

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/>

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February 4, 2023: 35th Sunday after Pentecost

Afterfeast of the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple. Ven. Isidore of Pelusium

Schedule of Services

Saturday, Feb 3, 4:00 p.m. – Great Vespers & Confessions.

Sunday, Feb 4, 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy.

Thursday, Feb 8, 6:00 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal.

Saturday, Feb 10, 4:00 p.m. – Great Vespers & Confessions.

Sunday, Feb 11, 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy. *SOUPer Bowl of Caring Potluck & Food Drive.*

Coffee Hour is offered by:

Feb 4: Mat. Dolores & Marilyn Petorak

Feb 25: Vickie Kravitsky & Charette Radionoff

Feb 11: (SOUPer Bowl Potluck)

March 3: Maryann Dubee & Susan Schlasta

Feb 18: Ruthie Lasichak & Roxanne Neutts

March 10: Millie Telep & Mat. Alexandra

Announcements

On Sunday Feb 11, we will be collecting canned goods and other sturdy nonperishables for the International Orthodox Christian Charities' *SOUPer Bowl of Caring*. These will be delivered to a local food bank. We will also have a special collection for IOCC's work around the world.

On **Saturday, March 2**, the Diocese will host a **Women's Retreat** at Holy Trinity in Stroudsburg: "*Compassion: From God to us; from us to others*". The guest speaker will be Presbyteria **Kerry Pappas**, a licensed marriage & family therapist and a counselor to many Orthodox lay, clergy, and seminarian families. *This is an opportunity for the women (of all ages!) of our parishes to come together for fellowship and a bit of spiritual rest from the world.* Mat. Alexandra will be going and can drive 5 or 6 additional people. Please RSVP to **Sara Rusk** at rusksara21@gmail.com by February 24, or let me or Mat. Alexandra know.

Today's Scripture

Epistle: Colossians 3:12-16

Brethren, As the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.

But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

The Lord spoke this parable: "A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money.

Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.'

He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to every one who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.'"

As he said these things he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

Hymns of the Day

Sunday Troparion (Tone 2)

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal, / Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead. / And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, / all the powers of heaven cried out: // “O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!”

Meeting of the Lord in the Temple (Tone 1)

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! / From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, / enlightening those who sat in darkness. / Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder, / you accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, // Who grants us the Resurrection!

Venerable Isodore (Tone 4)

The image of God was truly preserved in you, O Father, / for you took up the Cross and followed Christ. / By so doing, you taught us to disregard the flesh for it passes away; / but to care instead for the

soul, for it is immortal. // Therefore your spirit, venerable Isidore, rejoices with the angels.

Glory ...

Sunday Kontakion (Tone 2)

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior, / seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb! / The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with Thee, // and the world, my Savior, praises Thee forever.

Now & ever ...

Meeting of the Lord in the Temple (Tone 1)

By Your Nativity You sanctified the Virgin's womb / and bless Simeon's hands, O Christ God. / Now Thou hast come and saved us through love. / Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, // O only Lover of Man!

In your prayers...

The Newly-Departed: **Archpriest Moses Berry** (Jan 12), **Archpriest Ivan Moody** (Jan 18), **Irene Gurka** (Dec 16), **Rebecca Hanchak** (Dec 17).

We offer prayers for:

- The Troutman family (Doreen & Harry, along with John Meholic) who lost their home to fire.
- Fr Gregory White, of Holy Resurrection in Wilkes-Barre, recovering from a heart attack.

Those who are ill or recovering from illness or injury: Fr Michael Evans, Fr Joseph Chupek, Fr Peter Telencio, Pdn. Gabriel Petorak, Edward & Karen Hojnicki, Gregory Hansen, Olga Krutz, Maryanne Krisa, Michael Krisa, Barbara Mosley.

Those who are alone or confined:

Eileen Dance, Carbondale Nursing & Rehabilitation #202, 10 Hart Place, Carbondale, PA 18407
John Drutarosky, Carbondale Nursing & Rehabilitation #307, 10 Hart Place, Carbondale, PA 18407
Theresa Krenitsky, Carbondale Nursing & Rehabilitation #307, 10 Hart Place, Carbondale, 18407
Nicholas Mattise, Personal Care at Allied Terrace, #218, 100 Terrace Lane, **Scranton, PA 18508**
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, Glenmaura Senior Living, 11 Glenmaura National Blvd, Moosic, PA 18507

Paul Kostiak, along with **Dolores Brophy**, 631 Jefferson Ave, Jermyn, PA 18433
Paul & Barbara Mosley, 623 Cemetery St, Mayfield, PA 18433
Bill Hummer, c/o Oakwood Terrace, 400 Gleason Dr, Moosic, PA 18507

Donations & Memorials

- \$100 in memory of Rebecca Hanchak, by Peter & Sarah Jubinski. *May Rebecca's memory be eternal!*
- \$500 in memory of Irene Gurka, by Pat Rogers. *May Irene's memory be eternal!*

The Scriptures refer to various kinds of offerings ... but by far it most commonly mentions the *whole burnt offering*. The first recorded act of God-pleasing worship was Abel's offering ... God wholly consumed this offering with fire sent from heaven as a sign that it was acceptable, while nothing happened to Cain's offering.

... The feature of the *whole burnt offering* that most jars our contemporary senses is the no one benefited from it. Fire simply consumed it on the altar... But what purpose did such offerings serve in the Old Testament? And what would be the point of such a “holy fire” in one of our parishes today? [If such a burnt offering were made today with cash, it] would scandalize, offend, and even outrage many people because of the utter wastefulness of such an act. Surely something worthwhile could have been done with this money. However... God doesn't need our offerings. He owns the wealth of heaven. Even the largest gifts of our wealthiest benefactors add nothing to his abundance. Rather, they provide us an opportunity to give sacrificially. They are a means by which we can grow into the likeness of God, becoming imitators of his own profligate generosity.

– Andrew Geleris, *Money & Salvation: An Invitation to the Good Way* (SVS Press, 2022); 41-43.

Together we can tackle hunger.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024

Help feed the hungry by collecting nonperishables for a local food bank, and collect money for IOCC to support our work around the globe. Together we can turn the biggest weekend in football into a super day of giving!

Learn more at
ioccc.org/souperbowl

