

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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**Bulletin for Pentecost Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**Schedule of Services**

**June 19<sup>th</sup> Pentecost Sunday**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour, Ambigua

12:00 p.m. Vespers with Kneeling Prayers

**June 20<sup>th</sup> Monday Day of the Holy Spirit**

6:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy

**June 22<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

**June 23<sup>rd</sup> Thursday**

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:30 Vespers

7:30 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy 202: Divine Liturgy 4

**June 24<sup>th</sup> Friday Nativity of St. John the Baptist**

6:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. Fast-Free Game Night

**June 25<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**June 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday of All Saints**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Isaac the Solitary on Guarding the Senses, 27 Texts

9. If your intellect is freed, the breach between it and God is eliminated.
10. If your intellect is freed from all its enemies and attains the Sabbath rest, it lives in another age, a new age in which it contemplates things new and undecaying. For 'wherever the dead body is, there will the eagles be gathered together' (Matt. 24: 28).
11. The demons cunningly withdraw for a time in the hope that we will cease to guard our heart, thinking we have now attained peace; then they suddenly attack our unhappy soul and seize it like a sparrow. Gaining possession of it, they drag it down mercilessly into all kinds of sin, worse than those which we have already committed and for which we have asked forgiveness. Let us stand, therefore, with fear of God and keep guard over our heart, practicing the virtues which check the wickedness of our enemies. *Philokalia*

## Announcements for June 19

**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 his 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).

**The Special Offering** this week will be for alms.

**Pentecost Vespers** with the kneeling prayers will be served at noon today. This is the first time we kneel in Church since Holy Saturday. Please remain for this service if at all possible.

**Pentecost post-Feast:** We celebrate Pentecost for seven days through its Leavetaking on Saturday. During the feast, we say or sing the festal troparion before meals and during our daily prayers (see back). We also as of today resume using the prayer to the Holy Spirit, "O Heavenly King".

**No Fasting:** This week after Pentecost is a fast-free week.

**Many Years** to the newly-illuminated servants of God Silouan Lyda and Zoe Colias and to their sponsors Robert Terry and Moses and Olivia Reynolds.

**Welcome** to Protodeacon Paul Sokol and his son Zachary, visiting from SS Peter & Paul, Manville, NJ.

**Temple Wine** given for the health and salvation of Mary Grace and George and Elizabeth Rovny & family; **Temple Oil** given for the health and salvation of William and Carolyn.

**Many Thanks** to him who has been mowing the lawn. If any others of you are willing to help with this, please see Fr. Justin. The alternative is paying \$200 a month to a lawn service.

### Classes This Week

Thursday 7:30: Basics of Orthodoxy 202 "Divine Liturgy: The Great Litany

**Game Night** at the church on this fast-free Friday, 6-8 p.m.

**Call for Pictures:** We will celebrate the fifteen-year anniversary of the founding of our parish July 30-31 with Bishop Alexander. As part of that celebration, we seek to gather pictures for a commemorative book. Please see Amy Stokes or Olivia Reynolds if you have pictures to submit for consideration.

**Tithes, Offerings & Attendance:** Bringing our tithes and offerings to the temple of God is part of our worship of God and 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 slot in the candle table (or in the basket passed during service). There are also boxes for alms (those in need) and our building fund.

Last week we gave \$1840.42 in tithes and offerings; this month we have given \$3365.24 our monthly budget is \$10,350 (\$2389 per week). Candles \$71.50; Special Offering for Prison Ministry \$81.14, Building Fund \$8.40. Attendance: Vigil 19; Liturgy 92.

**Please Pray:** for our catechumen Marsha Northam, our inquirers the Wells family, the Dean family, for David & Sally Roberts, and for Meaghann Jones & family; for the novices Elias and Svetlana. Pray for Patricia, Perpetua, and James Lydon. Please pray for John Roberts and his wife Edith, and for Frieda as she cares for her mother. Olga Fincher, who is shut-in as she cares for her husband Joseph, hurt her hip, impeding her ability to take care of him. Pray for them and see if you can help: (940) 808-0093 and (940) 312-8781.

**No Namedays or Birthdays** last week.

### From Saint Maximus 500 Various Texts

The person who has not been recalled to humility by the first form of wrath, namely abandonment, and does not through this humility learn true awareness, inevitably brings on himself the other form of wrath, which deprives him of the operation of the graces and leaves him destitute of the power that until then had protected him. For 'I will take away its protection', says God of an ungrateful Israel, 'and it will be plundered; I will break down its wall and it will be trampled under foot; I will destroy My vineyard, it will not be pruned or dug, and: briars will grow in it as in ground that is waste; and I will command the clouds not to rain on it' (Isa. 5:5-6. LXX). 3.17

Complete unawareness of the loss of the virtues marks the downward path to godlessness. For the person who habitually disobeys God, through indulging in the pleasures of the flesh, will deny God Himself when the occasion arises. In preferring the life of the flesh to God, he places a higher value on sensual pleasures than on the divine will. 3.18

Anyone whose heart exults because of the divine gifts he has received, and who preens himself as though those gifts were his own and had not been received (cf. 1 Cor. 4:7), justly calls down wrath on himself. God permits the devil to entangle his intellect, to undermine the virtuous quality of his conduct, and to obscure the luminous

principles of spiritual knowledge during his contemplation. This is to make him realize his own weakness and recognize the one power capable of defeating the passions in us. If this happens, he may repent and be brought to a state of humility, discarding his load of conceit and being reconciled with God. Then he will avert the wrath that falls on those who do not repent, that takes away the grace which guards their souls, and leaves their ungrateful minds destitute.

3.22

When wrath takes the form of God allowing the demons to attack an arrogant intellect through the passions, it is a means of deliverance. For through suffering these shameful attacks the person that boasts of his virtues is enabled to learn who is the giver of these virtues. Otherwise he will be stripped of those things that are not in fact his, though he regarded them as such, forgetting that he had received them as a gift. 3.23

### Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup>

#### **Pentecost, Troparion, tone 8**

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, / who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise / by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit; / through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net. / O Lover of Man, glory to Thee!

#### **Pentecost, Kontakion, tone 8**

When the Most High came down and confused the tongues, He divided the nations; / but when He distributed tongues of fire, He called all to unity. / Therefore, with one voice, we glorify the All-holy Spirit!