

**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)  
Phone: 876-3297

Protodeacon Gabriel Petorak  
Phone: 876-0411

St. Michael's Center: 876-3454

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

Reader: Vasili Dubee: 254-9720

**Gospel: Mark:1:1-8**

**January 5, 2020  
Sunday before Theophany**

**Epistle: 2Tim.4:5-8**

**Schedule of Services**

**Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup>**, Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. - **Strict Fast Day**- Eve of the Feast of Theophany

**Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup>**, Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m. **Theophany** – followed by the Great Blessing of Water!

**Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>**, Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.

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**The Very Rev. David Hester**, who will celebrate the Divine Liturgy this morning and during the time of the recovery of Fr. John from his surgery. **Please remember Fr. John in your prayers.**

**Church Offering Envelopes for 2020** are underneath the Church in Alphabetical Order. A Special Thank You to Gloria Shaw and Eva Demchak for all the hard-work in organizing this project. **May our Lord Bless Them for Many Years!**

**St. Michael's Church Dues.** If you are in the arrears in paying your church dues, please try to complete this financial obligation especially for last year. **Please call Gloria Shaw at 570-876-5506 to find out your balance.**

**The Weekly Meeting of the Church Committee will be held this Tuesday, January 7 at 5:00 p.m.** instead of Monday. Please make this adjustment in your schedule.

**\$100.00** donation for the continued health of the Demora family, and **\$100.00** donation on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Birth of Anthony Demora, offered lovingly by David Demora. **\$50.00** Christmas donation for the continued health of Protodeacon Gabriel, Matushka Dolores and family.

**The Diocesan Assembly** will be held this year at Christ the Savior Orthodox Church in Harrisburg, on Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> and Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. Fr. John and Matushka Kathy will be attending and representing our parish.

**The Annual March for Life** will held this year on Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup> in Washington D.C. Anyone interested in attending, please contact Fr John.

**Church Committee & St. Michael's Center** will hold a joint meeting on Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup> underneath the Church and plan activities and food sales for February and March. More information will be forthcoming as it develops. We thank you in advance for your support.

**Church School will be held this Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 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.

**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:** **January 5**, Ruth Lasichak, Joan Lasichak, Charette Rodionoff, **January 12**, Susan Schlasta, Helen Grancey, Vicky Kravetsky, **January 19**, Jean Malec, MaryAnn Serafini, Theresa Krenitsky, **January 26**, Millie Telep, Dorothy Allen, Kay Fedirko.

**Thought for the Day:** In the baptism by John in the Jordan, Jesus identifies Himself with sinners as the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (Jn 1.29), the "Beloved" of the Father whose messianic task it is to redeem men from their sins (Lk 3.21, Mk 1.35). And he is revealed as well as One of the Divine Trinity, testified to by the voice of the Father, and by the Spirit in the form of a dove. This is the central epiphany glorified in the main hymns of the feast:

"When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan the worship of the Trinity was made manifest! For the voice of the Father bare witness to Thee, calling Thee his Beloved Son. And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the truthfulness of his Word. O Christ our God, who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee" (Troparion).