

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday of June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Schedule of Services

**June 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday of All Saints of North America**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

**June 20<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy Class: Nicene Creed 4 'Father'

**June 21<sup>st</sup> Thursday**

3:00 p.m. Vespers

4:00 p.m. Class: *The Arena*

**June 22<sup>nd</sup> Friday**

8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

8:00 p.m. *Late Vocations Doctrine Class, St. Seraphim's, Dallas*

**June 23<sup>rd</sup> Saturday**

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**June 24<sup>th</sup> Third Sunday After Pentecost**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

From Saint Thalassios, the Libyan (*friend of St. Maximus*)

Hatred for one's neighbor is the soul's death: the backbiting soul both suffers and inflicts such death.

Listlessness is an apathy of soul; and a soul becomes apathetic when sick with self-indulgence.

He who loves Jesus trains himself in suffering: perseverance in suffering dispels listlessness.

The soul is strengthened through ascetic suffering, and dispels listlessness by doing all things according to measure.

Control of the belly withers desire and keeps the intellect free from lecherous thoughts.

An intellect in control of itself is the temple of the Spirit, but that of a glutton is like a nest of crows.

A surfeit of foods breeds desire; a deficiency sweetens even plain bread.

*400 Chapters on Love, Self-Control & Life, 3.43-49*

## Announcements for June 17<sup>th</sup>

**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.

**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 (so as not to distract others) and present to hear "Blessed is the Kingdom" at the beginning of the Liturgy (in *unusual* circumstances no later than the Gospel reading), and not leave until the dismissal at the end.

**The Special Offering** is for St. Nectarius Mission in Waxahachie.

**Temple Oil** offered in memory of Nicholas Gluschenko and James Anderson.

**The Apostles' Fast**, now being observed, lasts until the end of Liturgy on the Feast of Peter & Paul, June 29. We abstain from meat, dairy products, fish, wine, and oil (modifications are on the wall calendar) as we humble ourselves before God that we may receive more of Him.

### Classes this Week

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: Nicene Creed 4: 'God the Father'

Thursday, 4:00 p.m. *The Arena*

Friday, 8:00 p.m. *St. Seraphim's, Dallas*: Orthodox Doctrine.

**Church Cleaning:** Help is needed to clean the church. Please sign up in the hall (coffee hour room).

**Please Pray for our Catechumens:** Philip Smith, Elizabeth Dakak, Sean Chaney, Joel and Mindy Brown and their children Daniel, Anya, and Elijah, for our new catechumens Gary & Olivia Reynolds and their children, and for our inquirers James and Lauren. Please pray for our **shut-ins** Nina Johnston and Sherrie Joanna (Sherrie) Hale, and for the novice Svetlana.

**Hall Expansion Update:** The roofers will come Wednesday to put the roof on the expansion. After that, the electric and ducts for heating and cooling will be roughed in and the windows and doors installed.

**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 in 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 our building fund.

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Last week we gave \$2355.26; this month we have given \$3957.71; our monthly budget is \$8179 (\$2045 per week. (To build a church will require a monthly income in the neighborhood of \$10,000 a month.) In addition: Candles \$80.50, Renovation \$8.50, Building Fund \$57. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 39, Liturgy 79.

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**Hall Expansion Fund:** A total of \$58,109.62 has been raised so far of the estimated \$79,000 it will cost. All **Coffee Hour Donations** go to support this.

### From Saint Maximus

Just as one cannot worship God in a pure way without utterly purifying the soul, so one cannot worship creation without pampering the body. By fulfilling, out of concern for the body, that worship which causes corruption, and by thus acquiring self-love, man became subject to the unceasing action of pleasure and pain; eating always from the tree of disobedience—the tree of the knowledge of good and evil—in this way he acquired experientially through sense-perception a knowledge in which good and evil were intermingled. And it would not be untrue to say that the tree of the knowledge of good and evil is the visible created world. For this world is by nature subject to that alternation which produces pleasure and pain.

Where intelligence does not rule, the sense naturally assume the dominant role. The power of sin is somehow mingled with the sense and induces the soul by means of sensual pleasure to have pity for the flesh, to which it is joined. When the soul pursues the impassioned and pleasurable cultivation of the flesh as its natural task, it is diverted from a life lived in accordance with nature and is impelled to become the author of evil, which has not substantial existence.

Evil is the noetic soul's forgetfulness of what is good according to nature; and this forgetfulness results from an impassioned relationship with the flesh and the world. When the intelligence is in control it dispels this forgetfulness through spiritual knowledge, since intelligence, having investigated the nature of the world and the flesh, draws the soul to the realm of spiritual realities which is its true home. Into this realm the law of sin cannot penetrate; for the link between the soul and the senses has now been broken, and the senses, limited to the world of sensible objects, can no longer function as a bridge conveying the law of sin into the intellect. When

the intellect transcends its relationship with sensible objects and the world to which they pertain, it becomes utterly free from the sway of the senses.

*First Century of Various Texts, 55-57*

### Troparia and Kontakia for June 17<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.

#### **All Saints of North America, Troparion, Feast, tone 8**

As the bountiful harvest of Thy sowing of salvation, / the lands of North America offer to Thee, O Lord, all the saints who have shone in them./By their prayers keep the Church and our land in abiding peace/through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One.

#### **All Saints of North America, Kontakion, tone 3**

Today the choir of Saints who were pleasing to God / in the lands of North America / now stand before us in the Church / and invisibly pray to God for us. / With them the Angels glorify Him, / and all the Saints of the Church of Christ / keep festive with them; // and together they all pray for us to the Pre-eternal God.

