

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**May 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Samaritan Woman, tone 4; St. Job**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m. Fundraising Concert at St. John's, Euless

**May 7<sup>th</sup> Monday**

7:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**May 8<sup>th</sup> Tuesday St. John Theologian**

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

**May 9<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

6:00 p.m. Class: St. Basil the Great *On The Holy Spirit*

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

**May 10<sup>th</sup> Thursday Apostle Simon the Zealot**

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m. Men's Meeting

**May 11<sup>th</sup> Friday SS. Cyril & Methodius**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

5:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

7:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy Class: Divine Liturgy

**May 12<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

5:00 Vigil, Confession

**May 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Blind Man, tone 5**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Evagrius on Discrimination in Passions & Thoughts

In the whole range of evil thoughts, none is richer in resources than self-esteem; for it is to be found almost everywhere, and like some cunning traitor in a city it opens the gates to all the demons. So it greatly debases the intellect of the solitary, filling it with many words and notions, and polluting the prayers through which he is trying to heal all the wounds of his soul. All the other demons, when defeated, combine to increase the strength of this evil thought; and through the gateway of self-esteem they all gain entry into the soul, thus making a man's last state worse than his first (cf. Matt. 12:45). Self-esteem gives rise in turn to pride, which cast down from heaven to earth the highest of the angels, the seal of God's likeness and the crown of all beauty. So turn quickly away from pride and do not dally with it, in case you surrender your life to others and your substance to the merciless (cf. Prov. 5:9 demon is driven away by intense prayer and by not doing or saying anything that contributes to the sense of your own importance.

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission  
belongs to the Diocese of the South, Orthodox Church in America

## Announcements for May 6<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 line at Coffee Hour.

**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 is for the Loreto House ministry to unwed mothers.

**Temple Wine** given for the health and salvation of Elias, Connor, and Ian; **Temple Oil** given for the health and salvation of Mykola and in memory of Charles.

**After Communion:** Please take a piece of antidoron, take a quick sip of wine if you wish, and move on. Please do not dip bread in the wine any longer. It makes a mess, it is slowing things down too much, and it is not necessary. See more in the *Confessor's Tongue*.

**Fundraising Concert:** "Come, Receive the Light" a concert featuring the music of Pascha will be sung by our choir tonight at 7:00 p.m. at St. John's Greek Orthodox Church in Euless to raise money for our building fund. Suggested donation for entrance is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children five and up. An offering will be taken.

**Condolences** to Holly Bellan (Photina) who lost her father Friday. Please keep her and her sons Hunter (Jude) and Joel in prayer.

### Classes this Week:

Sunday, noon Basics of Orthodoxy.

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. St. Basil the Great. "On the Holy Spirit" part one. Try to read chapters 1-15.

Friday, 7:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodox, Divine Liturgy: "Blessed is the Kingdom". An examination of the meaning of the Liturgy. All welcome.

**The Annual Memorial Day Picnic** will be held Monday, May 28, at noon. We may serve Liturgy in the morning. Plan on attending, on bringing good food, on bringing and making good friends.

### Building Fund Watch

"Establish Thou this holy house, even unto the consummation of the age."

*Liturgy of St. Basil*

Building fund balance: \$136,690.

Current goal: \$150,000 by Pentecost.

**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 and our building fund.

Last Sunday, we gave \$1542.57 in tithes and offerings; in April, we gave \$13,098 plus \$3331.55 electronically for a total of \$16,429.55; our monthly budget is \$12,383 (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). Candles \$43, Special Offering for Prison Ministry \$139.25; Building Fund \$100. Attendance: Vigil 25; Sunday Liturgy 125.

**Please Pray** for our catechumens Miguel Dean, Connor Patrick, Brandon and Lanie Veazey and their baby Silouan; our inquirers Donna Lange, the Dean family, Jason Matthes, Chris Day, Colby and Rebekah Meals and their children; for the nun Susannah and the novice Elias. Please pray for Olga Fincher and her husband Joseph, for Eugene and Rachel, for Jeremy Gleb Rovny, working in Georgia, and Ian Rehm studying in Greece. Pray for those you haven't seen for awhile.

### Paschal Notes

The prayer "O Heavenly King" is not said at home or in church during this season until Pentecost, June 23. Instead we say or sing the Paschal Troparion, "Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death..." three times.

During the 50 days from Pascha to the Feast of Pentecost on May 27<sup>th</sup>, we do not kneel or make prostrations in church in keeping with the joyful, festal character of the season. We begin to kneel and do prostrations again with the Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost.

For 40 days through the Leavetaking (May 16), we greet each other by saying, "Christ is Risen!" "Indeed, He is Risen!" We also use the Paschal Troparion before and the Kontakion after meals and when setting out on a trip.

### From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

3.73 He who speaks dispassionately of his brother's sins does so either to correct him or to benefit another. If he speaks for any other reason, either to the brother himself or to another person, he speaks to abuse him or ridicule him. In this case he will not escape being abandoned by God. On the contrary, he will fall into the same sin or other sins and, censured and reproached by other men, will be put to shame.

3.74 It is not always for the same reason that sinners commit the same sin. The reasons vary. For example, it is one thing to sin through force of habit and another to sin through being carried

away by a sudden impulse. In the latter case the man did not deliberately choose the sin either before committing it, or afterwards; on the contrary, he is deeply distressed that the sin has occurred. It is quite different with the man who sins through force of habit. Prior to the act itself he was already sinning in thought, and after it he is still in the same state of mind.

3.75 He who cultivates the virtues for the sake of self-esteem also seeks after spiritual knowledge for the same reason. Such a man plainly does not do anything or discuss anything for the edification of others. On the contrary, he always seeks the praise of those who see him or hear him. His passion is brought to light when some of these people censure his actions or words. This distresses him greatly, not because he has failed to edify them - for that was not his aim - but because he has been humiliated.

### **Troparia and Kontakia for May 6<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Resurrectional Troparion, tone 4**

Having learned the radiant proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, /the women disciples of the Lord cast off the ancestral curse, /and, boasting, told the Apostles: /Death hath been despoiled, Christ God is risen, /granting the world great mercy.

#### **Mid-Pentecost, Troparion, tone 8**

In the middle of the Feast, O Savior, / fill my thirsting soul with the waters of godliness, as Thou didst cry to all: / “If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink!” // O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to Thee!

#### **Kontakion of Samaritan Woman, tone 8**

The Samaritan Woman came to the well in faith; / she saw Thee, the Water of Wisdom, and drank abundantly! / She inherited the Kingdom on high, and is ever glorified.

#### **Mid-Pentecost, Kontakion, tone 4**

O sovereign Master and Creator of all things, Christ our God, / Thou didst cry unto those present at the Judaic Mid-feast and address them thus: / Come hither and draw ye forth immortality’s water. / Wherefore, we fall down before Thee and faithfully cry out: //Grant Thy compassions unto us, O Lord, for Thou art truly the Well-spring of life for all.

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“It is not he who begins well who is perfect. It is he who ends well who is approved in God’s sight.” *St. Basil the Great*

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