

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, May 20th, 2018

May 20th Sunday Fathers of the First Council, tone 6

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

May 21st Monday SS Constantine & Helen

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

May 22nd Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

May 23rd Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Class: St. Basil the Great *Letters*

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

May 24th Thursday

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

May 25th Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

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

May 26th Saturday

10:00 a.m. Veazey Baptism

5:00 Vigil, Confession

May 27th Pentecost Sunday

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

4:00 p.m. Vespers with Kneeling Prayers

The Didache: Two Ways

And the way of death is this: First of all it is evil and accursed: murders, adultery, lust, fornication, thefts, idolatries, magic arts, witchcrafts, rape, false witness, hypocrisy, double-heartedness, deceit, haughtiness, depravity, self-will, greediness, filthy talking, jealousy, over-confidence, loftiness, boastfulness; persecutors of the good, hating truth, loving a lie, not knowing a reward for righteousness, not cleaving to good nor to righteous judgment, watching not for that which is good, but for that which is evil; from whom meekness and endurance are far, loving vanities, pursuing revenge, not pitying a poor man, not laboring for the afflicted, not knowing Him Who made them, murderers of children, destroyers of the handiwork of God, turning away from him who is in want, afflicting him who is distressed, advocates of the rich, lawless judges of the poor, utter sinners. Be delivered, children, from all these.

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

Announcements for May 20th

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 our building fund.

Temple Wine given for the health and salvation of Mykola;

Temple Oil given in memory of Charles.

Next Sunday is Pentecost, one of the Twelve Great Feasts. Do make a special effort to attend the Vigil and the Liturgy for this feast celebrating the ineffable gift to man of the Holy Spirit.

Baptism: The Veazey family will be baptized next Saturday at 10:00 a.m. All welcome.

Classes this Week:

Sunday, noon Basics of Orthodoxy.

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. St. Basil the Great. Selected Letters.

Friday, 7:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodox, Divine Liturgy: The Great Litany. All welcome.

The Annual Memorial Day Picnic will be held Monday, May 28, (one week away!) at noon. We shall serve Liturgy in the morning at 10:00. 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.

Please Pray for Brandon and Lanie Veazey and their baby Silouan preparing for holy illumination, our catechumens Miguel Dean and Connor Patrick; our inquirers Donna Lange, the Dean family, 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 Rehmet studying in Greece. Remember the grieving Photina and Jude Bellan. Pray for those you haven't seen for awhile.

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 \$1905.62 in tithes and offerings; this month we have given \$4180.98; our monthly budget is \$12,383 (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). Candles \$92, Special Offering for St. Sava's Building Fund \$31; Building Fund \$25. Attendance: Vigil 41; Sunday Liturgy 120. Ascension Vigil 33, Liturgy 50.

In and Out: There is too much movement in and out of the church during Divine Liturgy, which is distracting both to the ones doing it and those remaining inside. Much (but not all) is children who go in and out multiple times for no good reason. Please do not let your children do this! Please let us all do what we can to resist the temptation to drift in and out or to linger outside in conversation while the Liturgy is being served.

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. Thank you!

Paschal Notes

The prayer "O Heavenly King" is not said at home or in church during this season until Pentecost, June 23. Instead we use the Troparion of Ascension once.

During the 50 days from Pascha to the Feast of Pentecost on May 27th, 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.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

3.81 If you wish to be a person of understanding and moderation, and not to be a slave to the passion of conceit, continually search among created things for what is hidden from your knowledge. When you find that there are vast numbers of different things that escape your notice, you will wonder at your ignorance and abase your presumption. And when you have come to know yourself, you will understand many great and wonderful things; for to think that one knows prevents one from advancing in knowledge.

3.82 The person who truly wishes to be healed is he who does not refuse treatment. This treatment consists of the pain and distress

brought on by various misfortunes. He who refuses them does not realize what they accomplish in this world or what he will gain from them when he departs this life.

3.83 Self-esteem and avarice produce each other. Those who are full of self-esteem acquire riches and those who are rich become full of self-esteem. That is what happens to people living in the world. In the case of a monk, if he has renounced possessions, he becomes still more full of self-esteem; but if he has money he is ashamed and hides it as something unworthy of one who wears the habit.

Troparia and Kontakia for May 20th

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!

“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*
