

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, July 3rd, 2016

Schedule of Services

July 3rd Sunday of All Saints of North America, tone 1

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Ambigua

July 4th Monday

6:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 a.m. Molieben for Civil Feast Days

July 5th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

July 6th Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

July 7th Thursday

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

7:30 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy 202: Divine Liturgy 6

July 8th Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

July 9th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

July 10th Sunday, Third after Pentecost, tone 2

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Talk on the Council

Isaac the Solitary on Guarding the Senses, 27 Texts

13. Unless a man hates all the activity of this world, he cannot worship God. What then is meant by the worship of God? It means that we have nothing extraneous in our intellect when we are praying to Him: neither sensual pleasure as we bless Him, nor malice as we sing His praise, nor hatred as we exalt Him, nor jealousy to hinder us as we speak to Him and call Him to mind. For all these things are full of darkness; they are a wall imprisoning our wretched soul, and if the soul has them in itself it cannot worship God with purity. They obstruct its ascent and prevent it from meeting God; they hinder it from blessing Him inwardly and praying to Him with sweetness of heart, and so receiving His illumination. As a result the intellect is always shrouded in darkness and cannot advance in holiness, because it does not make the effort to uproot these thoughts by means of spiritual knowledge.

Announcements for July 3

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 alms.

Temple Oil given for the health and salvation of Subdeacon Anthony and family and of Anna Stokes.

Eternal Memory to Liudmila (Lucy) Hughes who reposed in the Lord June 2 and was buried in the IOOF Cemetery in Denton June 7.

A Parting: We bid farewell and Godspeed to Andrew, Julianna, and Onesimus Bramlett, who are moving back to Missouri this week.

Fourth of July: St. Sava's in Allen is having a celebration for the holiday beginning at 4:00 with food and games and culminating in watching the fireworks. See flier on bulletin board. All welcome.

Many Thanks to Melanie Betz for baking our beautiful litia bread and to Andrea Rovny, faithfully baking our prosphora.

Welcome to our intern Daniel Greeson, a seminarian at St. Vladimir's, and to his wife and two children. They will be with us through Dormition. In additions to his service with us, Daniel will also be working at the cathedral Mondays and Tuesdays.

The Council: Next Sunday after Liturgy, Daniel Greeson will share his experiences at the recent Council on Crete with those interested.

Mission Council will meet next Sunday.

Candles: Due to rising costs, we have adjusted the selection and cost of our candles. The two smaller sizes are from Nativity Monastery in Kemp and help support the nuns. The largest candle is now \$3; the mid-sized candle will be reduced to \$1, and the smallest candle (smaller than we used to offer) remain \$.50. Candles as part of our worship represent an offering to God and fortify our prayer.

Classes This Week

Thursday 7:30: Basics of Orthodoxy 202
Divine Liturgy 6: Epistle and Gospel

Patronal Feast of our mother parish, St. Seraphim Cathedral, will be celebrated with Vigil July 18 at 6:30 p.m. and Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, July 19 at 9:30 a.m. We are all invited. Fr. Justin will be present at Vigil and able to hear Confessions.

Call for Pictures: Please see Amy Stokes or Olivia Reynolds if you have pictures of parish to help commemorate fifteen years of parish life.

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 the slot in the candle table (or in the basket passed during service). There are also boxes for alms (those in need) and our building fund.

Last week we gave \$1502.66 in tithes and offerings; in June we gave \$6795.86 plus \$3307.03 electronically for a total of 10,102.89; our monthly budget is \$10,350 (\$2389 per week). Candles \$59; Building Fund \$35; Special Offering for Alms \$67.36, Renovation (drink jar) \$3. Attendance: Vigil 39; Liturgy 88.

Please Pray: for our catechumen Marsha Northam, our inquirers the Wells family, the Dean family, for David & Sally Roberts, and for Meghann Jones & family; for the novices Elias and Svetlana. Pray for Patricia, Perpetua, and James Lydon. Please pray for John Roberts and his wife Edith, and for Frieda as she cares for her mother. Olga Fincher and her husband Joseph.

Namedays John W. Colias (July 2, St. John of SF), Andrew Colias (4th, Andrew of Crete) **Many Years! Happy Birthday** to Thea Frederick (1st), Amy Stokes (3rd), Owen Terry (6th), Heather St. Jean (8th).

From Saint Maximus 500 Various Texts

Women signify the supreme realization of the virtues, which is love. Love is the unfailing pleasure and indivisible union of those who participate through their longing in what is good by nature. Truth signifies the fulfillment of all spiritual knowledge and of all the things that can be known. For the natural activities of all created things are drawn by a certain universal intelligence to this truth as their origin and fulfillment. For the Origin and Cause of created beings has as truth conquered all things naturally, and has drawn their activity to Himself. 3.31

In each of us the energy of the spirit is made manifest according to the measure of his faith (cf. Rom. 12:6). Therefore each of us is the steward of his own grace and, if we think logically, we should never envy another person the enjoyment of his gifts, since the disposition

which makes us capable of receiving divine blessings depends on ourselves. 3.34

In other words, divine blessings are bestowed according to the measure of faith in each man. Similarly, the strength of our faith is revealed by the zeal with which we act. Thus our actions disclose the measure of our faith, and the strength of our faith determines the measure of grace that we receive. Conversely, the extent to which we fail to act reveals the measure of our lack of faith, and our lack of faith in turn determines the degree to which we are deprived of grace. Hence the person who out of jealousy envies those who practice the virtues is more than misguided, for the choice of believing and acting, and of receiving grace according to the measure of his faith, clearly depends on him and not on anybody else. 3.35

Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, July 3rd

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.

All Saints of North America, Troparion, Feast, tone 8

As the bountiful harvest of Thy sowing of salvation, / the lands of North America offer to Thee, O Lord, all the saints who have shone in them. / By their prayers keep the Church and our land in abiding peace/through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One.

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!

All Saints of North America, Kontakion, tone 3

Today the choir of Saints who were pleasing to God / in the lands of North America / now stand before us in the Church / and invisibly pray to God for us. / With them the Angels glorify Him, / and all the Saints of the Church of Christ / keep festival with them; // and together they all pray for us to the Pre-eternal God.