

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, July 17th, 2016

Schedule of Services

July 17th Sunday, Fourth after Pentecost, tone 3
9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, St. Ignatius Class

July 18th Monday
6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession
6:30 p.m. Vigil at St. Seraphim Cathedral

July 19th Tuesday St. Seraphim of Sarov
9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy, St. Seraphim, Dallas

July 20th Wednesday Prophet Elijah
6:00 a.m. Matins
7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

July 21st Thursday
6:00 a.m. Matins
9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
7:30 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy 202: Divine Liturgy 7

July 22nd Friday
6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession
4:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

July 23rd Saturday
9:00 a.m. Parish Work Day
5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

July 24th Sunday, Fifth after Pentecost, tone 4
9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, St. Ignatius Class

Isaac the Solitary on Guarding the Senses, 27 Texts

16. He who receives no help when at war should feel no confidence when at peace.
15. When a man severs himself from evil, he gains an exact understanding of all the sins he has committed against God; for he does not see his sins unless he severs himself from them with a feeling of revulsion. Those who have reached this level pray to God with tears, and are filled with shame when they recall their evil love of the passions. Let us therefore pursue the spiritual way with all our strength, and God in His great mercy will help us. And if we have not guarded our hearts as our fathers guarded theirs, at least in obedience to God let us do all we can to keep our bodies sinless, trusting that at this time of spiritual death He will grant mercy to us together with His saints.

Announcements for July 17

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 Fr. Seraphim Holland's prison ministry.

Temple Oil given for the health and salvation of Eugene and Rachel.

Patronal Feast of our mother parish, St. Seraphim Cathedral, will be celebrated with Vigil July 18 at 6:30 p.m. and Divine Liturgy Wednesday, July 19 at 9:30 a.m. We are all invited. Fr. Justin will be present at Vigil and able to hear Confessions.

Children's Crafts Fair: Some of our children have been making some things they think you may like. We'll have a crafts fair during coffee hour next Sunday, July 24 to showcase their wares for sale.

Questions for Bishop: It is our custom to have a question-and-answer session with our bishop when he visits. I invite the parish to send me questions you'd like to have him answer. There will be opportunity for live questions, but we'll make more of the time if we prepare ahead of time. Please email Fr. Justin your questions. Please type "Questions for Bishop" in the subject line.

Two Weeks remain until our 15-year anniversary celebration with Bishop Alexander. There will be a work day Saturday morning, July 23, to spruce things up for the occasion.

Classes This Week

Sunday after Liturgy: The Epistles of St. Ignatius

Thursday 7:30: Basics of Orthodoxy 202 Divine Liturgy 7

Anaphora of St. Basil

New Class: Starting today, our intern Daniel Greeson will teach a class on the letters of St. Ignatius of Antioch, meeting July 17, July 24, August 7, and August 14. This is a good opportunity to read and discuss one of the early Church Fathers.

Dormition Fast will be observed August 1-14. This is a time to recalibrate our spiritual lives by cultivating repentance, preparing for Holy Confession, increasing our prayer, our spiritual reading, our almsgiving and our service to others. It is not too early to start thinking about how we may best keep the fast. A full liturgical

schedule will be offered including a number of Vigils. Plan to take advantage of it.

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 \$1040.82 \$1574.26 in tithes and offerings; in July we have given \$2615.08; our monthly budget is \$10,350 (\$2389 per week). Candles \$60.50 est; Special Offering for Building fund \$24.37; Designated gift \$1000. Attendance: Vigil 24; Liturgy 64.

Please Pray: for our catechumen Marsha Northam, our inquirers the Wells family, the Dean family, for David & Sally Roberts, and for Meghann Jones & family; for the novices Elias and Svetlana. Pray for Patricia, Perpetua, and James Lydon. Patricia was recently in the hospital. Please pray for John Roberts and his wife Edith (cancer), and for Frieda as she cares for her mother; for Olga Fincher and her husband Joseph.

Many Years to Reader Ben Rovny (St. Vladimir, July 15) and to Thea Frederick (Martyr Thea, July 16); Happy **Birth**day to Ken Northam (July 17).

From Saint Maximus 500 Various Texts

We ascend step by step from what is remotest from God, but near to us, to the primal realities which are furthest from us but near to God. For we begin by abstaining from evil because of fear, and from this we advance to the practice of virtue through strength; from the practice of virtue we advance to the discrimination conferred by the spirit of counsel; from discrimination to a settled state of virtue, which is cognitive insight; from the settled state of virtue to the spiritual knowledge of the divine principles inherent in the virtues; from this knowledge to a state of understanding, that is, to the transmuted state in which we conform to the divine principles of virtue that we have come to know; and from this we advance to the simple and undistorted contemplation of the truth that is in all; things. From this point of vantage, as a result of our wise contemplation of sensible and noetic beings, we will be enabled to speak about the truth as we should. 3.40

Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, July 17th

Resurrectional Troparion, Tone 3

Let those in Heaven rejoice, / let those on Earth be glad; / for the Lord hath wrought a mighty act with His arm./ He hath trampled down death by death; / He hath become the first-born of the dead.
/ From the womb of hell hath He delivered us, // and hath granted 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.

Fathers of the First 6 Councils, Troparion, tone 8

Most glorious art Thou, O Christ our God, / who hast established our Fathers upon the earth as beacons, / and hast thereby guided us to the true Faith! / O greatly Compassionate One, glory to Thee!

Resurrectional Kontakion, Tone 3

Today Thou didst rise from the grave, O compassionate One, / and didst lead us away from the gates of death. / Today Adam exulteth, and Eve rejoiceth. / Together with the prophets and patriarchs // they unceasingly hymn the Divine might of Thine authority.

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.

Fathers of the First 6 Councils, Kontakion, tone 8

The preaching of the Apostles and the dogmas of the Fathers / sealed the one Faith of the Church; / and clad in the robe of Truth woven of theology from on high, / it setteth aright and glorifieth the great mystery of piety.