St. Michael's Orthodox Church 308 Walnut St. Jermyn, Pennsylvania 18433

Very Rev. John Kowalczyk (Rector)

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Reader Vladimir Kitchura: 903-3475

St. Michael's Church: 876-4710

Reader & Cantor: Vasili Dubee:254-9720

<u>Church Website</u>: stmichaeljermyn.org & 360 virtual tour and 4 part welcome

Gospel: Luke 10:25-37 November 15, 2020

Beginning of the Nativity Fast

Epistle:Eph.2:4-10

Schedule of Services

Sunday, November 15, Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, November 22, Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. - Entrance of the Most-Holy Theotokos into the Temple.

<u>The Next Monthly Church Committee Meeting has</u> been moved to Monday, November 23 at 5:30 p.m. Please make every effort to attend!

<u>Please note: All the prizes for our Parish Raffle have been donated by the following:</u> Battenberg Funeral Home, Harrison Funeral Home, Robert Decker Funeral Home, Joseph W. Scotchlas Funeral Home, André Protsouk & family, James Zeleniak and Mark Bednash.

<u>A Special Thank You to</u>: Lydia Given for directing our church choir this morning. She is the wife of Seminarian Brad Given who is in his 2nd year of Theology at St. Tikhon's Seminary <u>May our Lord Jesus</u> <u>Christ, continue to bless her for many years.</u>

A Special Thank You to all of you for a very successful raffle. 1st. Prize: \$1,000.00: Sophia Kowalczyk

<u>2nd Prize:</u> 50 in. Flat Screen T.V: <u>Roxanne Neutts</u>, <u>3rd Prize:</u> \$200.00 Wegman's Gift Card: <u>Mary J. Paserp</u>, <u>4th Prize:</u> \$150.00 Gas Card – Bednash Gas & Service Station: <u>Susan Schlasta.</u> <u>Congratulations</u> to all our winners!

<u>If your Church Dues are in arrears</u>, please make an effort to send them to the Church before the end of the year. The Annual dues are <u>\$160.00</u> per year. Please call Gloria Shaw at 570-954-3905 to get your balance. <u>May our Lord Jesus Christ continue to bless you for many years!</u>

<u>Please Note: During the Covid 19 Pandemic we are limiting the Church liturgical services to one services on Sunday</u>. Approximately three hours is spent during the week before our services sanitizing the Church. We want to keep everyone safe and healthy. We thank Patsy& John Pash and Julie Spiecher for doing a tremendous job in cleaning and sanitizing.

<u>The renovation of the kitchen at St. Michael's Center is nearing completion</u>. A new cemented floor in the kitchen has been completed. The painting of the Kitchen will take place within the next few weeks and this will be followed by a new tile floor.

<u>Please remember in your prayers:</u> <u>Peter Senio</u> who is a guest at; The Gardens of Green Ridge, 2751 Boulevard Ave, Scranton, Pa. and <u>Jacky Drutarosky</u> who is in the Lackawanna Health and Rehab Center, 260 Terrace Drive, Peckville, Pa. 18452. <u>Please send a get well card!</u>

<u>Online Church School</u> classes for Middle School and High School students will be offered weekly every Tuesday at 7:00 pm EST/4:00 pm PST. The interactive sessions will last approximately one hour. To join the class, visit <u>oca.org/ocs</u>. Students should click on the link for their level no earlier than 15 minutes prior to the starting time and they will gain access to the online class.

A Christmas Wish List: Children's sneakers from size 10 to size 5, boys and girls, Socks for children/preteens, Coats- boys sizes 8-10, 12-14, 14-16, 18, Girls Coats- same as boys, Boys and Girls outfits in the sizes noted above, Gift cards for food or gas, Gift cards to Walmart, Bakugan (toy), Power Ranger toys/figures, Legos or building supplies- Knex, Board games (not Candy Land or Chutes and Ladders, Board games or STEM projects for children 8+, Pokemon figures, activities, games, Unicorn figures, activities, games, Arts and Crafts, Construction paper, marker sets, crayons, colored pencil sets, Any kind of creative art supplies, A book: Magic Tree House Series; Dogman; Diary of a Wimpy Kid; a book suitable for a pre-teen (boys or girls ages 10-12), This year please purchase any of the above items by Sunday, December 20, and bring them to Church. You don't have to wrap the presents. Please call Sue Schlasta at 570-840-9544

We fast from November 15 -25 before Feast of the Nativity, in order to prepare ourselves for the celebration of Our Lord's birth. As in the case of Great Lent, the Nativity Fast is one of preparation, during which we focus on the coming of the Savior by fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. By fasting, we "shift our focus" from ourselves to others, spending less time worrying about what to eat, when to eat, how much to eat, and so on in order to use our time in increased prayer and caring for the poor. We learn through fasting that we can gain control over things which we sometimes allow to control us—and for many people, food is a controlling factor.