

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton
2026 W. Oak Street • Denton, TX 76201
(940) 565-6753 • www.stmaximus.org
Priest Justin Frederick (940) 293-3032 cell

Bulletin for Sunday July 20th, 2014

Schedule of Services

July 20th Sunday Prophet Elijah

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
noon Basics of Orthodoxy: Creed 5 “God Almighty”
5:00 p.m. Orthodoxy in Serbia and on Mt. Athos, Fr. Justin

July 21st Monday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

July 23rd Wednesday

7:00 p.m. Reader Vespers

July 24th Thursday

8:00 a.m. Matins St. Seraphim Cathedral
9:00 a.m. Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, St. Seraphim Cathedral

July 25th Friday

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

July 26th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil

July 27th Sunday Great Martyr & Healer Panteleimon

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
noon Basics of Orthodoxy: Creed 6 “Maker -Creator”

July 29th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins
7:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

O inextinguishable beacon of the Church, aflame with zeal divine, prophet Elijah! Thou didst shut up the drops of heaven; and, fed by a raven, thou didst rebuke the king, and didst put the priests to death; fire from heaven didst thou call down, and, having slain the two captains of fifty, thou didst sustain the widow with oil and small handful of meal, and didst raise her son from the dead by thy prayer; fire didst thou kindle amid water; the streams of Jordan didst thou traverse on foot; thou didst ascend to the heavens on a fiery chariot, and didst bestow upon Elisha a double measure of grace. Pray thou unceasingly to God that our souls be saved. *Vespers for Prophet Elijah*

Announcements for July 20

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 IOCC.

Temple Oil given for the Health and Salvation of William and Carolyn; **Temple Wine** given for the health and salvation of Betty Casper.

Tonight at 5:00 at the church Fr. Justin will share slides and experiences from his recent trip to Serbia and Mt. Athos.

Classes this Week

Sunday, noon: Basics of Orthodoxy. Today: Nicene Creed, part five: "God Almighty & the Problem of Evil".

Diocesan Assembly: The annual assembly of the Diocese of the South will be held next week at St. Seraphim's Cathedral in Dallas. You may view the schedule online at dosoca.org. Tuesday evening at 7:00 Dr. Mark Cherry will speak on "Sustaining the Christian Family in a Post-Christian World." Wednesday evening at 7:00 Dr. Kenneth Alonso will speak on "The US Healthcare Crisis and the Prohibition of Traditional Christian Caregiving". These are open to the public. A hierarchical Divine Liturgy will be served Thursday at 9:00 after Matins at 8:00 with Archbishop Nikon.

The Dormition Fast begins Friday, August first and lasts until the 15th. Now is a good time to begin to plan for the fast in terms of prayer, services, reading, almsgiving, etc. The fast is a good time to stretch ourselves spiritually beyond our present comfort zone, seeking God's help. Please talk to your priest if you have questions about what is appropriate for you.

Please Pray: for catechumens Shannon Goodson, Holly Bellan, Seth Williams, 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,

Perpetua, and James Lydon, and for Natalya (a Russian lady on her deathbed).

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 \$1150.44 in tithes and offerings; in July, we have given \$3391.04; our monthly budget is \$8700 (\$2008 per week). Candles \$67; Soda (renovation) \$8.35; Building Fund Special Offering \$37. Attendance: Liturgy 98, Vigil 31.

From Saint Maximus

When you overcome one of the grosser passions, such as gluttony, unchastity, anger or greed, the thought of self-esteem at once assails you. If you defeat this thought, the thought of pride succeeds it.

All the gross passions that dominate the soul drive from it the thought of self-esteem. But when all these passions have been defeated, they leave self-esteem free to take control.

Self-esteem, whether it is eradicated or whether it remains, begets pride. When it is eradicated, it generates self-conceit; when it remains, it produces boastfulness.

Self-esteem is eradicated by the hidden practice of the virtues, pride, by ascribing our achievements to God.

400 Chapters on Love, 3.59-62

A Prayer of St. Isaac the Syrian

I kneel before Thy Majesty and prostrate myself on the ground before Thee, O God, for Thou broughtest me into existence without my asking Thee and before I ever existed; and before Thou didst fashion me in the womb Thou knewest that I would live a life full of tumult and backsliding. Yet Thou didst not refrain from creating me and granting me all the attributes with which Thou hast honored human nature, even though Thou knowest my requests even before they become known to me, and my prayers even before they have been prayed before Thee: grant me, O my God, whatever Thou knowest my wretched nature to need at this hour in its present peril. Thou knowest my soul's affliction, and Thy hand holds its healing.

Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, July 20

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 5

Let us the faithful hymn and worship the Word / who with the Father and the Spirit hath no beginning, / and was born for our salvation of the Virgin; / for He was pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh, / and to endure death / and to raise the dead / by His glorious Resurrection.

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.

Prophet Elijah, Troparion, tone 4

The angel in the flesh, the foundation of the prophets, / the second forerunner of the coming of Christ, / the glorious Elijah sent grace down from on High upon Elisha, / to dispel infirmities and to cleanse lepers. // Wherefore, he poureth forth healings upon those who honor him.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 5

Thou didst descend to Hades, O my Savior; / and, having shattered its gates as all-powerful; / Thou as Creator didst raise the dead with Thee; / and Thou didst destroy the sting of death, / and Adam hath been delivered from the curse, O Lover of Man. / Wherefore, we all cry: Save us, O Lord!

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.

Prophet Elijah, Kontakion, tone 2

O prophet, foreseer of the mighty works of our God, / Elijah of great renown, / who by thy voice, didst restrain the cloud of rain: // in our behalf entreat Him who alone loveth mankind.