

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, July 28th, 2019

July 28th 6th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

July 29th Monday

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

July 30th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins

5:00 p.m. Vespers

July 31st Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Vespers

August 1st Thursday Dormition Fast Begins

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vespers

August 2nd Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy 301 "The Creed"

August 3rd Saturday

9:30 a.m. Russian Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

August 4th 7th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

St. Diodochus: 100 Chapters on Spiritual Knowledge & Discrimination

64. I have heard certain pious men declare that, when people rob us of what we possess for our own support or for the relief of the poor, we should prosecute them, especially if the culprits are Christians; for, it is argued, not to prosecute might encourage crime in those who have wronged us. But this is simply a specious excuse for preferring one's possessions to one's self. For if I abandon prayer and cease to guard the door of my heart, and begin to bring cases against those who wrong me, frequenting the corridors of the courts, it is clear that I regard the goods which I claim as more important than my own salvation - more important even than the commandment of Christ. For how can I possibly follow the injunction: "When someone takes away your goods, (*continued on page 3*)

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

Announcements for July 28th

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 in memory of the newly-departed Roman.

The Special Offering this week is for Fr. Seraphim Holland's prison ministry.

Classes this Week:

Sunday at the bell during coffee hour, Basics of Orthodoxy 103

Friday, 7:00 p.m. Basics or Orthodoxy 301 Class on the Creed.

The Dormition Fast begins Thursday, August 1 and runs until Thursday, August 15. 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), reading the Scriptures and other Orthodox spiritual literature, reducing or eliminating secular entertainments and elective social engagements, and serving others. *In prayer*, we aim to pray more and more often, coming more frequently to services and praying at home with greater attention and compunction, often adding prostrations to humble ourselves before God. *In almsgiving*, we make an offering to God by giving to those in need. *In fasting*, we abstain from evil and from lesser goods and even necessary things in order to seek our ultimate Good: Christ Himself. *In reading*, we especially seek to nourish our souls in the Truth and to know Christ's commandments and will. We do all this by God's grace, to cultivate a spirit of humility and repentance and to put aside distractions so that we can draw near to God. We should pray that God will give us strength for the fast and that we may find much profit in it. We fast most profitably when we always keep in mind the goal: turning away from sin so that we can draw near to God. It is God Himself we seek, for it is God Himself that we need, to be filled anew with His Spirit. All the faithful should prepare themselves for Confession and Holy Communion during the Fast.

The Annual Diocesan Assembly of the Diocese of the South went well this past week. Fr. Silviu Bunta, a former student of Archbishop Alexander, spoke on "Insights into the Liturgy from Fr. Aemilianos of Simonapetra" and also discussed what he learned

from translating Simonapetra's Priest's Service Book. He is a parish priest and professor and University of Dayton.

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.

Last week, we gave \$2310.50 in tithes and offerings; in July, we have given \$9498.16; our monthly budget is \$15,112; (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). Candles \$70.50, Special Offering for a new chalice over 4 weeks \$673.04, Seminarian Fund \$132; Building Fund \$0. Attendance last week: Vigil 73, Liturgy 142.

Please Pray for our catechumens preparing for Holy Illumination: 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 Harper who is in South America.

From Saint Maximus 200 Chapters on Knowledge

2.15 It is written that the Son of Man is coming 'with His angels in the glory of the Father' (Matt. 16:17). Similarly, in those found worthy, the Logos of God is transfigured to the degree to which each has advanced in holiness, and He comes to them with His angels in the glory of the Father. For the more spiritual principles in the Law and the prophets - symbolized by Moses and Elijah when they appeared with the Lord at His transfiguration - manifest their glory according to the actual receptive capacity of those to whom it is revealed.

(*continued from front*) do not try to recover them' (Luke 6:30), unless I gladly endure their loss? Even if we do go to court and recover all we claim,

we do not thereby free the criminal from his sin. Human tribunals cannot circumscribe the eternal justice of God, and the accused is punished only according to those laws under which his case is heard. It is therefore better to endure the lawlessness of those who wish to wrong us, and to pray for them, so that they may be released from their guilt through repentance, rather than through restoring what they have taken. Divine justice requires that we receive back not the objects of theft, but the thief himself, freed through repentance from sin.

Troparia and Kontakia for July 28th

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 5

Let us the faithful hymn and worship the Word / who with the Father and the Spirit hath no beginning, / and was born for our salvation of the Virgin; / for He was pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh, / and to endure death / and to raise the dead / by His glorious Resurrection.

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.

Apostles Nicanor, Timon, Prochorus, Parmenus, Troparion, tone 3

O ye holy apostles, / intercede with the merciful God, / that He grant unto our souls // forgiveness of our transgressions.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 5

Thou didst descend to Hades, O my Savior; / and, having shattered its gates as all-powerful; / Thou as Creator didst raise the dead with Thee; / and Thou didst destroy the sting of death, / and Adam hath been delivered from the curse, O Lover of Man. / Wherefore, we all cry:
Save us, O Lord!

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.

Apostles Nicanor, Timon, Prochorus, Parmenus, Kontakion, tone 1

The glorious Nicanor, Prochorus, Parmenus, and Timon, / the honored deacons and eye-witnesses to the Word, / have been shown to be chosen vessels of the Faith. / Wherefore, we celebrate you sacred memory today, blessing you in gladness of heart.

“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*
