

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, August 6th, 2017

Schedule of Services

August 6th Sunday Tone 8 Transfiguration

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

August 7th Monday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

August 8th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

6:00 p.m. Great Vespers, Confession

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

August 9th Wednesday St Herman of Alaska

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. Bible Study: Ephesians

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

August 10th Thursday St. Lawrence

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

August 11th Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

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

7:00 p.m. Compline

August 12th Saturday

8:00 a.m. Men's Meeting

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

August 13th Sunday Tone 1 St. Maximus

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

St. Theodore the Great Ascetic 100 Texts

79. Expel from yourself the spirit of talkativeness. For in it lurk the most dreadful passions: lying, loose speech, absurd chatter, buffoonery, obscenity. To put the matter succinctly, 'through talkativeness you will not escape sin' (Prov. 10:19. LXX), whereas a silent man 'is a throne of perceptiveness' (Prov. 12:23. LXX). Moreover, the Lord has said that we shall have to give an account of every idle word (cf. Matt. 12:36). Thus silence is most necessary and profitable.

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

Announcements for August 6th

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 given in memory of Gerasimos Gill and William Frederick.

The Special Offering this week is for our building fund.

Classes This Week

Sunday 12:00 Basics of Orthodoxy

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

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. Ephesians

Basics of Orthodoxy on Sundays resumes next Sunday at noon. This Basics One class will run for ten weeks.

Next Sunday, we celebrate the August Feast of St. Maximus with the Leavetaking of Transfiguration. We do well to be present not only for Liturgy but also for Vigil for feasts and Sundays.

Mission Council will meet next Sunday.

Church School Teachers meet with Fr. Justin today during Coffee Hour.

Confessions: The Dormition Fast is a time for all to prepare to make a good confession. Please make good use of the abundant opportunities offered. Appointments may be made outside the scheduled times. Fr. Justin will be gone on vacation starting August 16, so don't wait until the last minute.

Building Fund Watch: Building fund balance: \$97,724. 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. This month, as our regular giving brought in some \$1830 more than our budget, that amount has been added 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 \$1268 in tithes and offerings; in July we gave \$3105 electronically for a total of \$13,080; our monthly budget is \$11,250; candles \$42; Building Fund \$6; Special Offering for Azle Mission \$17. Attendance: Vigil 34; Sunday Liturgy 96; Thursday Liturgy 30.

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, for Jeremy Gleb Rovny, travelling in India, for Ricky Dean, Gary Reynolds, Oleg and Svetlana Royik, and Adam Bramlett looking for work.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

2.56 When the body is urged by the senses to indulge its own desires and pleasures, the corrupted intellect readily succumbs and assents to its impassioned fantasies and impulses. But the regenerated intellect exercises self-control and withholds itself from them. Moreover, as a true philosopher it studies how to rectify such impulses.

2.57 There are virtues of the body and virtues of the soul. Those of the body include fasting, vigils, sleeping on the ground, ministering to people's needs, working with one's hands so as not to be a burden or in order to give to others (cf. 1 Thess. 2:9, Ephes. 4:28). Those of the soul include love, long-suffering, gentleness, self-control and prayer (cf. Gal. 5:22). If as a result of some constraint or bodily condition, such as illness or the like, we find we cannot practice the bodily virtues mentioned above, we are forgiven by the Lord because He knows the reasons. But if we fail to practice the virtues of the soul, we shall not have a single excuse, for it is always within our power to practice them.

2.58 Love for God leads him who shares in it to be indifferent to every transient pleasure and every labor and distress. Let all the saints, who have suffered joyfully so much for Christ, convince you of this.

2.59 Guard yourself from that mother of vices, self-love, which is mindless love for the body. For it gives birth with specious justification to the three first and most general of the impassioned thoughts. I mean those of gluttony, avarice and self-esteem, which take as their pretext some so-called need of the body. All further vices are generated by these three. You must therefore be on your guard, as we have already said, and fight against self-love with great vigilance. For when this vice is eradicated, all the others are eradicated too.

2.60 The passion of self-love suggests to the monk (and to us) that he should have pity on his body and in the name of its proper care and governance should take food more often than is fitting; for in this way self-love will lead him on step by step to fall into the pit of self-indulgence. On the other hand, self-love prompts those who are not monks to fulfill the body's desires at once.

Troparia and Kontakia for August 6th

Transfiguration, Troparion, tone 7

Thou wast transfigured upon the mountain, O Christ God, / showing Thy glory to Thy disciples as far as they could bear it. / Through the prayers of the Theotokos, / make Thine everlasting light shine also upon us sinners. / O Giver of Light, glory to Thee!

Transfiguration, Kontakion, tone 7

Upon the mountain wast Thou transfigured, O Christ God, / and Thy disciples beheld Thy glory as far as they could see it; / so that when they would behold Thee crucified, / they would understand that Thy suffering was voluntary, / and would proclaim to the world / that Thou art truly the Radiance of the Father.