

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton
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Bulletin for Sunday August 11th, 2013

Schedule of Services

August 11th Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
6:00 p.m. Great Vespers for St. Maximus

August 12th Monday St. Maximus (*observed*)

7:45 a.m. Matins
9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

August 13th Tuesday

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession
3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

August 14th Wednesday

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession
5:30 p.m. Community Meal
6:00 p.m. Hebrews Class
7:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

August 15th Thursday Dormition of Theotokos

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
6:30 p.m. Vespers
7:30 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy: Anaphora of St. Basil

August 16th Friday

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession
7:00 p.m. *Russian Vespers, Confession, St. Seraphim's, Dallas*

August 17th Saturday

9:30 a.m. *Russian Divine Liturgy, St. Seraphim's, Dallas*
5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

August 18th Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
3:00 p.m. Choir Retreat

The Optina Elders on the Jesus Prayer

Say the Jesus Prayer more often—it will gladden the heart. Only strive to pluck out the rotten stuff from the heart, i.e., do not be attracted by unchaste thoughts. *St. Anatoly*

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

Announcements for August 11

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

Temple wine is offered for the health and salvation of Carolyn, William, and Jessica, and in memory of Charles David.

Special Offering this week will be for St. Nectarius Mission, Waxahachie, TX.

Feast of St. Maximus will be celebrated Monday. While our keep January 21 as the main feast of our patron, we'll keep this one (with less fanfare) as well. The feast properly falls on the 13th, but due to the Leavetaking of Transfiguration and the Feast of St. Tikhon of Zadonsk, it usually gets transferred to the 12th.

The Dormition of the Theotokos, one of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Church, will be celebrated this week with Vigil Wednesday evening at 7:00 and Divine Liturgy Thursday morning at 9:00. The faithful do well to keep the feast with attendance at at least part of the cycle of services for the Feast.

Your Priest will be on Vacation beginning August 19. He will return in time to serve Vigil on Friday, September 13th for the Feast of the Elevation of the Cross. If you need to make a confession, come this week. The visiting priests will be able to hear necessary confessions on Saturdays after Vigil, but it would be best not to burden them excessively.

Classes this Week

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. Hebrews

Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: Divine Liturgy: The Anaphora of St. Basil

Chairs in Church: We are trying a more traditional arrangement for seating in the church to see how it works. Also, please remember that the chairs should be reserved for the elderly, the infirm, mothers who have to hold small children, and those unable to stand the whole service. We should stand unless we are physically unable. Children, if they sit, should sit on the floor and not occupy a chair. We do not

have room to put chairs in the church for everyone who might opt to sit—only for those who really need to sit. Thank you!

The Dormition Fast continues until Thursday, August 15. The norms the Church has given us for the fast call us to devote ourselves to prayer, almsgiving, fasting (abstain from meat, dairy, fish, wine, oil, marital relations—see wall calendar for modifications), and reading the Scriptures and other Orthodox spiritual literature, and to reduce or eliminate secular entertainments and elective social engagements.

Please Pray: for catechumen Shannon Goodson, for inquirers Rebecca and Destiny, the novice Svetlana, the Nun Elizabeth in hospice care, Elizabeth (Chandler) Jones, and Paraskeve. Pray for Joe Fincher and Olga, and for Joanna (Sherri) Hale.

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 \$2169.54 in tithes and offerings; 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 \$41.50; Debt Relief Offering \$39 Renovation (soda) \$5.61, Building Fund \$44. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 42, Liturgy 86.

From Saint Maximus

He who truly loves God prays entirely without distraction, and he who prays entirely without distraction loves God truly. But he whose intellect is fixed on any worldly thing does not pray without distraction, and consequently he does not love God.

The intellect that dallies with some sensible thing clearly is attached to it by some passion, such as desire, irritation, anger or rancor; and unless it becomes detached from that thing it will not be able to free itself from the passion affecting it.

When passions dominate the intellect, they separate it from God, binding it to material things and preoccupying it with them. But when love of God dominates the intellect, it frees it from its bonds, persuading it to rise above not only sensible things but even this transitory life.

400 Chapters on Love, Second Century 1-3

Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, August 11

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.

Transfiguration, Troparion, tone 7

Thou wast transfigured upon the mountain, O Christ God, / showing Thy glory to Thy disciples as far as they could bear it. / Through the prayers of the Theotokos, / make Thine everlasting light shine also upon us sinners. / O Giver of Light, glory to Thee!

St. Maximus, Troparion, tone 3

Martyr Euplus, Troparion, tone 4

In his sufferings, O Lord, / Thy Martyr Euplus received an imperishable crown from Thee, our God. / For possessed of Thy might, / he cast down the tormentors and crushed the feeble audacity of the demons. // By his supplications save Thou our souls.

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.

Transfiguration, Kontakion, tone 7

Upon the mountain wast Thou transfigured, O Christ God, / and Thy disciples beheld Thy glory as far as they could see it; / so that when they would behold Thee crucified, / they would understand that Thy suffering was voluntary, / and would proclaim to the world / that Thou art truly the Radiance of the Father.