

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton  
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## Bulletin for Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017

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### Schedule of Services

**May 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Samaritan Woman, tone 4**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

**May 15<sup>th</sup> Monday**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

**May 17<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Leavetaking Midpentecost**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

**May 18<sup>th</sup> Thursday Martyr Theodotus**

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

**May 19<sup>th</sup> Friday**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

**May 20<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

9:30 a.m. *Russian Divine Liturgy, St. Seraphim's, Dallas*

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**May 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Blind Man, tone 5 SS Constantine & Helen**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

St. Theodore the Great Ascetic 100 Texts

47. True inward faith begets fear of God. Fear of God teaches us to keep the commandments. For where there is fear, it is said, there the commandments are kept. The keeping of the commandments establishes practical virtue, the precursor of contemplative virtue. Of these the fruit is dispassion. Through dispassion, love is born in us. Concerning love the beloved disciple said, 'God is love, and he who dwells in love dwells in God, and God in him' (1 John 4:16).

54. If you are a friend of Christ you should have as friends persons who are of benefit to you and contribute to your way of life. Let your friends be men of peace, spiritual brethren, holy fathers. It is of such that our Lord was speaking when He said: 'My mother and brethren are those who do the will of My Father who is in heaven' (cf. Matt. 12:49-50).

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

## Announcements for May 14<sup>th</sup>

**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 Wine** offered for the health and salvation of the Terry family; **Temple Oil** offered for the health and salvation of Katherine Johnson and for the blessed repose of William Frederick.

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

**No Classes This Week.** Classes will resume the week of June 4.

**Memorial Day Picnic** is coming up Monday, May 29 at noon. Plan on coming, bringing food and drink to share, and a friend or two.

**Poetry and Port:** Fr. Justin will offer another evening of the poetry of T.S. Eliot, accompanied with port and light refreshments Friday, June 9 (during the youth game night) to consider the work "Four Quartets".

**The Front Door** should not be used during the Sunday Liturgy as we are using the narthex as part of the nave. It is fine, however, to use it for all other services.

**Altar Server Training:** Sunday, June 11, those all servers and those desiring to serve will meet during coffee hour for instruction.

### Paschal Notes

The prayer "O Heavenly King" is not said at home or in church during this season until Pentecost, June 4. It and the "Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee" that precedes it are replaced with the Paschal Troparion "Christ is risen" thrice.

During the 50 days of Pascha, ending with the Feast of Pentecost on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 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 at Vespers on Pentecost Sunday.

For 40 days until the Feast of Ascension (May 25), we greet each other by saying, "Christ is Risen!" "Indeed, He is Risen!"

Through the Leavetaking of Pascha (May 24), we use the Paschal Troparion before and after meals and when setting out on a trip.

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

**Crafts Sale:** Our seminannual crafts sale for youth will held on Pentecost, June 4.

**Game Night:** A game night is being planned for the fast-free Friday evening after Pentecost, June 9. Stay tuned.

**Secondary Relics:** On Mt. Athos, Father Justin was able to bless a cloth on the relic of St. Maximus, touching it to the bond of his hand and making the sign of the cross over the relic with the cross. This cloth now constitutes what we call a 'secondary relic.' Pieces of that cloth are now attached to the backs of the three icons of St. Maximus the parish owns. Pieces will also be available to any family desire one.

**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 Sunday, we gave \$3355 in tithes and offerings. Our monthly budget is \$11,250; candles, special offering for seminarian \$104, building fund \$100. Attendance: Vespers last Saturday 21; Reader Matins & Typica Sunday 58. Building fund balance: \$86,631.70

**Please Pray:** for Cassian and Ruth Brown and their children Daniel, Anna, Elijah; for our catechumen Marsha Northam, our inquirers the Dean 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

2.14 When the intellect begins to advance in love for God, the demon of blasphemy starts to tempt it, suggesting thoughts such as no man but only the devil, their father, could invent. He does this out of envy, so that the man of God, in his despair at thinking such thoughts, no longer dares to soar up to God in his accustomed prayer. But the demon does not further his own ends by this means. On the contrary, he makes us more steadfast. For through his attacks and our retaliation we grow more experienced and genuine in our love for God. May his sword enter into his own heart and may his bows be broken (cf. Ps. 37:15).

2.15 When the intellect turns its attention to the visible world, it perceives things through the medium of the senses in a way that accords with nature. And the intellect is not evil, nor is its natural capacity to form conceptual images of things, nor are the things themselves, nor are the senses, for all are the work of God. What, then, is evil? Clearly it is the passion that enters into the conceptual images formed in accordance with nature by the intellect; and this need not happen if the intellect keeps watch.

#### **Troparia and Kontakia for May 14<sup>th</sup>**

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##### **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.

##### **Mid-Pentecost, Troparion, tone 8**

In the middle of the Feast, O Savior, / fill my thirsting soul with the waters of godliness, as Thou didst cry to all: / “If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink!” // O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to Thee!

##### **Kontakion of Samaritan Woman, tone 8**

The Samaritan Woman came to the well in faith; / she saw Thee, the Water of Wisdom, and drank abundantly! / She inherited the Kingdom on high, and is ever glorified.

##### **Mid-Pentecost, Kontakion, tone 4**

O sovereign Master and Creator of all things, Christ our God, / Thou didst cry unto those present at the Judaic Mid-feast and address them thus: / Come hither and draw ye forth immortality’s water. / Wherefore, we fall down before Thee and faithfully cry out: // Grant Thy compassions unto us, O Lord, for Thou art truly the Well-spring of life for all.