

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, June 4th, 2017

Schedule of Services

June 4th Sunday of Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vespers with Kneeling Prayers

June 6th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

5:00 p.m. Paraclesis (Molieben to the Theotokos), Confession

June 7th Wednesday No Fast

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

June 8th Thursday Great Martyr Theodore the General

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

June 9th Friday No Fast

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Pannikhida

5:00 p.m. Game Night

June 10rd Saturday

8:00 a.m. Men's Meeting

3:00 p.m. Sidorenko Baptism

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

June 11th Sunday of All Saints

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Youth Craft Sale, Picnic

St. Theodore the Great Ascetic 100 Texts

63. David teaches us to hate the demons 'with perfect hatred' (Ps. 139:22), inasmuch as they are the enemies of our salvation. This hatred is most necessary for the task of acquiring holiness. But who is the man who hates his enemies with perfect hatred? He who no longer sins either in act or in thought. Yet so long as the instruments of our friendship with them — that is to say, the things that provoke the passions — are still present in us, how shall we achieve such hatred against them? For a self-indulgent heart cannot nurture this hatred within itself.

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

Announcements for June 4th

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 William and Carolyn Rodgers; **Temple Oil** offered for the health and salvation of Mykola & Nina and the blessed repose of William Frederick.

Pentecost: Today we celebrate the great feast of Pentecost, the birthday of the Church. With this feast, we resume the use of the prayer "O Heavenly King".

Kneeling Vespers: The Vespers of Pentecost with the Kneeling Prayers will be served today at 5:00. With this we resume making prostrations at church (and at home if we have not been).

The Special Offering this week will be for the new mission in Azle.

Altar Server Training: today those altar servers and those desiring to serve will meet during coffee hour for instruction.

The Apostles' Fast begins a week from Monday and lasts until the Feast of SS Peter & Paul, June 29. Plan now to make a good use of the fast unto spiritual benefit.

No Classes This Week. Classes will resume the week of June 11. In the Bible Study Friday afternoons and Wednesday evenings, we shall study the epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians, which has been called "the Queen of Epistles." If you plan to attend, start reading. The book has but six chapters, so you can read it daily if you choose. Start recording observations and questions.

Friday Afternoon Bible Study at 2:30 Ephesians

Wednesday at 6:00 to 6:50 before Vespers Ephesians

Basics of Orthodoxy: Tuesday evenings at 8, or Sundays at 11:45

Basics of Orthodoxy: If you are interested in this series of classes covering the basic beliefs and practices of the Orthodox Church, let Fr. Justin know.

Game Night This Week: On this week's fast-free Friday, we'll have a game night at church starting at 5:00 after Vespers. Bring a game and a desire for some clean fun with friends.

The Monthly Men's Meeting will take place this Saturday morning at 8:00 at church. Bring a breakfast dish.

Picnic: In place of Memorial Day, we'll have a picnic coffee hour next Sunday the last day before the Apostles' Fast begins.

Crafts Sale: Our seminannual crafts sale for youth will held next Sunday, June 11.

Poetry and Port will not be held this week. Let Fr. Justin know if you are interested in such gatherings.

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.

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

Secondary Relics: On Mt. Athos, Father Justin was able to bless a cloth on the relic of St. Maximus. This cloth now constitutes what we call a 'secondary relic.' Pieces are available to any family desiring one.

New Services: With regularity we shall begin to offer two services: the Pannikhida Friday nights after Vespers for the Departed and the Paraclesis, or the Molieben to the Theotokos, which is commonly offered for healing of physical ailments and deliverance from spiritual distress. Those ill, ailing, or struggling physically or spiritually are encouraged to attend.

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 about \$1200 in tithes and offerings; in May we gave \$7980. Our monthly budget is \$11,250; candles \$97.50, special offering for building fund \$270. Attendance: Vigil last Saturday 33; Sunday Liturgy 72. Building fund balance: \$86,921.70
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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, for Eugene and Rachel, and for Jeremy Gleb Rovny, travelling in India.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

2.26 When the intellect practices the virtues correctly, it advances in moral understanding. When it practices contemplation, it advances in spiritual knowledge. The first leads the spiritual contestant to discriminate between virtue and vice; the second leads the participant to the inner qualities of incorporeal and corporeal things. Finally, the intellect is granted the grace of theology when, carried on wings of love beyond these two former stages, it is taken up into God and with the help of the Holy Spirit discerns — as far as this is possible for the human intellect — the qualities of God.

2.27 If you are about to enter the realm of theology, do not seek to descry God's inmost nature, for neither the human intellect nor that of any other being under God can experience this; but try to discern, as far as possible, the qualities that appertain to His nature — qualities of eternity, infinity, indeterminateness, goodness, wisdom, and the power of creating, preserving and judging creatures, and so on. For he who discovers these qualities, to however small an extent, is a great theologian.

2.28 He who combines the practice of the virtues with spiritual knowledge is a man of power. For with the first he withers his desire and tames his incensiveness [anger], and with the second he gives wings to his intellect and goes out of himself to God.

Troparia and Kontakia for June 4th

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!