

**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 1:1-8

**January 3, 2021– Sunday before
Theophany**

Epistle: 2 Tim.4:5-8

Schedule of Services

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

Wednesday, January 6, Theophany - Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m. followed by the Great Blessing of Water.

Sunday, January 10, Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.

The Great Feast of Theophany will beheld this Wednesday, at 9:00 a.m. followed by the Great Blessing of Water. Please keep in mind, Tuesday, January 5th is a strict fast day!

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

A Special Thank You to Vladimir Kitchura for donating a small hand-made liturgical spear, imported from Russia, which will be used for the celebration in the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, in the service of Proskomedie when the offering of the Lamb is cut out of the prosphora and the rest of the

commemorations are made by this holy spear. This gift of the imported liturgical spear (\$180.00) is offered in loving memory of his brother in-law Robert (R.A.) Furiosi. **May his memory be eternal!**

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 Special offering of \$350.00 is given to our Church by John Krisa for the continued good health of his family. An Anonymous offering of \$300.00 is given to our Church.

Christmas Flowers \$20.00 in loving memory of Mr Alex Dubee and Mr & Mrs Louis O'Bell, offered in loving memory of parents by Mr & Mrs William Dubee. \$25.00 offered by Jean Dzwonczyk in loving memory of her family, \$20.00 in honour of Joseph Piwowarski and Protodeacon Gabriel & Matushka Dolores Petorak, and in memory of Ann Marie Piwowarski, offered by Tom & Laura Piwowarski. \$20.00 for the recovery and good health of Kay Fedirko, \$20.00 in loving memory of John Lasichak, \$20.00 in loving memory of Mary Demchak, \$10.00 in loving memory of R.A. Furiosi, offered by Vladimir Kitchura.

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 2nd year of Theology at St. Tikhon's Seminary **May our Lord Jesus Christ, continue to bless her for many years!**

Update on the renovation of the kitchen at St. Michael's Center: the new tile floor is near completion by the Yeselavage floor and carpet company in Eynon, Pa. 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 Theophany Day & its explanation: Theophany is the Feast which reveals the Most Holy Trinity to the world through the Baptism of the Lord (Mt.3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22). God the Father spoke from Heaven about the Son, the Son was baptized by Saint John the Forerunner, and the Holy Spirit descended upon the Son in the form of a dove. From ancient times this Feast was called the Day of Illumination and the Feast of Lights, since God is Light and has appeared to illumine "those who sat in darkness," and "in the region of the shadow of death" (Mt.4:16), and to save the fallen race of mankind by grace. In the ancient Church it was the custom to baptize catechumens at the Vespers of Theophany, so that Baptism also is revealed as the spiritual illumination of mankind.

On the Feast of the Baptism of Christ, the Holy Church proclaims our faith in the most sublime mystery, incomprehensible to human intellect, of one God in three Persons. It teaches us to confess and glorify the Holy Trinity, one in Essence and Undivided.