

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 Pentecost Sunday, May 27th, 2018



May 27th Pentecost Sunday Fast-Free Week

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
4:00 p.m. Vespers with Kneeling Prayers

May 28th Monday Day of the Holy Spirit

9:00 a.m. Matins
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
12:00 Memorial Day Picnic

May 30th Wednesday No Fast

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession
6:00 p.m. Class: St. Basil the Great *Letters*
7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

May 31st Thursday

6:00 a.m. Matins
9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
7:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

June 1st Friday St. Justin of Chelije No Fast

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
5:30 p.m. *Open House at Rectory*

June 2nd Saturday

9:30 a.m. Russian Divine Liturgy
5:00 Vigil, Confession

June 3rd Sunday of All Saints

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

The Didache: The Lord's Day

But every Lord's day gather yourselves together, and break bread, and give thanksgiving after having confessed your transgressions, that your sacrifice may be pure. But let no one who is at odds with his fellow come together with you, until they be reconciled, that your sacrifice may not be profaned. For this is that which was spoken by the Lord: "In every place and time offer to me a pure sacrifice; for I am a great King, says the Lord, and my name is wonderful among the nations."

Announcements for May 27th

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.

Fast-Free Week: during this week after Pentecost, there is no fasting.

Temple Wine given for the health and salvation of Mykola;

Temple Oil given in memory of Charles.

Many Years to the newly-illuminated James, Catherine, and Silouan Veazey and to their sponsors Fr. Justin and Matushka Michelle.

Many Thanks to our church school teachers this past year and their helpers, especially Becki Stevenson, Reader Maximus, Olivia Reynolds, and Melanie Betz.

Many Years to the newly illuminated James, Catherine, and Silouan Veazey and their sponsors.

Pentecost: Today we celebrate the great feast of Pentecost, the birthday of the Church. With this feast, we resume the use of the prayer "O Heavenly King".

Kneeling Vespers: The Vespers of Pentecost with the Kneeling Prayers will be served today at 5:00. With this we resume making prostrations at church (and at home if we have not been).

The Apostles' Fast begins a week from Monday and lasts until the Feast of SS Peter & Paul, June 29. Plan now to make a good use of the fast unto spiritual benefit.

The Parish Council met last week. They sent a letter to our neighbor about acquiring some of his land down the street and are waiting for a requested response. They will knock on his door next Sunday if we haven't heard from him by then. They are considering other options for building a church if he is not willing to sell. This includes taking a realistic look at our finances. Our analysis suggests that we could probably manage debt up to \$1,000,000. The council had a phone conference with our architect to answer some questions. Council members are Warden Adam Skelton, Jr. Warden Joseph Pier, Treasurer Jordan Rovny, Secretary Shane Gibson, and Melanie Betz, should you desire to speak to any of them.

Classes this Week:

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. St. Basil the Great. Canonical Letters 188, 199, 217.

The Annual Memorial Day Picnic will be held Monday, May 28, i.e. tomorrow 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. A bounce house will be provided.

Please Pray for James Blankenship, being renewed in the catechumenate today, 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 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.

Building Fund Watch

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

Liturgy of St. Basil

Building fund balance: \$137,320.

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 \$2027 in tithes and offerings; this month we have given \$6207.98; our monthly budget is \$12,383 (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). Candles \$92; Building Fund \$715. Attendance: Vigil 37; Sunday Liturgy 101.

In and Out: There has been 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!

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

3.84 The mark of monastic self-esteem is to be puffed up about one's virtue and its consequences. The mark of monastic pride is to be conceited about one's own achievements, to ascribe these achievements to oneself and not to God, and to hold others in contempt. The mark of worldly self-esteem and pride is to be puffed up and conceited about one's beauty, wealth, power and moral judgment.

3.85 The achievements of the worldly man constitute the failings of the monk, and the achievements of the monk constitute the failings of the worldly man. For example, the achievements of the worldly man are wealth, fame, power, luxury, comfort, children and what is consequent upon all these things. But the monk is destroyed if he obtains any of them. His achievements are the total shedding of possessions, the rejection of esteem and power, self-control, hardship, and all that is consequent upon them. If a lover of the world obtains these against his will, he considers it a great calamity and is often in danger even of killing himself; some people have actually done this.

3.86 Food was created for nourishment and healing. Those who eat food for purposes other than these two are therefore to be condemned as self-indulgent, because they misuse the gifts God has given us for our use. In all things misuse is a sin.

Troparia and Kontakia for May 27th

Pentecost, Troparion, tone 8

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, / who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise / by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit; / through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net. / O Lover of Man, glory to Thee!

Pentecost, Kontakion, tone 8

When the Most High came down and confused the tongues, He divided the nations; / but when He distributed tongues of fire, He called all to unity. / Therefore, with one voice, we glorify the All-holy Spirit!

“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*
