

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton
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Bulletin for Sunday, July 29th, 2018

July 29nd Sunday, tone 8 SS Callinicus & Seraphima

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

July 30th Monday

6:00 a.m. Midnight Office, Confession

July 31st Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

August 1st Wednesday Procession of the Cross; Dormition Fast

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. Class: St. Basil

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

August 2nd Thursday

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

August 3rd Friday

6:00 a.m. Midnight Office, Molieben to Theotokos

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

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

August 4th Saturday

9:30 a.m. Russian Divine Liturgy

5:00 Vigil, Confession

August 5th Sunday, tone 8 Martyr Eusignius, Righteous Nonna

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

The Morals, St. Basil the Great

Rule 8: That we must neither doubt nor hesitate respecting the words of the Lord, but be fully persuaded that every word of God is true and possible even if nature rebel; for therein is the test of faith. That he who in small matters does not trust in the Lord is far more manifestly unbeliever in things of greater moment [importance]. That we should not rely on our own reasoning to the point of rejecting the words of the Lord; but we must be convinced that the Lord's words are more worthy of credence than our own fullest knowledge.

Announcements for July 29th

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 Church of the Holy Myrrhbearers in Sacramento, California, which burned July 12.

Temple Oil given in memory of Nina on the one-year anniversary of her repose.

Classes this Week

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. Saint Basil, Homily on Envy (link on the St. Basil Class page on website)

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

The Dormition Fast begins this Wednesday, 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. The norms the Church has given us for the fast call us to devote ourselves to prayer, almsgiving, fasting (abstain from meat, dairy, fish, wine, oil, marital relations—see wall calendar for modifications), and reading the Scriptures and other Orthodox spiritual literature, and to reduce or eliminate secular entertainments and elective social engagements. All the faithful should prepare themselves for Confession and Holy Communion during the Fast. With the Fast are celebrated the two Great Feasts of Transfiguration and the Dormition of the Theotokos along with the Feasts of St. Herman of Alaska at St. Maximus. Hence, we may readily use this short, concentrated Fast as a sort of intense spiritual boot camp to recalibrate our life in Christ.

Upcoming: On August 11 at 10:00 a.m., we plan to receive one or more persons into the Church. On Sunday, August 19, we will serve a molieben at the end of Liturgy for all students and teachers before the start of the new school year.

Congratulations to the Stokes family on the birth of their daughter Emma Katherine (St. Emilia) and the Skelton family on the birth of their son Jacob Winfield last Wednesday, July 25, and thanksgiving to God!

Anniversary: July 28 marked the seventeenth anniversary of the first Divine Liturgy served at St Maximus (at St. David of Wales).

Twenty-eight people were present (half from the cathedral). The second week, there were only six of us. That first year, our attendance on Sundays averaged 14. Let us give thanks to God for all He has done for us since then.

Confessions: Please make good use of the next three weeks and come to Confession. The Fast is a proper time to prepare for a good Confession, and Fr. Justin will be gone August 20 to Sept 12.

Building Fund Watch

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

Liturgy of St. Basil

Building fund balance: \$143,715.67.

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 \$731.23 in tithes and offerings; this month, we have given \$13,216.33; our monthly budget is \$12,383 (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). Candles \$50; Special Offering St. Gabriel Mission (Azle) \$76.40; Building Fund \$222. Attendance: Vigil 38; Sunday Liturgy 126.

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.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

4.17 The aim of divine providence is to unite by means of true faith and spiritual love those separated in various ways by vice. Indeed, the Savior endured His sufferings so that ‘He should gather together into one the scattered children of God’ (John 11: 52). Thus, he who does not resolutely bear trouble, endure affliction, and patiently sustain hardship, has strayed from the path of divine love and from the purpose of providence.

4.18 If ‘love is long-suffering and kind’ (1 Cor. 13:4), a man who is fainthearted in the face of his afflictions and who therefore behaves

wickedly towards those who have offended him, and stops loving them, surely lapses from the purpose of divine providence.

4.19 Watch yourself, lest the vice which separates you from your brother lies not in him but in yourself. Be reconciled with him without delay, so that you do not lapse from the commandment of love.

Troparia and Kontakia for July 29th

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 8

Thou didst descend from on high, O tenderhearted One. / Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our passions. / O Lord, our life and resurrection, glory to Thee.

St. Maximus, Troparion, tone 3

By an outpouring of the Holy Spirit / thou didst pour forth Christ's sacred teachings, / thou didst expound with Divine authority / the self-emptying of God the Word / and wast radiant in thy confession of the True Faith: / O, Glorious Father Maximus / pray to Christ our God / to grant us His great mercy.

Martyr Callinicus, Troparion, tone 4

In his sufferings, O Lord, / Thy Martyr Callinicus received an imperishable crown from Thee, our God. / For possessed of Thy might, / he cast down the tormentors and crushed the feeble audacity of the demons. // By his supplications save Thou our souls.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 8

Having risen from the tomb Thou didst waken the dead and raise Adam, / and Eve exulteth in Thy Resurrection, / and the ends of the world keep festival for Thy rising from the dead, O Most Merciful One.

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:

Martyr Callinicus, Kontakion, tone 2

The beautiful things of heaven / thou hast now inherited as is meet; / for, greatly aflame with the love of Christ, / thou didst manfully brave the fire therewith, O Callinicus. // Standing now before Him, cease not to pray in behalf of us all.

“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*
