

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 of the Cross April 3rd, 2016

Schedule of Services

April 10th Sunday tone 4 St. John of the Ladder 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Church School, Mission Council 6:00 p.m. Pan-Orthodox Vespers, SS Constantine & Helen
April 11th Monday 6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession 2:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession
April 12th Tuesday 6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession 7:00 p.m. Vespers 8:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy 201 "Creed 2"
April 13th Wednesday 6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession 3:00 p.m. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, Meal 7:00 p.m. Matins with Great Canon and Life of Mary of Egypt
April 14th Thursday 6:30 p.m. <i>Russian Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, Dallas</i>
April 15th Friday 6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession 7:00 p.m. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, Meal 10:00 p.m. Matins with Akathist Hymn
April 16th Saturday 5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession
April 17th Sunday tone 5 St. Mary of Egypt 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Church School 6:00 p.m. Pan-Orthodox Vespers, St. Seraphim Cathedral

Now that we have passed beyond the middle point in the time of the Fast, let us manifest in ourselves a beginning of divine glory, and let us hasten eagerly towards our journey's end, the life of holiness, that we may receive the joy that grows not old.

Triodion, Vespers of the 4th Sunday

Announcements for April 10

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).

The Special Offering this week will be for St. Arsenius Skete.

The Liturgy of St. Basil is served today and next Sunday in place of the usual Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom as is appointed during this season.

Mission Council will meet today.

No Church School today.

Classes This Week

Tuesday 8:00 Basics of Orthodoxy 201 "Creed II"

Special Services this week include Thursday Matins served Wednesday evening with the entire Great Canon of St. Andrew and the Life of Mary of Egypt and Saturday Matins served Friday night with the Akathist hymn to the Theotokos. This latter service has only been served a couple times in our parish. These services give the fifth week of the Fast a heightened intensity. Both provide a good opportunity for keeping Vigil at night.

Pan-Orthodox Vespers will be served tonight at Sts. Constantine & Helen Antiochian Orthodox Church in Carrollton at 6:00.

Eucharistic Fasting for the Presanctified Liturgies should begin no later than 9:00 a.m. Wednesday and 1:00 p.m. on Friday.

Episcopal Installation: Bishop Alexander will be formally installed as the ruling bishop of the Diocese of the South Saturday, June 11, at St. Seraphim Cathedral, Dallas. Look for details to come.

Confessions: The Great Fast is time for repentance and Confession. Two weeks remain until Holy Week. Please make every effort to make your confessions before then.

Weeding needs to be done in our flower beds. Father has been working on it since the Fast began, but there is an opportunity here to serve and help keep our grounds up. Father has a list of things to be done if you'd like to come by during the week for a bit to work.

Many Thanks to our faithful prosphora baker, Andrea Rovny, to those who mowed the lawn last Sunday, to those who clean the

church each week, to our church school teachers, to our choir, and to all who labor and serve to the glory of God in our parish.

The Fast: Fifth 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.

Tithes, Offerings & Attendance: Bringing our tithes and offerings to the temple of God is part of our worship of God and 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 slot in the candle table (or in the basket passed during service). There are also boxes for alms (those in need) and for our building fund.

Last week, we gave \$1724.65 in tithes and offerings; our monthly budget is \$10,350 (\$2389 per week). Candles \$76, special offering for IOCC \$9, Building Fund \$20, Renovation \$5; Prison Ministry \$8. Attendance: Sat Vigil 22 Sun Liturgy 98.

Please Pray: for those preparing for holy illumination and Adam and Jenilee Skelton, our catechumens Estephania Dean and Marsha Northam, our inquirers the Wells family, the Dean family, for the novices Elias and Svetlana. Pray for Joe Fincher and Olga, for Patricia, Perpetua, and James Lydon. Pray that the Lord will send laborers into His harvest field here in Denton and North Texas. Remember always to pray for your priest. Please pray for John Roberts and his wife Edith, who has been diagnosed with cancer. Pray for those whom you have not seen at church for some time.

From Saint Maximus 500 Various Texts

The lover of virtue willingly puts out the fire of sensual pleasure. And if a man has dedicated his intellect to the knowledge of truth, he will not allow unsought sufferings to thwart the ceaseless aspiration that leads him towards God. 2.57

When through self-control you have straightened the crooked paths of the passions in which you deliberately indulged – that is to say, the impulses of sensual pleasure – and when, by enduring patiently the harsh and painful afflictions produced by trials and temptations suffered against your will, you have made the rough ways smooth and even, then you may expect to see God's salvation, for you will have become pure in heart. In this state of purity, through the virtues and

through holy contemplation, you will at the end of your contest behold God, in accordance with Christ's words: 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God' (Matt. 5:8). And because of the sufferings you have endured for the sake of virtue you will receive the gift of dispassion. To those who possess this gift there is nothing which reveals God more fully. 2.58

Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, April 10

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 4

Having learned the radiant proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, /the women disciples of the Lord cast off the ancestral curse, /and, boasting, told the Apostles: /Death hath been despoiled, Christ God is risen, /granting the world great mercy.

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.

Sunday of John Climacus, Troparion tone 1

O John, our father, saint of God, thou was revealed as a citizen of the desert, / an angel in a body and a worker of miracles. / Through fasting, prayer and vigils, /thou hast received heavenly gifts of grace, /and thou healest the sick and the souls of those that turn to thee with faith. / Glory be to Him who gave thee strength; / glory, be to Him who crowned thee / glory be to Him who through thee granteth to all men healing.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 4

My Saviour and Deliverer as God/ hath raised out of the grave the earth-born from their bonds / and He hath shattered the gates of hell / and as Master / He hath risen on the third day.

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.

John Climacus, Kontakion, tone 4

Truly the Lord hath set thee as fixed star in the firmament of abstinence, / giving light to the ends of the earth / O father John our teacher.