

# 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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**April 21, 2024: 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Great Lent. St Mary of Egypt.**

## Schedule of Services

Saturday, April 20, 6:30 p.m. – Great Vespers, followed by Prayers for Confessions  
Sunday, April 21, 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great. *St Mary of Egypt.*  
Sunday, April 21, 4:00 p.m. – Lenten Mission Vespers at St Nicholas, Olyphant.

Wednesday, April 24, 6:30 p.m. – Presanctified Divine Liturgy. *Last evening Presanctified this year.*  
Friday, April 26, 6:30 p.m. – Small Vigil for **Lazarus Saturday**  
Saturday, April 27, 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy for **Lazarus Saturday**  
Saturday, April 27, 6:30 p.m. – Festal Vespers (with Litya) for **Palm Sunday**. *Blessing of Palms.*  
Sunday, April 28, 9:30 a.m. – Festal Divine Liturgy for **Palm Sunday**

## **HOLY WEEK & PASCHA SCHEDULE**

*Next week's bulletin will include a more extensive description of these services and their theological & spiritual significance.*

Sunday, April 28, 6:30 p.m. – “Bridegroom” Matins (of Holy Monday)  
Monday, April 29, 9:30 **a.m.** – Presanctified Divine Liturgy here at St Michael's. *We are hosting area parishes.*  
Monday, April 29, 6:30 p.m. – “Bridegroom” Matins (of Holy Tuesday)  
Tuesday, April 30, 9:30 a.m. – Presanctified Divine Liturgy at All Saints Olyphant (hosting area parishes)  
Tuesday, April 30, 6:30 p.m. – “Bridegroom” Matins (of Holy Wednesday)  
Wednesday, May 1, 9:30 a.m. – Presanctified Divine Liturgy at St Michael's Old Forge (hosting area parishes)  
Wednesday, May 1, **6:00 p.m.** – HOLY UNCTION at ST NICHOLAS OLYPHANT. ***This is the Unction for our parish. Please attend if you can.*** *All baptized, chrismated Orthodox Christians who have confessed recently are invited to receive this important sacrament.*  
*(The area parishes are celebrating together so that we can use the full Unction rite, which calls for multiple priests. We will rotate the location each year.)*  
Thursday, May 2, 9:30 a.m. – Vespersal Divine Liturgy of Holy Thursday. *The Institution of the Eucharist.*  
Thursday, May 2, 6:30 p.m. – MATINS OF THE PASSION (Matins of Good Friday) with the Twelve Passion Gospels.

### **Friday, May 3: Great and Holy Friday**

1:30 p.m. – Royal Hours  
2:30 p.m. – Burial Vespers with the taking-down of the Body  
7:30 p.m. – Matins with Lamentations and Procession with the winding-sheet

### **Sat, May 4: Great and Holy Saturday**

9:30 a.m. – Vespersal Divine Liturgy of Holy Saturday  
*(\*\*\* This is at the usual time of 9:30 – the previous calendar has a misprint.)*

## **GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA:**

**SATURDAY MAY 4, 9:00 p.m.** – PASCHAL VIGIL *Nocturnes, Procession, and Paschal Matins.*  
**SUNDAY MAY 5, 9:30 a.m.** – PASCHAL DIVINE LITURGY. *Blessing of foods and baskets.*

*Coffee Hour is offered by:*

April 21: Millie Telep & Mat. Alexandra

May 12: Ruthie Lasichak & Roxanne Neutts

April 28: (*Palm Sunday*) Mat. Dolores & Marilyn Petorak

May 19: Vickie Kravitsky & Charette Radionoff

## Hymns of the Day

*Sunday Troparion (Tone 5)*

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, / co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, / born for our salvation from the Virgin; / for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, / to endure death, / and to raise the dead // by His glorious Resurrection.

*For St Mary of Egypt (Tone 8)*

The image of God was truly preserved in you, O Mother, / 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, O holy Mother Mary, rejoices with the angels.

*Sunday Kontakion (Tone 5)*

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior, / shattering its gates as Almighty, / resurrecting the dead as Creator, / and destroying the sting of death. / Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man, // and we cry to Thee: "O Lord, save us!"

Glory ...

*For St Mary of Egypt (Tone 3)*

Having been a sinful woman, / you became through repentance a bride of Christ. / Having attained angelic life, / you defeated demons with the weapon of the Cross. // Therefore, O most glorious Mary, you are a bride of the Kingdom.

Now & ever ...

*For the Mother of God (Tone 6)*

Steadfast protectress of Christians, / constant advocate before the Creator; / despise not the entreating cries of us sinners, / but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith. / Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, // for you always protect those who honor you!

## Donations

*Please consider offering Easter Flowers or Candles, in memory of or for the health of family members. Suggested donations are \$15 (small) or \$20 (large), and \$10 for candles; but any amount is appreciated. Thank you!*

- \$50 was offered for Paschal Flowers by George, Marilyn, & Joshua Petorak.
- \$500 was offered for the health of the Meholic and Petorak families, and in loving memory of Mary & Alexander Meholic, by Alexis Meholic. *May God grant their families many years, and may Mary & Alexander's memory be eternal!*

## Today's Scripture

*Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14*

*Brethren:* Christ came as a High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation. Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own Blood, He entered once into the Most Holy Place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

For if the blood of bulls and goats, and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling and the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh; how much more shall the Blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

*Gospel: Mark 10:32-45*

*At that time, Jesus and his disciples were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them; and they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. And taking the twelve again, he began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death, and deliver him to the Gentiles; and they will mock him, and spit upon him, and scourge him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise."*

And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him, and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

## Announcements

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Ruthann Lasichak who celebrated her 89<sup>th</sup> birthday on Saturday! MANY BLESSED YEARS!  
HAPPY BIRTHDAY to our council president Vlad Kitchura, who also celebrated on Saturday. MANY BLESSED YEARS!  
HAPPY BIRTHDAY to George Petorak who celebrated his birthday this past week. MANY BLESSED YEARS!

*THANK YOU* to all of you who have reached out with support and condolences for the repose of Mat. Alexandra's father, Bill Hummer. It has been a difficult two weeks, on top of an already-difficult few months with his progressing illness. We appreciate everyone's patience. I know I have not been able to complete a lot of pastoral work and parish business over the last few weeks. I hope to begin catching up on visits during these last two weeks before Pascha.

**If you have not sought confession in many months, please do so by Holy Wednesday.** Ideally, this week. I cannot hear confessions after Holy Wednesday, except by special arrangement or for people who are traveling from out of the area. *Please do not approach the Chalice on Pascha if you have not been to confession in a very long time (perhaps more than 4-6 months).*

In your prayers... (please see prior bulletins for mailing addresses)

*The Newly-Departed:* Apr. Herman Schick (March 16). Apr. Anthony Karbo (March 19). Andrew Homish (March 26). James Detro (April 2). Edward Hojnicky (April 4). William Hummer (April 6). Steven Susko (April 10).

Please especially pray 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. Dn. Gregory LoBalbo, of St Nicholas in Bethlehem.

*Those who are ill or recovering from illness or injury:* Fr Michael Evans, Fr Joseph Chupek, Fr Peter Telencio, Pdn. Gabriel Petorak, Gregory Hansen, Olga Krutz, Maryanne Krisa, Michael Krisa, Barbara Mosley, Mary Ann Serafini, Alexis Meholic, Tom Shaw.

*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  
Adam & Mary Ann Serafini, 509 Jefferson Ave, Jermyn, PA 18433

*Those who grieve for their loved ones:* For Andrew: David, Marlene, Cathy, & Debbie. For Edward: Karen, Stephanie, Fr. Timothy, Ana, Leah. For William: Mat. Alexandra, Fr. John, Harold. For Steven: John, Sonya, Stephanie.

*An Examination for Confession  
based on St Paul's 1<sup>st</sup> Epistle to the Corinthians (13:4-8)*

*Adapted from "A Child's Guide to Confession" (Chesterton, IN: Ancient Faith Publishing, 2019).*

***Love suffers long; Love does not envy.***

Have I been impatient? Have I wanted a possession that someone else has? Have I been envious of someone else's beauty, talents, or good fortune?

***Love is kind.***

Have I hurt someone or something on purpose? Have I been caring when someone gets hurt? Have I ignored someone who needed help?

***Love does not parade itself; Love is not puffed up.***

Have I been loud or talkative so people would notice me? Have I showed off instead of being humble? Have I thought that I was better than someone else?

***Love does not behave rudely.***

Have I teased or made fun of someone, either out loud or silently in my mind? Have I talked too much or failed to listen to others? Have I used words that don't glorify God?

***Love does not seek its own.***

Have I taken anything that is not mine? Have I eaten more than I need? *Have I been happy when someone else failed?* Have I insisted on my own way or put myself first?

***Love is not provoked.***

Have I sworn? Have I hurt others with my anger? Have I been a "poor loser"? Have I been obedient to the tasks set before me without grumbling?

***Love thinks no evil.***

Have I gossiped? Have I bent the rules of anything to get ahead? Have I thought bad things about others – or about myself?

***Love does not rejoice in iniquity.***

Have I been glad to see someone else get in trouble? Have I helped someone to do something questionable? Have I watched shows or videos or looked at pictures that are violent or unholy?

***Love rejoices in the truth.***

Have I told a lie or a half-truth? Have I exaggerated or changed a story to attract attention to myself? Have I resisted going to church?

***Love bears all things.***

Have I been unkind to those who have done me wrong? Have I accepted difficult work without complaining? *Is there someone I have not forgiven?*

***Love believes all things.***

Do I believe in Jesus Christ with all my heart? Have I tried to hide that I am a Christian? Have I forgotten that God is in me?

***Love hopes all things, endures all things.***

Do I want the best for other people? Have I been loving to my parents, my siblings, my children? Have I been caring to strangers or coworkers? Can I say without reservation that I love my enemies? Have I tried to fast on fast days?

***Love never fails.***

Have I been lazy, especially when it's time to pray? Have I made a promise that I didn't keep? Do I love anything (food, entertainment, etc.) more than God?