

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, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

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**Schedule of Services**

**June 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday of All Saints of the Turkish Yoke**

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

**June 26<sup>th</sup> Monday**

5:30 a.m. Midnight Office, Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Vespers

**June 27<sup>th</sup> Tuesday**

5:30 a.m. Midnight Office, Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Vespers with Paracletis, Confession

8:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy

**June 28<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

5:30 a.m. Midnight Office, Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**June 29<sup>th</sup> Thursday SS Peter & Paul**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

**July 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday**

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**July 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday**

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

St. Theodore the Great Ascetic 100 Texts

68. No one among us can prevail by his own unaided strength over the devices and wiles of the evil one; he can prevail only through the invincible power of Christ. Vainly, therefore, do conceited people wander about claiming that they have abolished sin through their ascetic accomplishments and their free will. Sin is abolished only through the grace of God, for it was made dead through the mystery of the Cross. This is why that luminary of the Church, St John Chrysostom, says: 'A man's readiness and commitment are not enough if he does not enjoy help from above as well; equally help from above is no benefit to us unless there is also commitment and readiness on our part. These two facts are proved by Judas and Peter. For although Judas enjoyed much help, it was of no benefit to him, since he had no desire for it and contributed nothing from himself. But Peter, although willing and ready, fell because he enjoyed no help from above. So holiness is woven of these two strands. Thus I entreat you neither to entrust everything to God and then fall asleep, nor to think, when you are striving diligently, that you will achieve everything by your own efforts.

## Announcements for June 25<sup>th</sup>

**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 in Memory of Daniel Holland; **Temple Oil** the blessed repose of William Frederick.

**The Special Offering** this week will be for OCMC (Orthodox Christian Mission Center) to support an Orthodox seminary in Kenya.

**New Martyrs of Turkish Yoke:** Today we remember our brethren who died for their faith under the Muslim Turkish yoke from roughly from the 14<sup>th</sup> century to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**Coffee Hour Etiquette:** Please remember to put our guests first in line, then our own elders. Please remember that there are hungry people behind you when deciding how much food to take. Please take for yourselves and your children only what they will eat: Wasting food is sinful. If more of us regularly supported this ministry by bringing food, there would be plenty for all. If you can't bring food, please help by washing dishes and cleaning up.

**Classes This Week:** Ephesians will not meet this week.  
Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy (Fr. Justin)

**The Sunday Basics of Orthodoxy** class will resume July 30 with the Basics One session for ten weeks.

**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.

**The Feast** of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul this Thursday marks the end of the Apostles' Fast. We shall keep the Feast with Vigil Wednesday evening at 7:00 and Divine Liturgy Thursday morning at 9:00.

**Fr. Justin** will travel to Tulsa after Liturgy Thursday to celebrate with Holy Apostles Church their Patronal Feast June 30. He will return Saturday.

**Mission Council** will meet next Sunday.

**Building Update:** We are praying and weighing options, whether to go ahead with long-standing plans to build on this property or to try to acquire something nearby that will offer more space. In either case, the more money we have in hand, the better. Let's see how quickly we can bring our building fund to \$100k. Can we do it before the Church New Year, Sept 1? We have \$8,000 to go.

**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 \$1483.20 in tithes and offerings; in June we have given \$5230.74; our monthly budget is \$11,250; candles \$72.50, special offering for Fr. Seraphim \$1099.22; building fund \$94.40. Attendance: Vigil last Saturday 36; Sunday Liturgy 98. Building fund balance: \$92,058.60 The special offer for the Hollands now totals \$1871.22. Glory to God!

**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 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

2.34 The rewards for the toils of virtue are dispassion and spiritual knowledge. For these are mediators of the kingdom of heaven, just as passions and ignorance are mediators of eternal punishment. It is because of this that he who seeks these rewards for the sake of human glory and not for their intrinsic goodness is rebuked by the words of Scripture, 'You ask, and do not receive, because you ask wrongly' (James 4:3).

2.35 Many human activities, good in themselves, are not good because of the motive for which they are done. For example, fasting and vigils, prayer and psalmody, acts of charity and hospitality are by nature good, but when performed for the sake of self-esteem they are not good.

2.36 In everything that we do God searches out our purpose to see whether we do it for Him or for some other motive.

2.37 When you hear the words of Scripture, ‘Thou shalt render to every man according to his work’ (Ps. 62:12. LXX), do not think that God bestows blessings when something is done for the wrong purpose, even though it seems be good. Quite clearly He bestows blessings only when something is done for the right purpose. For God’s judgment looks not at the actions but at the purpose behind them.

### **Troparia and Kontakia for June 25<sup>th</sup>**

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#### **Resurrectional Troparion, tone 2**

When Thou, didst descend to death, O Life Immortal / Thou didst slay Hell with the lightning-flash of Thy Divinity, / and, when from the nether regions Thou didst raise the dead, / all the powers of Heaven cried out: / ‘O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!’

#### **New Martyrs of Turkish Yoke, Troparion, tone 3**

The new martyrs, who with unremitting battle / have cast down the ancient deception, / have exalted the Faith of the Orthodox; / for, having abolished the worship of the iniquitous / and preached Christ boldly, / they now unceasingly entreat Him / as perfect God // that He grant us great mercy.

#### **Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 2**

Thou didst rise from the grave, all –powerful Saviour; / and Hades, seeing the wonder, was affrighted; / and the dead arose; and creation, beholding, rejoiceth with Thee; / and with Thee Adam also is glad; / and the world, O my Saviour, hymneth Thee forever.

#### **New Martyrs of Turkish Yoke, Kontakion, tone 1**

Rejoice mystically, O Church of Christ, / beholding thy children the new martyrs, / standing round about thy table in their relics, / like newly planted olive shoots; / and cry aloud to the Creator of all: // “Thou art the confirmation of the martyrs, O Christ!”