

St Michael's Orthodox Church

308 Walnut Street, Jermyn, Pennsylvania 18433

<https://stmichaeljermyn.org/>
360 Virtual Tour & Service Schedule

Rev. John Black, Acting Rector
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(570) 876-0411



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(570) 254-9720

St Michael's Church Phone
(570) 876-4710

**Please try using Fr John's cell phone number (610-427-9279) as much as possible, rather than the rectory land-line.*

Welcome to all visitors! We are grateful that you came to be with us and pray with us today.
After Liturgy today, please stay with us and come downstairs for coffee and refreshments.

September 3, 2023: 13th Sunday After Pentecost

Schedule of Services

Saturday, Sept 2, 6:30 p.m. – Great Vespers.

Sunday, Sept 3, 9:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy.

After Labor Day, we return to 9:30 a.m. for ALL Divine Liturgies, both Sundays and Weekdays.

September 8 is the Great Feast of the Nativity of the Mother of God.

Thursday, Sept 7, 6:30 p.m. – Festal Vespers with Litya

Friday, Sept 8, 9:30 a.m. – Festal Divine Liturgy

Saturday, Sept 9, 6:30 p.m. – Great Vespers.

Sunday, Sept 10, 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy. Archpastoral Visit of His Eminence, Archbishop MARK.

September 14 is the Great and Solemn Feast of the Exaltation of the Precious Cross.

Wednesday, Sept 13, 6:30 p.m. – Festal Vespers with Litya

Thursday, Sept 14, 9:30 a.m. – Festal Divine Liturgy

Saturday, Sept 16, 6:30 p.m. – Great Vespers

Sunday, Sept 17, 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy. Sunday After the Exaltation of the Cross.

Saturday, Sept 23 is the Conception of St John the Baptist. Services TBD.

Saturday, Sept 23, 6:30 p.m. – Great Vespers

Sunday, Sept 24, 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy

Memorial Service for all parishioners reposed in **Septembers** of years past.

Coffee Hour is offered by:

- Sept 3: Maryann Dubee & Susan Schlasta
- Sept 10: Millie Telep & Mat. Dolores **
- Sept 17: Ruthie Lasichak & Roxanne Neutts
- Sept 24: Vickie Kravitsky & Charette Radionoff

*** Both Marilyn and Mat. Alexandra unavailable*

Thank you to all who have offered food and their efforts to our Sunday fellowship. Anyone can help. Please see Millie Telep to be added to the schedule.

Announcements

Next Week, Sunday Sept 10, our hierarch and arch-pastor, Archbishop Mark, will visit our parish. Please make every effort to be in church that day so all can greet him. (We will have a regular coffee hour rather than a sit-down meal, since both he and Fr John are due in Olyphant for a luncheon at noon.)

On **Sunday Sept 17** from 11am-1pm, **St John's Orthodox Cathedral in Mayfield** invites everyone to a "Pulled Pork Platter" Take-Out meal. A \$15 ticket includes pork, beans, homemade mac & cheese, and roll; made by Iron Heart Brewery. If interested, call Mott (335-2128), Sandy (876-3576), Joanie (254-6882), or Sasha (466-8431).

In your prayers...

Please remember in your prayers. Send a card, or stop by and visit.

- **Eileen Dance**, Carbondale Nursing & Rehabilitation Center #204, 10 Hart Place, Carbondale, PA 18407
- **John Drutarosky**, Carbondale Nursing & Rehabilitation Center #307, 10 Hart Place, Carbondale, PA 18407
- **Peggy Petrilak**, 127 Petrilak Lane, Greenfield Twp, PA 18407
- **Tom & Helen Grancey**, 102 Cleveland Ave, Jermyn, PA 18433
- **Theresa Krenitsky**, 4-B Henry Drive, Jermyn, PA 18433
- **Barbara Palubniak**, 629 Hill St, Mayfield, PA 19433
- **Peter Senio**, The Gardens of Green Ridge, 2751 Boulevard Ave, Scranton, PA 18509
- **Nicholas Mattise**, Personal Care at Allied Terrace, Room 218, 100 Terrace Ln, Clarks Summit, PA 18411
- **Jerry & Marilyn Soroka**, c/o Glenmaura Senior Living, 11 Glenmaura National Blvd, Moosic, PA 18507

Please send a note of comfort to:

- **Debbie Krenitsky & Family**, 300 Falbrook St, Carbondale, PA 18407 *(in memory of David Krenitsky)*
- **Tom Terpak**, 426 Madison Ave, Jermyn, PA 18433 *(in memory of Anne Terpak)*
- **Patty Smallacombe**, 703 Shields Court Jermyn, Pa 18433 *(in memory of Anne Terpak)*
- **Cindy Hammaker**, 115 Brimful Drive, Phoenixville, PA 19460 *(in memory of Dr Joseph Danyo)*
- **Tammy & Ron Pascoe**, 228 Hudson St, Jermyn, PA 18433 *(in memory of Robert Dance)*
- **V. Rev. Daniel Donlick**, 1115 Vine St, Avoca, PA 18641 *(in memory of Mat. Dolores Donlick)*

Remembering the Departed

- Tuesday, Aug 29 – Dr Joseph Danyo, 40th Day of repose.
- Tuesday, Sept 5 – Mat. Dolores Donlick, 40th Day of repose.
- Wednesday, Sept 6 – Robert Dance, 40th Day of repose.

Remembering the Departed: September

Please include these names in your daily prayers this month. If you know of others who reposed this month in any past year, please contact Fr John so they can be added to our calendar of commemorations.

- Former Rector, Fr. Michael Dziama (Sept 5, 1944)
- Former Rector, Fr. John Kivko (1974)
- John Getzie (Sept 12, 2004)
- Henry Koruszko (Sept 12, 2010)
- Robert Lloyd (Sept 27, 2015)
- Mary Ann Mosley (Sept 18, 2017)
- Barbara Nayduch (Sept 6, 2017)
- Dennis Sebastianelli (Sept 16, 2005)
- Alexander Wanas (Sept 24, 2022)
- Anna Willgrube (Sept 25, 2001)

To these, please add a few names which should have been added to August:

- Kenneth Carite (Aug 9, 2001)
- Mary Kay Hockin (Aug 17, 2009)
- Thomas Jesuitt (Aug 20, 2007)
- Irene Kupinski (Aug 8, 2007)
- Mildred Wanas (Aug 2, 2016)
- Vera Yurchak (Aug 29, 2007)
- Mark Zielinski (Aug 10, 2002)

Donations

- \$10 was offered in memory of Andrew Petorak St., by his family. *May Andrew's memory be eternal!*
- \$10 was offered in memory of Robert Telep, by Millie and family. *May Robert's memory be eternal!*
- \$100 was offered for Altar Candles by Tom & Helen Grancey, for the health of the entire Grancey family.
- \$30 was offered for sacramental wine by Camille Palese.

Giving Opportunities

Donations are accepted for **Vigil Lights, in the Altar and in front of the Relics**. You may donate in memory of the departed, or for your health or the health of family members.

We are seeking donations for the cost of the **Altar Wine used for the Divine Liturgy**. A suggested donation is \$10 or \$20 every few weeks, but any amount is appreciated. If you are interested in giving, please write "Altar Wine" on a separate envelope. *Thank you!*

So that our Church can meet our growing financial obligations, we ask all parishioners, when not in Church, to send in your **weekly offering envelopes** to St. Michael's Church, 305 Walnut St., Jermyn, PA 18433. Thank you!

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 16:13-24

Brethren: Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. Let all that you do be done with love. I urge you, brethren – you know the household of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves to the ministry of the saints – that you also submit to such, and to everyone who works and labors with us.

I am glad about the coming of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus, for what was lacking on your part they supplied. For they refreshed my spirit and yours. Therefore acknowledge such men. The churches of Asia greet you. Aquila and Priscilla greet you heartily in the Lord, with the church that is in their house. All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. The salutation with my own hand – Paul's.

If anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed. O Lord, come! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Gospel: Matthew 19:16-26

The Lord spoke this parable: "There was a certain landowner who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower. And he leased it to vinedressers and went into a far country.

Now when vintage-time drew near, he sent his servants to the vinedressers, that they might receive its fruit. And the vinedressers took his servants, beat one, killed one, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first, and they did likewise to them. Then last of all he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the vinedressers saw the son, they said among themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and seize his inheritance.' So they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him.

Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vinedressers?" They said to Him, "He will destroy those wicked men miserably, and lease his vineyard to other vinedressers who will render to him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?'"

"We seek to rededicate ourselves to the teachings of the Holy Orthodox Catholic and Apostolic Church. We are here to provide a loving and caring community, by participating in the worship services, so we may reach-out to those who are lost and witness the love of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

- Vision Statement, adopted October 17, 2022

Glory to God for all things!

*We have begun a weekly journey through parts of the wonderful little book,
"The Faith We Hold", by Archbishop Paul of Finland.*

Does the Orthodox Church of today in fact correspond to the picture we get of the congregation of the Apostolic Age when we read the New Testament and the writings of the Apostolic Fathers? It does – as much as a grown-up person corresponds to a picture taken of him as a child. Although the Church has developed, it is the same in essence and spirit [today] as it has been from the beginning.

The coming of Christ when the time was “fulfilled”¹ was an appointed event; indeed, our calendar begins there. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit in fulfilment of the “promise of the Father”² was also an appointed, unique historical event. For the Church it meant “power from on high” and “the Spirit of truth”³. On the strength of this we believe that although the grace of the Holy Spirit is at work in the later churches and communities according to their faith, the plenitude of grace once given to the Church in the historical outpouring of the Holy Spirit will not be given again. In a hymn for Pentecost the Church sings:

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit; through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net. O Lover of man, glory to Thee!

“When the Spirit of truth comes He will guide you into all the truth,” Christ promised.⁴ After this promise had been fulfilled, the Apostle indeed gave to the “Church of the living God” the name “pillar and bulwark of the truth”.⁵

The promised gift of “all the truth” came to the Church in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, but it took centuries, the whole Patristic Age, to define it using man's limited concepts. And although the Fathers were learned men, profound thinkers, and pure in their lives, this alone is not enough to guarantee the absolute character of the truth inherited from the time of the Fathers. Therefore we need the power of the Holy Spirit, which was given to the Church, to guide it to the truth and to protect it.

– Abp Paul of Finland, *The Faith We Hold* (St Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1980), 15-16.

¹ Mk 1:15.

² Acts 1:4.

³ Lk 24:49, Jn 16:13.

⁴ Jn 16:13.

⁵ 1 Tim 3:15.