

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, May 21st, 2017

Schedule of Services

May 21st Sunday of the Blind Man, tone 5 *SS Constantine & Helen*

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

May 22nd Monday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

May 23rd Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

5:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

May 24th Wednesday Leavetaking of Pascha

5:30 a.m. Paschal Matins

6:30 a.m. Paschal Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

May 25th Thursday Ascension of Our Lord

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

May 26th Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

7:00 p.m. Compline

May 27th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

May 28th Sunday of the Fathers of the First Council, tone 6

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

St. Theodore the Great Ascetic 100 Texts

55. Do not hanker after varied and costly foods or lethal pleasures. For 'she that indulges in pleasure', it is said, 'is dead while still alive' (1 Tim. 5: 6). Even with ordinary foods, avoid satiety as far as possible. For it is written; 'Do not be deceived by the filling of the belly' (Prov. 24:15. LXX).

61. It has been said aptly and appositely by one of the ancients that, among the demons opposing us, there are three groups that fight in the front line: those entrusted with the appetites of gluttony, those that suggest avaricious thoughts, and those that incite us to self-esteem. All the other demons follow behind and in their turn attack those already wounded by the first three groups.

Announcements for May 21"

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 also invite you to go first through the food line.

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).

Temple Wine offered for the health and salvation of William and Carolyn Rodgers; **Temple Oil** offered for the blessed repose of William Frederick.

The Special Offering this week will be for the building fund.

Leavetaking of Pascha will be celebrated this week with Vespers Tuesday and Matins and Liturgy Wednesday morning in full Bright Week style. Wednesday is the last day for using the Paschal troparion and greeting.

The Ascension of our Lord, one of the Twelve Great Feasts, will be celebrated this week with Vigil Wednesday evening at 7:00 and Divine Liturgy Thursday morning at 9:00. We should all make the effort to attend at least a part of the cycle of services to celebrate the feast. We celebrate the feast through its Leavetaking, June 2.

No Classes This Week. Classes will resume the week of June 4.

Mission Council will meet next Sunday.

Memorial Day Picnic is coming up Monday, May 29 at noon. Plan on coming, bringing food and drink to share, and a friend or two.

Crafts Sale: Our seminannual crafts sale for youth will held on Pentecost, June 4.

Game Night: A youth game night is being planned for the fast-free Friday evening after Pentecost, June 9. Stay tuned.

Poetry and Port: Fr. Justin will offer another evening of the poetry of T.S. Eliot, accompanied with port and light refreshments Friday, June 9 (during the youth game night) to consider the work "Four Quartets".

Altar Server Training: Sunday, June 11, those altar servers and those desiring to serve will meet during coffee hour for instruction.

The Front Door should not be used during the Sunday Liturgy as we are using the narthex as part of the nave. It is fine, however, to use it for all other services.

Commemorations: Please try to submit your Sunday commemorations Saturday night (or earlier) whenever you can.

Secondary Relics: On Mt. Athos, Father Justin was able to bless a cloth on the relic of St. Maximus. This cloth now constitutes what we call a 'secondary relic.' Pieces will soon be available to any family desiring one.

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.

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| Last Sunday, we gave \$2021.83 in tithes and offerings; this month we have given \$5376.83 Our monthly budget is \$11,250; candles \$93.50, special offering for alms \$92, building fund \$20. Attendance: Vigil last Saturday 48; Sunday Liturgy 108. Building fund balance: \$86,651.70 |
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Please Pray: for Cassian and Ruth Brown and their children Daniel, Anna, Elijah; for our catechumen Marsha Northam, our inquirers the Dean family; for the nun Susannah and the novice Elias. Please pray for Photina and Jude Bellan, for Albina Gashushina, and for Olga Fincher and her husband Joseph, for Eugene and Rachel, and for Jeremy Gleb Rovny, travelling in India.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

2.16 Passion is an impulse of the soul contrary to nature, as in the case of mindless love or mindless hatred for someone or for some sensible thing. In the case of love, it may be for needless food, or for a woman, or for money, or for transient glory, or for other sensible objects or on their account. In the case of hatred, it may be for any of the things mentioned, or for someone on account of these things.

2.22 The demons are weakened when the passions in us decrease through our keeping the commandments; and they are defeated totally when they are routed by dispassion, for then they no longer find anything through which they can enter the soul and fight against it. This is what is meant by 'they will be weakened and defeated before Thy face' (Ps. 9:3).

2.23 Some men abstain from the passions because of human fear, others because of self-esteem, and others through self-control. Some, however, are delivered from the passions by divine providence.

Troparia and Kontakia for May 21"

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 5

Let us the faithful hymn and worship the Word / who with the Father and the Spirit hath no beginning, / and was born for our salvation of the Virgin; / for He was pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh, / and to endure death / and to raise the dead / by His glorious Resurrection.

SS Constantine & Helen, Troparion, tone 8

Beholding the image of Thy Cross in the sky, / and like Paul receiving a call not from men, / Thine apostle among kings placed the imperial city in Thy hands, O Lord. // Do Thou save it ever in peace through the supplications of the Theotokos, O Thou who alone lovest mankind.

Kontakion of the Blind Man, tone 4

Since my soul's noetic eyes are blind and sightless, / I come unto Thee, O Christ, as did the man born blind. / And in repentance I cry to Thee: / Thou art the most radiant Light / of those in darkness.

SS Constantine & Helen, Kontakion, tone 3

Today Constantine and his mother Helena reveal the Cross, / the most precious Tree, which putteth to shame all the Jews / and is a weapon of faithful kings aginast the adversary. // For our sake hath the great standard appeared, terrible in battle.

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.