

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday April 26th, 2015

Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is risen!



Schedule of Services

April 26th Sunday Holy Myrrh-bearers

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

April 28th Tuesday

6:30 a.m. Molieben to St. Maximus for the Parish

April 29th Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

April 30th Thursday St. James Brother of John

8:45 a.m. Hours

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

May 1st Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

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

May 2nd Saturday St. Athanasius

9:30 a.m. Russian Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

May 3rd Sunday Paralytic

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

3:00 p.m. Saito-Hollebeak Wedding

'I have often a strange feeling. When I read the ancient classics of Christian theology, the fathers of the church, I find them more relevant to the troubles and problems of my own time than the production of modern theologians. The fathers were wrestling with existential problems, with those revelations of the eternal issues which were described and recorded in Holy Scripture. I would risk a suggestion that St. Athanasius and St. Augustine are much more up to date than many of our theological contemporaries. The reason is very simple: there were dealing with things and not with the maps, they were concerned not so much with what man can believe as with what God had done for man. We have, "in a time such as this," to enlarge our perspective, to acknowledge the masters of old, and to attempt for our own age an existential synthesis of Christian experience.' *Fr. Georges Florovsky*

Announcements for April 26

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, please see the posting on the door to the nave) 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 hearing aid for Rick Hollebeak to facilitate communication in his upcoming marriage.

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

No Classes this Week: A new class schedule will be released next Sunday.

Wedding: Nancy Rachel Saito and Rick Eugene Hollebeak will be married here next Sunday, May 3 at 3:00 p.m. Please keep them in your prayers.

Paschal Notes

The prayer "O Heavenly King" is not said at home or in church during this season until Pentecost, May 31. We replace it and the "glory to Thee O God" before it with the Paschal troparion "Christ is risen" thrice in our prayers.

During the 50 days from Pascha to the Feast of Pentecost, we do not kneel or make prostrations in church in keeping with the joyful, festal character of the season. We begin to kneel and do prostrations again with the Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost. For 40 days until the Feast of Ascension (May 21), we greet each other by saying, "Christ is Risen!" "Indeed, He is Risen!"

Through the Leavetaking of Pascha (May 20), we use the Paschal Troparion (thrice) before meals and when setting out on a trip.

Molieben: The Molieben is a prayer service directed towards specific needs, whether private or corporate, of the faithful. In the past we have had regular Moliebens for our parish. This Tuesday at 6:30 a.m., and perhaps regularly again, a molieben will be served to

pray for the health of our parish and the growth of its mission. Everyone in the parish will be prayed for by name. The service lasts about thirty minutes.

Russian Liturgy: Starting this Saturday, we plan to serve a Divine Liturgy in the Russian language the first Saturday of each month at 9:30 a.m. Those who do not speak Russian are welcome too. This is a means of ministry and outreach to Slavic immigrants to our area whose English is not strong.

Many Thanks to our church school teachers!

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.

On Pascha, we gave \$1531.86, last week \$2956.91; in April we have given \$6219.68 in tithes and offerings; our monthly budget is \$9502 (\$2192 per week). Candles \$99.50; Special offering \$333.07, Natalya Perrin \$20; Drink Jar \$33.56; Building funds \$42.20. Attendance: Vigil 32, Liturgy 78.

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. Pray that the Lord will send laborers into His harvest field here in Denton and North Texas.

From Saint Maximus

The friends of Christ love all truly but are not themselves loved by all; the friends of the world neither love all nor are loved by all. The friends of Christ persevere in love to the end; the friends of the world persevere only until they fall out with each other over some worldly thing.

'A faithful friend is a strong defense' (Ecclus. 6:14); for when things are going well with you, he is a good counselor and a sympathetic collaborator, while when things are going badly, he is the truest of helpers and a most compassionate supporter.

Many have said much about love, but you will find love itself only if you seek it among the disciples of Christ. For only they have true Love as love's teacher. 'Though I have the gift of prophecy', says St

Paul, 'and know all mysteries and all knowledge . . . and have no love, it profits me nothing' (1 Cor. 13:2-3). He who possesses love possesses God Himself, for 'God is love' (1 John 4:8). To Him be glory throughout the ages. Amen.

400 Chapters on Love, 4.98-100

Troparia and Kontakia for Thomas Sunday, April 19

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 2

When Thou, didst descend to death, O Life Immortal / Thou didst slay Hell with the lightning-flash of Thy Divinity, / and, when from the nether regions Thou didst raise the dead, / all the powers of Heaven cried out: // 'O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!'

Myrrh-bearing Women, Troparion, tone 2

The noble Joseph, when he had taken down Thine immaculate Body from the tree, / wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices, / and placed it in a new tomb. / But Thou didst rise on third day, O Lord, // granting the world great mercy.

Kontakion of Myrrhbearers, tone 2

When Thou didst cry, Rejoice, unto the Myrrh-bearers, / Thou didst make the lamentation of Eve the first mother to cease / by Thy Resurrection, O Christ God. / And Thou didst bid Thine Apostles to preach: // the Savior is risen from the grave.

Paschal Kontakion, tone 8

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, / Thou didst destroy the power of death. / In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, / proclaiming, "Rejoice!" to the myrrhbearing women, / granting peace to Thine Apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

From the Didache (1st century)

We thank Thee, our Father, for the life and knowledge which Thou madest known to us through Jesus Thy Servant; to Thee be the glory for ever. Even as this broken bread was scattered over the hills, and was gathered together and became one, so let Thy Church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into Thy kingdom; for Thine is the glory and the power through Jesus Christ for ever.