

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

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: Luke 10:25-37

Sunday, November 14, Holy Apostle Philip,
St. Justinian the Emperor & St., Gregory
Palamas

Epistle: Gal. 2:16-20

Schedule of Services

Sunday, November 14, Matins 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. – Parastas (9th Day) for
Ronald Sernak, offered lovingly by his daughters Ann & Sandra.

Saturday, November 20, Great Vespers 4:00 p.m. -Eve of the Feast of the Entrance of the
Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple, & blessing of Wheat, Wine & Oil.

Sunday, November 21, Matins 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. - Feast of the Entrance of
the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple,

We extend our deep love & sympathy to the Franchak family on the falling asleep of our Church
President, Steve Franck, on Thursday, November 11. Funeral arrangements will be forthcoming. **May his
memory be eternal!**

Thanksgiving Bread Sale will be held on Wednesday, November 24 at St. Michael's Center from
12 (Noon) to 4:00 p.m. **Please call Ruth Lasichak at 570-876-1456. Plain \$6.00 Raisin \$7.00.**

Prospora (Church Bread) was made last Tuesday at St. Michael's Center. We are grateful for the
Prospora baking volunteers and for Eva Demchak for coordinating this project.

Annual Parish Meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, December 5, following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. Agenda will include our **Church budget for 2022, Election of Church Committee, & the future of St. Michael's Center.** **A vote will be taken on St. Michael's Center property.** Please plan to attend this extremely important meeting in the life of our Church.

Coffee Hour & hostesses; Sunday, November 14, Maryann Dubee and Charette Radionoff, **November 21:** Millie Telep and Dorothy Allen, **November 28:** Matushka Kathy and Matushka Dolores. **Please call Millie Telep at 570-876-1151 if you would like to be placed on the list for the month of December.**

A Special Thank You to Melanie Ringa 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!**

The Advent - Pre-Nativity Fast will begin this Monday, November 15 until Friday, December 24. The Feast Day of Christmas will be held on Saturday, December 25 with the celebration of the 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy. **The Feast Day of the Entrance of the Most-Holy Theotokos into the Temple** will be held on Sunday, November 21 for the 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy.

Please remember in your prayers: Daniel Kitchura, 608 Washington Ave, Jermyn, Pa. 18433, who is home and recovering. **Please send him a "Get Well Card"**

Please remember in your prayers; Irene Leschak who is home receiving rehab: 229 Lackawanna Ave, Jermyn, Pa. 18433. **Helen Grancey** 102 Cleveland Dr. Jermyn, Pa. 18433 who is recuperating at home from surgery. **Please send them a "Get Well Card."**

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

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!**

On Monday, November 15 begins the advent fast We fast before the Great Feast of the Nativity in order to prepare ourselves for the celebration of Our Lord's birth. As in the case of Great Lent, the Nativity Fast is one of preparation, during which we focus on the coming of the Savior by fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. By fasting, we "shift our focus" from ourselves to others, spending less time worrying about what to eat, when to eat, how much to eat, and so on in order to use our time in increased prayer and caring for the poor. We learn through fasting that we can gain control over things which we sometimes allow to control us—and for many people, food is a controlling factor. [We live in the only society in which an entire TV network is devoted to food!] While fasting from food, however, we are also challenged to fast from sin, from gossip, from jealousy, from anger, and from those other things which, while well within our control, we all too often allow to control us. Just as we would refrain from eating a lot before going to an expensive restaurant for dinner—if we "ruin our appetite" we will enjoy the restaurant less—so too we fast before the Nativity in order to more fully feast and celebrate on the Nativity itself. During the Nativity Fast, we are challenged, within this framework, of 40 days, too fast to the best of our ability, and to do so consistently. If we must modify the extent to which we fast within this framework, it is of course possible, but in every instance our fasting should be consistent and regular.

