

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

Bulletin for Sunday of July 22nd, 2012

Schedule of Services

July 22nd Seventh Sunday After Pentecost, tone 6

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

July 24th Tuesday

7:00 a.m. Matins

July 25th Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy

July 26th Thursday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

2:00 p.m. Confession (*please let priest know you will come*)

3:00 p.m. Vespers

4:00 p.m. Class

July 27th Friday St. Panetleimon

8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vespers, Pannikhida, Confession

July 28th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

July 29th Eighth Sunday After Pentecost, tone 7

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

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

In the case of those advancing on the spiritual way, their attitude to good and evil is easily changed; but in those who have achieved perfection, it is hard to shift.

The soul's strength is its firm state of virtue; on reaching such a state one may say with the invincible Apostle Paul: 'Who can separate us from the love of Christ?'

Self-love precedes all the passions, while last of all comes pride.

The three most common forms of desire have their origin in the passion of self-love.

400 Chapters on Love, Self-Control & Life, 3.84-87

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

Announcements for July 22nd

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 today will go to support the building of the memorial chapel for Archbishop Dmitri at St. Seraphim's.

We Welcome today Fr. Christopher Allen and his family and Fr. Basil Biberdorf and his family, founding members of our mission.

Classes this Week

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy, Creed: God the Creator of Heaven and Earth

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

A Report on the Assembly of the Diocese of the South will be given by Fr. Justin and Michael Rehmet during Coffee Hour next week. Your questions are welcome.

The Dormition Fast, which lasts two weeks, will begin next Wednesday, August 1 and last until the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos, August 14. Plan now to keep the Fast profitably, increasing prayer, almsgiving, spiritual reading, and good works for the strengthening of your life in Christ.

The Annual Meeting will be held the last Sunday in September. Please plan now to attend.

Fr. Justin & Family will be on vacation from August 13 until August 31. Hieromonk Gregory will serve August 19, and Fr. Photius Avant will serve August 26. Please plan accordingly. Do come to services and enjoy your break from your usual priest!

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 has at last begun.

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 \$2040.50; in July, we have given \$5111.91; 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 \$50, Expansion, \$17, Building Fund \$27.75, Renovation (soda, special offering) \$11. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 26, Liturgy 92.

Hall Expansion Fund: A total of \$58,232.87 has been raised so far of the estimated \$79,000 it will cost. All **Coffee Hour Donations** go to support this.

From Saint Maximus

Those who are *beginners* and stand at the gate of the divine court of the virtues are called 'God-fearing' by Scripture. Those who with some measure of stability have acquired the principles and qualities of the virtues, it describes as '*advancing*.' Those who in their pursuit of holiness have by means of spiritual knowledge already attained the summit of that truth which reveals the virtues, it entitles '*perfect*'. Thus he who has abandoned his former passion-dominated way of life, and out of ear has submitted his entire will to the divine commandments, will lack none of the blessings which are appropriate to *beginners*, even though he has not yet acquired stability in the practice of the virtues or come to share in the wisdom spoken among those who are perfect. And he who is *advancing* will not lack any of the blessings which belong to his degree, even though he has not yet acquired the transcendent knowledge of divine realities possessed by the *perfect*. For the *perfect* have already been initiated mystically into contemplative theology: having purified their intellects of every material fantasy and bearing always the stamp of the image of divine beauty in all its fullness, they manifest the divine love present in their hearts.

First Century of Various Texts, 68

Troparia and Kontakia for July 22nd

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 6

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb / and the guards became as dead men, / Mary stood by Thy grave, / seeking Thine immaculate body, / Thou didst despoil hell, not being tempted by it, / Thou didst go to meet the Virgin granting life, / O Lord, who didst rise from the dead, / glory to Thee.

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. Mary Magdalene, Troparion, tone 1

The honorable Mary Magdalene / Followed after Christ / Who for our sake was born of the Virgin, / Keeping His precepts and laws. / Wherefore celebrating thy most holy memory today, // Through thy supplications we receive remission of sins.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 6

With His life-originating palm, from the valleys of gloom / the Life-giver Christ God hath raised all the dead. / He hath bestowed resurrection on the human race /, for He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, and Life, and God of all.

St. Maximus, Kontakion tone 8 *Serbian Melody*

Let us the faithful praise with fitting hymns / that lover of the Holy Trinity, great Maximus, / who clearly taught the divinely-given Faith: / that we should give glory unto Christ our God, / Who, but one person, hath in very truth / two natures, wills, and energies. / Let us cry to him: // Rejoice, divine herald of the Faith.

St. Mary Magdalene, Kontakion, tone 3

Standing before the Cross of the Saviour with many others, / suffering with the Mother of the Lord and pouring forth tears, / The all-glorious one made this offering as praise, saying: / "What is this strange wonder? / Is it Thy will to suffer, / O Thou Who sustainest all creation? // Glory to Thy dominion!"