

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton
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Bulletin for Sunday, February 5th, 2017



Schedule of Services

February 5th Sunday, Tone 8 Publican & Pharisee

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

February 8th Wednesday No Fasting

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

5:45 p.m. Class: NT Survey I Peter

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

February 9th Thursday Leavetaking of the Meeting

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

February 10th Friday No Fasting

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

2:00 p.m. Class: NT Survey I Peter

5:30 p.m. Open House, Rectory

February 11th Saturday

8:00 a.m. Men's Group

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

February 12th Sunday, Tone 1 Prodigal Son

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

St. Theodore the Great Ascetic 100 Texts

23. When our intelligence unyieldingly devotes itself to the contemplation of the virtues, and our desire is focused solely on this and on Christ who bestows it, while our soul's incensive power arms itself against the demons, then our faculties are acting according to nature.

24. Every deiform soul is tripartite, according to Gregory the Theologian. Virtue, then established in the intelligence, he calls discretion, understanding and wisdom; when in the incensive power, he calls it courage and patience; and when in the faculty of desire, he calls it love, self-restraint and self-control. Justice or right judgment penetrates all three aspects of the soul, enabling them to function in harmony. Through discretion the soul fights against the hostile powers and defends the virtues. Through self-restraint it views things dispassionately. Through love it urges a man to love all men as himself. Through self-control it eliminates every sensual pleasure. Finally, through courage and patience it arms itself against its invisible enemies. This is the harmony of the melodious organ of the soul.

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

Announcements for February 5

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 also invite you to go first through the food line.

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 seminarian Daniel Greeson.

Temple Oil offered for the health of Dave & Doris Eaton and in memory William Frederick.

Classes This Week.

Sunday: Basics of Orthodoxy 10:30, 11:45

Wednesday: NT Survey 5:45 p.m.: I Peter

Friday: NT Survey 2:00 p.m.: I Peter

Fast-Free Week: No fasting this week.

Men's Group will meet this Saturday at the church at 8:00 a.m.

An Open House at the rectory will be held this fast-free Friday, starting at 5:30. Instruments welcome.

The Annual Pastoral Conference of the Diocese of the South will take place the week of February 12 in Pharr, TX. Fr. Justin will be gone through Thursday the 16th.

Forgiveness Sunday comes three Sundays from today, February 26. Please put Forgiveness Vespers at 6:00 that day on your calendar and plan to come. All members should attend.

Great Lent begins in three weeks. It is not too soon to prepare by planning how we may increase our prayer, our almsgiving, our reading, our service to others. One highly recommended way to increase our prayer during the Fast is to attend Saturday Vigil.

Stick Fighting: A reminder that this is no longer to be engaged in at church.

Children & Candles: We request that children not extinguish candles during the Divine. We ask that adults standing at the front do extinguish candles that burn within an inch of the top of the candle holder. No one should be lighting or extinguishing candles during the anaphora (from, after the Creed, the exclamation "Let us stand aright, let us stand with fear, let us attend, that we may offer the holy Oblation in peace" to the litany before the Lord's Prayer after the consecration of the Gifts). Thank you.

The Parish Directory is being updated, but a few of you have yet to fill out the information form. Please see Subdeacon Anthony Stokes—if you want your data to be correct.

Commemorations: Please try to submit your Sunday commemorations Saturday night (or earlier) whenever you can.

Congregational Singing: The choir leads the congregation's singing. Please sing in such a way that you may hear and follow the choir.

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 \$1351.60 in tithes and offerings. In January, we gave \$2972.43 electronically for a total of \$13,123.11; our monthly budget is \$11,250. Candles \$62.50; Building Fund \$5; Special Offering for St. Arsenius Skete \$126.03. Attendance: Liturgy 93, Vigil 36; Vigil for Meeting 24, Liturgy cir. 50.

Please Pray: for catechumens the Wells family and Marsha Northam, our inquirers the Dean family, for David & Sally Roberts, and for the Jones family; for the nun Susannah and the novice Elias. Please pray for Photina and Jude Bellan, for Olga Fincher and her husband Joseph, and for Eugene and Rachel.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

1.75 He who is not indifferent to fame and pleasure, as well as to the love of riches that exists because of them and increases them, cannot cut off occasions for anger. And he who does not cut these off cannot attain perfect love.

1.76 Humility and ascetic hardship free a man from all sin, for the one cuts out the passions of the soul, the other those of the body. This is what the blessed David indicates when he prays to God, saying, 'Look on my humility and my toil, and forgive all my sins' (Ps. 25:18).

1.77 It is through our fulfilling of the commandments that the Lord makes us dispassionate; and it is through His divine teachings that He gives us the light of spiritual knowledge.

