

# 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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**Vladimir Kitchura, President**  
(570) 903-3475

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(570) 254-9720

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(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.*

## September 10, 2023: 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

*We bid a warm welcome to His Eminence, the Most-Reverend MARK,  
the bishop and shepherd of this holy community.*

As always, we also welcome 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.

## Schedule of Services

*We have returned to 9:30 a.m. for ALL Divine Liturgies, both Sundays and Weekdays.*

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

**Sunday, Sept 10, 9:30 a.m.** – Divine Liturgy. Archpastoral Visit of His Eminence, Archbishop MARK.  
Small Memorial Service (Trisagion/Litya) for Dr Joseph Danyo,  
Mat. Dolores Donlick, and Robert Dance as we pass their 40<sup>th</sup> Days.

*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 and Confessions

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

Memorial Service (Parastas) for the Mosley and Gillott Families.

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

**Saturday, Sept 23, 6:30 p.m.** – NO VESPERS. (Fr John at St Herman's in Gradyville.)

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

Small Memorial Service for all members of the St Michael's family that have  
reposed in Septembers of years past.

*Coffee Hour is offered by:*

- 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.*

## Donations

- \$300 was given for Altar Candles and Sacramental Wine, for the Health of the Lasichak Family and in memory of John and Joan Lasichak, by Ruthann and John Lasichak.

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.

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!

## 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, 40<sup>th</sup> Day of repose.
- Tuesday, Sept 5 – Mat. Dolores Donlick, 40<sup>th</sup> Day of repose.
- Wednesday, Sept 6 – Robert Dance, 40<sup>th</sup> 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)
- Dorothy (Krasowsky) Zrowka (Aug 31, 2009)

## Announcements

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).

**Save the Date: Sunday October 15** is designated as **Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day** in the United States. We will use this opportunity to have a **Prayer Service for all Stillborns and Miscarriages** on that day. at our **Cemetery at Noon following Liturgy**, with a meal *to follow* (in place of coffee hour before). We hope to invite anyone from the surrounding communities for the service and meal. If you have close friends or family outside the parish whom you know have had this kind of loss, please invite them to come that day at noon.

*"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!*

### *Epistle: 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4*

*Brethren:* He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. Moreover I call God as witness against my soul, that to spare you I came no more to Corinth. Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are fellow workers for your joy; for by faith you stand. But I determined this within myself, that I would not come again to you in sorrow. For if I make you sorrowful, then who is he who makes me glad but the one who is made sorrowful by me? And I wrote this very thing to you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow over those from whom I ought to have joy, having confidence in you all that my joy is the joy of you all. For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you, with many tears, not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have so abundantly for you.

### *Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14*

*The Lord spoke this parable:* "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. Again, he sent out other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding.'" But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them. But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.

Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.' So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests.

But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

*How do we read “The Bible”? How do we know exactly what any of it means?*

A Christian does not come to read the Scriptures **alone and isolated**, left to his or her own devices to try to come to the right conclusions that will allow him or her to do what is needed to find salvation. A Christian comes to the Scriptures **with the aid and enlightenment of the Holy Spirit**. But merely asserting the presence of the Holy Spirit is still a nebulous thing. **Anyone can make any interpretation and claim to have been guided by the Spirit**. Multiple readers can come to contradictory interpretations, yet all make that same claim. **The Holy Spirit, however**, not only indwells and guides individual human persons. He also **lives in and guides the Church** as a whole through the centuries of her shared life. As St. Paul says, the Spirit is not a Spirit of division, but of good order (1 Cor. 14:33). The Church is our best, and, in truth, an infallible guide to following the way through this world that leads to salvation in Christ, including the reading, understanding, and application of the Holy Scriptures.

– Stephen De Young, *The Whole Counsel of God: An Introduction to Your Bible* (Ancient Faith Publishing, 2022), 114.

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

The heavenly repast is laid before us and we hear Christ's own words inviting: *Take! Eat! This is My Body ... Drink of it, all of you! This is My Blood ...*

Can there be any doubt that these words urge us all to receive Holy Communion **in every Liturgy!** In the early Church **only the unbaptized and the so-called penitents**, who had been excluded from Communion because of grave sins, **did not partake** of the Holy Gifts. But they did not hear Christ's invitation, because they had to leave before the beginning of the Liturgy of the Faithful. On the other hand, **it was quite unthinkable that those who stayed for the Liturgy of the Faithful should have abstained from Communion**. Only gradually, with the [diminishing] of the Christians' love, did it begin to be customary for only some of the church members present – or even only the celebrating clergy – to receive Communion.

... The sacraments of confession and Communion are not bound together in such a way that confession is a necessary condition for admission to Communion\*. In practice **it may be regarded as a “condition” only when a person seldom goes** to Communion, for instance only “at least once a year,” as **unfortunately** used to be taught as a kind of rule.

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

*\*by this, he means, “not a necessary condition” for every single time we approach. He is not saying that confession is unimportant in general.*