

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, May 28th, 2017

Schedule of Services

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

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

May 29th Monday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

May 30th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

5:00 p.m. Paraclesis (Molieben to the Theotokos)

May 31st Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

June 1st Thursday St. Justin of Chelije

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

June 2nd Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

7:00 p.m. Compline

June 3rd Memorial Saturday

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy for Departed

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

June 4th Sunday of Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Youth Craft Sale

5:00 p.m. Vespers with Kneeling Prayers

St. Theodore the Great Ascetic 100 Texts

62. Indeed, we have come to know from our own observations that it is not possible for a man to fall into sin or be subject to a particular passion unless he has previously been wounded by one of these three (gluttony, avarice, self-esteem). That is why the devil attacked our Savior with these three thoughts (cf. Matt. 4:1-10). But our Lord, having shown Himself superior to them, commanded the devil to depart, in His goodness and compassion bequeathing to us the victory He had achieved. He assumed a body in all respects like ours, but without sin (cf. Heb. 4:15), and showed us the unerring path of sinlessness, by following which we form in ourselves the new man, who is 'formed again . . . according to the image of his Creator' (Col. 3:10).

Announcements for May 28th

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 prison ministry of Fr. Seraphim Holland.

Mission Council will meet today after Liturgy.

St. Justin of Chelije: this week, for the first time ever in English, the feast of St. Justin the New will be served here. Father Justin commissioned the translation of the service composed on the Holy Mountain in Greek into English and it is now ready. Vigil 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, Divine Liturgy Thursday at 9:00 a.m.

Holy Pentecost, one of the Twelve Great Feasts, will be celebrated next Sunday with the festal Vigil Saturday evening at 5:00, Liturgy Sunday morning at 9:00, and the Vespers of Pentecost with the Kneeling Prayers Sunday afternoon at 5:00. It is then we resume using the prayer "O Heavenly King" and doing prostrations in church when it is not a Sunday or a great feast of the Lord.

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

Memorial Day Picnic is postponed. We will hold it, God willing, in the next week or two on Sunday as an extended coffee hour.

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.

New Services: With regularity we shall begin to offer two services: the Pannikhida Friday nights after Vespers for the Departed and the Paraclesis, or the Molieben to the Theotokos, which is commonly offered for healing of physical ailments and deliverance from spiritual distress. Those ill, ailing, or struggling physically or spiritually are encouraged to attend.

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 Sunday, we gave \$1402.50 in tithes and offerings; this month we have given \$6779.33 Our monthly budget is \$11,250; candles \$97.50, special offering for building fund \$270. Attendance: Vigil last Saturday 40; Sunday Liturgy 96. Building fund balance: \$86,921.70

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

2.19 The demon of unchastity is powerful and violently attacks those who struggle against passion, particularly if they are lax about matters of diet and often meet women. With the lubricity of sensual pleasure he imperceptibly steals into the intellect and thereafter persecutes the hesychast by means of the memory, setting his body on fire and presenting various forms to his intellect. In this way he evokes his assent to sin. If you do not want these

forms to linger in you, turn again to fasting, labor, vigils and blessed stillness with intense prayer.

2.24 All the discourses of our Lord contain these four elements: commandments, doctrines, threats and promises. With the help of these we patiently accept every kind of hardship, such as fasting, vigils, sleeping on the ground, toil and labor in acts of service, insults, dishonor, torture, death and so on. 'Helped by the words of Thy lips,' says the psalmist, I have kept to difficult paths' (Ps. 17:4. LXX).

2.25 The reward of self-control is dispassion, and the reward of faith is spiritual knowledge. Dispassion engenders discrimination, and spiritual knowledge engenders love for God.

Troparia and Kontakia for May 28th

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.

Ascension, Troparion, tone 4

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, / granting joy to Thy disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. / Through the blessing they were assured / that Thou art the Son of God, / the Redeemer of the world.

Fathers, Troparion, tone 8

Most glorious art Thou, O Christ our God! / Thou hast established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth! / Through them Thou hast guided us to the true faith! / O greatly Compassionate One, glory to Thee!

Fathers, Kontakion, tone 8

The Apostles' preaching and the Fathers' doctrines have established one faith for the Church. / Adorned with the robe of truth, woven from heavenly theology; / great is the mystery of piety which it defines and glorifies.

Ascension, Kontakion, tone 6

When Thou didst fulfill the dispensation for our sake, / and unite earth to heaven; / Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, / not being parted from those who love Thee, / but remaining with them and crying: / I am with you and no one will be against you!