

# St Michael's Orthodox Church

*A parish of the Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania*

308 Walnut Street, Jermyn, Pennsylvania 18433

<https://stmichaeljermyn.org/>

**Rev. John Black, Acting Rector**  
(610) 427-9279 Mobile (preferred\*)  
(570) 876-1241 Rectory  
johnmblack@gmail.com

**Protodeacon Gabriel Petorak**  
(570) 876-0411



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

**Vasili Dubee, Reader & Cantor**  
(570) 254-9720

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

**November 5, 2023: 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

We welcome ALL of you to St Michael's. Every one of you is precious to us. *Especially all children.*  
After Liturgy, please come downstairs for coffee, refreshments, and fellowship.

## Services and Events

**Saturday, Nov 4,** 4:00 p.m. – Great Vespers and Confessions

**Sunday, Nov 5,** 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy, followed by **St Michael's Day Potluck Supper** (see Announcements)

*November 8 is our Patronal Feast – The Synaxis of the Archangel Michael and All the Bodiless Powers.*

**Tuesday, Nov 7,** 6:30 p.m. – **Festal Vespers with Litya.** *Memorial Service for the Franchak & Yurchak families.*

**Wednesday, Nov 8,** 9:30 a.m. – **Festal Divine Liturgy**

**Saturday, Nov 11,** 11:00 a.m. – Veteran's Day Ceremony at Veterans' Park, with luncheon at Ss James-George  
4:00 p.m. – Great Vespers and Confessions

**Sunday, Nov 12,** 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy

--- *The Nativity Fast begins on Wednesday, November 15* ---

**Saturday, Nov 18,** 9:00 a.m. – **Church Cleanup Day**

1:30 p.m. – Our first "**Super Saturday**" for children, teens, & young adults. (*see Announcements*)

4:00 p.m. – Great Vespers and Confessions

**Sunday, Nov 19,** 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy – **with the Preparation rite (Proskomedia) at 9:30** (*see Announcements*)

*Coffee Hour is offered by:*

- Nov 5: St Michael's Day Potluck

- Nov 19: Millie Telep & Mat. Alexandra

- Nov 12: Maryann Dubee & Susan Schlasta

- Nov 26: Mat. Dolores & Marilyn Petorak

## Announcements

*St Michael's Center now has a buyer and the sale is expected to close sometime in November. This action was authorized by the Parish at its Annual General Assembly on February 19, 2023.*

**TODAY** is our **St Michael's Day Potluck Dinner**, following Liturgy! We ask everyone to contribute \$10 per person. Please give more if you are able.

**Saturday, November 11,** 11:00 a.m. – A **Veteran's Day Ceremony** will be held at WWI Veterans' Park on Bridge Street, with a **light lunch to follow** at St James-St George Episcopal Church, offered by American Legion 405 and the Jermyn Shade Tree Commission. All residents and parishioners of all houses of worship in Jermyn are invited to attend the ceremony and lunch. St Michael's will join with the other churches in Jermyn with the ringing of bells at 11:00 a.m. in remembrance of the WWI Armistice and in prayer for all those who serve and have served in our armed forces.

**Saturday, November 18** is our **Church Cleanup Day!** We will begin at 9 am in the church basement. Please come help us clean and reorganize this important part of our church.

**Saturday, November 18** is also our very first **“Super Saturday” for children, teens, & young adults**. This month’s activity is all about the *preparation* for the Divine Liturgy. We will **bake Proskophora** together (the bread for the Liturgy) and learn about *Proskomedie* (the small ritual done prior to the Divine Liturgy where that bread is prepared for the Eucharist). Followed by board games, Vespers, and pizza. We hope to get started at 1:30 and end by about 5:30. *ALL children & teens, even from our parish’s “extended family”, are invited.*

On **Sunday, November 19**, the *Proskomedie* will begin at **9:30**, in the main part of the Church. This ritual is normally hidden inside the Altar before the beginning of Liturgy, so this is a great opportunity to see it up close. This is where the bread offering is prepared for the Eucharist, along with commemorations for the living & departed. **Please try to arrive by 9:20** so you can experience this in its fullness. *Please encourage all the children and youth of our parish family (and extended family) to come on this day and learn about this part of our Faith.*

**Saturday, December 2:** Our Deanery (our group of NEPA OCA parishes) is holding a **retreat for all members of our parishes** at **All Saints in Olyphant** (211 Willow Ave). Divine Liturgy at **9am**, followed by Brunch and then a Talk/Q&A with Nathan Hoppe, the longest-serving field missionary of the Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC). This is a free event, but please sign up (in the narthex) so they know how many people to expect.

**SAVE THE DATE! SAVE YOUR RECIPES!** **Saturday December 9** is our first annual **Christmas Holiday “Cookie Walk”**. We invite all families to participate in baking your favorite **family or heirloom recipe cookies** to sell to the public. Each family bakes and freezes 200 cookies **ahead of time**, and brings them to the church on the day before the sale. *Please see the sign-up sheet at the bottom of the stairs, or ask any member of the Events Team.*

## Donations & Giving Opportunities

- \$20 in memory of John Franchak, Annabel Franchak, Nicholas Yurchak, & Dorothy Yurchak; by Dan Franchak.
- \$250 in memory of Simeon & Anna Zeleniak, by James Zeleniak.

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!*

**“An Orthodox parish has only one God-given reason for being.** It exists to be the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church of Christ. Whatever the original reasons and conditions for its founding, whatever other services and activities it may provide, whatever other desires and needs it may fulfill for its members, a community of Orthodox Christians must be Christ’s one holy Church. **If it is not**, then it is neither Christian nor Orthodox, whatever else it may be and do.

“A parish must be *the* Church of Christ, and not simply *a* church, because, according to the Orthodox faith, every local community of Orthodox Christians with a priest must be, and theologically understood actually is, **the one Church of Christ**. Theologically speaking, there are not *many* Orthodox Churches; there is only *one*. An Orthodox parish is this one Church, or it is not an Orthodox church at all. Each parish, therefore, must be the one and only Church of Christ.

“Everything in the parish, and everything about it, **must be holy** because God and Christ are holy. There can be no part of a parish that is not sanctified by the holiness of God and His Son Jesus Christ, “the holy One of God.” There can be no aspect of a parish not inspired and empowered by God’s Holy Spirit, who is the Spirit of God and of Christ. Everything in and about a parish—its organization, structure, administration, finances and properties, as well as its theological and moral teachings and practices, and its liturgical and sacramental rites and services—must be of God. They must be determined by God, inspired by God and submitted to God for His glory and the good of His people.”

– Fr Thomas Hopko, “The Orthodox Parish in North America”, *Thirteenth All-American Council of the Orthodox Church in America*, Orlando, 2002.

## Today's Scripture

### Epistle:

*Brethren:* See with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand!

As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh.

But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation.

And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

### Gospel: Luke 8:26-39

*At that time,* there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue. And he fell down at Jesus' feet and begged Him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter about twelve years of age, and she was dying.

But as He went, the multitudes thronged Him. Now a woman, having a flow of blood for twelve years, who had spent all her livelihood on physicians and could not be healed by any, came from behind and touched the border of His garment. And immediately her flow of blood stopped. And Jesus said, "Who touched Me?" When all denied it, Peter and those with him said, "Master, the multitudes throng and press You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'" But Jesus said, "Somebody touched Me, for I perceived power going out from Me." Now when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before Him, she declared to Him in the presence of all the people the reason she had touched Him and how she was healed immediately. And He said to her, "Daughter, be of good cheer; your faith has made you well. Go in peace."

While He was still speaking, someone came from the ruler of the synagogue's house, saying to him, "Your daughter is dead. Do not trouble the Teacher." But when Jesus heard it, He answered him, saying, "Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be made well." When He came into the house, He permitted no one to go in except Peter, James, and John, and the father and mother of the girl. Now all wept and mourned for her; but He said, "Do not weep; she is not dead, but sleeping." And they ridiculed Him, knowing that she was dead. But He put them all outside, took her by the hand and called, saying, "Little girl, arise." Then her spirit returned, and she arose immediately. And He commanded that she be given something to eat. And her parents were astonished, but He charged them to tell no one what had happened.

### *The Faith We Hold*

**The Liturgy: Common Worship.** We have spoken about the Holy Liturgy as a service in which we receive Holy Communion, the medicine of immortality, as it was called by the Apostolic Fathers. But at the same time **the Liturgy is much more than spiritual medicine for individual church members.** The very name *liturgy* – borrowed from the Greek – means *public service*. In the Liturgy the Church fulfills itself; only then is it the **ecclesia gathered in one place for common action and service.** The reason for this coming together and its purpose may be deduced from the following words of the Apostle:

*And like living stones be yourselves built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ ... But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, that you may declare the wonderful deeds of Him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were no people but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. (1 Pet 2:5; 9-10)*

These words of the Apostle indicate that terms formerly applied to Israel now belong to **the new Israel, to the Christians, the ecclesia, the Church.** Whereas previously only Aaron's family had been chosen to serve as priests, now the new Israel as a whole, **all the members of the Church,** are a chosen, **holy family,** a royal priesthood and God's own people. As a holy priesthood they are all called to "offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."

This bringing of spiritual offerings is just what takes place in the Holy Liturgy, which the whole people of God performs as a common service. All **the prayers** of the Holy Liturgy, with a very few exceptions, **are in the plural,** and thus intended **to be read or sung in the name of the whole people of God.**

– Abp Paul of Finland, *The Faith We Hold* (SVS Press, 1980), 47-48.

## In your prayers...

*Please remember in your prayers those who are ill or recovering from illness or injury:*

- Fr Michael Evans, Fr Joseph Chupek, Fr Peter Telencio, Edward & Karen Hojnicky, Gregory Hansen, Olga Krutz.

*There are also many who need our fervent prayers who have asked not to be named. Please ask God to have mercy on all those we pray for, both known and unknown. "The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects." (James 5:16)*

*Please also remember those who are alone or confined. 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
- Theresa Krenitsky, Carbondale Nursing & Rehabilitation Center #307, 10 Hart Place, Carbondale, PA 18407
- Nicholas Mattise, Personal Care at Allied Terrace, Room 218, 100 Terrace Ln, Clarks Summit, PA 18411
- Barbara Palubniak, 629 Hill St, Mayfield, PA 19433
- Peggy Petrilak, 127 Petrilak Lane, Greenfield Twp, PA 18407
- Peter Senio, The Gardens of Green Ridge, 2751 Boulevard Ave, Scranton, PA 18509
- Jerry & Marilyn Soroka, c/o Glenmaura Senior Living, 11 Glenmaura National Blvd, Moosic, PA 18507

## Remembering the Departed

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.

### **November**

Abp. David (Mahaffey) (11/27/2020)	Samuel Zielinski (11/11/2014)	Anna Kerilla (11/23/2006)
Apr. Nicholas Fedorchak (11/22/1998)	Philip Demora (11/12/1992)	Dennis Buberniak (11/23/2008)
Apr. Joseph Martin (11/9/2018)	Nina Jubinski (11/13/2014)	John Demora, Jr. (11/24/1984)
Anna Urda (11/1/2002)	Anna Kosar (11/14/1981)	Barbara Franchak (11/25/2011)
John Pash, Sr. (11/2/1978)	Eva Franchak (11/15/1992)	Carol Konkal (11/25/2021)
Ralph Orson Sloat (11/4/1993)	Antoinette Kitchura (11/15/1987)	Olga Petorak (11/25/2013)
Ronald Serniak (11/5/2021)	Nena Franchak (11/16/2014)	Olga Hockin Sviatko (11/25/2016)
Emily Stawisky (11/7/1995)	Sandra Franchak Evans (11/17/2011)	Helen Wahal (Vahal) (11/25/2005)
Nicholas Urda (11/8/1981)	Mary Urda (11/18/1969)	Alice Mosley (11/26/1997)
Amelia Chup (11/9/2015)	Joseph Zrowka (11/18/2005)	Olga Nayduch Jaye (11/26/2008)
John Franchak (11/10/1996)	Antoinette Kutchmanich (11/21/1981)	William Urda (11/26/1971)
Mary Franchak (11/10/2011)	Ann Pusey (11/21/2016)	Marie Blackman (11/27/1994)
Andrew (Bill) Kutch (11/10/1982)	Elizabeth Day (11/22/1992)	Stephen Pelack (11/27/1969)
Mary Gurka Petorak (11/10/1971)	Nicholas Gurka (11/22/2006)	Anna Petorak (11/27/2001)
William Joseph Raban (11/10/1999)	Nicholas Wargo (11/22/1975)	Mary Petorak (11/29/1968)
Walter Fedorchak (11/11/1979)	Paul Urda (11/22/1973)	Anna Chup Lasichak (11/30/1962)
Steve Franchak (11/11/2021)	Michael Kosar (11/23/1985)	