

Parish Offerings – 7th Sunday after Pentecost — July 16, 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 (\$2,325) YP (\$6) | \$2,331.00 |
| Holy Days | 130.00 |
| Peter’s Pence | 25.00 |
| Votive Candles | 161.50 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$2,647.50 |

Holy Ghost Church, North Side

| | |
|---|----------|
| Regular Offering (\$720) YP (\$1) | \$721.00 |
| Holy Days | 30.00 |
| Improvement (5) Utilities (\$10) | 15.00 |
| Votive Candles | 81.00 |
| | <hr/> |

Church Attendance Last Week \$847.00

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

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (62); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (27)

Prophet Elijah the Tishbite — Thrs, Jul. 20 (MR) 9:00 a.m. (13); (NS) 6:00 p.m. (10)



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

HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
 1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
 PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 8th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Annual Parishes Picnic— July 23, 2023

The Passing of Bishop-Martyr Basil Hopko



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. |
|---|--|--|

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).

July 23, 2023

Seasonal Greeting:

Volume XIII Number 30



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



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Annual Church Picnic — Clever Park, Robinson

SUN, Jul 23 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Michael P. Harsh Alex Bilak
11:00 a.m. (NS) + Joseph R. Shamonsky Anonymous

Holy Long-Suffering Martyrs Boris and Gleb

Mon, Jul 24 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Robert Shanta Dgtr: Beverly Vento
(14th ann of passing)

Dormition of the Holy Righteous Saint Anne


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

Wed, Jul 26 8:00 a.m. (MR) + George Kurtanich Helenea & Edward Connor

Holy Great-Martyr & Healer Panteleimon

Thrs, Jul 27 8:00 a.m. (MR) Commendation of Infant
+ Baylee Wroten Grandparents: Martha & Bob Mallets

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

Fri, Jul 28  8:00 a.m. (MR) + Eleanor + John Kulka Children: Kathleen & John
(wedding ann.)

Sat, Jul 29 9:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Michele J. (Terrek) Chiavetta Cousin: Kurt Perschy

9th Sunday after Pentecost

SUN, Jul 30 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Joyce Buchko Sister: Peggy & Chuck McCusker
(10th ann of passing 7/18)

11:00 a.m. (NS) + Dolores Hudanick Children: George, Paul & Janet
(1st ann of passing 7/24)

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 23 – ALAN VALERIANO; Jul 24 – Subdeacon Luke Iyengar; Jul 25 – Elaine Kurtanich.

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

HOME: Margaret Beliuнас, 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.
VICTORIA MANOR PERSONAL CARE HOME (100 Rose Ct., Oakdale, PA 15071): Dan Pikras.

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 23 – July 29, 2023

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

offered by Dgtr: Janet Sendro & Family

(NS): **In memory of Alphonse A. Siglow**

(MR) NONE AVAILABLE FOR 2023 offered by Dgtr: Kathryn & William Kress (NS) NONE AVAILABLE 2023



General Announcements

McKees Rocks

ALTAR SERVER FAITH & FUN DAY — The 2023 Faith & Fun Day for Archdiocesan Altar Servers took place last Tuesday. The day commenced at our parish with Archbishop Skurla as the principal celebrant at the Divine Liturgy. The day ended at PNC Park with the Pittsburgh Pirates losing to the Cleveland Guardians 10-1. A great day was had by all in attendance. Representing our Holy Ghost Church were Altar Servers Thomas and Paul Rubish with their father Paul. Each year the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh sponsors this event through the Vocations Office.



UPCOMING ORDINATION HERE AT HOLY GHOST CHURCH — The Ordination of the



Subdiaconate & Diaconate upon Seminarian Nathaniel Tapsak will take place on **Sunday, August 20, 2023 @ 3:00 p.m.** Archbishop Skurla will do the honors. Currently, Nathaniel is assigned to St. Michael Church, Canonsburg. This is a great opportunity to witness a minor and major Order to the Holy Priesthood. A light luncheon will be held here at the Church following the Liturgical Celebration. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. **We will need you to sign the list provided so that we may know how many to prepare for. RSVP is August 6th.** This is a distinct honor for our Parish. Let us

show support to Nathaniel as he continues his journey to the altar of God!

North Side

No Particular Announcements this Week

SUMMER IS NOT A TIME TO VACATION FROM WORSHIPPING GOD — Now that Summer is here many are vacationing. 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 most kind and merciful, sustaining and gifting us in all that we have and need. *A voluntarily absence without serious reason makes one 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 that there is no Catholic Church, please inform the Pastor so that a dispensation may be considered. Also, *you can download an app on your cell phone called "Mass Times."*



HOLY GHOST CHURCHES CONTINUE WITH ANNUAL COLLECTION TO FISHER HOUSE —

The Pittsburgh Fisher House is a place for visiting families to stay, free of charge, while their loved ones receive inpatient medical care at VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System. 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.



SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Christ's Compassion: Feeding the Multitude (Matthew 14: 14-22)

The great New Testament miracle of the multiplication of the loaves reminds us of another miracle, the one performed by God's Prophet Elijah. Elijah had told King Ahab and his wife Jezebel that God would punish the apostasy of Israel and its ruler for worshiping the heathen sun-god Baal. This punishment would be in the form of a long drought and famine. During the drought, Elijah went to Zerephath, where he was hospitably received by a poor widow and her son, who offered him their last meal. He rewarded their charity by miraculously increasing their flour and oil - just enough each day to feed them - throughout the three-and-a-half years the famine lasted.



In the churches of our metropolitan province, we are reminded of this great miracle every time that there is festive anointing - 'mirovanije' - on the occasion of special holydays. During the Vesper Service preceding the feast day, the priest blesses five loaves of bread, and the prayer of blessing mentions the miracle of the feeding of over 5,000 people.

Sacramental Bread — Why did Our Lord Jesus perform this great miracle of feeding over 5,000 people? He wanted to prepare them for still another miracle, an even greater one, the one that He performed at the Last Supper, when He changed the substance of bread into His own Body. This He did when He blessed the bread, saying: **"Take and eat: this is My Body,"** and changed the wine into His Precious Blood. He thus instituted the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, through which we today receive the spiritual nourishment necessary for our souls. Jesus Himself said: **I am the Bread of Life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.** In order to unite us with Him spiritually, Our Lord enables us to receive Him every time the Divine Liturgy is celebrated, for the nourishment and salvation of our souls. May we always approach Him worthily and thank Him, collectively and personally, for this Most Precious Gift!

**Christos Posred'i Nas — Christ is Among Us!
Jest' I Budet — He is and Shall Be!**

The Catechism on the EUCHARIST

"The Eucharist is the heart and the summit of the Church's life, for in it Christ associates his Church and all her members with his sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving offered once for all on the cross to his Father; by this sacrifice he pours out the graces of salvation on his Body which is the Church" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1407). "It is Christ himself, the eternal high priest of the New Covenant who, acting through the ministry of the priests, offers the Eucharistic sacrifice. And it is the same Christ, really present under the species of bread and wine, Who is the offering of the Eucharistic sacrifice" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1410).



Calendar of Upcoming Events

July 23 Annual Church Picnic at Clever 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.
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.

Save the Date — Archieparchial Marriage Jubilarian Celebration (Sept. 10)

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 6:00 p.m.** The Church is providing the hot dogs and hamburgers to those who have registered. 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. Recently, we were informed that only residents of Robinson Township will receive a discounted price for those who desire to swim. *Thank you to all who have registered, and will be organizing 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 Deutera. 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 maphorion (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 — Today, 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.

