

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

**Very Rev. John Kowalczyk (Rector)**  
Rectory: 876-1241 – Cell: 561-8696

**Protodeacon Gabriel Petorak**  
Phone: 876-0411

**Sub-Deacon Vasili Gardecki: 267-6239**

**St. Michael's Church: 876-4710**

**Church Website: [stmichaeljermyn.org](http://stmichaeljermyn.org)  
& 360 virtual tour and 4 part welcome**

**Steve Franchak (President)**  
Phone: 876-3297

**St. Michael's Center: 876-3454**

**Reader Vladimir Kitchura: 903-3475**

**Reader Greg Bertholf: 766-2442**

**Reader: Vasili Dubee: 254-9720**

**Gospel: Luke 12:26-21**

**Epistle: Eph.4;1-6**

**November 18, 2018  
Martyrs Platon & Roman**

**Schedule of Services**

**Sunday, November 18**, Obednitsia 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.

**Tuesday, November 20**, Great Vespers 4:00 p.m. –Eve of the Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple

**Wednesday, November 21**, Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m. – Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple  
(followed by prayers for our National Holiday of Thanksgiving)

**Saturday, November 24**, Great Vespers 4:00 p.m.

**Sunday, November 25**, Obednitsia 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. - 40 day Parastas for Ann  
Narcoonis offered lovingly by husband Edward and daughter Ann.

---

**Thanksgiving Bread Sale** will be held at St. Michael's Center on Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup> at  
12:00 (Noon) **The Bread will be made this Monday, November 19 beginning at 8:00 a.m.** Please  
come out and give us a hand! **Please call Ruth Lasichak at 876-1456 for the orders.**

**Monthly Church Committee Meeting** will be held this Monday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Please  
make every effort to attend this important meeting.

**The Parish Financial Books** will be audited on Monday, November 26 at 5:30 p.m. Please make every effort to attend!

**Parish Festival Wrap-up Meeting has been rescheduled for Thursday, November 29 at 6:00 p.m. at St. Michael's Center.** Everyone who worked to make our 9<sup>th</sup> Christmas in September a success is invited to attend the meeting. **We will have a complete breakdown of income and expenses. Refreshments will be served.**

**The Nativity Fast** began on Thursday, November 15, and will end with the celebration of the Nativity of Christ our Lord on December 25. Please make every effort to keep this fast!

**Church School will be held this Sunday, November 18,** following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. Matushka Kathy and Matushka Dolores are the teachers. Please make every effort to bring your children to Church School.

**Church Dues are being collected.** 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.

**Please remember in your prayers: Peter & Helen Senio** who are guests at; The Gardens of Green Ridge, Rm. #101, 2751 Boulevard Ave, Scranton, Pa., **Marie Derkash & Ann Butler** are guests at the Oakwood Terrace, 400 Gleason Dr. Moosic, Pa. 18507 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.

**Sunday Hostesses: November 18,** Eileen Bruzchalski, Maryann Dubee, Jeanne Malec, **November 25,** Vicky Kravetsky, Sue Schlasta, Matushka Kathy Kowalczyk

**The Civil Holiday of Thanksgiving,** celebrated this Thursday, in the United States is a once-a-year acknowledgment by the world of the importance of the virtue of thanksgiving. In the Orthodox understanding, thanksgiving is not simply an occasional offering, but rather an essential aspect of our life. This is reflected in the central expression of our communion with Christ, participation in the holy Eucharist in which we offer our life to God and He offers His Life to us. St Irenaeus writes: "Our way of thinking is in harmony with the Eucharist, and conversely, the Eucharist confirms our way of thinking" We give thanks, not only after receiving the precious Body and Blood of Christ, but even before, in the pre-Communion prayers and in our preparation through prayer and fasting. **This reminds us of the ascetical dimension of thanksgiving, which is not simply an intellectual mindset that we try to express but a way of life.** This way of life involves effort on our part, but also the gifts of God, for which we are thankful.