

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton
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Bulletin for Sunday, July 22nd, 2018

July 22nd Sunday, tone 6 St. Mary Magdalen, HM Phocas

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

July 23rd Monday

6:00 a.m. Matins

July 24th Tuesday SS. Boris & Gleb

6:00 a.m. Matins

July 25th Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Vespers

July 26th Thursday St. Jacob of Alaska

6:00 a.m. Matins

July 27th Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins

July 28th Saturday

5:00 Vigil, Confession

July 29nd Sunday, tone 8 SS Callinic & Seraphima

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

The Morals, St. Basil the Great

Rule 38: That the Christian should offer his brethren simple and unpretentious hospitality.

Rule 40: That they who introduce erroneous doctrines, however subtly, to delude or confound the unstable, should not be tolerated.

Rule 41: That whatsoever gives scandal must be eradicated, no matter how essential and indispensable it may seem to be.

Rule 42: That it is not to be thought that the Lord came to destroy the Law and the Prophets, but to fulfill them and to add that which is more perfect.

Rule 44: That the yoke of Christ is sweet and His burden light unto refreshment for those who submit to it; but all things alien to the teaching of the Gospel are heavy and burdensome.

Rule 53: That a Christian should not bear a grudge, but from his hart should forgive those who have offended him.

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

Announcements for July 22nd

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 Archangel Gabriel Mission in Azle, TX.

Temple Oil given in memory of Charles and **Oil and Wine** in thanksgiving to St. Nicholas for answered prayer.

All-American Council: this week, the OCA holds its triennial national council in St. Louis, July 23-27. Fr. Justin will be attending and will be gone from this evening through Friday evening.

The Dormition Fast begins August 1 and lasts until the Feast of Dormition, August 15. All of us should begin planning now how to keep this short but strict fast to gain full spiritual benefit.

Confessions: We have been instructed by the synod of bishops that if we wish to commune regularly (more than once a month), we are to confess regularly (no less frequently than once a month). If we commune less frequently, we are to confess before each Communion. Frequent, regular, sincere Confession is a powerful means of grace, and we deprive ourselves of good and even harm ourselves if we neglect it, allowing ourselves to go two or three or even more months between Confessions.

Communion Procedure: When you come to commune, please have your arms crossed on your chest, left over right (not hanging at your sides); please open your mouth wide and allow the priest to insert the spoon fully. If you are shorter, please tip your head back a bit. All this will help prevent accidents. We ask that children come to Communion either with their parents or their godparents. Your priest would prefer to have the parents commune first before their children to set the example for them.

No Classes this Week

Building Fund Watch

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

Liturgy of St. Basil

Building fund balance: \$143,515.67.

Current goal: \$150,000 by Dormition, August 15; \$200,000 year end.

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 \$3502.90 in tithes and offerings; this month, we have given \$12,495.10; our monthly budget is \$12,383 (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). Candles \$103.50; Special Offering IOCC \$95.59; Building Fund \$10. Attendance: Vigil 51; Sunday Liturgy 129.

Please Pray for our catechumens Miguel Dean, Connor Patrick, and James Blankenship; our inquirers Donna Lange, the Dean family, Chris Day, Jonathan, Robert, Colby and Rebekah Meals and their children; for the nun Susannah and the novice Elias, for Sasha and Mila Moziulova travelling in Kirghizia, and Ian Rehmet working at camp in Greece. Pray for those who have been absent.

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

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

- 4.12 Incorporeal nature communicates well-being by speaking, by acting, and by being contemplated; corporeal nature only by being contemplated.
- 4.13 Whether or not a nature endowed with intelligence and intellect is to exist eternally depends on the will of the Creator whose every creation is good; but whether such a nature is good or bad depends on its own will.
- 4.14 Evil is not to be imputed to the essence of created beings, but to their erroneous and mindless motivation.
- 4.15 A soul's motivation is rightly ordered when its desiring power is subordinated to self-control, when its incensive power [anger] rejects hatred and cleaves to love, and when its power of intelligence, through prayer and spiritual contemplation, advances towards God.
- 4.16 If in time of trial a man does not patiently endure his afflictions, but cuts himself off from the love of his spiritual brethren, he does not yet possess perfect love or a deep knowledge of divine providence.

Troparia and Kontakia for July 22nd

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 7

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. / To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. / For the myrrh-bearers Thou didst change their lamentation into joy. / And Thou didst command Thine Apostles, O Christ God, / to proclaim that Thou art risen, / granting unto the world great mercy.

St. Maximus, Troparion, tone 3

St Mary, Troparion, tone 1

The honorable Mary Magdalene / followed after Christ, / who for our sake was born of the Virgin, / keeping His precepts and laws. / Wherefore, celebrating thy most holy memory today, // through thy supplications we receive remission of sins.

Hieromartyr Phocas, Troparion, tone 4

As thou didst share in the ways of the apostles and didst occupy their throne, / thou didst find thine activity to be a passage to divine Vision, O divinely inspired one. / Wherefore, ordering the word of truth, / thou didst suffer for the Faith even to the shedding of thy blood. // O hieromartyr Phocas, entreat Christ God that our souls be saved.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 7

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, / for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. / Hell is bound, while the prophets rejoice and cry: / the Savior hath come to those in faith. / Enter, ye faithful, into the Resurrection.

St. Maximus, Kontakion tone 8 *Serbian Melody*

Let us the faithful praise with fitting hymns / that lover of the Holy Trinity, great Maximus, / who clearly taught the divinely-given Faith: / that we should give glory unto Christ our God, / Who, but one person, hath in very truth / two natures, wills, and energies. / Let us cry to him:

St. Mary, Kontakion, tone 3

Standing before the Cross of the Savior with many others, / suffering with the Mother of the Lord, / and pouring forth tears, / the all-glorious one made this offering as praise, saying: / "What is this strange wonder? / Is it Thy will to suffer, / O Thou who sustainest all creation? // Glory to Thy dominions!"

Hieromartyr Phocas, Kontakion, tone 6

Offering up sacrifices as high priest, O father, / in the end thou didst offer thyself as a living sacrifice, / bearing witness lawfully to Christ God, / accepting death and strengthened by angels, / who cried out to thee: "Come with us, O Phocas, // and on one will be against us!"

"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*
