

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick (940) 293-3032 cell

Bulletin for Sunday, May 17th, 2020

Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

May 24th Sunday of the Blind Man

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

4:00 p.m. Kidd-Carpenter Wedding

May 25th Monday

5:00 p.m. Vespers

May 26th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Vespers

May 27th Wednesday Leavetaking of Pascha

7:30 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m. Vigil

May 28th Thursday Ascension of the Lord

7:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vespers

May 29th Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins

7:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

4:00 p.m. Vespers

10:00 p.m. Compline for Repentance

May 30th Saturday

6:45 a.m. Matins

8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vigil

May 31st Sunday of the Fathers of the 1st Council

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

How To Conduct Ourselves in Misfortune

I. When you are struck by some kind of misfortune: infamy, persecution, poverty, domestic turmoil, and so on, whether from other people, or from the circumstances of your life, or from the circumstances of nature, never give yourself over to immoderate sorrow, fear, grumbling, or despair, because St. Basil the Great says that the Most Wise and (*cont. on back*)

Announcements for May 24

Public Services: We have been blessed to open services to the parish, but at a very limited number of those present each time. For now we stream daily Vespers, Saturday Vigil, and Sunday Divine Liturgy, and we'll stream Vigil and Liturgy for Ascension. Please pray faithfully at home, contact the priest about attending services, and tune in on Sundays and Saturdays if you cannot attend in person, or read Vespers, the Hours, and the Typica at home.

Temple Wine offered in for the Health and Salvation of Mary L, **Temple Oil** offered for the Health and Salvation of William and Richard. **Both** offered for the Health and Salvation of Ilia Cook.

Wedding: Jonathan Seraphim Kidd and Ashley Mary Carpenter will be united in Holy Matrimony today at 4:00 p.m. Due to current restrictions, we are not able to admit anyone to the service outside of a select few. Pray for the couple! When restrictions are lifted later this year, we will seize the opportunity to have a celebration with them worthy of our parish.

Attendance at Services: our attendance is limited at present. Consequently, attendance at Divine Liturgy must focus on those prepared to receive Holy Communion. If you are attending Divine Liturgy, do come to as much of the preceding Vespers and Matins (or Vigil) as you can as part of your preparation for receiving Holy Communion, for this is proper standard procedure. You have priority to attend as part of your preparation. Inevitably, however, there is always space at Matins and usually some at Vespers for someone wishing to attend a service but who is not going to Liturgy. Catechumens and inquirers and any others who wish to attend a service are urged to take advantage of Vespers, Matins and Vigil. Please email or text the priest if you desire to come.

Paschal Notes

The prayer "O Heavenly King" is not said at home or in church during this season until Pentecost, June 7. Instead we say or sing the Paschal Troparion, "Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death..." three times.

During the 50 days from Pascha to Pentecost, we do not kneel or make prostrations in church in keeping with the joyful, festal character of the season. We begin to kneel and do prostrations again with the Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost.

For 40 days through the Leavetaking (May 27), we greet each other by saying, "Christ is Risen!" "Indeed, He is Risen!" We also use the Paschal Troparion before and the Kontakion after meals and when setting out on a trip.

Compline: The priest will read Little Compline with one or more canons of repentance on Friday evening this week at 10:00 to cultivate our own repentance for the sins of our land.

Basics of Orthodoxy will be offered online at 12:30 today.

Confession: If you desire to make a confession, please contract the priest directly to arrange it.

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.

Pastoral Care: If you have a health emergency, are hospitalized, or having surgery (or know someone who is) and desire visitation; please contact Fr. Justin at (940) 293-3032 for prayer and anointing.

In April, during the stay-at-home order, we gave \$22,699.73; our monthly budget is \$17,560; (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). *Please note: we do not report funds given electronically until the end of the month.*

Please Pray for our catechumen Robert Peterson preparing for Holy Illumination at Pentecost, and for the Meals family soon to be received at St. Paul's Denison, for our catechumens Makenna Baldwin, Mark Robertson, Mark Jones, Elizabeth Dakak, and for our inquirers the Dean family, Robert Osborne, Kristen Hatten, Rebekah Kruse, Robert Boguski, Branson, Drew (Andrew), Haydon Grosch, Andrew, and Carter. Pray for Joseph and Olga Fincher, for Thomas Harper who is in South America, and for Eugene & Rachel Hollembeak, and for Reader Michael Rodgers and Mary LeBrecht as they prepare for Holy Matrimony.

Building Fund Watch

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

Liturgy of St. Basil

Building fund balance: \$254,900. Goal: \$300,000 by June 1. 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.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

1.44 Stop defiling your flesh with shameful deeds and polluting your soul with wicked thoughts; then the peace of God will descend upon you and bring you love.

1.45 Afflict your flesh with hunger and vigils and apply yourself tirelessly to psalmody and prayer; then the sanctifying gift of self-restraint will descend upon you and bring you love.

1.46 He who has been granted divine knowledge and has through love acquired its illumination will never be swept hither and thither

by the demon of self-esteem. But he who has not yet been granted such knowledge will readily succumb to this demon. However, if in all that he does he keeps his gaze fixed on God, doing everything for His sake, he will with God's help soon escape.

(continued from front) and All-Good Masgter sends us each earthly misfortune for our benefit and precisely *that we might be partakes of his holiness*, as the holy Apostle affirms (Hebrews 12:10).

2. On the contrary, when any misfortune befalls you, and you feel guilty of something, then immediately imagine the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross and cry out to Him with all your heart, "All-merciful Lord, double, triple, or increase my grief tenfold, but do not allow me to perish in sin. What do all my temporary misfortunes matter, compared to eternal torments?" Or, "My Lord and God! You suffered incomparably more for me than I can suffer, but You, being Most Pure, suffered completely innocently and suffered moreover without the slightest complaint or ill will, but I have merited much more misfortune, so can I grumble at my present misfortune. Have mercy on me. Teach me. Grant me zeal to correct myself, and strengthen me in this zeal. Have mercy on me and save me." From *How To Live A Holy Life*, Met. Gregory

Troparia and Kontakia for May 24

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.

Kontakion of the Blind Man, tone 4

Since my soul's noetic eyes are blind and sightless, / I come unto Thee, O Christ, as did the man born blind. / And in repentance I cry to Thee: / Thou art the most radiant Light / of those in darkness.

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*
