

St. Michael's Orthodox Church

308 Walnut St.
Jermyn, Pennsylvania 18433

Very Rev. John Kowalczyk (Rector)
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St. Michael's Center: 876-3454

Reader Vladimir Kitchura: 903-3475

St. Michael's Church: 876-4710

Reader & Cantor: Vasili Dubee: 254-9720

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

Gospel: Matt.9:27-35

August 8, 2021 – St. Emilian the Confessor

Rom.15:1-7

Schedule of Services

Sunday, August 8, Matins 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. Parastas (40 day) for Peter Frenchko, offered by his family.

Saturday, August 14, Great Vespers 6:30 p.m. Eve of the Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God – Blessing of Wheat, Wine & Oil.

Sunday, August 15, Matins 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God, followed by the blessing of fresh herbs and Flowers.

Annual Orthodox Prison Ministry Awareness collection will be held this Sunday, August 8. Please be generous in your support of this national appeal!

St. Michael's Church Committee & Windsor Inn, have scheduled a one-day, modified parish festival & Classic Car Show to be held on Sunday, September 26. We will not be having vendors this year; however, **we will be having theme baskets, bake sale, and St. Michael's Raffle. The food will be provided by the Windsor Inn for all our attendees.**

St. Michael's raffle tickets, have been sent out his week, as a means of establishing much needed seed money for the Parish Festival & Classic Car Show. We are asking each church member to purchase \$20.00 worth of tickets. **We thank you in advance for your love and support.**

Please consider a Theme Basket from your family. Please see Matushka Kathy after services and she will give you some ideas of what can be donated, or if you choose to give money, we will make the theme basket for you. **Please call Matushka Kathy at the Rectory 570-876-1241**

Please start baking, cakes, cookies, pies etc for our Modified One Day Festival and we will establish a drop off date to our St. Michael Center. **Please call Dorothy Allen 570-587-4984**

A Special Thank You to: James Zeleniak in donating \$500.00 towards the St. Michael's Parish Festival and Classic Car Show. **May our Lord Jesus Christ bless you for many years!**

A Special Thank You to Lydia Given for directing our Church choir this morning and offering for us her time and talent. **May our Lord continue to bless her for many years!**

Matushka Dolores Petorak is recuperating from surgery at home. **Please send her get well card; 218 Walnut St. Jermyn, Pa. 18433**

Peter Senio is a guest at The Gardens of Green Ridge, 2751 Boulevard Ave, Scranton, Pa. Please remember Peter in your prayers.

Please note: The water at our St. Michael's Church Cemetery has been fixed and turned on for the season. Please be careful by turning off the water after being used. **May our Lord give eternal rest to our departed Church family.**

If your Church Dues are in arrears, please make an effort to send them to the Church. 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!**

The Dormition of the Mother of God is in a sense a second Pascha and one that shows to us the life that awaits us faithless servants who at the end of our earthly trials seek the face of God for mercy. As we "groan inwardly as we wait for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies," (Romans 8:23) we see in Mary's passing a foretelling of the flight of our human nature to rest securely in the divine life of God. In this way, we are assured that every Christian death is not a descent into a cold grave, but an ascent on a ladder to heaven. **On this feast, we bring flowers in the church to be blessed.** We do this to pay homage to the Mother of God, who is the first flowering of redemption in Christ. As she was taken up bodily and preserved from corruption, she shows us what is to come to every Christian. Just as the first budded rose hints at what is to come in spring for the rest of the flowers, so too does the Dormition hint at our heavenly future in the celestial Garden.

Saint Emilian the Confessor; commemorated on **August 8** and Bishop of Cyzikus, lived during the reign of the Iconoclast emperor Leo the Armenian (813-820). He was summoned together with other bishops to the court of the emperor, who insistently urged the bishops to refrain from the veneration of holy icons. Saint Emilian was the first to tell the emperor firmly that the question of the veneration of holy icons ought to be discussed and decided only within the Church by its spiritual leaders, and not at the imperial court. In the year 815 he was sent to prison for the Orthodox Faith, where he died as a confessor.