

The Heavenly Host

Church Phone: (818) 994-2313
Church Fax: (818) 994-2352
newsletter@stmichaelvannuys.com
www.stmichaelvannuys.com

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Pastor's Message by Fr. Timothy Baclig

Sunday, June 3rd, is the Great Feast of Pentecost (fifty days after Easter), commemorating the descent of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church. This event in history is an event that we participate in, beginning at Holy Baptism and Chrismation; for our baptism is "of water and the Spirit" (John 3:5), and a personal Pentecost. St. John the Baptist testifies that the Son of God is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit (John 1:33). In fact, the Holy Spirit is Christ's Spirit that indwells us: "the Lord, the Giver of life, who [comes] from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified," as we say in our creed.

The Holy Spirit is also the "Spirit of Truth" who teaches, leads, guides and directs our life. He is also "The Comforter" and He who justifies, illumines and sanctifies. This Spirit of God, Which we have received, St. Paul states, is not of this world. Consequently His presence in our lives is the means by which we acquire wisdom that is not of this world but an ability to understand what God has freely given us, and to discern the will of God (I Corinthians 2:6-16).

In days when we face the increasing threat of an energy shortage and "rolling blackouts" in our state, we must also be prepared for the increasing threat of the spiritual darkness of our age. Toward this end, we must not neglect doing all that we can in preventing ourselves from experiencing a shortage of spiritual power as Christ's witnesses in the world of which we live. May the light which we have received through Christ's triumph at Easter, the Light which lightens all in the world, remain shining brightly in our hearts.



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SAVE THE DATE — St. Michael Christmas Festival

We have hinted in past newsletters that more information would follow regarding The St. Michael Christmas Festival.

The Ladies Guild is planning the event for Saturday, December 1, 2001.

The evening will start at about 5 PM with a display of crafts, baked goods, gift items, auction items, a raffle and a catered, buffet-style dinner.



The event will be open to everyone within the church as well as those out-

side the church. This event will be the last of our three events that help promote participation from everyone, needed funds for the church and sharing each others talents for a common goal. The Bake Days and the annual Golf Tournament are the other two events.

Sondra Love is the chair and she will be forming a committee soon to begin working on the details of the event.

If you're interested in participating or donating items for the auction or raffle, please contact her directly.



ST. MICHAEL BAKE SALE

ORDER FORM

JUNE 16, 2001

OUR NEXT BAKING DATE IS SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, JUNE 16, AT WHICH TIME MEAT PIES, ZAHTAR BREAD, AND SUGAR BREAD WILL BE PREPARED.

PLEASE SUBMIT ORDERS BY JUNE 11, 2001.
PICK-UP TIME WILL BE SATURDAY, JUNE 16, FROM 12:30 TO 2:00 P.M AND ON SUNDAY, JUNE 17, FROM 11:30 A.M TO 1:00 P.M.

ORDERS NOT PICKED UP BY 1:00 P.M. SUNDAY, WILL BE PLACED IN THE FREEZER. MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO PICK THEM UP BY CALLING KATIE NASSIEF AT (818) 344-9917

MY ORDER IS AS FOLLOWS:

DOZEN MEAT PIES AT \$14.00 PER DOZ. TOTAL \$ _____

PKG ZAHTAR (3 IN A PKG) \$3.00 PER PKG TOTAL \$ _____

PKG SUGAR BREAD (3 IN A PKG) \$3.00 PER PKG TOTAL \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

NAME: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

PLEASE SEND YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO ST. MICHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH WITH YOUR ORDER, TO ST. MICHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH, ATTN. BAKE SALE, 16643 VANOWEN STREET, VAN NUYS, CA 91406

KITCHEN TELEPHONE NUMBER (818) 994 0270

Please place your order now for
zathar and sugar bread
and meat pies for your family.

Scrip News

You'd be surprised to learn the success of the scrip program. Each Sunday, you'll find Esma Khoury and Adele Olivier seated at a table in the Community Center with piles of paper in front of them. If you've ever taken the time to look, you'd see the many stores, restaurants and shops that are represented.

Scrip is defined as gift certificates in various denominations that are purchased at a discount and sold at face value. The church buys the gift certificates from each store at a price less than the value of the certificate and sells them at the full value. The difference is the amount the church earns.



The stores listed below are some of the stores represented and the percentage that goes to the church. For example, a See's Candies gift certificate is good for one pound of chocolate or similar product. In the See's shops, a pound of chocolates cost \$12.00 per pound. The church sells the certificates for \$10 each or \$10.00 per pound. Your savings is \$2.00 per pound or 16% off retail.

The following stores and restaurants are just a few that are available. Baskin-Robbins, Burger King, California Pizza Kitchen, Carl's Jr., Carrows, Chili's, Claim Jumper, Coco's Restaurant, Olive Garden, Red Lobster, Denny's, Ralph's Supermarket and Vons.

Please stop by their table, say hello, and look at the variety of scrip available. Your purchases will help the church. Thank you Esma and Adele for your efforts.

Fasting and Feast Days

In reference to the Liturgical Calendar, there are no fasting restrictions for the forty day period from Easter to the Feast of the Ascension (May 24th), in accordance with the practice of our Patriarchate. Fasting on Wednesday and Fridays will resume on Friday, May 25th.

Feast of the Ascension was on Thursday, May 24th, however there was no service at St. Michael Church due to the Parish Life Conference held in Irvine.

Feast of Pentecost is Sunday, June 3rd. The week following the Feast of Pentecost is observed as a fast free week.

Apostles Fast is Monday, June 11-28. The traditional fasting discipline of no meat, poultry, fish, eggs, dairy, wine and oil is observed. However, wine and oil are permitted on Tuesdays and Thursdays; fish, wine and oil are permitted on Saturdays and Sundays.

Feast of Saints Peter and Paul is Friday, June 29th.

Got Pledge?

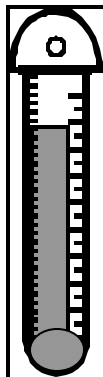
Stewardship News

Bake Days: The next scheduled bake day is on Saturday, June 16, 2001. Please arrive by 8 AM in the kitchen. Since Lent is over, we will be making meat pies as well as zathar and sugar breads.

Membership: If you see somebody new at church, please tell the ushers or pick up a welcome letter at the entrance of the Church and hand it to them.

Pledge Cards: A few more pledge cards have been received. Thank you for continuing to submit these forms since they are vital to the well being of the church.

Information Sheets: Many more sheets have been submitted to the church office. Thank you for your attention to detail and for providing as much information as you are able.



Other Announcements

The bookstore is open after Liturgy each Sunday. Please see Andy or Bobbie Mon-sue for gift ideas for any occasion.

To date, the church office has received about 70% of the pledge cards. Our goal remains at 100%. Please fill out your card and submit to the church office.

The new informa-tion sheet is in the mail. Thanks to those of you who have returned the form to the church of-fice. We have col-lected about two thirds and expect the rest to be in soon.

Advertise in our newsletter to help de-fray our costs. Busi-ness card sized ads are available and will be placed in every issue at \$15 per ad per issue.

**All articles need to be
submitted to the church office by the third
Sunday of each month to be submitted into the
next issue of The Heavenly Host.**

Teen News

Become part of and participate in a discussion on current issues from an Orthodox point of view, written by teens for teens. Visit the following site online at www.antiochian.org/christianeducation/cq for more information.

Summer Camp is approaching. Make your plans now and submit your applications by May 1st for the "early bird discount." Pledging members also receive a discount, so if you haven't filled out your cards for the year, look for the card on page four of this newsletter and submit it to the church office.

The sessions are divided into weeks and will be held as follows: Week I: July 8-14, Week II: July 15-21, Week III: July 29-August 4 and Week IV: August 5-11, 2001. *No sessions will be held during the week of the Archdiocese Convention held in Los Angeles from July 22-29, 2001.* Also, scholarships are available through the funding of the Order of St. Ignatius of Antioch for young people with the recommendation from Father Timothy. Application forms are available at the church office for campers and staff members.

Parents, please urge your children to participate and encourage them to join Teen SOYO.

From the Ladies Guild

Gift certificates are available each Sunday in the Community Center. A percentage of each dollar will go to the Church. Buy your scrip today!

You're all invited to sign up for Holy Bread & to host a coffee hour. Please call Leila Abu-Ghazaleh for more information at (805) 522-4797.

Spiritual Bouquets: Donations are offered in memory of the deceased in lieu of flowers. If you wish to participate, please see Jeannette Aboud.

For those parishioners who need a ride to the Archdiocese Convention in Los Angeles during the convention in July, please contact the church office at (818) 994-2313 or Carrie Skaff at home (818) 501-0097. A bus will be provided to transport you from St. Michael Church. The bus leaves at 7:45 AM and will return following the service at 12 noon.

Laguna Pageant of the Masters in on August 11. Extra tickets are available. Please contact Carrie Skaff.

ST. MICHAEL ANTIOCHIAN
ORTHODOX CHURCH
OF THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

V. Rev. Fr. Timothy Baclig, Pastor

16643 Vanowen Street
Van Nuys, CA 91406-4622

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Recipe of the Month

Orzo Salad

2 cups dried orzo or other small pasta such as acini di pepe, stellini, or ditalini
½ cup olive oil
¼ cup fresh lemon juice
The grated zest of 1 lemon
2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
1 tsp. dried oregano, crushed
Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
1 carrot, finely diced
1 bell pepper, seeded and finely diced
1 small cucumber, peeled, seeded, and finely diced
2 scallions, white and green parts, finely chopped
¼ cup finely chopped flat-leaf parsley

Cook the pasta in boiling salted water according to the package directions. Drain, rinse with cool water, and

set aside. Combine the olive oil, lemon juice, lemon zest, garlic, oregano, salt, and pepper in a small bowl and whisk to combine thoroughly. Combine the cooked pasta, dressing, and remaining ingredients in a large bowl and toss to combine. Serve warm or at room temperature.



Serves 4 to 6.