

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

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

Steve Franchak (President)
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Protodeacon Gabriel Petorak
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Sub-Deacon Vasili Gardecki: 267-6239

Reader Vladimir Kitchura: 903-3475

St. Michael's Church: 876-4710

Reader Greg Bertholf: 766-2442

**Church Website: stmichaeljermyn.org
& 360 virtual tour and 4 part welcome**

Reader: Vasili Dubee: 254-9720

Gospel: Luke 17:12-19

**December 8, 2019
Ven. Patapius of Thebes**

Epistle: Eph.4:1-6

Schedule of Services

Sunday, December 8th Obednitsia 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. - 40th Day Parastas for Irene Kiehart, offered by family. Parastas for Alex Meholic (19th Anniversary) offered by Marilyn & George Petorak.

Friday, December 13th, Baptism of Elizabeth (Cora) Kraky 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 14th, Great Vespers 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 15th, Obednitsia 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. Parastas – 40th Day for Helen Senio, offered by husband Peter Senio.

St. Michael's Christmas Sale: Homemade by the bakers at St. Michael's Center. All Holiday Rolls: \$10.00: Nut, Poppy, Lekvar, Apricot, Pineapple, Coconut, & Raspberry Cream. Homemade Bread: Plain \$6.00 or Raisin \$7.00. Perogies (Frozen only) \$7.00 Doz. Sopressate, \$14.00 per stick. Order Call: 876-1456 or Fax 876-3454. Pick up Friday, December 20, Noon- 4p.m. Cutoff date Sunday, December 15.

Christmas Poinsettia Large \$20.00 Small \$15.00 & Candles \$10.00. You may offer for the continued good health of family or for the eternal memory of your loved ones. **We thank you in advance for your support.**

Church School will be held next Sunday, December 15th, following the Divine Liturgy. Please bring your children to Church School. Matushka Kathy and Matushka Dolores are the teachers.

Church Calendars for 2020 have arrived. A special thank you to the Battenberg Funeral Home for their annual donation.

November 15, was the beginning of the Nativity Fast, As Orthodox Christians we begin this journey to the **Feast of the Nativity** which is celebrated as 'Christmas' on December 25. This is a joyous Fast in anticipation of the Nativity of Christ. This fast is observed as a kind of winter Lenten season in preparation for the coming of Christ at His birth.

Annual Christmas Out-Reach to underprivileged children in our area will be held with a special collection to be held next Sunday, December 15, during the second offering. This is being coordinated again by Susan Schlasta. Any direct donations can be given to Susan by calling her at 570-840-9544.

Choir Rehearsal for Christmas Liturgy will be held on Monday, December 23rd at 6:00 p.m. The rehearsal is being call by summer intern; Peter Simko. **Please make every effort to attend!**

Please remember in your prayers: Annabel Franchak who is guest at the Wayne Woodlands Manor, in Waymart., Pa. **Peter Senio** who is a guest at; The Gardens of Green Ridge, 2751 Boulevard Ave, Scranton, Pa., **Marie Derkash & Ann Butler** are guests at the Oakwood Terrace, 400 Gleason Dr. Moosic, Pa. 18507 **Mary Slenska**, Allied Rehab.

Sunday Hostesses: December 8, Susan Schlasta, Helen Grancey, Vicky Kravetksy. **December 15,** Jean Malec, Maryann Serafini Theresa Krenitksy. **December 22,** Mille Telep, Dorothy Allen, Kay Fedirko.

St. Nicholas, Archbishop of Myra: It is said that Nicholas was of a quiet, ascetic and studious nature, and was one of the 318 Church Fathers who participated in the First Ecumenical Council held in Nicaea in 325 A.D. It was at that council that Nicholas sternly chastised the archheretic Arius in the presence of Emperor Constantine and all those in attendance. Nicholas proved to be a true champion of the Orthodox faith both in word and deed. Prior to his elevation as archbishop, Nicholas suffered imprisonment, harsh treatment, and torture at the hands of pagans who tried in vain to make him deny Christ. He bore terrible scars of torture on his body for many years after his release from prison. He defended the unfortunate, assisted the poor, and anonymously performed acts of kindness. He often made gifts of bags of gold to the young and needy, and won fame for his love of children and underprivileged families. St. Nicholas passed on to eternity at a venerable age, of natural causes, perhaps in 330 A.D.

