

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, April 5, 2009

Schedule of Services

**April 5<sup>th</sup> Fifth Sunday of Lent: St. Mary of Egypt**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Mission Council

6:00 p.m. *Pan-Orthodox Vespers at St. Seraphim's, Dallas*

**April 6<sup>th</sup> Monday**

7:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

**April 7<sup>th</sup> Tuesday**

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

**April 8<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, Meal, Reading

**April 9<sup>th</sup> Thursday**

7:00 a.m. Matins

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

7:00 p.m. *Russian Vespers, Dallas*

**April 10<sup>th</sup> Friday**

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession

12:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy

6:30 p.m. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts

**April 11<sup>th</sup> Lazarus Saturday**

9:00 a.m. Liturgy

10:30 a.m. Work Day

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**April 12<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday: Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

1:00 p.m. Vespers

7:00 p.m. Bridegroom Matins

As we begin with eagerness, O ye faithful, the sixth week of the holy Fast, let us sing a hymn in preparation for the Feast of Palms, to the Lord who cometh with glory to Jerusalem in the power of the Godhead, that he may slay death. So with reverence let us prepare the branches of the virtues, as emblems of victory; and let us cry Hosanna! to the Creator of all. *Sun Vespers*

## Announcements for April 5<sup>th</sup>

**To Our Visitors: Welcome!** Please join us after the service for coffee and conversation and church school for the children. If you would, fill out a visitor's card for us and leave it in the basket on the table by the door. Be aware that shortly after the sermon, the catechumens, i.e., those preparing for Baptism & Chrismation, will be dismissed, but you are invited to stay for the rest of the service.

**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). We should be modestly dressed and present to hear "Blessed is the Kingdom" (in *unusual* circumstances no later than the Gospel reading), and not have missed Sunday Liturgy for three or more weeks in a row.

**Please Move Forward** during the Liturgy! **Please** try to be quiet afterwards while the Prayers of Thanksgiving are being read in the church, or better yet, stay for the prayers so you don't have to read them later at home.

**Church School** meets today after the Liturgy.

**The Special Freewill Offering** today will be for our priest, next week for debt reduction.

**Temple Wine** given in thanks to God for the healing of James Anderson from cancer.

**Our Lenten Almsgiving** for Woman to Woman and Interfaith Ministries has begun. Please put items in the bins under the bookstore table.

**Pan-Orthodox Vespers** tonight at 6:00 p.m. is at St. Seraphim's Orthodox Cathedral in Dallas. Metropolitan Jonah will be in attendance. Food will be served after the service.

### The Fast: Sixth Week

We abstain from meat, meat products, dairy, fish, wine (alcohol), oil, and marital relations. If fasting strictly, we take one meal a day M-F after 3 p.m. or after the Presanctified Liturgy. We join increased prayer and almsgiving to our fasting and cut back on (or cut out) all things that distract us from Christ.

### Classes this Week:

Friday, 12:00 p.m. noon: Basics of Orthodoxy: Spiritual Reading: How to nourish our souls by reading the Bible, etc.

**Grave Watch Sign-up:** You may begin signing up for the grave watch kept from after Vespers on Holy Friday until before

Nocturnes on Holy Saturday. It is a time to read the Psalter or the Acts of the Apostles and to pray alone before the tomb of Christ in the church. Be sure to take advantage of this with your family.

**Parish Email List:** If you have an email account but are not on the St. Maximus email list, please let Fr. Justin or Dax Stokes know so we can put you on. It is an important means of communicating with the parish on short notice. Thank you.

**Confessions: One** week remains until Holy Week. Please plan on making your regular Confessions during those two weeks if at all possible. Please don't wait to the last minute! Regular communicants should confess no less than once a month; less frequent communicants should prepare themselves for Holy Communion at this time.

**Please Pray for our Catechumen:** Thom Anderson, **our inquirers** John Parsons and Adam & Melanie Betz. Please pray for our **shut-in** Nina Johnston, Elder Zacharias, for Nick Gluschenko, and Gareth Tikhon Barnard who is working in Kansas. Please remember Met. Jonah in your prayers, our Alaskan Seminarian Methodius Nicori, and for the nun Barbara as she labors to found a new monastery in our area. Give thanks that Lois Lyda's father James Anderson is miraculously cancer-free!

**Tithes, Offerings & Attendance:** Bringing our tithes and offerings to the temple of God is part of our worship of God, which also 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 throughout Denton County and north Texas. Checks should be made out to St. Maximus Orthodox Church.

Last week, we gave \$1047.46 in tithes and offerings; in March we gave \$7370.18; our monthly budget is \$6218 (\$1554 per week). Candles \$58.50; St. Paul's \$36; Women to Women \$100; Bookstore \$76. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 9, Liturgy 35.

### From Saint Maximus

The one who has acquired divine love in himself does not grow weary of closely following after the Lord his God, as the divine Jeremiah says; rather he endures nobly every reproachful hardship and outrage without thinking evil over anyone.

When you are insulted by someone or offended in any matter, then beware of angry thoughts, lest by distress they sever you from charity and place you in the region of hatred.

*400 Chapters on Love, 1.28-29*

## Troparia and Kontakia for April 5<sup>th</sup>



### Resurrectional Troparion, tone 1

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews / and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate body, / Thou didst rise on the third day, O Saviour, / granting life to the world. / The powers of heaven, therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of life: / Glory to the Resurrection, O Christ! / Glory to Thy Kingdom! / Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Lover of man.

### 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.

### Mary of Egypt, Troparion tone 8

In thee the image was preserved with exactness, O Mother; / for taking up thy cross, thou didst follow Christ, / and by thy deeds thou didst teach us to overlook the flesh, for it passeth away, / but to attend to the soul since it is immortal. / Wherefore, O righteous Mary, thy spirit rejoiceth with the Angels.

### Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 1

Thou hast risen from the grave as God in glory / and Thou didst raise the world with Thee, / and human nature hymneth Thee as God, / and death hath vanished. / Adam exulteth, O Master, / and Eve, delivered from her bondage, now rejoiceth, crying: / Thou, O Christ, / art He who granteth to all the Resurrection!

### St. Maximus, Kontakion, tone 6

The thrice-radiant Light which abode in thy soul / showed thee to be a chosen vessel / revealing divine things to the ends of the earth, / O blessed Maximus, who givest utterance to concepts hard to grasp, / and manifestly proclaimest unto all // the transcendent and unoriginate Trinity.

### Mary of Egypt, Kontakion, tone 3

Once thou wast defiled with every impurity, / but today through repentance thou hast become the Bride of Christ. / Desiring the life of the angels, / thou hast cast down the demons with the weapon of the Cross: / therefore, O glorious Mary, thou was made a bride of the Kingdom.