

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, July 16th, 2017

Schedule of Services

July 16th Sunday Tone 5

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour

July 18th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Vespers with Paracletis, Confession

8:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy

July 19th Wednesday St. Seraphim

9:30 a.m. *Divine Liturgy, St. Seraphim Cathedral, Dallas*

6:00 p.m. Class: Ephesians

7:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

July 20th Thursday Prophet Elijah

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

July 21st Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

10:00 a.m. Class: Ephesians

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Pannikhida, Confession

7:00 p.m. Compline with Akathist

July 22nd Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

July 23rd Sunday Tone 6

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour

St. Theodore the Great Ascetic 100 Texts

71. He who is battling to repulse what harasses and wars against him must enlist the help of other allies — I mean humility of soul, bodily toil and every other kind of ascetic hardship, together with prayer that springs from an afflicted heart and is accompanied by many tears. He must be like David who says: 'Look on my humility and my toil, and forgive all of my sins' (Ps. 25:18); 'Do not pass my tears over in silence' (Ps. 39:12); 'My tears have been my bread day and night' (Ps. 42:3); and 'I mingled my drink with weeping' (Ps. 102:9).

Announcements for July 16th

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; **Temple Oil** in memory of William Frederick.

The Special Offering this week is for our building fund as we aim to raise another \$6000 by September 1.

Classes This Week:

Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy "Christ's Church and Salvation." All welcome.

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. Ephesians

Friday, 10:00 a.m. Ephesians

Diocesan Assembly: Fr. Justin will be out of town the week of July 23 to attend the Diocesan Assembly in Chattanooga. There will be no classes or Thursday Liturgy that week. He will also be taking vacation with his family starting August 16. Please plan accordingly for Confession.

Children in Church: As we are blessed with an abundance of young children in our parish, the priest asks everyone to read the article of the same title in *The Confessor's Tongue*.

Yard Work: There is always something to do to keep nature from reclaiming our property. It seems a shame to pay strangers to take care of what God has giving us. Weeding, cutting grass, pulling weeds, watering, cutting back bushes, sweeping walks, keeping access open to the back parts of the property (trails) are all things that can be done to care for our property and make it look more beautiful. Even just ten or fifteen minutes can make a difference. The same is true for cleaning the inside of our building. Please see Fr. Justin if you are moved to help.

Building Fund Watch: Building fund balance: \$93,883. We are aiming to break \$100k by September 1. Special, designated gifts are welcome (and needed!), but the most important regular giving is our tithe. If all who have regular income tithe, we shall have plenty, for whatever we take in over our budget will go to the building fund.

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 \$2227 \$2784.01 in tithes and offerings; in July we have given \$5011; our monthly budget is \$11,250; candles \$65; Special Offering for Interfaith Ministries \$33.25; Building Fund \$115.50. Attendance: Vigil 30; Sunday Liturgy 117. So far this year, we are averaging 102 at Sunday Liturgy and 40 at Vigil.

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

Please Pray: for Cassian and Ruth Brown and their children Daniel, Anna, Elijah; for our catechumens Miguel Dean and Marsha Northam, for our inquirers Joel and Alta Morris, Connor, and the Dean family; for the nun Susannah and the novice Elias. Please pray for Photina and Jude Bellan, for Olga Fincher and her husband Joseph, for Eugene and Rachel, and for Jeremy Gleb Rovny, travelling in India.

Historical Note: It was in June 2009 that we took delivery on our altar table, build by Fr. Michael Storozuk.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

2.47 Certain things stop the movement of the passions and do not allow them to grow; others subdue them and make them diminish. For instance, where desire is concerned, fasting, labor and vigils do not allow it to grow, while withdrawal, contemplation, prayer and intense longing for God subdue it and make it disappear. The same is true with regard to anger. Forbearance, freedom from rancor, gentleness, for example, all arrest it and prevent it from growing, while love, acts of charity, kindness and compassion make it diminish.

2.48 When a man's intellect is constantly with God, his desire grows beyond all measure into an intense longing for God and his incensiveness is completely transformed into divine love. For by continual participation in the divine radiance his intellect becomes totally filled with light; and when it has reintegrated its passible aspect, it redirects this aspect towards God, as we have said, filling it with an incomprehensible and intense longing for Him and with unceasing love, thus drawing it entirely away from worldly things to the divine.

Troparia and Kontakia for July 16th

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 5

Let us the faithful hymn and worship the Word / who with the Father and the Spirit hath no beginning, / and was born for our salvation of the Virgin; / for He was pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh, / and to endure death / and to raise the dead / by His glorious Resurrection.

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 5

Thou didst descend to Hades, O my Savior; / and, having shattered its gates as all-powerful; / Thou as Creator didst raise the dead with Thee; / and Thou didst destroy the sting of death, / and Adam hath been delivered from the curse, O Lover of Man. / Wherefore, we all cry: Save us, O Lord!

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.