

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, July 21st, 2019

July 21st 5th Sunday after Pentecost; Prophet Ezekiel

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Noon: Basics of Orthodoxy 103

1:00 p.m. Mission Council

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

July 22nd Monday St. Mary Magdalene

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

July 23rd Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins

5:00 p.m. Vespers

July 24th Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Vespers

July 25th Thursday

6:00 a.m. Matins

5:00 p.m. Vespers

July 26th Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Vespers

July 27th Saturday

8:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

July 28th 6th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

St. Diodochus: 100 Chapters on Spiritual Knowledge & Discrimination

63. Whoever has participated in divine knowledge and tasted the sweetness of God should not defend himself in law, and still less prosecute, even though someone should go so far as to strip him of his clothes. The justice of the rulers of this world is in every way inferior to that of God or, rather, it is as nothing when compared with it. For what is the difference between the children of God and those of this world, if it is not that the justice of the latter appears imperfect when compared with that of the former, so that we call the one human and the other (*continued on page 3*)

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

Announcements for July 21"

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).

Temple Oil offered for the health and salvation of Thea (birthday) and Elijah (nameday), and of Mykola.

The Special Offering this week is for our seminarian fund.

Glory to God! SS Peter and Paul in Salt Lake City has raised the \$900,000 they need to build a new church building to start a new parish. Fr. Justin Havens thanks you for your gifts to that end.

Weekday Services in Priest's Absence: This week, Tuesday to Friday, Fr. Justin will be attending the diocesan assembly in Florida. In his absence, Matins or the Midnight Office will be read daily at 6:00 a.m. Vespers will be read Wednesday and Friday at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday at 5:00 p.m. Many thanks to those who have come to read these services in the priest's absence.

The Annual Diocesan Assembly of the Diocese of the South will meet this week in Port St. Lucie, Florida. It is a gathering of the clergy and lay representatives of each parish with the bishop to conduct essential business such as passing a budget, receive communication from the bishop, to worship together, to cultivate our unity, and to be encouraged by fellowship.

Classes this Week:

Sunday at the bell during coffee hour, Basics of Orthodoxy 103
The Friday Basics class will resume August 2.

Building Fund Watch

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

Liturgy of St. Basil

Building fund balance: \$226,634.18 as of June 30. Goal: \$300,000 by end of year. We may 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 and provision.

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.

In June we gave \$25,616.06; our monthly budget is \$15,112; Last week, we gave \$4621.06 in tithes and offerings; in July, we have given \$7187.66; (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). Candles \$61, Special Offering for a new chalice over 3 weeks \$598.04, Seminarian Fund \$352; Building Fund \$100. Attendance last week: Vigil 49, Liturgy 108. (June 29/30 35, 111; July 6/7 38, 153.)

Please Pray for our catechumens preparing for Holy Illumination August 10: Katelyn (Marina) Davis, Christopher Day, Brian (Sabbas), Adrienne (Katherine), Hannah (Anna) Freas, and Sandra Paschal; for our other catechumens Esteban Lopez, Colby and Rebekah Meals and their children Caleb, Jacob, Joshua, Abigail, and Benjamin, Robert Peterson and Ashley Carpenter; for our inquirers the Dean family, Samat, Makenna, Luellen, David & Anita Charpie and their children, for Robert Osborne, Mark Robertson, and; for the nun Susannah. Pray for Joseph and Olga Fincher, who is seriously ill, Holly Bellan, Mother Susanna of Our Lady of Kazan Skete, and Thomas who is in South America.

From Saint Maximus 200 Chapters on Knowledge

2.13 If a man seeks spiritual knowledge, let him plant the foundations of his soul immovably before the Lord, in accordance with God's words to Moses: 'Stand here by Me' (Deut. 5:31). But it should be realized that there are differences among those who stand before the Lord, as is clear from the text, 'There are some standing here who will not taste death till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power' (Mark 9:1). For the Lord does not always appear in glory to all who stand before Him. To beginners He appears in the form of a servant (cf. Phil. 2:7); to those able to follow Him as He climbs the high mountain of His transfiguration He appears in the form of God (cf. Matt. 17: 1-9), the form in which He existed before the world came to be (cf. John 17:5). It is therefore possible for the same Lord not to appear in the same way to all who stand before Him, but to appear to some in one way and to others in another way, according to the measure of each person's faith.

(*continued from front*) divine? Thus it was that our Lord Jesus, 'when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered. He did not threaten' (1 Pet. 2:23); He even kept silent when stripped of His clothes and, what is more, prayed to His Father for the salvation of those who were maltreating Him. The men of this world, however, never stop going to court unless, as sometimes happens, they are given out of court more than they are actually claiming, especially if they have already been receiving interest on the sum involved. In such cases, their justice often becomes the occasion for great injustice.

Troparia and Kontakia for July 21"

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 4

Having learned the radiant proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, /the women disciples of the Lord cast off the ancestral curse, /and, boasting, told the Apostles: /Death hath been despoiled, Christ God is risen, /granting the world great mercy.

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.

Ven. Symeon & John, Troparion, tone 4

O God of our fathers, / who ever dealest with us according to Thy gentleness, / withdraw not Thy mercy from us, / but by the entreaties of Symeon and John // govern our life in peace.

Prophet Ezekiel, Troparion, tone 2

Celebrating the memory / of Thy prophet Ezekiel, O Lord, / through him do we entreat Thee: // Save Thou our souls!

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 4

My Saviour and Deliverer as God/ hath raised out of the grave the earth-born from their bonds / and He hath shattered the gates of hell / and as Master / He hath risen on the third day.

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: // Rejoice, divine herald of the Faith.

Ven. Symeon & John, Kontakion, tone 2

Let us praise the God-bearing Symeon, / the peer of the angels, / who appeared in the flesh as one incorporeal, / and with him the ever-memorable John: // for with faith and love they entreat the Lord unceasingly in behalf of us all.

Prophet Ezekiel Kontakion, tone 4

Thou hast been shown to be a prophet of God, / O wondrous Ezekiel, / and hast proclaimed unto all the incarnation of the Lord, / the Lamb and Creator, // the Son of God who hath revealed Himself forever.

"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*
