

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

Very Rev. John Kowalczyk (Rector)  
Phone: 876-1241 – Cell: 561-8696  
Protodeacon Gabriel Petorak  
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Sub-Deacon Vasili Gardecki: 209-6086  
Reader: Vasili Dubee: 254-9720  
Church Website: stmichaeljermyn.org  
& 360 virtual tour and 4 part welcome

George Petorak (President)  
Phone: 876-0377  
Prof. Oleg Beljaeff: 876-5236

Reader Vladimir Kitchura: 903-3475  
Reader Greg Bertholf: 766-2442

St. Michael's Center: 876-3454

Gospel: Matt.1:1-25

December 24th, 2017

Epistle: Heb.11:9-10,17-23,32-40

Sunday before Nativity

**Schedule of Divine Services**

**Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**, Matins 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.

Complines & Matins 7:00p.m. (Strict Fast Day)

**Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Day**: Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. followed by singing of Christmas Carols

**Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup>, Divine Liturgy** 9:00 a.m. Feast of the Synaxis of the Mother of God

**Wednesday, December 27<sup>th</sup>**, Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m. Feast of St. Stephen the Protomartyr

**Saturday, December 30<sup>th</sup>** Great Vespers 6:30 p.m.

**Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>**, Matins 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.

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**CHRISTMAS SALE AT ST. MICHAEL'S CENTER**: was a huge success. We thank all the hard-workers and bakers who gave of their time and talents. We thank all of you for the complete sell-out. May God grant all of you many blessed years!

**Flowers & Candles are still being accepted.** \$20.00 Large Poinsettia plant \$15.00 small plant and \$10.00 for candles can be offered in loving memory of departed family members, or for the health of your family.

**St. Michael's New Church By-laws have** been unanimously ratified by our Special Parish Meeting held last Sunday. His Eminence, Archbishop Mark blessed and accepted our new By-laws and we are now in conformity with the statutes of the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania and the Orthodox Church in America.

**Church Dues are being collected prior to the end of the year.** If you are in the arrears, please make every effort to send in your dues. If you are interested in knowing the balance of your Church dues, please contact Gloria Shaw at 570-876-5506.

**\$100.00** offered by Dr. Joe Danyo, **\$50.00** Poinsettia offered in loving memory of Frank & Mary Bowen, John and Julia Pash, offered lovingly by John and Patsy Pash., **\$25.00** Poinsettia and Candles offered for the health of the Essig family and in memory of the departed loved ones, **\$20.00** for Poinsettia offered in memory of Michael Kitchura offered by Annemarie Kitchura, **\$20.00** Poinsettia in memory of Michael Kitchura offered by Dorothy Hanchak, **\$20.00** Poinsettia offered by Protodeacon Gabriel and Matushka Dolores in memory of their parents, Mary & Frank Bowen and Barbara and Gabriel Petorak, **\$10.00** Candles for the departed Franchak family **\$15.00** for the health of Steve & Rose Franchak and family, offered by Steve & Rose Franchak, **\$25.00** Poinsettia in memory of Andrew Hanchak offered by wife Dorothy.

**Special Thank You to Protodeacon Gabriel Petorak and** all the support given to the St. Michael's Scholarship Raffle, adding over \$400.00 to our educational fund.

**Special Thank You to Protodeacon Gabriel Petorak and Sub-Deacon John Lasichak** in getting our Church ready for the Christmas celebration.

**Church Committee Weekly Meeting** will be held on Tuesday evening, December 26<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:00 p.m.

**Church School** will be held on Sunday, December 31st, following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. Matushka Kathy and Matushka Dolores are the teachers. **Please plan to bring your children to Church School!**

**Christmas out-reach to needy children in our area:** is being organized by Susan Schlasta. Our Church will provide special assistance and purchase Christmas presents. **Nearly \$1,000.00 has been collected and we will read the gifts provided to our local children on Christmas morning December 25<sup>th</sup>.**

**Please remember in your prayers; Peter** & Helen Senio who are guests at; The Gardens of Green Ridge, Rm. #101, 2751 Boulevard Ave, Scranton, Pa., Ann Butler a guest at the Elmeroft of Mid-Valley, Michael Klaptach who is guest at the Wayne Woodlands Manor, in Waymart., Pa. Mary Slenska, Allied Rehab, and Irene Kiehart is a guest at the Atria at Farmington, 111 Scott Swamp Rd, and Rm.14B Farmington, CT 06032.

**Hostesses:** Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> – No Coffee Hour. December 31<sup>st</sup>; Theresa Krenitsky, Susan Schlasta, Valerie Nidoh

**Thought for the Day:** His Nativity night bestowed peace on the whole world; So let no one threaten; This is the night of the Most Gentle One – Let no one be cruel; This is the night of the Humble One – Let no one be proud. Now is the day of joy – Let us not revenge; Now is the day of Good Will – Let us not be mean. In this Day of Peace – Let us not be conquered by anger. Today the Bountiful impoverished Himself for our sake; So, rich one, invite the poor to your table. Today we receive a Gift for which we did not ask; So let us give alms to those who implore and beg us. This present Day cast open the heavenly doors to our prayers; Let us open our door to those who ask our forgiveness. Today the DIVINE BEING took upon Himself the seal of our humanity, In order for humanity to be decorated by the Seal of DIVINITY. — St. Isaac Syrian, Nativity Sermon