

2026 GCU Byzantine Parish Coordinator (BPC) Guidelines

The BPC is a liaison between the parish and the GCU Fraternal Department. This program is only available to Byzantine Parishes located under the jurisdiction of the Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh or Eparchies of Parma, Passaic and Phoenix.

Parishes that do not apply for a BPC to represent their parish before February 1, 2026 will not be able to participate in the program until January of 2027. They also will not be eligible to receive the \$1,000.00 annual donation from the GCU.

Each BPC will receive a \$500 grant in the form of a debit card, to host parish social events in 2026. (The debit card can be used to assist financially with any parish social event(s): Easter, St. Nicholas Day, Christmas, Parish Feast Day, after Liturgy Social or any other social held by the parish).

A simple online accounting/reporting form must be completed at the conclusion of each parish social event in order to qualify for funding in 2027. The BPC is also required to send a photo or two of each event along with a brief two or three sentence description for publication in the GCU Magazine and on the GCU website. All of the information can be done with this one form and at one time. **If you have more than one photo, please submit the additional photos in a separate email to events@GCUusa.com.** Once submitted it will go directly to the GCU Fraternal Communications Department. You should receive a confirmation within 24 hours (during regular business hours, that the report and photos were received. **Please note that reports received 4 months past an event will not be published in the GCU Magazine—we try to keep articles and photos timely.**

The BPC is also responsible to complete request and financial reporting information for the GCU Parish Matching Funds program if their parish does any fundraising activities in 2026. The parishes will have an additional \$2,500 available to them through this program. **The Request Form must be completed at least 4 weeks prior to the fundraising event. We will not accept post event request forms—if you do not apply for the Parish Match before the event and submit a Financial Reporting Form your parish will not receive the GCU Match!** Financial Reporting will be done at the conclusion of the event in order to receive the GCU Match. Once again the financial reporting form also has space to do a short report on the event and to add a photo from the event to be used in the GCU Magazine and on the GCU Website. **If you have more than one photo, please submit the additional photos in a separate email to events@GCUusa.com.** All forms are available on the GCU Website www.GCUusa.com then search GCU Fraternal Tools.

Please Note: The \$500 debit card cannot be used in conjunction with an activity receiving GCU Matching Funds. The debit card is strictly for social activities benefiting parishioners. If the debit card is used with a Matching Funds event, your parish will forfeit the GCU Match. Please do not use the card in conjunction with any Matching Funds activity for example a lunch for volunteers that are making nut rolls for a fundraiser receiving GCU Matching Funds—we will closely enforce this in 2026!

BPC should plan on hosting a GCU Marketing visit at their parish once every two years. The marketing presentation will be paid for by GCU Home Office and will not require use of the \$500 debit card.

This BPC is asked to work in conjunction with the GCU Constellation Coordinator in their area if there is one and/or the Corporate Community Events Coordinators assigned to their area when GCU is holding an event near their parish. We would ask that a BPC assist with GCU regional event advertising and awareness at their parish through the use of the parish bulletin and hanging up of event posters if available.

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Basil Wahal 724-683-3924 or bwahal@GCUusa.com.