

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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**Bulletin for Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020**

**Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!**

**May 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Fathers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Council**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. Vigil

**June 1<sup>st</sup> Monday St. Justin of Chelije**

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

**June 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday**

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Molieben in Time of Civil Strife

**June 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday**

7:30 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m. Vespers

10:00 p.m. Compline

**June 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday**

7:30 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vespers

**June 5<sup>th</sup> Friday**

6:00 a.m. Matins

7:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

4:00 p.m. Vespers

10:00 p.m. Compline

**June 6<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

6:45 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Russian Divine Liturgy

3:00 p.m. Baptism

5:00 p.m. Vigil

**June 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. Vespers of Pentecost with Kneeling Prayers

*How To Conduct Ourselves in Poverty*

If you are poor, that is, if you are hard-working and in spite of all your labors you barely get enough to provide daily bread for you and your children, then bear your poverty with equanimity. So (*cont. on p. 3*)

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

## Announcements for May 31

**Public Services:** We have been blessed to open services to the parish, but at a limited number of those present each time. For now we stream daily Vespers, Saturday Vigil, and Sunday Divine Liturgy, and we'll stream Vigil for St. Justin of Chelije. 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.

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

**Pentecost:** next Sunday, we celebrate the feast of Pentecost and resume using the prayer "O Heavenly King" and doing prostrations. We shall keep the feast with Vigil Saturday night at 5:00 and Divine Liturgy Sunday morning at 9:00, and the Vespers of Pentecost with the kneeling prayers Sunday afternoon at 6:00. The week following Pentecost is fast-free.

**Civil Strife:** Because of our many sins, our nation now suffers an ugly, violent civil strife in our cities. This is a call to repentance. We will serve the Molieben for times of civil strife at the end of Divine Liturgy today as we did last Friday night at Compline, and we are adding petitions to the Augmented Litany at each service as well.

**Compline:** The priest will read Little Compline with one or more canons of repentance on Wednesday and Friday evenings this week at 10:00 to cultivate our own repentance for the sins of our land. We are also serving the Molieben for use in times of civil strife.

**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 those services 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.

**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.

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). We will have a report for May next week. *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

1.47 He who has not yet attained divine knowledge energized by love is proud of his spiritual progress. But he who has been granted such knowledge repeats with deep conviction the words uttered by the patriarch Abraham when he was granted the manifestation of God: 'I am dust and ashes' (Gen. 18:27).

1.48 The person who fears the Lord has humility as his constant companion and, through the thoughts which humility inspires, reaches a state of divine love and thankfulness. For he recalls his former worldly way of life, the various sins he has committed and the temptations which have befallen him since his youth; and he recalls, too, how the Lord delivered him from all this, and how He led him away from a passion-dominated life to a life ruled by God. Then, together with fear, he also receives love, and in deep humility continually gives thanks to the Benefactor and Helmsman of our lives.

*(continued from front)* bear this difficulty until the time that it is pleasing to the Lord God to take it from you; bear it to death itself, if it is pleasing to Him. Always be cheerful, do not grieve, do not grumble, and especially do not become despondent, no matter how your poverty deepens and how long it lasts. Especially avoid using any kind of improper means that are contrary to God's will to rescue yourself from poverty. Not only should you not use any kind of theft, any kind of deception, forced seizures of property, and so forth, but except in the most unavoidable extremes, do not even ask for alms. *Led not a beggar's life; for better it is to die than to beg,* teachings the Wise one (Ecclesiasticus 40:28). So that you may be able to bear up better in this disposition of soul, do the following. From *How To Live A Holy Life, Met. Gregory*

### **Troparia and Kontakia for May 31**

#### **Resurrectional Troparion, tone 6**

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb / and the guards became as dead men, / Mary stood by Thy grave, / seeking Thine immaculate body, / Thou didst despoil hell, not being tempted by it, / Thou didst go to meet the Virgin granting life, / O Lord, who didst rise from the dead, / glory to Thee.

#### **Ascension, Troparion, tone 4**

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, / granting joy to Thy disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. / Through the blessing they were assured / that Thou art the Son of God, / the Redeemer of the world.

#### **Fathers, Troparion, tone 8**

Most glorious art Thou, O Christ our God! / Thou hast established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth! / Through them Thou hast guided us to the true faith! / O greatly Compassionate One, glory to Thee!

#### **Fathers, Kontakion, tone 8**

The Apostles' preaching and the Fathers' doctrines have established one faith for the Church. / Adorned with the robe of truth, woven from heavenly theology; / great is the mystery of piety which it defines and glorifies.

#### **Ascension, Kontakion, tone 6**

When Thou didst fulfill the dispensation for our sake, / and unite earth to heaven; / Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, / not being parted from those who love Thee, / but remaining with them and crying: / I am with you and no one will be against you!

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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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