

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

2026 W. Oak Street • Denton, TX 76201

(940) 565-6753 • www.stmaximus.org

Priest Justin Frederick (940) 293-3032 cell

**Bulletin for Sunday April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

**Schedule of Services for the Sixth Week of Lent**

**April 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt (5<sup>th</sup> of Lent)**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

noon Basics of Orthodoxy: Mechanics of Prayer 1

6:00 p.m. Pan-Orthodox Vespers at St. Seraphim's, Dallas

**April 7<sup>th</sup> Monday St. Tikhon**

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

**April 8<sup>th</sup> Tuesday**

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

**April 9<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

noon Class: Gospel of John

6:00 p.m. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, Meal

**April 10<sup>th</sup> Thursday**

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession

6:00 p.m. Vespers

**April 11<sup>th</sup> Friday *End of the Forty Days***

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession

3:00 p.m. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, Meal

**April 12<sup>th</sup> Lazarus Saturday**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

3:30 p.m. Baptism

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**April 13<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

noon Basics of Orthodoxy: Mechanics of Prayer 2

6:00 p.m. Bridegroom Matins

As we set out upon the sixth week of the Fast, let us sing to Christ a hymn in preparation for the Feast of Palms. He comes for our sake seated on the foal of an ass, that as King he may subdue the wild and unruly nations to His Father. Let us all make ready for Him branches of the virtues, that with rejoicing we may see His Resurrection. *Monday Matins of the 6th Week*

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

## Announcements for April 6

**To Our Visitors: Welcome!** Please join us after the service for coffee, food, 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. We invite you to go first through the food line and join the priest at the table.

**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 if we are communing), and not leave until the dismissal at the end.

**The Special Offering** this week will be for our new church.

**Temple wine** given for the health and salvation of Carolyn and William.

**We Welcome** the Nun, Sister Lukia, who will be staying here in Denton with us for a season.

**Pan-Orthodox Lenten Vespers** tonight at 6:00 will be at St. Seraphim, Dallas. A lenten meal will be provided.

**Confession:** This is the last week before Holy Week. If you need to make a confession before Pascha, please try to come this week if at all possible.

**Baptism:** Sean Chaney will be baptized next Saturday at 3:30.

**Lenten Almsgiving:** We are collecting alms for International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) and for our local ministry to unwed mothers, Woman to Woman. Please see Olivia Reynolds or Isabel Stone for more information on IOCC and Elisabeth Terry for more on Woman to Woman.

**Paschal Preparations:** As you will recollect, some special preparations must be made to keep the feast: palm fronds and pussy willows must be tied this Saturday for Palm Sunday, the artos (the blessed bread that stands in the church during Bright Week) wants a baker, the Paschal Gospel (John 1:1-14) cries for readers in a language other than English on Pascha morning, the church requires decoration and cleaning on Holy Friday. Could any of this be you?

**The Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts** will be celebrated this week on Wednesday at 6:00 (start fasting by noon) and Friday at 3:00 (start fasting by 9:00).

### Classes this Week

Sunday, noon, Basics of Orthodoxy: Mechanics of Prayer 1

Wednesday, noon, Gospel of John

**Please Pray:** for catechumens Shannon Goodson, Holly Bellan, Sean Chaney, and Virginia Warwas, for inquirer Rick Hollembeak, the novice Svetlana, and Elizabeth (Chandler) Jones. Pray for Joe Fincher and Olga, for Joanna (Sherri) Hale, for Patricia and James Lydon, and for the newly-departed Irina.

### The Fast: Sixth Week

We abstain from meat, meat products, dairy, fish, wine (alcohol), oil. If fasting fully according to the norm, we take one meal a day M-F after 3 p.m. or after the Presanctified Liturgy. We join increased prayer and almsgiving to our fasting and cut back on (or cut out) all things that distract us unnecessarily from Christ.

**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 \$734.95 in tithes and offerings; in March, we have given \$8348.03 our monthly budget is \$8700 (\$2008 per week.) At least \$400 was received online, allowing us to make budget. Candles \$98; Building Fund box \$461; soda \$4; Special Offering for Building fund \$25.03. Attendance: Saturday Vigil 29, Sunday Liturgy 59.

### From Saint Maximus

An intelligent use of conceptual images and their corresponding physical objects produces self-restraint, love and spiritual knowledge; an unintelligent use produces licentiousness, hatred and ignorance.

You have prepared a table before me . . . ' (Ps. 22:5). In this passage, 'table' stands for the practice of the virtues, for this has been prepared for us by Christ to use 'against those who afflict' us. The 'oil' anointing the intellect is the contemplation of created things. The 'cup' of God is the knowledge of God. His 'mercy' is His divine Logos. For through His incarnation the Logos pursues us 'all the days' until He overtakes all those who are to be saved, as He did in the case of Paul (cf. Phil. 3:12). The 'house' is the kingdom in which all the saints will dwell. 'Length of days' means eternal life.

When we misuse the soul's powers their evil aspects dominate us. For instance, misuse of our power of intelligence results in ignorance and

stupidity; misuse of our incensive power and of our desire produces hatred and licentiousness. The proper use of these powers produces spiritual knowledge, moral judgment, love and self-restraint. This being so, nothing created and given existence by God is evil.

*400 Chapters on Love, 3.1-3*

## Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, April 6

### Resurrectional Troparion, tone 8

Thou didst descend from on high, O tenderhearted One. / Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our passions. / O Lord, our life and resurrection, glory to Thee.

### 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.

### Mary of Egypt, Troparion tone 8

In thee the image was preserved with exactness, O Mother; / for taking up thy cross, thou didst follow Christ, / and by thy deeds thou didst teach us to overlook the flesh, for it passeth away, / but to attend to the soul since it is immortal. / Wherefore, O righteous Mary, thy spirit rejoiceth with the Angels.

### Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 8

Having risen from the tomb Thou didst waken the dead and raise Adam, / and Eve exulteth in Thy Resurrection, / and the ends of the world keep festival for Thy rising from the dead, O Most Merciful One.

### 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.

### Mary of Egypt, Kontakion, tone 3

Once thou wast defiled with every impurity, / but today through repentance thou hast become the Bride of Christ. / Desiring the life of the angels, / thou hast cast down the demons with the weapon of the Cross: / therefore, O glorious Mary, thou wast made a bride of the Kingdom.