

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

Very Rev. John Kowalczyk (Rector)
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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.6:14-21

Epistle: Rom.13:11-14:4

March 6, Forgiveness Sunday, 42 martyrs of
Amoria, Finding of the Precious Cross

Schedule of Services of First Week of Great Lent

Sunday March 6, Matins 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. Abbreviated - Forgiveness Vespers

Monday, March 7, St. Andrew of Crete Canon 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 8, St. Andrew of Crete Canon 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 9. Presanctified Liturgy 6:30 p.m. **Confession 6:00 p.m.**

Thursday, March 10, St. Andrew of Crete Canon 6:30 p.m.

Friday, March 11, Akathist "Glory to God for all things: 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 12, Great Vespers 4:00 p.m.

Sunday of Orthodoxy, March 13, Matins 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m. & Blessing of Kolivo

Blini Breakfast will be held this Sunday, March 6, following the abbreviated Forgiveness Vesper Service, in lieu of Coffee hour. Please come out and show your support. This is being sponsored by St. Mary's Altar Society.

Ethnic Food Sale held this past Wednesday, at St. Michael's Center was a huge success. We thank you for your support and for the many who came out to work. Nearly **\$3,000.00 was realized in profit.**

A Special Thank You to Alexander's Restaurant and the Wanas family for the donation of Clam Chowder for our Ethnic Food Sale. May our Lord Jesus Christ, bless them for many years!

Coffee Hour for Sunday March 6, Ruth Lasichak & Roxanne Neutts, **March 13,** Vicky Kravetsky & Charette Rodionoff, **March 20,** Maryann Dubee & Susan Schlasta, **March 27,** Mille Telep & Dorothy Allen.

A special Thank You to Lydia Given for directing the Church Choir this morning. May our Lord, Jesus Christ, bless her for many years!

Lenten Pot-Luck Meal will be held on Wednesday, March 16, following the celebration of the Presanctified Liturgy underneath the Church. Please see Maryann Dubee, who will be organizing the Lenten meal. Fr. John will be giving a Lenten Adult Education meditation.

Please remember in your prayers; John Drutarosky, who is a patient at the Carbondale Nursing & Rehabilitation Center 10 Heart Place, Carbondale, Pa. 18407 **Please send him a get-well card!**

A Special Thank You to the Klapatch brothers in the generous donation of \$500.00 to the Church for cutting the grass around the Church and the Parish Rectory.

Congratulations & Happy Birthday to Nicholas Mattise who is celebrating his 96 Birthday. A generous donation of \$100.00 was given to the Church for his continued good health.

Please remember in your prayers; Alexander Wanas who is recuperating at home; 604 Scranton-Carbondale Highway, Childs, Pa. 18433. Please send him a get-well card. **Irene Leschak** who is home receiving rehab;.229 Lackawanna Ave, Jermyn, Pa. 18433. **Peter Senio is a guest at The Gardens of Green Ridge,** 2751 Boulevard Ave, Scranton, Pa.

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.

Omicron variant is in all 50 states in our country. It is recommended to keep everyone safe to start wearing masks while in Church.

Forgiveness Sunday Meditation the Gospel Reading this morning is, in a sense, a good map for our Lenten journey. It begins with forgiveness. In order to restore our relationship to God, we need to be forgiven the multitude of our sins. This Gospel reading reminds us that if we want forgiveness from God, we need to also forgive others. The reading continues by telling us how to fast: not by showing off, but simply and quietly, genuinely. And it finishes with an admonishment for our focus: it should not be on earthly things, but on the heavenly. Great Lent is the perfect time to re-orient our focus to heavenly things. The Gospel reading's last sentence summarizes the whole passage: where our treasure is also where our heart is found. If we treasure a relationship with God, our heart will be full of joyful, non-pretentious fasting. During Lent we are invited to eat less and pray more, giving Him our attention instead of seeking the attention of others or looking to food for satisfaction. Working to control our physical body's desires and spending more time and energy in prayer restores our relationship to God.

