

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday February 9th, 2014

Schedule of Services

February 9th Sunday Leavetaking, Publican & Pharisee

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

February 11th Tuesday

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession

February 12th Wednesday No Fast

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession

12:00 p.m. Class: Gospel of John Session 4

6:15 p.m. Class: Gospel of John Session 4

7:30 p.m. Vespers, Confession

February 13th Thursday

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m. Vespers

7:45 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy: Ten Commandments 2

February 14th Friday No Fast

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. *Russian Vespers, Confession, Dallas*

February 15th Saturday

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

4:00 p.m. Russian Class

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

February 16th Sunday Prodigal Son

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

From the Triodion

Brethren, let us not pray as the Pharisee: for he who exalteth himself shall be humbled. Let us humble ourselves before God, and with fasting cry aloud as the Publican: God be merciful to us sinners.

Let us all humble ourselves, brethren; groaning and lamenting, let us beat our conscience, that at the eternal judgement we may be numbered with the faithful and the righteous, receiving forgiveness. Let us pray to see the true peace of the Age to Come, where there is no more pain, no sorrow, no groaning from the depths, in the wondrous Eden fashioned by Christ, for He is God co-eternal with the Father.

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

Announcements for February 9

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. We invite you to go first through the food line and join the priest at the table.

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 this week will be for Fr. Seraphim Holland's Prison Ministry.

Temple oil given for the health and salvation of William and Carolyn.

Church School will not meet today.

Triodion Opens: Today we sing out of the Triodion for the first time as we begin preparation for the Great Fast.

No Fasting this week, in preparation for Great Lent.

Work Day: There will be a work day this Saturday to clean for the pastoral conference.

DOS Pastoral Conference: The annual Pastoral Conference of the Diocese of the South will be held here February 17-20. Talks open to you will be given Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. Help is needed to prepare food and to set up and clean up for each meal. Please see what you can do, and sign up on the side of the refrigerator downstairs.

Classes this Week

Wednesday, noon, Gospel of John Session 4

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Gospel of John Session 4

Thursday, 7:45 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy, Ten Commandments, commands 5-10.

Saturday, 4:00 p.m. Russian

Church Cleaning is needed each week. Please sign up and take a week.

Many Thanks to our parents for training your children how to conduct themselves respectfully in church. Your persistent efforts are bearing good fruit!

Dismissals: Please stand for the dismissal at the end of every service. To sit through a dismissal (or through any blessing given with the sign of the cross), unless one is incapable of standing, is an act of ecclesiastical rudeness.

Please Pray: Holly Bellan, catechumens Shannon Goodson, Holly Bellan, and Sean Chaney, for inquirers Destiny Marcott, Rebecca Marcott, Kathy Wells and her family, Amber Payne, Leah Saunders, Joseph, and Justin; the novice Svetlana, and Elizabeth (Chandler) Jones. Pray for Joe Fincher and Olga, for Joanna (Sherri) Hale, and for Patricia Lydon.

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 \$2472.22 in tithes and offerings; our monthly budget is \$8700 (\$2008 per week.) Candles \$63; Special Offering for St. Basil's Mission \$14.11. Attendance: Saturday Vigil 41, Sunday Liturgy 77.

From Saint Maximus

Things are outside the intellect, but the conceptual images of these things are formed within it. It is consequently in the intellect's power to make good or bad use of these conceptual images. Their wrong use is followed by the misuse of the things themselves.

The intellect receives impassioned conceptual images in three ways: through the senses, through the body's condition and through the memory. It receives them through the senses when the senses themselves receive impressions from things in relation to which we have acquired passion, and when these things stir up impassioned thoughts in the intellect; through the body's condition when, as a result either of an undisciplined way of life, or of the activity of demons, or of some illness, the balance of elements in the body is disturbed and again the intellect is stirred to impassioned thoughts or to thoughts contrary to providence; through the memory when the memory recalls the conceptual images of things in relation to which we were once made passionate, and so stirs up impassioned thoughts in a similar way.

Some of the things given to us by God for our use are in the soul, others are in the body and others relate to the body. In the soul are its powers; in the body are the sense organs and other members; relating to the body are food, money, possessions and so on. Our good or bad use of these things given us by God, or of what is contingent upon them, reveals whether we are virtuous or evil.

400 Chapters on Love, 2.73-75

Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, February 9

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 8

Thou didst descend from on high, O tenderhearted One. / Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our passions. / O Lord, our life and resurrection, glory to Thee.

Meeting of the Lord, Troparion, tone 1

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos full of grace, / for from thee hath shone forth the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, / who doth illumine those in darkness. / Be glad also, thou righteous elder, / for thou hast received in thine arms the Deliverer of our souls, // who bestoweth upon us Resurrection.

Publican and Pharisee, Kontakion, tone 4

Let us flee from the proud speaking of the Pharisee / and learn the humility of the Publican, / and with groaning let us cry unto the Savior: / Be merciful to us, // for Thou alone art ready to forgive.

Publican and Pharisee, Second Kontakion, tone 3

As the Publican let us bring cries of sorrow to the Lord, / and let us fall before him as sinners at the Master's feet. / For He desireth the salvation of all men; / He granteth forgiveness unto all that repent, / and He hath for our sake taken flesh, / though He is God // coeternal with the Father.

Meeting of the Lord, Kontakion, tone 1

Thou who hast sanctified by Thy birth a virgin womb / and fittingly blessed the hands of Simeon, / art come, O Christ our God, and on this day hast saved us. / Give peace to thy commonwealth in time of battle / and strengthen the Orthodox people whom Thou hast loved, // O Thou who alone lovest mankind.