

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, August 15th, 2010

Schedule of Services

August 15th 12th Sunday after Pentecost, Dormition of Mary

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

August 18th Wednesday

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy: The Nicene Creed 2

August 19th Thursday

7:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

August 20th Friday

7:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Reader's Vespers

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

August 21st Saturday

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

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

August 22nd 13th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Abba Matoes said, 'I prefer a light and steady activity to one that is painful at the beginning but is soon broken off.'

He also said, 'The nearer a man draws to God, the more he sees himself a sinner. It was when Isaiah the prophet saw God that he declared himself "a man of unclean lips."' (Isaiah 6:5)

He also said, 'Satan does not know by what passion the soul can be overcome. He sows, but without knowing if he will reap, sometimes thoughts of fornication, sometimes thoughts of slander, and similarly for the other passions. He supplies nourishment to the passion which he sees the soul is slipping towards.'

A soldier asked Abba Mius if God accepted repentance. After the old man had taught him many things he said, 'Tell me, dear, if your cloak is torn, do you throw it away?' He replied, 'No, I mend it and use it again.' The old man said to him, 'If you are so careful about your cloak, will not God be equally careful about his creature?'

From the *Sayings of the Desert Fathers*

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

Announcements for August 15th

To Our Visitors: Welcome! Please join us after the service for coffee 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. 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).

The Special Offering this week for our Alaskan Seminarian.

Please Move Forward during the Liturgy! **Please be quiet** in the Narthex afterwards while the Prayers of Thanksgiving after Communion are being read in the church.

The Parish Phone Book is being updated. Please make sure we have your current phone numbers, address, email, birthdays and namedays.

Temple Oil given for the health and salvation of George.

Fr. Justin will be at Holy Archangels Monastery from this evening until Wednesday afternoon. He will return in time for Vespers and Class Wednesday. All the clergy of the Dallas Deanery have been instructed to make two or three trips a year to care for their souls.

Classes this Week:

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: The Creed 2 "I believe...What is Faith and Why Do We Need It?"

A New Adult Class will begin in the next 2-3 weeks. It will most likely be a survey of the Old Testament historical books, highlighting important events, figures, and lessons. The class is planned to meet on Fridays at noon or 1:00. Please see Fr. Justin if you have questions.

Expansion Program: The expansion of the left side of the nave into the hall will not begin until early September.

The Annual Meeting will be held September 26 at 11:30. If you are a member here, please plan on attending.

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 \$1611.10 in tithes and offerings; in August we have given \$3199.45; our monthly budget is \$8835 (\$2039 per week), which includes \$1500 for building a new church. Candles \$66.50; bookstore \$86 (\$243 in July), building fund \$500, special gifts \$100. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Sunday Liturgy 60; Vigil 25; Liturgy for St. Herman 10, Liturgy for St. Maximus 22, Wed Vespers 15.

Please Pray for our Catechumens: Thom Anderson, Sean Chaney, Ken and Pam Northam and their children Marsha, Jessica, Mariah, Emalie, Robert & Elisabeth Terry and their children Thomas, Calvin, Owen, and Claire, for our inquirer Samuel. Please pray for our **shut-in** Nina Johnston, for Elias Ashley Davis who is in Alaska to work for four months, for Michael Rodgers as he heads off to seminary and for Ambrose Leif Pierson as he moves to Tyler to take a new job. Please pray for all your fellow parishioners that we all may keep the Faith and be firmly established therein.

Dormition of the Theotokos: Today we celebrate the Dormition [‘falling asleep’] of the Theotokos as she left this life and entered the kingdom of heaven. We keep the feast through its leavetaking on August 23, using the troparion and kontakion [see back of bulletin] at meals and in our daily prayers. A joyous feast to all!

From Saint Maximus

“No one,” says the Apostle [Paul], “hates his own flesh,” or course, “but mortifies it and makes it his slave,” allowing it no more than “food and clothing” and these only as they are necessary for life. So in this way one loves it without passion and rears it as an associate in divine things and takes care of it only with those things which satisfy its needs.

When a person loves someone, he is naturally eager to be of service. So if one loves God, he is naturally eager to do what is pleasing to Him. But if he loves his flesh, he is eager to accomplish what delights it.

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Troparia and Kontakia for August 15th



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.

Dormition Troparion, tone 1

In giving birth, thou didst preserve thy virginity, / in falling asleep thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos. Thou wast translated to life, O thou who art the Mother of Life, / and by thy prayers thou dost deliver our souls from death.

Resurrectional Kontakion, Tone 3

Today Thou didst rise from the grave, O compassionate One, / and didst lead us away from the gates of death. / Today Adam exulteth, and Eve rejoiceth. / Together with the prophets and patriarchs // they unceasingly hymn the Divine might of Thine authority.

Dormition, Kontakion, tone 2

Neither the tomb nor death could hold the Theotokos, / who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions. / For being the Mother of Life, she was translated to life / by the One who dwelt in her virginal womb.

