica. Three centuries had elapsed and Roman paganism, spiritually shattered and defeated by the multitude of martyrs and confessors of the Savior, intensified its persecutions. The parents of St Demetrius were secretly Christians, and he was baptized and raised in the Christian Faith in a secret church in his father's home. By the time Demetrius had reached maturity and his father had died, the emperor Galerius Maximian had ascended the throne (305). Maximian, confident in Demetrius' education as well as his administrative and military abilities, appointed him to his father's position as proconsul of the Thessalonica district. The main tasks of this young commander were to defend the city from barbarians and to eradicate Christianity. The emperor's policy regarding Christians was expressed simply, "Put to death anyone who calls on the name of Christ." The emperor did not suspect that by appointing



Demetrius he had provided a way for him to lead many people to Christ. Accepting the appointment, Demetrius returned to Thessalonica and immediately confessed and glorified our Lord Jesus Christ. Instead of persecuting and executing Christians, he began to teach the Christian Faith openly to the inhabitants of the city and to overthrow pagan customs and idolatry. The compiler of his Life, St Simeon Metaphrastes, says that because of his teaching zeal he became "a second Apostle Paul" for Thessalonica, particularly since "the Apostle to the Gentiles" once founded at this city the first community of believers (1 Thess. and 2 Thess.). The Lord also destined St Demetrius to follow the holy Apostle Paul as a martyr..." He began to pray and fast, preparing himself for martyrdom. When the emperor came into the city, he summoned Demetrius, who boldly confessed himself a Christian and denounced the falsehood and futility of Roman polytheism. Maximian gave orders to lock up the confessor in prison. At dawn on **October 26, 306** soldiers appeared in the saint's underground prison and ran him through with lances. The body of the holy Great Martyr Demetrius was cast out for wild animals to devour, but the Christians took it and secretly buried it in the earth.

General Announcements

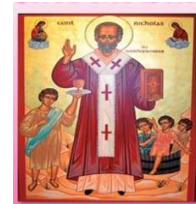
MONTH OF OCTOBER: THE HOLY ROSARY — At the request of several parishioners to honor Our Blessed Mother in this special month of October, the Rosary according to our Byzantine-Ruthenian (Rusyn) tradition will be prayed **each Friday throughout the month @ 6:00 p.m.** at our Parish in McKees Rocks. This sacred devotion has been a part of our Church since its founding over 100 years ago which our Founders and Benefactors brought with them from Carpathian Homeland. Come and join us as we pray together honoring and petitioning the Holy Theotokos.



ARCHIEPARICHAL ST. NICHOLAS 50/50 RAFFLE — Since many will not be able to attend the 65th Annual St. Nicholas Celebration at the Cathedral and Cathedral Center on **Sunday, December 3, 2023**, a minimal number of tickets (17) 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 at least 17 tickets. **They are \$10.00** and the first 3-digit number based on the Monday, **December 6, 2021** PA Daily Drawing at 7:00 p.m. Many prizes will be awarded. Tickets will be available. Next weekend.



ARCHIEPARICHAL ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION — The 64th Annual St. Nicholas Celebration will take place at the Cathedral and Cathedral Center on **Sunday, December 3, 2023**. Tickets are now priced at \$45.00 per adult and \$20.00 per child ages 12 and under. 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. *Parish deadline is next Sunday, November 12.*



RESULTS OF LAST WEEK'S PASTA DINNER — It was a wonderful turn out for the Annual Deanery Pasta turnout last weekend's annual event. Both of our parishes were representative! The Priests and Deacons served the event. The total income for the Good Will Offering was: \$1,664.00 plus half the winning of the 50/50 Raffle (\$337.50) totaled \$2,001.50. The expenditures totaled \$1,680.98. The total profit donated to the Archieparichal Priests' Pension Plan was \$320.52. Also, 4 donors directed their donation to the Pension Plan totaling \$197.50. **Combined totals sent to the Priests' Pension Plan was \$518.02.** We congratulate Theresa Carr (Holy Spirit Church, Oakland) who won half the share \$337.50. Thank you to all our Deanery representation who have made this yearly event a success.

