

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

2026 W. Oak Street • Denton, TX 76201

(940) 565-6753 • www.stmaximus.org

Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, February 22, 2009

Schedule of Services

February 22nd Sunday *Last Judgment; Meatfare Sunday*

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

February 23rd Monday

6:30 a.m. Matins

February 24th Tuesday

6:30 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Church History Class: the Second Millennium

February 25th Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins

5:30 p.m. Class: The Precommunion Prayers

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

February 26th Thursday

7:00 a.m. Matins

February 27th Friday

7:30 a.m. Matins

12:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy

6:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession, Choir Rehearsal

February 28th Saturday

9:30 a.m. Workday: tear-out kitchen

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

March 1st Sunday *Cheesefare & Forgiveness Sunday*

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. Forgiveness Vespers

March 2nd Monday Great Fast Begins

Alas black soul! How long wilt thou continue in evil? How long wilt thou lie in idleness? Why dost thou not think of the fearful hour of death? Why dost thou not tremble at the dread judgment seat of the Savior? What defence then wilt thou make or what wilt thou answer? Thy works will be there to accuse thee; thine actions will reproach thee and condemn thee. O my soul, the time is near at hand; make haste before it is too late, and cry aloud in faith: I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned against Thee: but I know Thy love for man and Thy compassion. O good Shepherd, in Thy great mercy, deprive me not of a place at Thy right hand. *Vespers, Last Judgment*

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission
belongs to the Diocese of the South, Orthodox Church in America

Announcements for February 22nd

To Our Visitors: Welcome! Please join us after the service for coffee and conversation and church school for the children. If you would, fill out a visitor's card for us and leave it in the basket on the table by the door. Be aware that shortly after the sermon, the catechumens, i.e., those preparing for Baptism & Chrismation, will be dismissed, but you are invited to stay for the rest of the service.

To All: Please be aware that Holy Communion is open only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves for worthy participation in the Mystery through prayer, fasting, and a recent confession to a priest (within the last month or so). We should be modestly dressed and present to hear "Blessed is the Kingdom" (in *unusual* circumstances no later than the Gospel reading), and not have missed Sunday Liturgy for three or more weeks in a row.

Please Move Forward during the Liturgy! Thank you! It is safe to stand up to the forward edge of the rug.

The Special Freewill Offering today will be for a new women's monastery being started near Dallas by sister Barbara with the blessings of Vladyka Dmitri and Metropolitan Jonah; next week for our priest.

Temple Oil given in for the health of James Anderson.

Forgiveness Vespers is next Sunday at 6:00 p.m. Everyone who attends this parish should plan on attending, as this marks the liturgical beginning to Great Lent and gives us a chance to face, forgive, and be reconciled with each other.

Church History Class : A class covering the second thousand years of church history meets Tuesday nights at 7:00. Leif Pierson is teaching.

Work Day Next Saturday at 9:30 to tear out the old kitchen. Your sweat will help cut the cost of adding the old kitchen to the church and thus expanding our space for worship.

Classes this Week:

Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.: Church History: the Second Christian Millennium (Leif Pierson)

Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.: The Precommunion Prayers

Friday, 12:00 p.m. noon: Basics of Orthodoxy: How to Pray

Church School meets right after the Liturgy.

Please Pray for our Catechumen: Thom Anderson, **our inquirers** John Parsons and Adam Betz, & Melanie. Please pray for our **shut-in** Nina Johnston, Lois Lyda's father James Anderson, Lisa Robertson's father Bobby, and for Frieda Glusheknko's mother

Galina diagnosed with cancer, Elder Zacharias, also diagnosed with cancer, for Nick Gluschenko, and Gareth Tikhon Barnard who is working away from us in Kansas. Please remember Met. Jonah in your prayers and our Alaskan Seminarian Methodius Nicori. Pray for Stomatia Samantha Stateson, Theone Stateson's mother, recently reposed in the Lord. Memory eternal!

Tithes, Offerings & Attendance: Bringing our tithes and offerings to the temple of God is part of our worship of God and an act of obedience to God, a sign that Christ is, for us, Lord of all, including our money—that it all belongs to Him and we are but stewards of it. Your worship of God through giving supports our efforts to proclaim the fullness of the Gospel of Christ in Denton through the establishment of a permanent Orthodox parish and new missions throughout Denton County and north Texas. Checks should be made out to St. Maximus Orthodox Church. Stamped, addressed envelopes are available on the candle table if you know you will be gone.

Last week, we gave \$934.50 in tithes and offerings; this month we have given \$3581.74; our monthly budget is \$6218 (\$1554 per week). Candles \$27.50; Building Fund \$0; Bookstore \$75, Seminarian \$33. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 18, Liturgy 63.

From Saint Maximus

'The one who loves Me,' says the Lord, 'will keep my commandments' and 'this is My commandment, that you love one another.' Therefore, the one who does not love his neighbor is not keeping the commandment, and the one who does not keep the commandment is not able to love the Lord.

400 Chapters on Love, I.16

Comment: *It is easy to say, "I love God", "I love Jesus", and many say it. Yet on Judgment Day, many will proclaim their love and service to the Lord only to hear Him say, "I never knew you, depart from Me." As God is love and loves every single man made in His image despite man's manifold sins, for us to be known of God and like Him we must learn to love others. Love for God goes beyond words and feelings. It manifests itself in obedience to Christ's commandments, and the primary commandment is to love others. Love for others is proof of love for God. We can take this a step further, in accordance with St. Silouan's understanding: it is in dealing with our enemies that the authenticity of our faith and love for God is tested and revealed. If we can love our enemies and pray for them in accordance with Christ's command, we can say we truly love God. If we as yet do not, then we must confess our lack of love for God and man, cultivate repentance, and seek God's grace to empower us to love. He is able and willing to do this in us.*

From St. Thalassios, friend of St. Maximus

Always keep the same measure of self-control; otherwise through irregularity you will go from one extreme to another.

If you lay down rules for yourself, do not disobey yourself; for he who cheats himself is self-deluded.

The souls filled with passion lies in noetic darkness, for in such a soul the sun of righteousness has set.

A son of God is a person who through wisdom, power, and righteousness has become like God.

The soul's disease is an evil disposition, while its death is sin put into action.

2.85-89

Troparia and Kontakia for February 22nd



Resurrectional Troparion, Tone 3

Let those in Heaven rejoice, / let those on Earth be glad; / for the Lord hath wrought a mighty act with His arm./ He hath trampled down death by death; / He hath become the first-born of the dead.

/ From the womb of hell hath He delivered us, // and hath granted the world great mercy.

St. Maximus, Troparion, tone 3

By an outpouring of the Holy Spirit / thou didst pour forth Christ's sacred teachings, / thou didst expound with Divine authority / the self-emptying of God the Word / and wast radiant in thy confession of the True Faith:/ O, Glorious Father Maximus / pray to Christ our God / to grant us His great mercy.

St. Maximus, Kontakion tone 8 *Serbian Melody*

Let us the faithful praise with fitting hymns / that lover of the Holy Trinity, great Maximus, / who clearly taught the divinely-given Faith: / that we should give glory unto Christ our God, / Who, but one person, hath in very truth / two natures, wills, and energies. / Let us cry to him: // Rejoice, divine herald of the Faith.

Last Judgment, Kontakion, tone 1

When Thou comest, O God, upon the earth with glory, / the whole world will tremble. / The river of fire will bring men before Thy judgment seat, / the books will be opened and the secrets disclosed. / Then deliver me from the unquenchable fire, / and count me worthy to stand on Thy right hand, O most righteous Judge.