

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

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

**Gospel: Matt.2:13-23**

**December 27, 2020 – Sunday after the  
Nativity of Christ**

**Epistle: Gal.1:11-19**

**Schedule of Services**

**Sunday, December 27, Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. – 3<sup>rd</sup> Day of the Nativity of Christ & singing of Christmas Carols**

**Sunday, January 3, Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. followed by prayers for the New Year 2021**

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**Church Envelopes for 2021** are in alphabetical order underneath the Church. Please take your envelopes this morning and members of your family. A Special Thank You to Gloria Shaw and Eva Demchak for organizing this every years!

**The 2021 Church Calendars** have arrived and are available to be picked up this morning, following the Divine Liturgy. We are grateful to the Battenberg family for their annual donation.

**A Christmas Wish List** for the marginalized and suffering children in our area has been completed and gifts distributed. A Special Thanks to all of you who participated this Christmas season and to Susan Schlasta for organizing this every year.

**Christmas offering** \$150.00 given by John Krisa for the continued health of his family, \$100.00 offered by Dr. Bekele for the health of his family, \$100.00, offered by Dave & Andrea Lee for the health of their family, \$100.00 offered by Pete Senio for the departed members of his family, \$50.00 offered in loving memory of the Kitchura & Levine family, \$50.00 offered by Ron & Lorraine Sernak for continued good health. **Christmas Flowers** \$100.00 offered by Debbie Kolosovsky for the health of her family, \$25.00 in loving memory of Almaseye, offered by Nardos Abitow, \$20.00 offered by Ron & Lorraine Sernak in loving memory of their parents, \$30.00 offered for the health of the Franchak family, by Steve & Rose Franchak, **Christmas Candles**, \$10.00 for the Kitchura & Levine family, \$10.00 offered by Steve & Rose Franchak.

**A Special Thank You to Protodeacon Gabriel Petorak** for decorating the Church with splendour and beauty, as he does every year. May our Lord bless Fr. Gabriel and Matushka Dolores for many years!

**A Special Thank You to:** Lydia Given for directing our church choir this morning. She is the wife of Seminarian Brad Given who is in his 2<sup>nd</sup> year of Theology at St. Tikhon's Seminary **May our Lord Jesus Christ, continue to bless her for many years!**

**The renovation of the kitchen at St. Michael's Center is nearing completion.** A new cemented floor has been completed, and the painting of the kitchen, the next step will be a new tile floor. Thank you to Protodeacon Gabriel for providing the leadership for this project.

**If your Church Dues are in arrears,** please make an effort to send them to the Church before the end of the year. The Annual dues are **\$160.00** per year. Please call Gloria Shaw at 570-954-3905 to get your balance. **May our Lord Jesus Christ continue to bless you for many years!**

**Please remember in your prayers:** **Peter Senio** who is a guest at; The Gardens of Green Ridge, 2751 Boulevard Ave, Scranton, Pa. and **Jacky Drutarosky** who is in the Lackawanna Health and Rehab Center, 260 Terrace Drive, Peckville, Pa. 18452. **Please send a Christmas card!**

**Thought for Christmas Day & its explanation:** There can be no definition, because the birth of the Son of God transcends every attempt to explain the inexplicable or comprehend the incomprehensible. We can only thank the Holy Trinity for the nativity of the Messiah and celebrate His life on earth.

Christmas is a mystery, a glorious event in history, the awesome phenomenon when "*Christ Jesus Who, being in the very nature of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bond-servant and coming in the likeness of men...*" (Philippians 2:5). The kenotic condescension of the Holy Trinity expressed by the evangelist John, "The Word became flesh," can only be explained by the word "love." Such a divine love for human beings transcends the ability to grasp with our limited capacity, which is why the Orthodox Church services for this season, filled with joy, wonder and gratitude, point to the inexplicable event without even trying to elucidate the wonder.

