

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton  
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## Bulletin for Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015

### Schedule of Services

#### **March 29<sup>th</sup> Fifth Sunday St. Mary of Egypt**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

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

#### **March 30<sup>th</sup> Monday**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

#### **March 31<sup>st</sup> Tuesday**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

#### **April 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, Meal, Life of Antony

#### **April 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

#### **April 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday *End of the 40 Days***

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

3:30 p.m. Class: Lenten Themes from the Triodion

6:00 p.m. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, Meal, Life of Antony

#### **April 4<sup>th</sup> Lazarus Saturday**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

#### **April 5<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. Bridegroom Matins

As we begin with eagerness, O ye faithful, the sixth week of the holy Fast, let us sing a hymn in preparation for the Feast of Palms, to the Lord who cometh with glory to Jerusalem in the power of the Godhead, that he may slay death. So with reverence let us prepare the branches of the virtues, as emblems of victory; and let us cry Hosanna! to the Creator of all.

*Vespers for the Evening of the Fifth Sunday*

## Announcements for March 29

**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 his 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 a former parishioner, Natalya Perrin, who is in need.

**Temple Wine** given for the health and salvation of William and Carolyn.

### Classes this Week

The **Basics** class will resume after Bright Week on a weeknight, probably Thursday or Friday at 8:00 p.m. Father Justin in the meantime invites all inquirers and visitors to sit with him at coffee hour.

Friday, 3:30 Themes in the Triodion & a Command of Christ: "Watch and Pray that you enter not into temptation."

### The Fast: Sixth Week

We abstain from meat, meat products, dairy, fish, wine (alcohol), oil. If fasting fully according to the norm, 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 cut back on (or cut out) all things that distract us unnecessarily from Christ. The Eucharistic fast for the Vesperal Liturgy on Wednesday begins at 1:00 p.m., for Friday's Presanctified Liturgy, noon,

**Confessions:** with Pascha but two weeks away, if you need to make a confession, please make every effort to do so this week.

**Pascha Preparations:** A variety of preparations need to be made. Those who wish to read John 1 in a foreign language at Pascha Liturgy should speak to Fr. Justin and begin practicing. We will clean and decorate the church and tomb on Holy Friday at 10. An artos will need to be baked. A special offering for flowers will be taken next Sunday. After the Lazarus Saturday Liturgy, we will prepare our palm fronds and pussy willows for Palm Sunday Vigil and Liturgy.

**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 \$2679 in tithes and offerings; this month we have given \$8307.88; our monthly budget is \$9502 (\$2192 per week). Candles \$39.50; Special offering for debt reduction \$40; Renovation fund (drink jar) \$3, Building fund \$35. Attendance: Liturgy 76, Vigil 28.

**Many Thanks** to our faithful prosthora baker and those who clean the church and clean up after our meals.

**Please Pray:** the novice Elias, and the novice Svetlana. Pray for Joe Fincher and Olga, for Joanna (Sherri) Hale, for Patricia, Perpetua, and James Lydon. Please pray for former parishioner Natalya Perrin, and for our new diocesan administrator, Fr. Gerasim.

### From Saint Maximus

Has someone vilified you? Do not hate him; hate the vilification and the demon which induced him to utter it. If you hate the vilifier, you have hated a man and so broken the commandment. What he has done in word you do in action. To keep the commandment, show the qualities of love and help him in any way you can, so that you may deliver him from evil.

Christ does not want you to feel the least hatred, resentment, anger or rancor towards anyone in any way or on account of any transitory thing whatsoever. This is proclaimed throughout the four Gospels.

Many of us are talkers, few are doers. But no one should distort the word of God through his own negligence. He must confess his weakness and not hide God's truth. Otherwise he will be guilty not only of breaking the commandments but also of falsifying the word of God.

Love and self-control free the soul from passions; spiritual reading and contemplation deliver the intellect from ignorance; and the state of prayer brings it into the presence of God Himself.

*400 Chapters on Love, 4.83-86*

## Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, March 29

### Resurrectional Troparion, tone 1

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews / and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate body, / Thou didst rise on the third day, O Saviour, / granting life to the world. / The powers of heaven, therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of life: / Glory to the Resurrection, O Christ! / Glory to Thy Kingdom! / Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Lover of man.

### 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.

### Mary of Egypt, Troparion tone 8

In thee the image was preserved with exactness, O Mother; / for taking up thy cross, thou didst follow Christ, / and by thy deeds thou didst teach us to overlook the flesh, for it passeth away, / but to attend to the soul since it is immortal. / Wherefore, O righteous Mary, thy spirit rejoiceth with the Angels.

### Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 1

Thou hast risen from the grave as God in glory / and Thou didst raise the world with Thee, / and human nature hymneth Thee as God, / and death hath vanished. / Adam exulteth, O Master, / and Eve, delivered from her bondage, now rejoiceth, crying: / Thou, O Christ, / art He who granteth to all the Resurrection!

### 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.

### Mary of Egypt, Kontakion, tone 3

Once thou wast defiled with every impurity, / but today through repentance thou hast become the Bride of Christ. / Desiring the life of the angels, / thou hast cast down the demons with the weapon of the Cross: / therefore, O glorious Mary, thou was made a bride of the Kingdom.