



# St. Alexander Nevsky Orthodox Cathedral

8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pascha. Holy Pentecost.  
Epistle: Acts 2:1-11  
Gospel: St. John 7:37-52; 8:12  
St. Michael the Confessor, Bishop of Synnada

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## Sunday, May 23, 2010

### Today's Announcements

- Pentecost Vespers with Kneeling Prayers will be served following Coffee Hour.
- Thanks to all who helped prepare and serve Tuesday's charitable meal at The Table.

### Saturday – May 29

- NO Vespers

### Next Sunday – May 30

- Divine Liturgy – 10:00 am

### Coming Events – Mark Your Calendar!

- Change to Summer schedule (Vespers 7 pm, Divine Liturgy 9:30 am) – June 5-6
- Parish Survey – June 6 following Divine Liturgy – See Priest Selection Note
- Church School Summer Camp – July 26-30
- Women's Association Golf Classic – July 30

**Previously Noted:** The Women's Association is planning to clean and organize the church hall. We need to find a place for the wooden chairs and tables that we no longer use. Therefore, we would like to offer our parishioners a chance to purchase these items. A suggested price is \$10 for 4 wooden chairs; tables are being given away for free. If you are interested please contact Sandy Pysh.

**Fundability Tip of the Week:** It's Spring, and that means Graduations! You can use gift cards from St. Alexander Fundability to buy a gift for that special graduate, or you can just give the card and let the graduate make the selection – you never know what they want anyway!

And, you're probably planning a picnic for that graduation party or holiday celebration, in which case you'll need to pick up some cards for your favorite grocery store. Remember, with Fundability, you can help the church building fund without paying a penny extra. Thanks for your support of this important fundraiser.

### Parish Priest Selection Process Update

Bishop Melchisedek desires our new Parish Priest to begin serving Sunday, September 5. He is therefore establishing the following selection process in the hope that a consensus of the best candidate will emerge over the course of the Summer.

1. A survey is being developed which will be administered to parish members on Sunday, June 6 following Divine Liturgy. The survey will assess the personal and professional qualities desired in our new priest, as well as parish goals, strengths and improvement opportunities. Although we hope to accommodate those who are unable to attend Liturgy that day, we are asking that everyone make every effort to attend on that date. Your survey will be anonymous, and profile results will be provided to parishioners. The survey will provide input to Bishop Melchisedek in developing a set of interview questions to be asked of each candidate.
2. Candidate priests will visit St. Alexander Nevsky on selected Sundays during June, July, and August. We will provide you with the dates of these visits as they become available. Candidates will serve Saturday Vespers, Sunday Divine Liturgy with sermon, and will be interviewed by parishioners following Divine Liturgy. Parishioners will be asked to complete an assessment form following each interview. Assessments will be reviewed by Fr. Paul Ziatyk, Fr. Paul Suda, Ray Steeb, Ed Markoff, Roy Glisan, and Frank Namisnak and submitted to Bishop Melchisedek.
3. The following priests have been submitted for consideration: Fr. Michael Senyo, Fr. John Mikita, and Fr. John Soucek. Other priests may be considered as well. The name of any possible candidate should be provided to the Bishop directly, or to Fr. Paul Ziatyk. The Bishop must be the first contact for any candidate priests, so please submit any names as indicated and do not contact the possible candidate priest directly.

From his youth, **Saint Michael the Confessor** longed for the monastic life and was sent by Patriarch Tarasius (784-806) to a monastery on the coast of the Black Sea. St Theophylactus (March 8), the future Bishop of Nicomedia also entered the monastery together with him.

At the monastery both monks engaged in spiritual struggles and were soon glorified by gifts from the Lord. Once, during a harvest, when the people were weakened by thirst, an empty metal vessel was filled with water by the prayer of the monks.

Patriarch Tarasius consecrated St Michael as bishop of the city of Synnada. Through his holy life and wisdom, St Michael won the love of believers, and the notice of the emperors Nicephorus I (802-811) and Michael I Rangabe (811-813). St Michael was present at the Seventh Ecumenical Council at Nicea in 787.

When the Iconoclast heretic Leo the Armenian (813-820) assumed the throne, he began to expel Orthodox hierarchs from their Sees, appointing heretics in their place. St Michael defended Orthodoxy, bravely opposing the heretics and denouncing their error. Leo the Armenian brought St Michael to trial, but not fearing torture he answered resolutely, "I venerate the holy icons of my Savior Jesus Christ and the All-Pure Virgin, His Mother, and all the saints, and it is to them I bow down. I shall not obey your decrees to remove icons from churches."

Leo then banished St Michael to the city of Eudokiada, where the confessor died about the year 821.