

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, June 24th, 2018

June 24th Sunday, tone 3, Nativity of St. John the Baptist

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

June 25th Monday

6:00 a.m. Matins

5:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

June 25th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins

5:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

June 27th Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

6:00 p.m. Class: St. Basil the Great *Hexaemeron, Homily vs. Anger*

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

June 28th Thursday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

June 29th Friday SS Peter & Paul

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

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

June 30th Saturday

5:00 Vigil, Confession

July 1st Sunday, tone 4 SS Cosmas & Damian the Unmercenary

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

The Didache: Christian Reproof

Appoint, therefore, for yourselves, bishops and deacons worthy of the Lord, men meek, and not lovers of money, and truthful and proved; for they also render to you the service of prophets and teachers. Therefore do not despise them, for they are your honored ones, together with the prophets and teachers. And reprove one another, not in anger, but in peace, as you have it in the Gospel. But to anyone that acts amiss against another, let no one speak, nor let him hear anything from you until he repents. But your prayers and alms and all your deeds so do, as you have it in the Gospel of our Lord.

Announcements for June 24th

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 Archangel Michael Monastery in New Mexico.

Temple Wine is given for the health and salvation of William and Carolyn; **Temple Oil** given in memory of.

Classes this Week:

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. St. Basil the Great. *Hexaemeron 9, Homily on Anger.*

Friday, 7:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodox, The Divine Liturgy: the Antiphons.

The Apostles' Fast lasts until the Feast of SS Peter & Paul, June 29. We abstain from meat and dairy and give ourselves to seeking the Lord. Confession is available every day this week.

Commemoration Books Available: a number of Russian commemoration booklets may be found in the bookstore for a modest price. English speakers may use them; just keep in mind the first section is for the living, the second for the departed.

Redeeming Growing Pains: As the parish grows, so grow lines for Communion and Confession. Waiting may not be what one wants, but one may readily turn it to advantage. Once you have communed, use the time while others are communing to read the prayers of thanksgiving (then you won't need to stay to hear them read) or to say the Jesus Prayer quietly. If there is a wait for confession, use the time to do some spiritual reading (bring a book with you or borrow one from the library), to say the Jesus Prayer, or to read your evening or pre-Communion prayers (this latter if there is Liturgy the next day). One may always have an edifying spiritual conversation as well. Redeeming the time in these ways will significantly reduce the pain of longer waits.

Building Fund Watch

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

Liturgy of St. Basil

Building fund balance: \$141,220.

Current goal: \$150,000 before priest returns.

Many Thanks to you all for enduring the absence of your priest and keeping things going in his absence.

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 \$1080.97 in tithes and offerings; this month we have given \$4040; our monthly budget is \$12,383 (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). Candles \$72; Building Fund \$1093.01. Attendance: Vigil 56; Sunday Liturgy 112.

Please Pray for our catechumens Miguel Dean, Connor Patrick, and James Blankenship; our inquirers Donna Lange, the Dean family, Chris Day, Colby and Rebekah Meals and their children; for the nun Susannah and the novice Elias, and for Ian Rehmet studying in Greece. Thank God for all the travellers returned safely. Pray for those you haven't seen for awhile.

Commemorations: Please try to submit your Sunday commemorations Saturday night (or earlier) whenever you can.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

3.95 An intellect which has been granted spiritual knowledge must keep its conceptual images free from passion, its contemplation unflinching, and its state of prayer untroubled. But it cannot always guard these from intrusions by the flesh, because it is obscured by the ploys of demons.

3.96 The things that distress us are not always the same as those that make us angry, the things that distress us being far more numerous than those which make us angry. For example, the fact that something has been broken, or lost, or that a certain person has died, may only distress us. But other things may both distress us and make us angry, if we lack the spirit of divine philosophy.

3.97 When the intellect gives attention to conceptual images of physical objects, it is assimilated to the configuration of each image. If it contemplates these objects spiritually, it is transformed in various ways according to which of them it contemplates. But once it is established in God, it loses form and configuration altogether, for by contemplating Him who is simple it becomes simple itself and wholly filled with spiritual radiance.

3.98 A soul is perfect if its passible aspect is totally orientated towards God.

3.99 A perfect intellect is one which by true faith and in a manner beyond all unknowing supremely knows the supremely Unknowable; and which, in surveying the entirety of God's creation, has received from God an all-embracing knowledge of the providence and judgment which governs it - in so far, of course, as all this is possible to man.

3.100 Time has three divisions. Faith is coextensive with all three, hope with one, and love with the remaining two. Moreover, faith and hope will last to a certain point; but love, united beyond union with Him who is more than infinite, will remain for all eternity, always increasing beyond all measure. That is why 'the greatest of them is love' (1 Cor. 13:13).

Troparia and Kontakia for June 24th

Resurrectional Troparion, Tone 3

Let those in Heaven rejoice, / let those on Earth be glad; / for the Lord hath wrought a mighty act with His arm./ He hath trampled down death by death; / He hath become the first-born of the dead.
/ He hath delivered us from the womb of hell, / and hath granted the world / great mercy.

Nativity of St. John the Baptist, Troparion, tone 4

O prophet and Forerunner of the coming of Christ, / we who honor thee with love are at a loss how to praise thee worthily; / for by thy glorious and honored nativity / thou didst loose the barrenness of her who gave birth to thee / and the muteness of thy father, / and dost proclaim unto the world // the incarnation of the Son of God.

Resurrectional Kontakion, Tone 3

Today Thou didst rise from the grave, O compassionate One, / and didst lead us away from the gates of death. / Today Adam exulteth, and Eve rejoiceth. / Together with the prophets and patriarchs // they unceasingly hymn the Divine might of Thine authority.

Nativity of St. John the Baptist, Kontakion, tone 3

Today she who before was barren / giveth birth unto the Forerunner of Christ, / and he is the fulfillment of all prophecy; / for, laying his hand in the Jordan upon Him / whom the prophets foretold, / he hath been shown to be the prophet, / herald, and Forerunner / of the Word of God.

"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*
