

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday May 4th, 2014

Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

Schedule of Services for Holy Week

May 4th Sunday of the Holy Myrrhbearers

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
noon Basics of Orthodoxy

May 5th Monday

6:00 a.m. Matins

May 6th Tuesday

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession
6:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession
7:00 p.m. Mission Council

May 7th Wednesday

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession
noon Class: Gospel of John
7:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

May 8th Thursday *St. John the Theologian*

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

May 9th Friday

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession
7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession
8:00 p.m. Gospel of John

May 10th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

May 11th Sunday of the Paralytic

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
noon Basics of Orthodoxy

Why do ye mingle tears with the myrrh-oils, O ye women disciples?
The stone hath been rolled away, the sepulchre is empty. Behold
corruption trodden under by Life, the seals bearing clear witness, the
guards of the disobedient fast asleep. Mortal nature is saved by the
flesh of God, Hades is lamenting. Hasten ye with joy and say unto the
Apostles: "Christ, the firstborn of the dead, who caused death to die,
goeth before you into Galilee." *Vigil for Myrrhbearers' Sunday*

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

Announcements for May 4

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 building fund.

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

The Myrrhbearers' Ministry will meet today following the Divine Liturgy.

The Mission Council will have its monthly meeting this Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are open to the parish.

Classes this Week

Sunday, noon: Basics of Orthodoxy

Wednesday, noon: Gospel of John

Friday, 8:00 p.m.: Gospel of John

Ten-Minute Talks: On Wednesdays Vespers will conclude with a "Ten-Minute Talk" which will offer brief explanation of what Orthodox Christians believe. The Nicene Creed will be the focus for the foreseeable future.

The Annual Memorial Day Picnic will be held Monday, May 26 at noon, following Divine Liturgy at 10:00. Plan to come, to bring some favorite food and drink, and to bring a non-Orthodox friend.

Calling Those Who Love God's House: Part of loving God's house is taking care of it, and part of taking care of it is cleaning it each week. We have three or four people who demonstrate and abundant love in this way, but we want to make sure everyone gets the regular opportunity to clean the church. Please sign up on the sheet in the hall.

Please Pray: for catechumens Shannon Goodson, Holly Bellan, and Virginia Warwas, for inquirer Rick Hollebeak, 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.

Paschal Notes

The prayer "O Heavenly King" is not said at home or in church during this season until Pentecost, June 8.

During the 50 days from Pascha to the Feast of Pentecost, we do not kneel or make prostrations 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 29), we greet each other by saying, "Christ is Risen!" "Indeed, He is Risen!"

During the same period, we replace "Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal..." with the paschal troparion "Christ is risen" said thrice.

Through the Leavetaking of Pascha (May 28), we use the Paschal Troparion (thrice) before meals and when setting out on a trip.

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 \$999.20 in tithes and offerings; in April, \$1333.62 was received electronically; in total, we gave \$8386.54; our monthly budget is \$8700 (\$2008 per week). Candles \$64.50. Attendance: Paschal Vigil/Liturgy 105, Agape Vespers 118.

From Saint Maximus

It is not so much because of need that gold has become an object of desire among men, as because of the power it gives most people to indulge in sensual pleasure.

There are three things which produce love of material wealth: self-indulgence, self-esteem and lack of faith. Lack of faith is more dangerous than the other two.

The self-indulgent person loves wealth because it enables him to live comfortably; the person full of self-esteem loves it because through it he can gain the esteem of others; the person who lacks faith loves it because, fearful of starvation, old age, disease, or exile, he can save it and hoard it. He puts his trust in wealth rather than in God, the

Creator who provides for all creation, down to the least of living things.

There are four kinds of men who hoard wealth: the three already mentioned and the treasurer or bursar. Clearly, it is only the last who conserves it for a good purpose - namely, so as always to have the means of supplying each person's basic needs.

400 Chapters on Love, 3.16-19

Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, May 4

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 2

When Thou, didst descend to death, O Life Immortal / Thou didst slay Hell with the lightning-flash of Thy Divinity, / and, when from the nether regions Thou didst raise the dead, / all the powers of Heaven cried out: // 'O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!'

Myrrh-bearing Women, Troparion, tone 2

The noble Joseph, when he had taken down Thine immaculate Body from the tree,/wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices,/ and placed it in a new tomb./ But Thou didst rise on third day, O Lord, // granting the world great mercy.

Kontakion of Myrrhbearers, tone 2

When Thou didst cry, Rejoice, unto the Myrrh-bearers, / Thou didst make the lamentation of Eve the first mother to cease / by Thy Resurrection, O Christ God. / And Thou didst bid Thine Apostles to preach: // the Savior is risen from the grave.

Paschal Kontakion, tone 8

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, / Thou didst destroy the power of death. / In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, / proclaiming, "Rejoice!" to the myrrhbearing women, / granting peace to Thine Apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.