

# Frackville Deanery

## 2023 Diocesan Assembly – Frackville Deanery Report

Archpriest Timothy Hojnicky, *Dean* + Archpriest Stephen Vernak, *Assistant to the Dean* + Archpriest John Onofrey, *Secretary/Treasurer*

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The Frackville Deanery is currently comprised of eight parishes which are all serviced regularly by either assigned or visiting area (or retired) clergy. We are thankful that the clergy and faithful are ministering to our parishes as best as we are able during this time of a clergy shortage and still recovering after the time of COVID.

We still face the ongoing normal challenges facing the region. Presently, St. Mary's Church, St. Clair is without a resident priest. Fr. Joseph Ramishvili has been serving Liturgy several times a month, with other services and classes. At present, Fr. Vjekoslav Jovicic has been covering the administrative needs of the parish.

Since March, Holy Apostles parish in Mechanicsburg had been looking to see the possibility of a Mission Parish in the Gettysburg area. Vespers were served once a month to see if there was interest. In August, the Archbishop came and blessed the Mission and made Fr. Leonid Schmidt, newly moved to the area, the Priest in charge of the fledgling parish. Beginning in September, they have had regular liturgies, with steady attendance. Please pray for the newest parish in our diocese, for their spiritual, numerical and financial growth!

At the end of June, Fr. Aaron Rutz was ordained to the Holy Priesthood at Christ the Saviour Parish in Harrisburg. He remains attached to Christ the Saviour awaiting a permanent assignment from the Archbishop's office.

At the beginning of November, Fr. James Jadick retired from his pastorate at Holy Ascension Church in Frackville. We thank him for his many years of service not only to our Diocese, but to the Orthodox Church in America, and especially his many years as a military Chaplain. May God grant him and Mat. Natalie many years in retirement!

In November, Fr. Vjekoslav Jovicic was transferred from St. Michael's in Mt. Carmel to Holy Ascension in Frackville, while remaining the Administrator of St. Michael's in Mt. Carmel. We thank Fr. Barnabas Fravel and Fr. Peter Henry for their help in filling in and giving stability to Mt. Carmel during this time of transition.

In November, Dn. Peter Staller requested to be transferred from Christ the Saviour in Harrisburg to be attached to Holy Apostles in Mechanicsburg. Many years to Dn. Peter and Mat. Hilarene!

For more information on the individual parishes, please visit their parish websites:

**St. Mary's Church: Coaldale, PA (1909) - [www.stmarysnativity.org](http://www.stmarysnativity.org)**

*Archpriest James Weremedic, Rector*

*Archpriest Paul Ropitsky (Ret.), Attached*

**Holy Ascension Church: Frackville, PA (1915) - [www.haoca.org](http://www.haoca.org)**

*Priest Vjekoslav Jovicic, Acting Rector*

**The Gettysburg Orthodox Mission: Gettysburg, PA (2022) – [www.gettysburgoca.com](http://www.gettysburgoca.com)**

*Archpriest Leonid Schmidt, Priest-in-Charge*

**Christ the Saviour Church: Harrisburg, PA (1963) - [www.christthesaviourhbg.org](http://www.christthesaviourhbg.org)**

*Archpriest Stephen Vernak, Rector*

*Mt. Archpriest Daniel Kovalak (Ret.), Attached*

*Priest Aaron Rutz, Attached*

*Dn. John Shingara, Attached*

**Holy Apostles Mission: Mechanicsburg, PA (2004) - [www.holyapostleschurch.org](http://www.holyapostleschurch.org)**

*Archpriest Timothy Hojnicky, Rector*

*Mt. Archpriest Nicholas Molodyko-Harris (Ret.), Attached*

*Archpriest Leonid Schmidt, Attached*

*Dn. Peter Staller, Attached*

**SS. Peter and Paul Church: Minersville, PA (1910) – [www.peterpaulminersville.com](http://www.peterpaulminersville.com)**

*Priest Joseph Ramishvili, Rector*

**St. Michael Church: Mount Carmel, PA (1907) - [www.stmichaelsorthodoxchurch.org](http://www.stmichaelsorthodoxchurch.org)**

*Priest Vjekoslav Jovicic, Administrator*

*Served by Diocesan Clergy*

**Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church: Saint Clair, PA (1911) – [www.stmaryssaintclair.com](http://www.stmaryssaintclair.com)**

*Priest Vjekoslav Jovicic, Administrator*

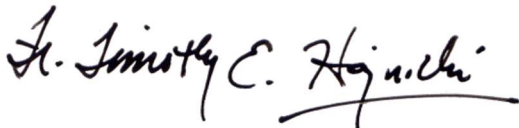
*Served by Diocesan Clergy*

**St. Herman of Alaska Church: Shillington, PA (1973) – [www.sainthermanshillington.org](http://www.sainthermanshillington.org)**

*Archpriest John Onofrey, Rector*

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Asking your prayers, and respectfully submitted,



Archpriest Timothy Hojnicky, *Dean*