

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton
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Bulletin for Sunday of March 10th, 2013

Schedule of Services

March 10th Sunday Last Judgment; Meatfare

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Mission Council

March 12th Tuesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

March 13th Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

5:30 p.m. Community Meal

6:00 p.m. Class: Orthodox Spirituality, Chapter 7

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

March 14th Thursday

8:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy

March 15th Friday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. *Russian Vespers, Confession at St. Seraphim's, Dallas*

March 16th Saturday

9:30 a.m. *Russian Divine Liturgy, St. Seraphim's, Dallas*

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

March 17th Sunday Expulsion from Paradise; Cheesefare

8:45 a.m. Catechizing of Catechumens to be received

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. Forgiveness Vespers, Ice Cream at Beth Marie's

From the Triodion

Behold there cometh the day of the Lord Almighty, and who shall endure the fear of His presence? For it is a day of wrath; the furnace shall burn, and the Judge shall sit and give to each the due return for his works.

Matins for Sunday of the Last Judgment

Announcements for March 10th

To Our Visitors: Welcome! Please join us after the service for coffee and conversation. If you would, fill out a visitor's card for us and leave it in the basket on the table by the door.

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 (so as not to distract others) and present to hear "Blessed is the Kingdom" at the beginning of the Liturgy (in *unusual* circumstances no later than the Gospel reading), and not leave until the dismissal at the end.

The Special Offering will go for our hall expansion.

Temple Oil is offered in thanksgiving by Callum and Sophia Lyda for eleven years of marriage.

Classes this Week:

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. Orthodox Spirituality, Chapter 6: Asceticism and the Mysteries.

Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: Series on the Divine Liturgy: The Great Litany, part 2.

Catechizing: next Sunday at 8:45 before the Divine Liturgy, we shall be catechizing those whom we plan to receive into the Church at Pascha.

Forgiveness Vespers will be served next Sunday at 6:00 p.m. All those who are members of this parish or who consider it their home should plan on attending. If any one service during the years should be considered mandatory for all, this one is it. We'll go out together for ice cream afterwards.

Great Lent begins in one week. Now is the time to decide on what spiritual reading you will do and make needed preparations for fasting, almsgiving, and prayer and set your heart on seeking Christ that the time of the Fast may be spiritually fruitful.

Retreat this week at St. Nicholas: A three-day retreat will be offered this week at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, McKinney featuring Fr. Demetrios Carellas speaking on the Holy Prophet and God-seer Moses from his birth to the crossing of the Red Sea: a patristic journey into the wealth of spiritual nourishment for our 21st-century lives hidden beneath the historical account of his life. March 11-13: Vespers 5:30, light meal, Presentation in lecture hall across the street 7:00-8:30. Please RSVP at (972) 658-5433.

Please Pray for our Catechumens: for Joel and Mindy Brown and their children Daniel, Anya, and Elijah, Gary & Olivia Reynolds and their children Ariel, Analise, and Alexandria, Lauren Williams, Philip, and Adam. Please pray for the novice Svetlana, the Nun Elizabeth in hospice, and Elizabeth (Chandler) Jones. Pray for Joe Fincher, (Olga's husband).

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 in 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 our building fund.

Last week we gave \$1967.95; our monthly budget is \$9187 (\$2297 per week. To build a church will require a monthly income in the neighborhood of \$11,000 a month.) In addition: Candles \$60, Renovation (Soda) \$6, Building Fund \$168, Expansion \$33. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 28, Liturgy 93.

Hall Expansion Fund: A total of **\$66,463.18** has been raised so far of the estimated \$79,000 it will cost. All **Coffee Hour Donations** go to support this.

From Saint Maximus

Nothing so much as love brings together those who have been sundered and produces in them an effective union of will and purpose. Love is distinguished by the beauty of recognizing the equal value of all men. Love is born in a man when his soul's powers - that is, his intelligence, incensive power and desire - are concentrated and unified around the divine. Those who by grace have come to recognize the equal value of all men in God's sight and who engrave His beauty on their memory, possess an ineradicable longing for divine love, for such love is always imprinting this beauty on their intellect.

Various Texts, Second Century 72

Love is a holy state of the soul, disposing it to value knowledge of God above all created things. We cannot attain lasting possession of such love while we are still attached to anything worldly.

Dispassion engenders love, hope in God engenders dispassion, and patience and forbearance engender hope in God; these in turn are the product of complete self-control, which itself springs from fear of God. Fear of God is the result of faith in God.

If you have faith in the Lord you will fear punishment, and this fear will lead you to control the passions. Once you control the passions you will accept affliction patiently, and through such acceptance you will acquire hope in God. Hope in God separates the intellect from every worldly attachment, and when the intellect is detached in this way it will acquire love for God.

The person who loves God values knowledge of God more than anything created by God, and pursues such knowledge ardently and ceaselessly.

400 Chapters on Love, First Century 1-4

Troparia and Kontakia for March 10th

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 7

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. / To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. / For the myrrh-bearers Thou didst change their lamentation into joy. / And Thou didst command Thine Apostles, O Christ God, / to proclaim that Thou art risen, / granting unto 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 6

The thrice-radiant Light which abode in thy soul / showed thee to be a chosen vessel / revealing divine things to the ends of the earth, / O blessed Maximus, who givest utterance to concepts hard to grasp, / and manifestly proclaimest unto all // the transcendent and unoriginate Trinity.

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.