

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019

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**August 11<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Mission Council

2:00 p.m. Vespers

**August 12<sup>th</sup> Monday**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**August 13<sup>th</sup> Tuesday St. Maximus, Leavetaking**

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vespers with Paracletis, Confession

**August 14<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**August 15<sup>th</sup> Thursday Dormition**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

**August 16<sup>th</sup> Friday**

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

**August 17<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

9:30 a.m. *Russian Divine Liturgy, Dallas*

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**August 18<sup>th</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy. Blessing of Students & Teachers

St. Diodochus: 100 Chapters on Spiritual Knowledge & Discrimination

69. At the start of the spiritual way, the soul usually has the conscious experience of being illumined with its own light through the action of grace. But, as it advances further in its struggle to attain theology, grace works its mysteries within the soul for the most part without its knowledge. Grace acts in these two ways so that it may first set us rejoicing on the path of contemplation, calling us from ignorance to spiritual knowledge, and so that in the midst of our struggle it may then keep this knowledge free from arrogance. On the one hand, we need to be somewhat saddened by feeling ourselves abandoned, so that we become more humble and submit to the glory of the Lord; on the other hand, we need to be gladdened at the right time through being (*continued on page 3*)

## Announcements for August 11<sup>th</sup>

**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** given for the health and salvation of Christina Heitzenrater; **Temple Wine** given in memory of Gerasimos.

**The Special Offering** this week is for our Seminarian, Subdeacon Maximus in appreciation for all his labor reading, in the choir, and in the altar. This is his last Sunday with us before seminary.

**No Classes this Week.** They will resume in September.

**Upcoming Events:** A sister from the St. Elizabeth Convent in Minsk, Byelorussia, will be with us Wednesday, Sept 5 for Vespers and Thursday, Sept 6 for Liturgy.

**Teachers and Students** will be blessed for the new school year next Sunday, August 18 at the end of Liturgy.

**Octoberfest** is scheduled for Sunday, October 13 and our parish Thanksgiving meal before the Nativity fast November 10.

**Many Years** to the newly illumined Marina Davis, Christopher Day, Sabbas, Katherine, and Anna Freas. Your prayers for them are requested.

**The Annual Meeting** will be held Sunday, September 22. Voting members are those who are Orthodox adults of 18 or older who have received Confession and Communion in the past year and have helped support the parish financially.

**The Dormition Fast** continues until Thursday, August 15.

**Dormition**, one of the Twelve Great Feasts, will be celebrated this week with Vigil Thursday night at 7:00 and Divine Liturgy Friday morning at 9:00. All the faithful should make the effort to keep the feast by attending at least part of the cycle of services.

**The Feast of St. Maximus** and the Leavetaking of Transfiguration will be observed August 13 with Vigil Tuesday night at 7:00 and Divine Liturgy Wednesday morning at 6:00. While our the main feast for our patron is January 21, we do well to keep this one also.

### Building Fund Watch

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

*Liturgy of St. Basil*

Building fund balance: \$231,000 as of July 31. 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 \$2345.35 in tithes and offerings; our monthly budget is \$15,112; (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). Candles \$107.50, Special Offering for Our Daily Bread \$95; Building Fund \$0. Attendance last week: Vigil 76, Liturgy 125.

**Please Pray** for our catechumen preparing for Holy Illumination: Sandra Paschal; for our other catechumens 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. Pray for the nun Susannah, for Joseph and Olga Fincher, who is seriously ill, Mother Susanna of Our Lady of Kazan Skete, Bethany Kaufman, Melanie Betz, Elizabeth Terry, and Thomas Harper who is in South America.

### From Saint Maximus 200 Chapters on Knowledge

2.21 Since Christ is God and the Logos of the Father, 'the fullness of the Godhead dwells bodily in Him' in a manner that is according to essence (Col. 2:9). The fullness of the Godhead dwells in us by grace when we gather into ourselves all virtue and wisdom, a wisdom which, so far as this is possible in man, does not in any way fall short of a faithful imitation of the divine archetype. For it is not incongruous that, by virtue of our relationship with the Logos, the fullness of the Godhead, embracing a diversity of spiritual principles, should come to dwell also in us.

*(Diodochus, continued from front)* lifted up by hope. For just as great sadness brings the soul to despair and loss of faith, so great joy incites it to presumption (I am speaking of those who are still beginners). Midway between illumination and abandonment lies the experience of trial, and midway between sadness and joy lies hope. This is why the Psalmist says: 'I waited patiently for the Lord; and He heard me' (Ps. 40: 1); and again:

'According to the multitude of the sufferings in my heart, Thy blessings have gladdened my soul' (Ps. 94:19. LXX).

### **Troparia and Kontakia for August 11<sup>th</sup>**

#### **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.

#### **Transfiguration, Troparion, tone 7**

Thou wast transfigured upon the mountain, O Christ God, / showing Thy glory to Thy disciples as far as they could bear it. / Through the prayers of the Theotokos, / make Thine everlasting light shine also upon us sinners. / O Giver of Light, glory to Thee!

#### **St. Maximus, Troparion, tone 3**

#### **Martyr Euplus, Troparion, tone 4**

In his sufferings, O Lord, / Thy Martyr Euplus 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 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**

#### **Transfiguration, Kontakion, tone 7**

Upon the mountain wast Thou transfigured, O Christ God, / and Thy disciples beheld Thy glory as far as they could see it; / so that when they would behold Thee crucified, / they would understand that Thy suffering was voluntary, / and would proclaim to the world / that Thou art truly the Radiance of the Father.

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“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*

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