

Parish Offerings – Sunday of All Saints – June 4, 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 (\$2,701) YP (\$7)	\$2,708.00
Pentecost (\$565) YP (\$10) Holy Days (\$180)	755.00
Peter’s Pence	5.00
Votive Candles	162.50
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	\$3,630.50

Holy Ghost Church, North Side

Regular Offering (\$697) YP (\$1)	\$698.00
Pentecost (\$20) Holy Days (\$40)	60.00
Improvements	90.00
Votive Candles	56.00

Church Attendance Last Week \$904.00

(MR) Sat., 4:00 p.m. (25)
Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (61); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (28)



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



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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!

HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 2nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

1st Sunday of the Petrine Fast — June 11, 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
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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: Steve Puluka (412) 897- 4650.
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

You revealed Your Most Sacred Heart as the abyss of Your love for us, O Christ our God. Let our observance of Your Commandments in the present age be the return of love for us so that in the age to come we may enjoy in perfect love the contemplation of Your Divinity (Troparion of the Feast of the Most Sacred Heart).

June 11, 2023

Seasonal Greeting:

Volume XIII Number 24



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

1st Sunday of the Petrine Fast

SUN, Jun 11 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Margaret Kurtanich Grandchildren & Families
(19th ann. of passing 6/12)
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Olga Senchyshyn (birthday 6/15) Dgtr: Joan

Mon, Jun 12 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Irene O. Bordas Children
(40th day of passing 6/11)

Tue, Jun 13 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Michael Eisenman Sister: Martha & Bob Maletz

Recommended SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice): for vocations

Wed, Jun 14 8:00 a.m. (MR) Thanksgiving Mary Ann & Richard Cupka
(43rd Wedding Anniversary)
6:45 p.m. (MR) Flag Day Ceremony at Flag Pole

Thrs, June 15 8:00 a.m. (MR) Thanksgiving Angie & Michael Kendrach
(31st Wedding Anniversary 6/13)

Commemoration of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Lover of Mankind

REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice): for vocations

Fri, Jun 16 8:00 a.m. (MR) Thanksgiving Martha & Bob Maletz
(56th Wedding Anniversary 6/17)

Commemoration of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Sat, June 17 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Agnes + Anthony Knoll Son: William

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Third Sunday after Pentecost — Annual Father's Day

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Mark A. Cifrulak Nancy, Jenő & Nina Lecci

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

2nd Sunday of the Petrine Fast — Annual Father's Day

SUN, Jun 18 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Living & Deceased Fathers of Both Parishes

11:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners 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 11 – LEAH KALLOP; Jun 13 – Susan Fejka, Anita Iyengar; Jun 15 – Kathleen Kulka; Jun 16 – Karen Stebbins.

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

HOME: Margaret Beliunas, 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, Dan Pikras, 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): Geraldine Babin, Helen Best, Margaret Cifrulak, Dorothy Ann Karl, Mildred Terrek.

LUTHERAN SENIORLIFE (500 Wittenberg Way, Mars PA 16046): A. SHIRLEY KALNAS.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. In a relationship, how far is "too far" before it is considered a sin? **A. Answer by Catholic Answers:** We are made in the image and likeness of God, which means we cannot treat another person as an object of pleasure (Gn 1:26). Therefore, actions that directly stimulate sexual passion are morally unacceptable (1 Tim 5:22). Our sexual gifts have a much higher and special purpose. Looser sexual behavior becomes a tyrant that keeps making more demands on those involved. Eventually, you and your date will get bored with just kissing and will most likely want to move on to other things. This is called the "law of diminishing returns." Kissing does not always give the same excitement as when you first did it. The more one feeds these passions, the more one's will becomes weakened.... Even when a man and a woman are engaged to be married, they must live chastely. The covenant and consecrated relationship begin only when enter the Holy Mystery (Sacrament) of Marriage WITH THE BLESSING OF God and the Church. The couple must reserve for marriage any expression of affection that belongs to the married life.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

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

June 11 — June 17, 2023

(MR): In memory of Mildred & Michael Tomchak

offered by Son: Mike, Leyte & Mike

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

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2023

offered by Dgtr: Joan

(NS) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2023



General Announcements

McKees Rocks

SYMPATHIES EXTENDED — The *Spirit of Truth* announces the sudden passing of **Paula M.**



(Timchak) Roman, 61, on Thursday, June 1, 2023 at her Oakdale home. She is survived by Brother, Gary (Judy) Sister, Helen Clapperton and Brother: George, and several nieces and nephews. The McDermott Funeral Home, Kennedy Township handled the arrangements. The Funeral Divine Liturgy was offered on Friday, June 9th. Entombment followed at Resurrection Cemetery, Moon Township; Also, following a short illness,

Kenneth Michael Shanta, 59, of Cleveland, OH, passed away at the UH Main Campus on Friday, June 2, 2023, following an abrupt battle against Stage 4 colon cancer. He was raised in The Bottoms and is survived by his 7 siblings: Robert (Ruth); Beverly Jean (Frank); Margaret Marie (Mario) Sansotta; James Anthony (Leigh); Nancy (Ron) Wauthier; and Paul David (Lisa). He is also survived by several nieces and nephews.



Arrangements were handled by the Valerian F. Szal Funeral Home. The Funeral Divine Liturgy was offered at Holy Ghost Church on Saturday, June 10th.



Interment will follow in the near future; **Irene (Karas) Cifrulak, 97**, of McKees who passed away on Memorial Day, May 29, 2023. She is survived by several grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Arrangements were handled by the Valerian F. Szal Funeral Home. Our Parish extends its most sincere condolences to the Roman, Shanta and Cifrulak Families and all their relatives and friends. In blessed repose, grant O Lord, eternal rest to your servants, Paula, Kenneth and Irene, and

remember them forever! Vicnaja Jim Pamjat'!

PARISH & FINANCIAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING TOMORROW — The members of the PAC/FAC are reminded of our June meeting for **Monday, June 12, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m. in the Church office.** The agenda will include: discussion of the side entrance roof over the porch area, retirement of our E.C.F. Coordinator, upcoming parish July Picnic, etc. Please place this date on your agenda.

North Side

HIGH-LIGHTED SUBJECT MATTERS DISCUSSED AT LAST WEEK'S PAC/FAC MEETING —



At the June 4, 2023 **Parish & Financial Advisory Councils Meeting, following last week's Divine Liturgy**, the following agenda was discussed:

(1) Three major projects were discussed which include the Church Tower Bells, re-placing the Church Roof, and repairing the front Church Steps. It was agreed the Church front steps and portions of the sidewalk which need the most immediate attention.; (2) Upcoming Social Events which include Flag Day Activity (June 14) in McKees Rocks; Parishes Church Picnic (July 23) in

Robinson; Annual Uniontown Pilgrimage (Sept. 2-3) and the Archdiocesan Marriage Jubilee (Sept. 10) at St. Elias Church, Munhall, PA.

If you are retired or just enjoying the summer vacation, why not join us for the Daily Divine Liturgy!?! It is a great Spiritual Investment which Glorifies God, Sanctifies the soul and gives us an opportunity of offering a Spiritual Work of Mercy by praying for the Living and the Dead!

2ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Come, follow me! (Matthew 4:18-23)

The second Sunday after Pentecost shows us the practical application of the great call to renunciation formulated by Jesus in the gospel for the first Sunday. The

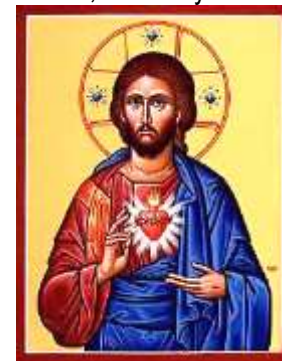


gospel read today at the Divine Liturgy tells of the calling of the first apostles. On the shore of Lake Galilee, Jesus sees Simon and Andrew fishing. He says to them: 'Follow me'. He wants to make them fishers of men. 'And they straightway left their nets, and followed him'. Further on Jesus meets James and John, also fishermen, in the company of their father, Zebedee. Jesus calls them. 'They immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.' The new disciples abandoned their nets and their ships: Jesus sometimes

asks us to renounce our profession, our instruments of work, whatever we possess. But some sons, at the call of Jesus, abandon their father too: sometimes he wants us to abandon family affections, human friendships, created love. This is not a purely negative attitude. Jesus' call has a very positive aspect: one must follow the Master. But the first apostles could not have followed the Master if they had not first of all left their ships, and their nets, and their father. And what have I abandoned in order to follow Jesus? What does he want me to leave?

Special Commemoration this Week THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

On the Third Friday following Holy Pentecost, the Byzantine-Ruthenian Catholic Church has always commemorated the *Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (Prazdnik Najsvjatijsaha Serdca Isusa)*. On this day, the Church renders a special tribute to our Lord Jesus Christ as **THE LOVER OF MANKIND**. A person's heart is a symbol of love. Just as God loves us, we are to ask to beseech His grace to increase our love for God and neighbor. The founders and benefactors of our Churches have always had a special love for the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Every home had an image hanging on their walls. During the month of June, the Church exhorts us to honor the Lord Jesus because of His unflinching love for all. Join us on this festive day honoring Our Lord Jesus.



Calendar of Upcoming Events

June 12 (MR) PAC/FAC Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
June 14 Annual Flag Day Ceremony @ 6:45 p.m.
June 23 Vigil (NS) Divine Liturgy for the Nativity of St. John the Baptist @ 6:00 p.m.
June 24 Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (MR) @ 9:00 a.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.**

Save the Dates

Archieparchial Altar Server Day (TBA); Churches Picnic (July 23); Archieparchial Marriage Jubilarian Celebration (Sept. 10 – cf. article under General Announcements

Saint of the Week

THE HOLY FEMALE MARTYR AQUILINA

June 13

Aquilina was born in the Palestinian town of Byblus of honorable Christian parents. At age seven, little Aquilina was already completely versed in the true Christian life and at age ten she was so filled with divine understanding and the grace of the Holy Spirit that she, with great power and zealotry, preached Christ to her female companions. When Diocletian's persecution began, someone accused Aquilina before Volusian, the imperial deputy, who was more like a beast than a man. At first, Volusian ordered that Aquilina be flogged and after that, a red hot rod be pierced through her ears and brain. Until the last moment, the virgin Aquilina freely and openly confessed Christ the Lord and when her brain and blood began to flow from her head, she fell as though dead. The deputy, thinking Aquilina was indeed dead, ordered her body to be carried outside the city and thrown upon a dung heap for the dogs to consume. But, an angel of God appeared to her at night and said to her: "Arise, and be whole!" And the virgin arose and was whole and for a long time she offered up praise of thanksgiving to God imploring Him not to deprive her to fulfill her martyr's mortification. A voice from heaven was heard: "Go, it will be to you as you pray" and Aquilina set out for the town. The gates of the town opened on their own accord before her and she entered like a spirit into the palace of the deputy and appeared before his bed. The deputy was seized with unspeakable fear, seeing the virgin alive whom he thought was dead. The following day, according to his command, the executioners led Aquilina out to behead her. Before her beheading, the virgin Aquilina prayed to God on her knees and gave up her soul. The executioner beheaded her lifeless head. Her relics gave healing to many of the sick. **Aquilina was twelve years old** when she suffered for the Lord: suffered and crowned with the martyr's wreath in the year 293 A.D.



General Announcements

ARCHIEPARCHIAL CHURCHES RETURNING TO TRADITIONAL WAY OF THE DISBURTION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

At our Annual Clergy Days on May 23, 2023, we have been advised by the Chancery Office that since the World Health Organization declared an end to the emergency phase of the Covid-19 Pandemic, we are to return to the traditional distribution of Holy Communion via one golden spoon. Our Holy Ghost Churches (MR & NS) will affect this ancient practice on the Feasts of Saints Peter & Paul, June 29. **Please be reminded that upon approaching you are to (1) open your mouth wide, DO NOT extend your tongue (i.e., do as you would at the dentist office); (2) tilt your head back slightly; (3) the Holy Eucharist will be placed into your mouth. Do not close your mouth on the spoon.**



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 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 Sunday, July 16.*



THE IMMACULATE HEART OF THE THEOTOKOS

A traditional and optional remembrance of the Most Holy Virgin's role focusing on her presence at the foot of the Cross is celebrated on the Third Saturday after Holy Pentecost. Her title as the *COMPASSIONATE MOTHER* focuses on the suffering, she endured at the crucifixion scene. It was a true and abiding love that moved Mary to willing share in her Divine Son's sufferings which He endured for all mankind. We are called to imitate her love as we see Jesus in the person of our neighbor and be with them in their sufferings.



ANNUAL PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

— The History of the Peter's Pence Collection derives its name from an ancient custom. In ninth-century England. King Alfred the Great collected money, a "pence," from landowners as financial support for the Pope. Today, the Peter's Pence Collection supports the Pope's philanthropy by giving the Holy Father the means to provide emergency assistance to those in need because of natural disaster, war, oppression, and disease. In his address of March 20, 2013, Pope Francis spoke of our responsibility before the world and creation. *"There is much that we can do to benefit the poor, the needy and those who suffer, and to favor justice, promote reconciliation and build peace," he said.* The Peter's Pence Collection unites us in solidarity to the Holy See and its works of charity to those in need. Your generosity allows the Pope to respond to our suffering brothers and sisters.

