

St Michael's Orthodox Church

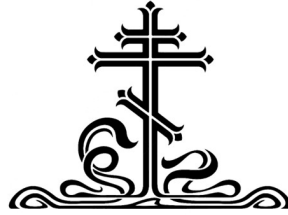
A parish of the Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania

305 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 19, 2023: 24th Sunday After Pentecost (9th Sunday of Luke)

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.

The Nativity Fast has begun.

This is our opportunity to "re-calibrate" our spiritual compass. Please make a renewed effort this year to fast not only from meat, dairy, and luxurious foods; but also from anger, greed, indulgence, laziness, and talkativeness; so that we may approach the Nativity of Our Lord with a pure heart.

*We also use this time to examine ourselves to see where our spiritual stumblings are; to take an **honest self-inventory** and seek repentance and guidance with the aid of a priest in the Sacrament of Confession. In the Orthodox Church in America, our minimum standard is to seek confession four times a year.*

Do you wish to honour the body of Christ? Do not ignore him when he is naked. Do not pay him homage in the temple adorned in silk, **only then to neglect him outside where he is cold and lacking clothing.**

He who said: "***This is my body***" is the same who said: "***You saw me hungry and you gave me no food***", and "***Whatever you did to the least of my brothers you did also to me***" ...

What good is it if the Eucharistic table is overloaded with golden chalices **when your brother is dying of hunger?** Start by satisfying his hunger **and then** with what is left you may adorn the altar as well.

– St. John Chrysostom, whose relics are in our temple

Services and Events

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*)

November 21 is the Great Feast of the Entry (Presentation) of the Mother of God into the Temple.

Monday, Nov 20, 6:30 p.m. – Festal Vespers with Litya

Tuesday, Nov 21, 9:30 a.m. – Festal Divine Liturgy

Saturday, Nov 25, 4:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

Sunday, Nov 26, 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy and Fellowship

Coffee Hour is offered by:

- Nov 19: Millie Telep & Mat. Alexandra

- Nov 26: Mat. Dolores & Marilyn Petorak

- Dec 3: Ruthie Lasichak & Roxanne Neutts

- Dec 10: Vickie Kravitsky & Charette Radionoff

THANK YOU, O LORD

Everyone capable of thanksgiving is capable of salvation and eternal joy.

Thank You, O Lord, for having accepted this Eucharist, which we offered to the Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and which filled our hearts with the joy, peace and righteousness of the Holy Spirit.

Thank You, O Lord, for having revealed Yourself unto us and given us the foretaste of Your Kingdom.

Thank You, O Lord, for having united us to one another in serving You and Your Holy Church.

Thank You, O Lord, for having helped us to overcome all difficulties, tensions, passions, temptations and restored peace, mutual love and joy in sharing the communion of the Holy Spirit.

Thank You, O Lord, for the sufferings You bestowed upon us, for they are purifying us from selfishness and reminding us of the “one thing needed;” Your eternal Kingdom.

Thank You, O Lord, for having given us this country where we are free to worship You.

Thank You, O Lord, for this school, where the name of God is proclaimed.

Thank You, O Lord, for our families: husbands, wives and, especially, children who teach us how to celebrate Your holy Name in joy, movement, and holy noise.

Thank You, O Lord, for everyone and everything.

*Great are You, O Lord, and marvelous are Your deeds,
and no word is sufficient to celebrate Your miracles.*

Lord, it is good to be here! Amen.

— Fr. Alexander Schmemmann, Sermon on Thanksgiving Day, 1983

Donations

- \$100 is offered in memory of Martha Myshak, by Peter & Sarah Jubinski.
- \$500 is offered in memory of Martha Myshak, by Irene Gulka; Pat & Ken Rogers; Paul, Allison, Sam, & Daniel Rogers; and Sandra, Mark, Michael, & Matthew Cassoni.

Announcements

This Sunday, November 19, the *Proskomedia* 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, where the bread offering is prepared for the Eucharist along with commemorations for the living & departed. *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 at **Noon** with Nathan Hoppe, the longest-serving field missionary of the Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC). Mr. Hoppe will talk about the importance of the mission mindset in the parish, and reflect on his international missionary labors over the years. The lecture will end by 2 PM. This is a free event, but please sign up (in the narthex) by Nov. 26, so our hosts at All Saints can plan for the day. We look forward to gathering once again with our brothers and sisters throughout the Wilkes-Barre Deanery.

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.*

*If you know of anyone who is **sick, injured, or struggling** with anything in their life; please contact Fr John so they can be added to our prayers. Please also (always!) let the priest know whenever someone is **pregnant**, recently had a **baby**, is **engaged**, or is planning a **wedding**, so we can add them to our prayers as well. The Church should be one of the first, rather than the last, places to seek guidance and support with significant life changes.*

Today's Scripture

Epistle: Ephesians 2:14-22

Brethren: For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.

Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Gospel: Luke 12:16-21

The Lord spoke this parable: The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, "What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?"

So he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.'"

But God said to him, "Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?" So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

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, Maryanne Krisa, Michael Krisa.

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: 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)	