

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, August 7th, 2016

Schedule of Services

August 7th Sunday, Seventh after Pentecost, tone 6

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour, Ignatius Class

August 8th Monday

6:00 a.m. Matins

6:00 p.m. Vigil

August 9th Tuesday St. Herman of Alaska

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

August 10th Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers w/Paraclesis, Confession

August 11th Thursday

6:00 a.m. Matins

6:00 p.m. Vespers w/Paraclesis

7:30 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy 202

August 12th Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Little Vespers, Confession

10:00 p.m. All-Night Vigil

August 13th Saturday St. Maximus, Leavetaking of Transfiguration

8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vigil

August 14th Sunday, Seventh after Pentecost, tone 6

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Ignatius Class, Mission Council

5:00 p.m. Vigil for Dormition

Isaiah the Solitary on Guarding the Senses, 27 Texts

21. Be attentive to your heart and watch your enemies, for they are cunning in their malice. In your heart be persuaded of this: it is impossible for a man to achieve good through evil means. That is why our Savior told us to be watchful, saying: 'Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way that leads to life, and few there are that find it (Matt. 7:14).

Announcements for August 7

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 the IOCC.

Many Thanks to Amy Stokes and Olivia Reynolds to putting together the commemorative book and display of pictures, to Melanie Betz for baking the bishop's bread, and to everyone else who cleaned, did yard work, and otherwise helped make the bishop's visit a success for the parish.

Commemorative Picture Books celebrating our fifteen years as a parish are available as are the ten-year books. See Dax Stokes.

St. Herman's Feast (9 Aug) will be celebrated this Monday evening at 6:00 with a standard vigil and Tuesday morning at 9:00 with Divine Liturgy, which will take the place of the usual Thursday Liturgy this week. St. Herman is considered the patron saint of the Orthodox Church in North America.

All-Night Vigil: We propose to celebrate the August feast of St. Maximus and the Leavetaking of Transfiguration with an All-Night Vigil this Friday evening starting at 10:00. Little Vespers will be served at 4:00. The Vigil will consist of Little Compline with the Akathist to the Theotokos, Great Vespers and Matins in full followed by the Hours and Divine Liturgy. We should finish by 4:00 a.m. Start your eucharistic fast by 9:00 p.m. if you wish to commune.

Classes This Week

Sunday 11:45 Ignatius

Thursday 7:30: Basics of Orthodoxy 202 Last class until mid September.

Priest on Vacation: Fr. Justin will be leaving on vacation following Liturgy on Dormition and plans to be gone the following three Sundays. Arrangements have been made for Hieromonk Gregory and Fr. John Anderson to fill in at Vigil and Liturgy. A reader's Vespers will be served on Wednesday evenings.

Way of the Pilgrim: Subdeacon Anthony (Dax) will offer a class on this spiritual classic on Wednesday evenings after reader's Vespers

The Dormition Fast is being observed through August 14. We abstain from meat, dairy, fish, wine and oil (except as modified per the wallcalendar) in order to devote ourselves to restraint of passions, fervent prayer, almsgiving, and good works. May Christ grant each of us an abundance of grace! Plan on making a Confession, too, as following the Feast (Aug 15), your priest will be going on vacation. This fast, we have opportunity to worship and pray at six vigils in ten days, a rare opportunity. Two of those are past, but you can still attend four in seven days. Just being in church brings the benefit of keeping you out of sin, even if you seem to receive nothing else.

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 \$1227.65 in tithes and offerings; in July we gave \$7834.16; in addition we gave \$2411 electronically for a total of \$10,245.16; our monthly budget is \$10,350 (\$2389 per week). Candles \$90; Special offering for anniversary costs \$97, Building Fund \$17. Attendance: Vigil 60; Liturgy 115.

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 who just lost his wife, for Frieda as she cares for her mother, for Photina and Jude Bellan, for Olga Fincher and her husband Joseph.

Many Years to Amy Stokes (Aug 1, Martyr Elesa of Kythera).

From Saint Maximus 500 Various Texts

Unless curbed by the fear of God that accompanies the practice of the virtues, spiritual knowledge leads to vanity; for it encourages the person puffed up by it to regard as his own what has merely been lent to him, and to use his borrowed intelligence to win praise for himself. But when his practice of the virtues increases concomitantly with his longing for God, and he does not arrogate to himself more spiritual knowledge than is needed for the task in hand, then he is made humble, reduced to himself by principles which are beyond his capacity. 3.48

Man's heavenly abode is a dispassionate state of virtue, combined with a spiritual knowledge that has overcome all delusory notions. 3.49

Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, August 7th

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 6

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb / and the guards became as dead men, / Mary stood by Thy grave, / seeking Thine immaculate body, / Thou didst despoil hell, not being tempted by it, / Thou didst go to meet the Virgin granting life, / O Lord, who didst rise from the dead, / glory to Thee.

Transfiguration, Troparion, tone 7

Thou wast transfigured upon the mountain, O Christ God, / showing Thy glory to Thy disciples as far as they could bear it. / Through the prayers of the Theotokos, / make Thine everlasting light shine also upon us sinners. / O Giver of Light, glory to Thee!

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.

St. Dometius, Troparion, tone 4

Having struggled in fasting upon the mountain, / thou didst destroy the noetic hordes of the enemy with the weaponry of the Cross, O most blessed one. / And thou didst likewise manfully array thyself for battle, / slaying Copronymous with the sword of faith. // And for both thou hast been crowned by God, O ever-memorable martyr Dometius.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 6

With His life-originating palm, from the valleys of gloom / the Life-giver Christ God hath raised all the dead. / He hath bestowed resurrection on the human dough, / for He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, and Life, and God of all.

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.

St. Dometius, Kontakion, tone 6

Having utterly spurned corruptible thing / and thoughts which draw one down to the depths, / O venerable martyr Dometius, / thou didst who thyself to be a great leader of monks, / changing into fear the wrath of the king / who did not wish to worship Christ as the true God. / Wherefore, thou didst repose, chanting the hymn: // God is with me, and no one is against me!

Transfiguration, Kontakion, tone 7

Upon the mountain wast Thou transfigured, O Christ God, / and Thy disciples beheld Thy glory as far as they could see it; / so that when they would behold Thee crucified, / they would understand that Thy suffering was voluntary, / and would proclaim to the world / that Thou art truly the Radiance of the Father.