

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton
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Bulletin for Sunday April 14th, 2013

Schedule of Services for the Fifth Week

April 14th Fourth Sunday of Lent: St. John of the Ladder

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Mission Council

6:00 p.m. *Pan-Orthodox Vespers, St. Demetrios, Fort Worth*

April 16th Tuesday of the Fifth Week

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession

April 17th Wednesday of the Fifth Week

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession

6:30 p.m. Great Canon of St. Andrew, Confession

April 18th Thursday of the Fifth Week

6:00 p.m. Presanctified Liturgy, Meal, Discussion

April 19th Friday of the Fifth Week

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession

April 20th Saturday of the Fifth Week

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

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

April 21st Fifth Sunday of Lent: St. Mary of Egypt

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. *Pan-Orthodox Vespers, St. Seraphim, Dallas*

From the Triodion

Now that we have passed beyond the middle point in the time of the Fast, let us manifest in ourselves a beginning of divine glory, and let us hasten eagerly towards our journey's end, the life of holiness that we may receive the joy that grows not old.

I want to wash away with tears the record of my sins, O Lord, and through the rest of my life to please Thee by repentance; but the enemy deceives me and fights against my soul. Save me, O Lord, before I perish utterly. *Vespers for the Fourth Sunday Night*

In fervent faith let us burn up with abstinence the lustful passions and flee from the icy cold of sin; with the streams of our tears let us quench the everlasting flame, crying aloud: We have sinned against Thee, O most loving Lord; forgive us and grant us Thy great mercy.

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

Announcements for April 14th

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 will go for our hall expansion.

Mission Council will meet today after Liturgy.

The Pan-Orthodox Vespers tonight will be at St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Fort Worth with their new priest Fr. Nicholas Hadzellis, 6:00 p.m. Address: 2020 NW 21st Street, Fort Worth 76106.

Presanctified Liturgy this week is on Thursday at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a lenten dish to share afterwards.

Great Canon: The complete Great Canon of St. Andrew will be served Wednesday evening and the Life of St. Mary of Egypt read.

Lenten Almsgiving: We are collecting things for Woman to Woman, a ministry to unwed mothers to help them not abort their babies and for Interfaith Ministries, a local charity in Denton which assists people in need. Bins are placed with a list of items that each ministry needs.

Confessions During Lent: Everyone should prepare for Holy Communion at Pascha, and part of that preparation is making a good Confession. Abundant opportunities to make a Confession are available, and, if the scheduled times do not work for you, you may make an appointment. Please do not save your Confession for the last moment, but rather plan on making it by Palm Sunday.

Classes this Week:

Thursday 8:00 p.m.: Community Meal after the Presanctified Liturgy, Patristic Reading, Discussion

Please Pray for our Catechumens: for Joel (John Cassian) and Mindy Brown and their children Daniel, Anya, and Elijah, Gary & Olivia Reynolds and their children Ariel, Analise, and Alexandria, Lauren Williams, and Adam Bramlett who are preparing for Holy Illumination, and for inquirers Rebecca and Rebecca. Please pray for

the novice Svetlana, the Nun Elizabeth in hospice, and Elizabeth (Chandler) Jones. Pray for Joe Fincher and Olga.

Driver Training: Olga Fincher has her learner's permit but needs an experienced driver to ride with her while she practices for the driving test. Please call her at (940) 484-4169.

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 \$1685.05; our monthly budget is \$9187 (\$2297 per week. To build a church will require a monthly income in the neighborhood of \$11,000 a month.) In addition: Candles \$84.50, Renovation (Soda) \$2, Building Fund \$15.25, Debt Reduction \$47. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 34, Liturgy 87.

Hall Expansion Fund: A total of \$66,509.18 has been raised so far of the estimated \$79,000 it will cost. All **Coffee Hour Donations** go to support this.

The Fast: Fourth Week

We abstain from meat, meat products, dairy, fish, wine (alcohol), and oil. If fasting strictly, we take one meal a day M-F after 3 p.m. or after the Presanctified Liturgy. We join increased prayer and almsgiving to our fasting and avoid all things that distract us unnecessarily from Christ. Those wishing to receive Holy Communion at the evening Presanctified Liturgy keep a Eucharistic fast from noon. Please see your priest if you have problems or questions.

From Saint Maximus

He who loves God will certainly love his neighbor as well. Such a person cannot hoard money, but distributes it in a way befitting God, being generous to everyone in need.

He who gives alms in imitation of God does not discriminate between the wicked and the virtuous, the just and the unjust, when providing for men's bodily needs. He gives equally to all according to their need, even though he prefers the virtuous man to the bad man because of the probity of his intention.

400 Chapters on Love, First Century 23-24

Troparia and Kontakia for April 14th

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.

Sunday of John Climacus, Troparion tone 1

O John, our father, saint of God, thou was revealed as a citizen of the desert, / an angel in a body and a worker of miracles. / Through fasting, prayer and vigils, /thou hast received heavenly gifts of grace, /and thou healest the sick and the souls of those that turn to thee with faith. / Glory be to Him who gave thee strength; / glory, be to Him who crowned thee / glory be to Him who through thee granteth to all men healing.

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 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.

John Climacus, Kontakion, tone 4

Truly the Lord hath set thee as fixed star in the firmament of abstinence, / giving light to the ends of the earth / O father John our teacher.