

St. Michael's Orthodox Church
308 Walnut St.
Jermyn, Pennsylvania 18433

Very Rev. John Kowalczyk (Rector)
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Church Website: stmichaeljermyn.org
& 360 virtual tour and 4-part welcome

Gospel: Matt.25:31-46

March 7, 2021, Sunday of the Last
Judgement, Kursk Root Icon.

Epistle: 1Cor.8:8-9:2

Schedule of Services

Sunday, March 7, Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. **Parastas 40th Day** for **Madilyn Chup** offered by children Joseph, Lara and Noah Chup, **Steve Demora**, by Daniel Demora, Bohdan **Fedorchak** offered by Joseph Piwowarski Sr & family, **Eileen Brzuchalski**, offered by Dorothy Allen & Gene Hughes.

Sunday, March 14, Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. -Forgiveness Sunday- **The responses to the Divine Liturgy will be sung by the students from St. Tikhon's Seminary.**

Stuffed Cabbage Take-Out sponsored by St. Michael's Center will be held on Thursday, March 11, Menu: Three Large Stuffed Cabbage for \$10.00. **Curbside Pickup** from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at St. Michael's Center **and it's a complete sellout. We thank you for your support!**

The responses to the Divine Liturgy for next Sunday, March 14 will be sung by students from St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary. There will be a free-will offering basket. **Please be generous in support of our Seminarians!**

Great Lent in the Orthodox Church begins on Monday, March 15. Please make every effort to keep the prescribed fast. More information will be forthcoming on the schedule of Lenten Services in next week's bulletin. **Great and Holy Pascha -Easter this year will be Sunday, May 2.**

The interview process for a new St. Michael Center Caterer has begun. If anyone is aware of someone who might be interested in this position, or might have some possible leads, kindly contact Fr. John or Protodeacon Gabriel.

Making Pascha Bread for Easter: If we get enough help, we will try to have Pascha Bread available. If you can give us some time in this project, please contact Protodeacon Gabriel Petorak at 570-876-0411. A determination will be made based on the level of volunteer commitment.

OCA Online Church School Please go to OCA.org and click on OCA Online Church School. Classes will be held every Tuesday at 7:00 pm EST/4:00 PM PST. Click on the buttons to enter the appropriate class. The links will go live 15 minutes before the class starts

Church Envelopes for 2021 have been mailed out to all of our beloved parishioners. I'm very grateful for all of you who are attending the Divine Liturgy with regularity and supporting us financially. **In order for us to meet our basic monthly bills, we need a steady source of income every week. Please send in your envelopes when you are not in Church.**

A Special Thank You to: Lydia Given for chanting the Divine Liturgy 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!**

If your Church Dues are in arrears, please make an effort to send them to the Church as we began the New 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

Today's Gospel reading is Matthew 25:31-46, the parable of the Last Judgment. It reminds us that while trusting in Christ's love and mercy, we must not forget His righteous judgment when He comes again in glory. The time for repentance and forgiveness is now, in the present life. At the Second Coming, Christ will appear as the righteous Judge, "Who will render to every man according to his deeds" (Rom. 2:6). Then the time for entreating God's mercy and forgiveness will have passed.

As Father Alexander Schmemmann reminds us in his book GREAT LENT (Ch. 1:4), sin is the absence of love, it is separation and isolation. When Christ comes to judge the world, His criterion for judgment will be love. Christian love entails seeing Christ in other people, our family, our friends, and everyone else we may encounter in our lives. We shall be judged on whether we have loved, or not loved, our neighbor. We show Christian love when we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit those who are sick or in prison. If we did such things for the least of Christ's brethren, then we also did them for Christ (Mt.25:40).

