

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, June 7th, 2020

June 7th Sunday of Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

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

June 8th Monday Day of the Holy Spirit

7:30 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 a.m. Vespers

June 9th Tuesday Third Day of Pentecost: Holy Trinity

6:30 a.m. Matins

8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

June 10th Wednesday

7:00 p.m. Vespers

June 12th Friday

7:00 p.m. Vespers

June 13th Saturday

7:30 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vigil

June 14th Sunday of All Saints

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. Vespers

How To Conduct Ourselves in Poverty

1. Continuously remember the words of the Holy Spirit, *The Lord maketh poor* (I Samuel 2:7). But when the Lord God places any of us in some condition, He places him in that condition because that person can always be saved much more easily in the condition appointed him. Because the Lord God has not other desire concerning us except that we be saved (I Timothy 2:4), whatever He may do with us He does to facilitate our salvation.

2. Never forget that the Lord God never will lay upon you a burden greater than you can bear (I Cor. 10:13), and that He is always near you to offer you His aid (Matt 28:20)/ He will never forget you or leave you. No mother can ever forget the offspring of her womb; even less can He forget you, as He Himself affirms through the holy prophet: *yea, a woman may forget the son of her womb, yet will I not forget thee* (Isaiah 49:15). Thus, if (*cont. back*)

Announcements for June 7

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 Oil offered in for the Health and Salvation of Fr. Justin.

Many Years to the newly-illuminated George (Robert) Peterson and his sponsor, Paul (Charles) Johnson!

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

Pentecost: we resume using the prayer "O Heavenly King" and, with Vespers tonight, kneeling and prostrating in church. We celebrate the feast all week through its Leavetaking on Saturday. We use the Troparion (before) and Kontakion (after) meals.

Fast Free: this week is a fast-free week. No fasting.

The Apostles' Fast begins Monday, June 15 and lasts until the Feast of Peter & Paul on June 29. Use this week to prepare to make good spiritual use of the fast and to plan how we will increase our prayer, reading, almsgiving, and works of service during it.

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 have added petitions to the Augmented Litany at each.

Building Update: The parish council has decided to sign contracts with a civil engineer and our architect to continue the development of our plan to build to the point we can put a site plan to the city for approval, our next big hurdle to cross. This will involve spending some serious money, but it cannot be avoided. The civil engineer, for all his work, will cost about \$28,000. The cost of our design architect will be similar. (These contracts involve much more work than just the site plan to take to the city.) Please talk to Adam Skelton for more details.

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 contact 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 May, we gave \$24,884.74; \$13,353.28 by check or cash, and \$11,531.46 electronically; 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 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

1.49 Do not befoul your intellect by clinging to thoughts filled with anger and sensual desire. Otherwise you will lose your capacity for pure prayer and fall victim to the demon of listlessness.

1.50 When the intellect associates with evil and sordid thoughts it loses its intimate communion with God.

1.51 The foolish man under attack from the passions, when stirred to anger, is senselessly impelled to leave his brethren. But when heated by desire he quickly changes his mind and seeks their company. An intelligent person behaves differently in both cases.

When anger flares up he cuts off the source of disturbance and so frees himself from his feeling of irritation against his brethren. When desire is uppermost he checks every unruly impulse and chance conversation.

1.52 In time of trial do not leave your monastery but stand up courageously against the thoughts that surge over you, especially those of irritation and listlessness. For when you have been tested by afflictions in this way, according to divine providence, your hope in God will become firm and secure. But if you leave, you will show yourself to be worthless, unmanly and fickle.

1.54 St Paul says that, if we have all the gifts of the Spirit but do not have love, we are no further forward (cf. 1 Cor. 13:2). How assiduous, then, we ought to be in our efforts to acquire this love.

(continued from front) you in your poverty are not fainthearted, the Lord God will without fail lead you to salvation—to eternal bliss.

3. As often as possible, remember the earthly poverty of our Savior. He is God; everything is His: both what is in the heavens, and what is on earth, in the earth, and beneath the earth, but He lived on earth in complete poverty, as He Himself said, *Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head* (Luke 9:58). For what purpose did He live so poorly? Of course, not for any other purpose than to incline all of us to accept poverty with equanimity and to be satisfied with what is most necessary for sustaining life; for poverty, as St. John Chrysostom says, leads to piety more easily than wealth.. From *How To Live A Holy Life*, Met. Gregory

Troparia and Kontakia for June 7

Pentecost, Troparion, tone 8

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, / who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise / by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit; / through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net. / O Lover of Man, glory to Thee!

Pentecost, Kontakion, tone 8

When the Most High came down and confused the tongues, He divided the nations; / but when He distributed tongues of fire, He called all to unity. / Therefore, with one voice, we glorify the All-holy Spirit!

“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*
