

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

2026 W. Oak Street • Denton, TX 76201

(940) 565-6753 • www.stmaximus.org

Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, May 10, 2009
Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

Schedule of Services

May 10th Sunday of the Paralytic (*Mother's Day*)

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

May 11th Monday

6:30 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: Creed

May 12th Tuesday

6:30 a.m. Matins

6:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

7:00 p.m. Church History Class

May 13th Wednesday

5:30 p.m. Adult Class: First John

7:00 p.m. Vespers

May 14th Thursday

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

May 15th Friday

7:30 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

May 16th Saturday

9:30 a.m. *Russian Divine Liturgy, Dallas*

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

May 17th Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

We must simplify our life. Luxury makes one weary. There are people who constantly want to change their furniture, etc. Later on they run around trying to make more money and in doing so become filled with anxiety.

We must love toil and not be seduced by the easy life.

The more one lives a secular life, the more anxious one becomes.

Only near Christ does one find rest, because man is made for God, it is his normal state to be with God. *Father Paisios of Greece*

Announcements for May 10th

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).

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 will not meet today.

We welcome Kathryn Saclarides this morning who will be speaking about Orthodox Missions during Coffee Hour.

The Special Freewill Offering today will be for the new Nativity of Christ Women's Monastery near Dallas, next week for debt reduction.

Classes this Week:

Basics of Orthodoxy, Monday 7:00 p.m. The Creed "One God the Father Almighty..."

Church History Class, Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

First John, Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

Paschal Notes

The prayer "O Heavenly King" is not said at home or in church during this season until Pentecost, June 7. Instead we say the paschal troparion "Christ is risen" three times.

During the 50 days from Pascha to the Feast of Pentecost on June 7th, we do not kneel or make prostrations at home or in church in keeping with the joyful, festal character of the season. We begin to kneel and do prostrations again with the Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost.

For 40 days until the Feast of Ascension (May 28), we greet each other by saying, "Christ is Risen!" "Indeed, He is Risen!"

Through the Leavetaking of Pascha (May 27), we use the Paschal Troparion before and after meals and when setting out on a trip.

The Memorial Day Picnic is coming up in two weeks, Monday, May 25. Matins will be served that morning at 8:30, Liturgy at 10:00, and the picnic will begin about noon. Invite family and friends, bring your favorite foods and drinks to share, and come for a joyous day of fellowship.

Synod of Bishops on Mid-Pentecost, this Wednesday, will gather in Dallas to honor Archbishop Dmitri's life and ministry. They will serve Liturgy together at 9:30 joined by many priests from our Diocese. You are welcome to attend. This is a rare opportunity to see all our bishops gathered together.

Please Pray for our Catechumen: Thom Anderson, **our inquirers** John Parsons and Adam & Melanie Betz. Please pray for our **shut-in** Nina Johnston, for Nick Gluschenko recovering from open-heart surgery, Gareth Tikhon Barnard who is working in Kansas, and Nancy Rachel Saito visiting in California. 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.

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 and placed in the basket on the candle table, where there is also a box for alms (those in need) and a box for the building fund.

Last week, we gave about \$2000 in tithes and offerings; our monthly budget is \$6218 (\$1554 per week). Candles \$27.50; Bookstore \$27; Building fund; Special Gift . May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 13; Liturgy 43.

From Saint Maximus

The one who has zealously acquired the fruits of love does not change from it even though he experiences countless ills. And let Stephen, Christ's disciple, and those like him, persuade you, as well as Christ Himself who prays for His murderers and asks forgiveness of His Father as for those acting in ignorance.

The one who loves God leads an angelic life on earth, fasting and being watchful and singing psalms and praying and always thinking good of everyone.

400 Chapters on Love, 1.37, 42

Elder Paisos on Frequent Communion

Someone who partook of Holy Communion frequently asked him about frequent Holy Communion.

“The fathers say that for a young child who was born possessed, frequent Holy Communion and exorcism case the demon to leave. And he leaves because the child was not at fault, he doesn't have any right over him. Also, I have seen many little children healed of leukemia and other illnesses from frequent Holy Communion. A person takes human blood and he gets stronger. What should be said if he takes Divine Blood as well?

“For adults, however, it is not like this. It depends on how one partakes, how much one toils and prepares oneself. Just because one communes frequently doesn't mean that he will be sanctified. If it were like this, all the priests who consume the whole chalice would become holy. How much does one keep the grace of Holy Communion? Let us not lose it immediately afterwards...preparation plays a role.”

Troparia and Kontakia for May 10th



Resurrectional Troparion, Tone 3

Let those in Heaven rejoice, / let those on Earth be glad; / for the Lord hath wrought a mighty act with His arm./ He hath trampled down death by death; / He hath become the first-born of the dead. / From the womb of hell hath He delivered us, // and hath granted the world great mercy.

Paralytic, Kontakion, Tone 3

As of old Thou didst raise up the paralytic, / O Lord God, by Thy God-like care and might, raise up my soul / which is palsied by diverse sins and transgressions / and by unseemly deeds and acts, / that saved I may also cry out: / O Compassionate Redeemer, / O Christ God, / glory to Thy dominion and might.

Paschal Kontakion, tone 8

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, / Thou didst destroy the power of death. / In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, / proclaiming, “Rejoice!” to the myrrh-bearing women, / granting peace to Thine Apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.