

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

Sub-Deacon Vasili Gardecki: 267-6239

Reader Vladimir Kitchura: 903-3475

St. Michael's Church: 876-4710

Reader: Vasili Dubee: 254-9720

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

Gospel: John 5:1-15

**May 10, 2020
Happy Mother's Day!**

Epistle: Acts 9:32-40

Christ is Risen!

**Sunday, May 10, Divine Liturgy 9: 00 a.m. – St. Tikhon's Monastery have resumed live streaming:
Please click on: stmichaeljermyn.org and press the live stream button.**

**Saturday, May 16, Great Vespers 4:00 p.m. St. Tikhon's Monastery have resumed live streaming:
Please click on: stmichaeljermyn.org and press the live stream button.**

**Sunday, May 17, Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m. St. Tikhon's Monastery have resumed live streaming:
Please click on: stmichaeljermyn.org and press the live stream button.**

St. Michael's Church Committee Meeting will be held on Monday, May 18, at 5:30 p.m. to go over the CDC guidelines and **the result of the diocesan survey and responses from our parish, as we begin to transition into our Church.**

The Stay in Place Order in Pennsylvania for Lackawanna County has been extended to June 4. We will not be opening our Church in May. **Please pray of the real possibility of opening up our Church for our Divine Liturgy in the month of June.**

A Special Thank You to all who continue to send in their weekly envelopes. We are in a survival mode and want to pay our basic utility and insurance bills. **A full written & financial report has been sent last week to all our parishioner's. Also included in the letter was the CDC and Archbishops Mark's guidelines for opening our Church.**

St. Michael's Center and all Pascha and Ethnic Food Sales have also been cancelled due to the Pandemic Crisis. Once we are able to resume going to Church, Protodeacon Gabriel stated; **"we will be having a huge Ethnic Food Sale"**

Please remember in your prayers; Annabel Franchak who is a guest at Wayne Woodlands Manor in Waymart and Jean Dzwonczyk who is in palliative care in Olyphant. Both Annabel and Jean were visited by Fr. John this week and received the sacrament of healing.

Fr. John continues with his Sunday homily, during the Pandemic Crisis, **Please tune in at our parish website; stmichalejermyn.org and listen to his message on the third Sunday of Pascha and the Paralytic.**

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** is a guests at the Oakwood Terrace, 400 Gleason Dr. Moosic, Pa. 18507.

Happy Mother's Day!

Mother's Day is a day to honor all mothers, living and departed, for their sacrifice and dedication to their families. It is also a day to give thanks for all they do and have done. Although it is a secular holiday, the Orthodox Church does remember this day. Mother's Day always falls during the 40 days of Pascha.

It was the woman (or women) who were first to receive the Good News. Christ restored humanity in His Resurrection. As we see in the Resurrection Icon, Adam and Eve were the first to be redeemed from Hades. The gift of life may had first been given to man but the Good News, the "new life" Christ ushers with His Resurrection was proclaimed to woman (or women). Nicodemus and Joseph were the last two people to see the Crucified Christ and the Myrrh-Bearers were the first to see the Risen Christ.

Indeed, the Orthodox Church honors with great esteem women in the Church, starting with the Theotokos. Women in the Church for centuries have lived in piety, living the Faith and confessing it, sometimes with their own blood. Mother's Day may be a secular holiday but in the Orthodox Church it is very much a day of tribute and gratitude for all mothers of the Faith, living and departed.

