

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

Very Rev. John Kowalczyk (Rector)
Rectory: 876-1241 – Cell: 561-8696
Protodeacon Gabriel Petorak
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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: Luke 10:38-42:11-27-28

Sunday, November 21, Entrance of the
Most-Holy Theotokos into the Temple

Epistle: Heb.9:1-7

Schedule of Services

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, Parastas (9th Day) for the newly departed Steve Franchak, offered lovingly by his wife Rose and children.

Saturday, November 27, Great Vespers 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 28, Matins 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.

Thanksgiving Bread Sale will be held this 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.**

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. (2nd Reading)

Coffee Hour & hostesses: 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 began on 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.

Christmas Poinsettias \$15.00 and \$20.00 are being accepted. \$10.00 for Christmas Candles. Please make an offering for your continued good health, or for the departed members of our family. **God bless you in advance for your donations.**

\$100.00 donation in loving memory of Ronald Sernak, offered lovingly by Delores, Mary & John Sernak. **May his memory be eternal!**

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.

Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple: When Mary was three years old, Joachim and Anna decided that the time had come to fulfill their promise and to offer her to the Lord. Joachim gathered the young girls of the neighborhood to form an escort, and he made them go in front of Mary, carrying torches. Captivated by the torches, the young child followed joyfully to the Temple, not once looking back at her parents nor weeping as she was parted from them.

The holy Virgin ran toward the Temple, overtaking her attendant maidens and threw herself into the arms of the High Priest Zacharias, who was waiting for her at the gate of the Temple with the elders. Zacharias blessed her saying, "It is in you that He has glorified your name in every generation. It is in you that He will reveal the Redemption that He has prepared for His people in the last days."

Then, Zacharias brought the child into the Holy of Holies—a place where only the High Priest was permitted to enter once a year on the Day of Atonement. He placed her on the steps of the altar, and the grace of the Lord descended upon her. She arose and expressed her joy in a dance as wonder seized all who saw this happen.

The Virgin Mary dwelt in the Temple for nine years until, reaching an age for marriage, she was taken from the Temple by the priests and elders and entrusted to Joseph as the guardian of her virginity.

The Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple signifies her total dedication to God and her readiness for her future vocation as the Mother of the Incarnate Lord. This is a feast of anticipation. As honor is shown to Mary, the faithful are called to look forward to the Incarnation of Christ, celebrated in a little more than a month by the Feast of the Nativity on December 25.

