

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton
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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday of July 8th, 2012

Schedule of Services

July 8th Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

July 11th Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers

July 12th Thursday

2:00 p.m. Confession (let priest know you intend to come)

3:00 p.m. Vespers

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

July 13th Friday

8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m. *Russian Vespers, Confession, St. Seraphim's, Dallas,*

July 14th Saturday

9:30 a.m. *Russian Divine Liturgy, St. Seraphim's, Dallas*

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

July 15th Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

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

Pride and boastfulness are characterized by hypocrisy, guile, trickery, pretence, and worst of all, falsity.

These characteristics are aided and abetted by envy, strife, anger, resentment, and rancor.

Such is the state of those who live dissolutely, and such are the treasures hidden in my heart.

Hardship and humility save the soul and free it from all the passions.

A helpful word indicates an understanding mind; a good action reveals a saint-like soul.

An illumined intellect brings forth words of wisdom; a pure soul cultivates godlike thoughts.

400 Chapters on Love, Self-Control & Life, 3.69-74

Announcements for July 8th

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 .

Classes this Week

Basics of Orthodoxy, Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.

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

Schedule Change: The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated on Friday this week, not Thursday as says the monthly calendar.

Burial Ministry: We are establishing a team to minister to the families of the departed and to care for the body in preparation for burial. Their next meeting will be Thursday, July 12, at 6:00 at Louise Newcomb's for practical training in how to care for a body. Anyone interested in helping with this ministry is welcome. It would be good to read the book *A Christian Ending*.

The Parish Council approved the idea of establishing a yearly lecture in honor of St. Maximus. We have a likely first speaker for this fall who wishes to speak on how reading St. Maximus' *400 Chapters on Love* changed his views on reading, writing, and speaking.

Episcopal Election Cancelled: The Diocese of the South was to have had a special assembly on Thursday, July 19, in Miami in conjunction with the regular Diocesan Assembly. Archbishop Nikon, our *Locum Tenens*, cancelled it this week, expressing concern that the candidate recommended to the Diocese, Fr. Gerasim, was controversial and needs to be more thoroughly vetted by the Holy Synod when it meets this fall. Please pray that God will give us a good bishop soon.

Please Pray for our Catechumens: Philip Smith, Elizabeth Dakak, Sean Chaney, Joel and Mindy Brown and their children Daniel, Anya, and Elijah, 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 initial installation of heating and air conditioning equipment has been accomplished. The electrical rough-in should take place this coming week.

Renovation Update: The deck on the back was taken off yesterday, the sliding glass door replaced with two windows, and the back of the house re-sided in preparation for being painted. The removal of the deck allows for proper painting and was something that was planned for beautifying the back in preparation to building a church.

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.

Last week we gave \$938.30; 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 \$48.50, Renovation (soda) \$19, Special offering for Hall Expansion \$252, building funds \$308. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 35, Liturgy 75.
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Hall Expansion Fund: A total of \$58,462.87 has been raised so far of the estimated \$79,000 it will cost. All **Coffee Hour Donations** go to support this.

From Saint Maximus

When the intelligence is in control of the incensive power and desire, it produces the virtues. When the intellect devotes its attention to the inner essences of created things, it reaps genuine spiritual knowledge. Thus the intelligence, after rejecting everything alien, discovers what is desirable according to our true nature; and the intellect, after passing beyond the things that are known, apprehend the Cause of created things that transcends being and knowledge. Then the passion of deification is actualized by grace: the intelligence's power of natural discrimination is suspended, for there is no longer anything to discriminate about; the intellect's natural intellection is brought to a halt, for there is no longer anything to be known; and the person found worthy to participate in the divine is made god and brought into a state of rest.

Suffering cleanses the soul infected with the filth of sensual pleasure and detaches it completely from material things by showing it the penalty incurred as a results of its affection for them. This is why God in His justice allows the devil to afflict men with torments.

First Century of Various Texts, 63-64

Troparia and Kontakia for July 8th

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 4

Having learned the radiant proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, /the women disciples of the Lord cast off the ancestral curse, /and, boasting, told the Apostles: /Death hath been despoiled, Christ God is risen, /granting the world great mercy.

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.

St. Procopius, Troparion, tone 4

In his suffering, O Lord, / Thy martyr Procopius received an imperishable crown from Thee, our God; / for, possessed of Thy might, / he cast down the tormenters and crushed the feeble audacity of the demons. // By his supplications save Thou our souls.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 4

My Saviour and Deliverer as God/ hath raised out of the grave the earth-born from their bonds / and He hath shattered the gates of hell / and as Master / He hath risen on the third day.

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.

St. Procopius, Kontakion, tone 2

Set afire by divine zeal for Christ, / and protected by the might of the Cross, / O Procopius, thou didst cast down the audacity and boldness of the foe, / and didst raise up an honorable temple, // excelling in faith and enlightening us.