

**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

St. Michael's Church: 876-4710

Reader Vladimir Kitchura: 903-3475

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

Reader & Cantor: Vasili Dubee:254-9720

Gospel: Mark 8:34:9:1

**September 20, 2020
Sunday after the Exaltation of the
Precious Cross of Christ**

Epistle: Gal.2:16-20

Schedule of Services

Sunday, September 20, Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. & followed by the Veneration of the decorated Cross of Christ.

Sunday, September 27, Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.

A Special Donation of \$1,000.00 has been offered to our Church, from the estate of John Jubinsky in Honolulu Hawaii My his memory be eternal!

A Special Thank You to: Zoe Turton in directing our church choir this morning. May our Lord Jesus Christ, continue to bless her for many years.

A Memorial Donation of \$200.00 was given in loving memory of Joan Lasichak by Dr. Joseph Danyo. May her memory be eternal!

Church Committee working meeting will be held this Monday, September 21st at 5:30 p.m. Please make every effort to attend!

Many of you are aware because of Covid19 we have officially cancelled our Christmas in September Festival and Care Show scheduled for September 25th-27th. This festival allowed our Parish to make budget. In order to make some financial gain and try to recover some income from the festival, we are sending raffle tickets to you in the mail this week **for you to sell by Sunday, November 8th,** the Patron Holy Day of our Church, dedicated to Archangel Michael.

During the Parish Festival many of you have given of your time, baked cookies, donated theme baskets, purchased food and supported this affair far beyond the price of the tickets.

If everyone in the Parish will do their part in selling these tickets, we will be able to realize a profit of \$15.000 which will go directly to the Budget.

Raffle Ticket: 1st. Prize: \$1,000.00, 2nd Prize: 50 in. Flat Screen T.V. 3rd Prize: \$200.00 Wegman's Gift Card, 4th Prize: \$150.00 Gas Card – Bendash Gas & Service Station. \$10.00 donation per ticket. Drawing date: Sunday, November 8, 2020 the raffle tickets are being sent out in the mail this week. Please respond in a timely manner.

Please Note: During the Covid 19 Pandemic we are limiting the Church liturgical services to one services on Sunday. Approximately three hours is spent during the week before our services sanitizing the Church. We want to keep everyone safe and healthy. We thank Patsy & John Pash and Julie Spiecher for doing a tremendous job in cleaning and sanitizing.

With the unanimous support and approval of the Church Committee, the renovation of the kitchen at St. Michael's Center. **We have begun this week with putting in a new floor in the kitchen (Phase two)** We will keep everyone posted with the progress.

A Special Thank You to all who continue to send in their weekly envelopes. We are very grateful for your continued generosity and support of our Church.

The decorated Cross for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross has been lovingly donated by the Lasichak family in loving memory of the newly departed Joan Lasichak. **May her memory be eternal!**

Please remember in your prayers: Peter Senio who is a guest at; The Gardens of Green Ridge, 2751 Boulevard Ave, Scranton, Pa. and Kay Fedirko who is recuperating from surgery at home.

Thought for the Day: Murky water is turbid; let it settle and it clears. A dusty mirror is dim; clean it and it is bright. What we need to see is that the mind and heart must be purified in order to follow the path of Christ. The dirt and dust are the cause of our confusion and the source of all our suffering. Impurity of heart is the reason for our unhappiness. All our suffering comes from our addiction to ourselves, that murky water, that dusty mirror.

We elevate the Holy Cross because it is the symbol of the spiritual path we must take. **“Take up your cross and follow me,”** Jesus said. The way of the Cross is the way of internal purification, the path of our return to clarity, the way of repentance. Every time we catch our wandering minds and refocus them on God we have made a true act of repentance. Repentance is allowing the murky water to settle and become clear again and polishing the mirror of the soul so that it becomes clear and bright.