

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday June 1st, 2014

Schedule of Services

June 1st Sunday of the First Ecumenical Council

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

noon Basics of Orthodoxy: Nicene Creed 2

June 3rd Tuesday

7:30 a.m. Matins

4:30 p.m. Vespers, Confession

7:00 p.m. Mission Council

June 4th Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins

noon: Class: John 8

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

June 5th Thursday

7:30 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

June 6th Friday

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Pannikhida, Confession

June 7th Memorial Saturday

7:00 Matins for the Departed

8:00 Divine Liturgy for the Departed

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

June 8th Sunday Holy Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

11:45 Basics of Orthodoxy: Nicene Creed 3

1:00 p.m. Vespers with Kneeling Prayers

Let us acclaim today those mystical trumpets of the Spirit, namely the God-bearing Fathers, who, in the midst of the Church, sang a harmonious song of theology, teaching that the Trinity is one, unchanging in essence and Godhead; they are the refuters of Arius, and the foremost warriors of the Orthodox. And they ever intercede with the Lord that our souls find mercy.

Vigil for the Fathers of the First Council

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

Announcements for June 1

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 if we are communing), and not leave until the dismissal at the end.

The Special Offering this week will be for our building fund.

Temple wine given for the health and salvation of Carolyn and William; **Temple Oil** given for the health and salvation of Jere and Marcie Hollembeak.

Classes this Week

Sunday, noon: Basics of Orthodoxy. Today: Nicene Creed, part two. Next Sunday: Nicene Creed part three.

Wednesday, noon: John (chapter 8)

The Mission Council will meet this Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. sharp. The meeting will begin with a Molieben to St. Maximus for our parish. The meeting is open to parishioners who wish to attend.

Memorial Saturday: As this coming Saturday is a memorial Saturday, a day on which the Church especially remembers the departed, we shall serve Matins and Liturgy to demonstrate our bond of love with those who have gone before us and departed in faith.

Please Pray: for catechumens Shannon Goodson, Holly Bellan, and Virginia Warwas, for inquirer Rick Hollembeak, the postulant Elias, the novice Svetlana, and Elizabeth (Chandler) Jones. Pray for Joe Fincher and Olga, for Joanna (Sherri) Hale, for Patricia and James Lydon, and for Natalya (a Russian lady on her deathbed)..

Building Update: The council has been consulting with our architects on completing the design of our church in order to be ready to build. Before a design can be completed, we need to have an accurate survey of the property and some drilling to test the soil to determine what sort of foundation is needed on our property. These two things should take place this month.

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 \$3149.72 in tithes and offerings; in May, we gave \$7378.97; our monthly budget is \$8700 (\$2008 per week). Candles \$57.50; Soda (renovation) \$1; Building Fund \$31; Special Offering for St. George, Pharr \$10, Special Offering Prison Ministry \$10, Debt Reduction \$27. Attendance: Liturgy 71, Vigil 34.

From Saint Maximus

All creatures are either endowed with intelligence and intellect, and thus possess a capacity for opposites such as virtue and vice, knowledge and ignorance; or else they are physical bodies of various kinds made up of opposites, that is, of earth, air, fire and water. The former are altogether incorporeal and immaterial, although some of them are joined to bodies; the latter are composed of matter and form.

By nature all bodies lack a capacity for motion; they are given motion by the soul, either by one that is intelligent, or by one without intelligence, or by one that is insensate, as the case may be.

The soul has three powers: first, the power of nourishment and growth; second, that of imagination and instinct; third, that of intelligence and intellect. Plants share only in the first of these powers; animals share in the first and second; men share in all three. The first two powers are perishable; the third is clearly imperishable and immortal.

In communicating illumination to each other, the angelic powers also communicate either their virtue or their knowledge to human nature. As regards their virtue, they communicate a goodness which imitates the goodness of God, and through this goodness they confer blessings on themselves, on one another and on their inferiors, thus making them like God. As regards their knowledge, they communicate either a more sublime knowledge about God — for, as Scripture says, 'Thou, Lord, art most high for evermore' (Ps. 92:8) - or a more profound knowledge about embodied beings, or one that is more exact about incorporeal beings, or more distinct about divine providence, or more precise about divine judgment.

Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, May 25

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.

Ascension, Troparion, tone 4

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, / granting joy to Thy disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. / Through the blessing they were assured / that Thou art the Son of God, / the Redeemer of the world.

Fathers, Troparion, tone 8

Most glorious art Thou, O Christ our God! / Thou hast established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth! / Through them Thou hast guided us to the true faith! / O greatly Compassionate One, glory to Thee!

St. Justin Popovich (of Cheliye), troparion, tone 4

As Orthodox sweetness and divine nectar / venerable Father, thou dost flow into the hearts of believers as a wealth. / By thy life and teachings, O most-wise Justin, / thou didst reveal thyself to be living book of the Spirit: // Therefore pray to Christ God the Word that our souls be saved.

Fathers, Kontakion, tone 8

The Apostles' preaching and the Fathers' doctrines have established one faith for the Church. / Adorned with the robe of truth, woven from heavenly theology; / great is the mystery of piety which it defines and glorifies.

Ascension, Kontakion, tone 6

When Thou didst fulfill the dispensation for our sake, / and unite earth to heaven; / Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, / not being parted from those who love Thee, / but remaining with them and crying: / I am with you and no one will be against you!