

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, May 17, 2009
Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

Schedule of Services

May 17th Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

May 18th Monday

6:30 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: Creed

May 19th Tuesday

6:30 a.m. Matins

6:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

May 20th Wednesday

6:30 a.m. Matins

5:30 p.m. Adult Class: First John

7:00 p.m. Vespers

May 22nd Friday

7:30 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

May 23rd Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

May 24th Sunday of the Blind Man

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

The studying of Holy Scripture helps prayer greatly. It warms the soul and leads the praying person into the spiritual world.

He who struggles for a long time and doesn't see spiritual progress, has pride and egotism. Spiritual progress exists where there is much humility.

When we judge the faults of others, then we should know that our spiritual vision has not been purified.

All of us, young and old, have much egotism and don't accept suggestions and observation. We know everything, we are all wise.

Elder Paisios, Sayings 8, 10, 12, 15

Announcements for May 17th

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).

Please Move Forward during the Liturgy! **Please** try to be quiet afterwards while the Prayers of Thanksgiving are being read in the church, or better yet, stay for the prayers so you don't have to read them later at home.

The Special Freewill Offering today will be for debt reduction, next week for our Alaskan seminarian.

Classes this Week:

Basics of Orthodoxy, Monday 7:00 p.m. The Creed "One God
...Maker of Heaven & Earth"; Problem of Evil
First John, Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

Paschal Notes

The prayer "O Heavenly King" is not said at home or in church during this season until Pentecost, June 7. Instead we say the paschal troparion "Christ is risen" three times.

During the 50 days from Pascha to the Feast of Pentecost on June 7th, we do not kneel or make prostrations at home or in church in keeping with the joyful, festal character of the season. We begin to kneel and do prostrations again with the Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost.

For 40 days until the Feast of Ascension (May 28), we greet each other by saying, "Christ is Risen!" "Indeed, He is Risen!"

Through the Leavetaking of Pascha (May 27), we use the Paschal Troparion before and after meals and when setting out on a trip.

The Memorial Day Picnic is coming up in a week, Monday, May 25. Matins will be served that morning at 8:30, Liturgy at 10:00, and the picnic will begin about noon. Invite family and friends, bring your favorite foods and drinks to share, and come for a joyous day of fellowship.

Our Deanery, the "Southcentral Deanery", also referred to as the "Dallas Deanery" has a new dean: Fr. Seraphim Hipsh of St. Sava, Plano. A deanery is a regional subset in a diocese; the dean works closely with the bishop to help oversee the work of the Church in the deanery. Please pray for Fr. Seraphim. Our deanery covers Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

Please Pray for our Catechumen: Thom Anderson, **our inquirers** John Parsons and Adam & Melanie Betz. Please pray for our **shut-in** Nina Johnston, for Nick Gluschenko recovering from open-heart surgery, Gareth Tikhon Barnard who is working in Kansas, and Nancy Rachel Saito visiting in California. Please remember Met. Jonah in your prayers, our Alaskan Seminarian Methodius Nicori, and for the nun Barbara as she labors to found a new monastery in our area.

Tithes, Offerings & Attendance: Bringing our tithes and offerings to the temple of God is part of our worship of God, which also 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 and placed in the basket on the candle table, where there is also a box for alms (those in need) and a box for the building fund.

Last week, we gave \$638 in tithes and offerings; this month we have given \$2738 our monthly budget is \$6218 (\$1554 per week). Candles \$32.50; Bookstore \$19; Building fund \$70; Special Offering for Monastery \$154. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 10; Liturgy 49.

From Saint Maximus

If anyone desires something, he naturally strives to attain it. Now the divine is incomparably better and more desirable than all good and desirable things. What great zeal, then, should we show to obtain what is good and desirable by nature!

Do not stain your flesh with indecent actions; do not defile you soul with evil thoughts; and God's peace will come upon you and bring love.

Afflict your flesh with fasting and vigils. Devote yourself diligently to psalmody and prayer, and holiness in chastity will come upon you and bring love.

The one who is deemed worthy of divine knowledge and who through love has attained its illumination will never be blown about by the spirit of vainglory. But the one who is not yet deemed worthy

of divine knowledge is easily carried to and fro by it. If such a one, then, should look to God in everything that he does, as doing everything for His sake, he will easily escape it with God.

400 Chapters on Love, 1.43-46

Troparia and Kontakia for May 17th



Resurrectional Troparion, tone 4

Having learned the radiant proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, /the women disciples of the Lord cast off the ancestral curse, /and, boasting, told the Apostles: /Death hath been despoiled, Christ God is risen, /granting the world great mercy.

Mid-Pentecost, Troparion, tone 8

In the middle of the Feast, O Savior, / fill my thirsting soul with the waters of godliness, as Thou didst cry to all: / “If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink!” // O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to Thee!

Samartian Woman, Kontakion, tone 8

The Samaritan Woman came to the well in faith; / she saw Thee, the Water of Wisdom, and drank abundantly! / She inherited the Kingdom on high, and is ever glorified.

Mid-Pentecost, Kontakion, tone 4

O sovereign Master and Creator of all things, Christ our God, / Thou didst cry unto those present at the Judaic Mid-feast and address them thus: / Come hither and draw ye forth immortality’s water. / Wherefore, we fall down before Thee and faithfully cry out: //Grant Thy compassions unto us, O Lord, for Thou art truly the Well-spring of life for all.

