



Weekly Synaxarion



On May 23 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Michael the Confessor, bishop of Synnada; Myrrh-bearer Mary, wife of Cleopas; the translation of the relics of Leontios the wonderworker, bishop of Rostov; and Euphrosinia of Polotsk. On this day, the fourth Sunday of Pascha, we commemorate the Paralytic and, as is right, we celebrate the miracle wrought for him. Jesus healed the Paralytic at the Sheep's Pool, located near the Sheep's Gate of Jerusalem, where people sacrificed their beasts and washed their insides. The pool had five sides, with a porch and arch on each. A number of people, afflicted with various diseases, passed through them, waiting at the water for an angel to come down and stir it. Once it moved, whoever stepped into the water first was instantly healed. One poor man, whose story is recounted in today's Gospel lection in the Divine Liturgy, waited 38 years for someone to lower him into the water, because he was unable to move into the water himself. However, the Savior merely commanded the man to get up and walk, and he was healed. In Thine infinite mercy, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.