

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, March 5th, 2017

Schedule of Services

March 5th Sunday, Tone 4 Sunday of Orthodoxy

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. Pan Orthodox Vespers, Holy Trinity GOC, Dallas

March 6th Monday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

March 7th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

March 8th Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

6:00 p.m. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts

7:30 p.m. Supper, Class: St. Dorotheos of Gaza

March 9th Thursday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

March 10th Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

2:00 p.m. Class NT Survey Ephesians

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

March 11th Saturday

8:00 a.m. Men's Meeting

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

March 12th Sunday, Tone 4 Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. Pan Orthodox Vespers (TBA)

St. Theodore the Great Ascetic 100 Texts

30. Do not let anger and wrath make their home in you; for 'an angry man is not dignified' (Prov. 11:25. LXX), whereas wisdom dwells in the hearts of the gentle. If the passion of anger dominates your soul, those who live in the world will prove to be better than you, and you will be put to shame as unworthy of monastic solitude.

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

Announcements for March 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).

Temple Oil offered for the blessed repose of William Frederick; **Temple Wine** offered for the health and salvation of Maria, Elias, Ian, Connor.

The Special Offering this week will be for seminarian Daniel Greeson.

Mission Council will meet today after coffee hour.

The Monthly Men's Meeting will be held this Saturday morning at 8:00 at the church.

Lenten Almsgiving: This lent we will support a local charity, most likely Loreto House, a ministry to unwed mothers, just around the corner and north on Bonniebrae a few blocks from us. A list of what they need beyond money will be issued soon. We have some fliers from them if you'd like to know their work better. You may also give in our alms box for those in need. Please remember we have a food pantry. Particularly welcome are canned staples, especially hearty foods such as chili, soups, beans, along with fruits and vegetables.

Classes This Week.

Sunday: Basics of Orthodoxy 103, 11:45

Wednesday: Dorotheos of Gaza; we will read and discuss a bit of this basic spiritual work during the meal following the Presanctified Liturgy. Possibly the same on Friday.

Friday: NT Survey 2:00 p.m. Ephesians

The Fast: Second 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 (five meals instead of the two of last week). We join increased prayer and almsgiving to our fasting and cut back on (or cut out) all things that distract us unnecessarily from Christ.

Fasting for Presanctified Liturgy: If you desire to commune at a Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts this week, the Eucharistic fast begins no later than noon.

Narthex Use: We are using our narthex as part of the nave for Sunday Liturgies. Please do not use the front door from the start of Liturgy to the dismissal. The kitchen and hall are the new narthex.

Vigil in Lent: The Fast is a time to increase our prayer. One easy way to do this is to attend Vigil Saturday nights during the Fast. All of you are urged to make this part of your Lenten pursuit of God. If you cannot come to the whole Vigil, come to part. The part with the greatest concentration of Lenten material is the portion of Matins from 6:00 to 7:00.

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

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 \$2516.33 in tithes and offerings; we also gave \$4653.76 electronically in February for a total of \$15,245.83; our monthly budget is \$11,250. Special Offering for St. Sava building fund \$139.19; Candles \$70; Building Fund \$35. Attendance: Liturgy 86, Vigil 43; Clean Week Canon M 53, Tu 25, Wed 33, Thu 38; Presanctifieds Wed 54, Fri 30.

Please Pray: for Cassian and Ruth Brown and their children Daniel, Anna, Elijah; for catechumens the Wells family and Marsha Northam, our inquirers the Dean family and the Jones family; for the nun Susannah and the novice Elias. Please pray for Photina and Jude Bellan, for Albina Gashushina, and for Olga Fincher and her husband Joseph, and for Eugene and Rachel.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

1.91 It is already much not to be roused to any passion by material things. It is even more to remain dispassionate when presented with mental images of such things. For the war which the demons wage against us by means of thoughts is more severe than the war they wage by means of material things.

1.92 He who has succeeded in attaining the virtues and is enriched with spiritual knowledge sees things clearly in their true nature. Consequently, he both acts and speaks with regard to all things in a manner which is fitting, and he is never deluded. For according to whether we use things rightly or wrongly we become either good or bad.

1.93 If the conceptual images that continually rise up in the heart are free from passion whether the body is awake or asleep, then we may know that we have attained the highest state of dispassion.

1.94 Through fulfilling the commandments the intellect strips itself of the passions. Through spiritual contemplation of things visible it casts off impassioned conceptions of such things. Through knowledge of things invisible it discards the contemplation of things visible. Finally it denudes itself even of this through knowledge of the Holy Trinity.

Troparia and Kontakia for March 5th



Resurrectional Troparion, tone 4

Having learned the radiant proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, /the women disciples of the Lord cast off the ancestral curse, /and, boasting, told the Apostles: /Death hath been despoiled, Christ God is risen, /granting the world great mercy.

Sunday of Orthodoxy, Troparion, tone 2

We venerate Thine immaculate icon, O Good One, / asking pardon of our offenses, O Christ God. / For Thou wast pleased of thy good will to ascend the Cross in the flesh, / to deliver those whom Thou hadst fashioned from bondage to the enemy. / Wherefore, in thanksgiving, we cry out to Thee: / Thou hast filled all things with joy, O our Savior, having come to save the world.

Sunday of Orthodoxy, Kontakion, tone 8

The uncircumscribed Word of the Father became circumscribed, / taking flesh from thee, O Theotokos, / and He hath restored the sullied image to its ancient glory, filling it with the divine beauty. / This our salvation we confess in deed and word, and we depict it in the holy icons.