

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 Sunday, May 12th, 2019

May 12th Sunday Myrrhbearing Women

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Noon: Meeting of the Myrrhbearers

Noon: Basics of Orthodoxy 103

May 13th Monday

6:00 a.m. Matins

5:00 p.m. Vespers

May 14th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins

5:00 p.m. Vespers

May 15th Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Vespers

May 16th Thursday

6:00 a.m. Matins

5:00 p.m. Vespers

May 17th Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins

5:00 p.m. Vespers

7:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy 201: The Church

May 18th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

May 19th Sunday of the Paralytic

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Noon: Basics of Orthodoxy 103

St. Diodochus: 100 Chapters on Spiritual Knowledge & Discrimination

47. Fasting, while of value in itself, is not something to boast of in front of God, for it is simply a tool for training those who desire self-restraint. The ascetic should not feel proud because he fasts; but with faith in God he should think only of reaching his goal. For no artist ever boasts that his accomplishment is simply due to his tools; but he waits for the work itself to give proof of his skill.

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

Announcements for May 12th

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 candle 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 seminarian fund.

The Myrrhbearers, our parish ministry for burying the dead, will have an informational table today and will hold a meeting to introduce it to those who are interested and initiate the process of getting trained and prepared for any eventuality. We do everything from making coffins to washing and dressing the body and transporting to the cemetery. There is a place for you in this ministry if you are interested. Documents for expressing your wishes regarding the end of your life to your loved ones are also available from the Myrrhbearers. Please see Lois Lyda and Andrea Rovny. Please see the *Confessor's Tongue* for an account of our first burial.

Fr. Justin and his family will be at the monastery this week. Reader's services will be held daily this week. Confession will be available Saturday by appointment between 3 and 5 or after Vigil. The following week will have ample opportunity for confession.

Building Fund Watch

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

Liturgy of St. Basil

Building fund balance: \$213,777.35 as of March 31.

New goal: \$230,000 by Pentecost, \$300,000 by end of year. We probably need to raise \$500,000 before we start building per the current plan. With *everyone* pulling together, we can do this with God's help.

Building News: Our application for a certificate of approval of our plan to build in front of our property along Oak Street goes to the City of Denton's Historical Landmark Committee tomorrow evening for consideration. In a change from last month, the city has recommended to the committee that they approve it; last month they had recommended rejection. Your prayers that God will lead us into His will for the long-term good of the parish are requested.

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 week, we gave \$4745.38 in tithes and offerings; our monthly budget is \$15,112; (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). Candles \$106.50, Special Offering for Holy Apostles, Tulsa \$213, Building Fund \$100, Nativity Monastery \$36. Attendance last week: Vigil 55, Liturgy 130. Weekday Liturgies Tue 50, Wed 8.

The Annual Memorial Day Picnic will be held Monday, May 27 at noon.

The Next Fast-Free Friday, June 21, we shall attempt to arrange some sort of game night and evening gathering for all at the church.

Please Pray for our catechumens Katelyn (Marina) Davis, Chris Day, Esteban Lopez, Brian (Sabbas), Adrienne, and Hannah (Anna) Freas, Colby and Rebekah Meals and their children Caleb, Jacob, Joshua, Abigail, and Benjamin, and Robert Peterson; for our inquirers the Dean family, Sumat, Makenna, Ashley, Luellen, David & Anita Charpie and their children, for Robert Osborne; for the nun Susannah. Pray for Joseph and Olga Fincher, who is seriously ill, and Holly Bellan.

From Saint Maximus 200 Chapters on Knowledge

1.77 The subjugation of the passions is not sufficient to ensure spiritual happiness for the soul unless the soul also acquires the virtues by keeping the commandments. Scripture says, 'Do not rejoice because the spirits are subject to you,' that is, the operations of the passions, but 'because your names are written in heaven' (Luke 10;20), having been transferred to the place of dispassion by the grace of sonship gained through the virtues.

1.78 Whoever possesses spiritual knowledge must always possess as well a rich store of virtue gained through his conduct. Scripture says, 'He who has a purse,' that is, spiritual knowledge, 'let him take it, and his knapsack as well' (Luke 22:36), that is, the stoic from which he liberally nourishes his soul with virtue. He who does not have a purse and a knapsack, that is, knowledge and virtue, 'let him sell his garment and buy a sword' (*ibid.*). By this Scripture means: let him give his own flesh willingly to labors in pursuit of virtue, and for the sake of the peace of God let him wisely wage war against passions and demons, that is, let him acquire the skill of discriminating in the word of God between the lower and the higher.

1.86 Those who apply themselves with a pure heart to divine philosophy derive the greatest gain from the knowledge it contains. For their will and purpose no longer change with circumstances, but readily and with firm assurance they undertake all that conforms to the standard of holiness.

1.88 Baptized in Christ through the Spirit, we receive the first incorruption according to the flesh. Keeping this original incorruption spotless by giving ourselves to good works and by dying to our own will, we await the final incorruption bestowed by Christ in the Spirit. No one who possesses this final incorruption fears the loss of the blessings he has obtained.

Troparia and Kontakia for May 12th

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 2

When Thou, didst descend to death, O Life Immortal / Thou didst slay Hell with the lightning-flash of Thy Divinity, / and, when from the nether regions Thou didst raise the dead, / all the powers of Heaven cried out: // ‘O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!’

Myrrh-bearing Women, Troparion, tone 2

The noble Joseph, when he had taken down Thine immaculate Body from the tree, / wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices, / and placed it in a new tomb. / But Thou didst rise on third day, O Lord, // granting the world great mercy.

Kontakion of Myrrhbearers, tone 2

When Thou didst cry, Rejoice, unto the Myrrh-bearers, / Thou didst make the lamentation of Eve the first mother to cease / by Thy Resurrection, O Christ God. / And Thou didst bid Thine Apostles to preach: // the Savior is risen from the grave.

Paschal Kontakion, tone 8

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, / Thou didst destroy the power of death. / In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, / proclaiming, “Rejoice!” to the myrrhbearing women, / granting peace to Thine Apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

“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*
