

## St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission

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### Bulletin for Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021

#### **March 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour, Teen Church School

3:30 p.m. Vespers

4:00 p.m. Young Adult Gathering

5:00 p.m. Talk by Dr. Mark Tarpley

#### **March 31<sup>st</sup> Wednesday**

6:30 p.m. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, Meal

#### **April 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday**

7:30 a.m. Matins

4:00 p.m. Vespers

#### **April 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday**

6:30 a.m. Matins

6:30 p.m. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, Meal

#### **April 3<sup>rd</sup> Memorial Saturday**

9:00 a.m. Russian Divine Liturgy, Pannikhida

5:00 p.m. Vigil

#### **April 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Veneration of the Cross**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour, Teen Church School

3:00 p.m. Vespers

As we start upon the third week of the Fast, O ye faithful, let us glorify the Holy Trinity, and joyfully pass through the time that still remains. Causing passions of the flesh to wither from our souls, let us gather divine flowers, weaving garlands for the queen of days, that with crowns upon our heads we may sing in praise of Christ the Victor. *Tridion, Sunday Vespers of the Third Week*

But what can I say to those people who neither stand in silence, nor join in the singing, but instead meet one another and mix our reasonable worship of God with worldly chatter? They do not listen themselves to the divinely inspired words and prevent others who want to listen from doing so . . . Nowadays, brethren, our sacrifice to God is not accomplished through fire, as in the time of Moses, but through words. In those days, when God used to receive the sacrifice carried up by fire, when Korah and his fellow rebels against Moses offered strange fire from outside, they were completely burnt up (*cont. on pg. 3*)

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

## Announcements for March 28

**To Our Visitors: Welcome!** Please join us after the service for coffee, food, and fellowship. If you would, fill out a visitor's card for us and leave it in the basket on the candle table by the door.

**Attendance at Sunday Liturgy** remains somewhat limited. You may attend Vigil, Vespers, Matins, or Weekday Liturgies at will without reservation..

**The Special Offering** today will be for St. Basil Mission in Weatherford, OK.

**Temple Wine** offered for the health and salvation of Katherine Frederick.

**Our Daily Bread:** we shall be collecting this Lent for the local soup kitchen, Our Daily Bread. Items needed may be placed in the box in the hall. Cash donations will be accepted also. Here is what is needed: sturdy lunch plates, 8 & 12 oz cups, plastic utensils, napkins, paper towels, individually packaged snack-food items (e.g. tuna, cereal cups, instant oatmeal packs, granola/protein bars, etc.), travel size toiletries, ziploc style sandwich baggies, disinfectant wipes.

**The Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts** will be served this week Wednesday and Friday at 6:30. Strictly, the Eucharistic Fast begins at midnight, but the bishops have blessed beginning it at noon for evening Presanctifieds. This means abstaining from food and drink.

### The Fast: Third Week

We abstain from meat, meat products, dairy, fish, wine (alcohol), oil, and marital relations. If fasting fully according to the norm, we take one meal a day M-F after 3 p.m. or after the Presanctified Liturgy (five meals instead of the two of last week). We take two meals a day on Saturday and Sunday. We join increased prayer and almsgiving to our fasting and cut back on (or cut out) all things that distract us unnecessarily from Christ.

**Confessions** will be heard after Vigil, weekday Vespers, and Matins. It helps the priest if you let him know you'd like to come, but it isn't a prerequisite for confessing. Everyone should plan on making a good Confession during the Fast *before* Holy Week. As Fr. Justin will be attending an Orthodox homeschool conference April 13-19, it is important that you not wait to the last minute.

**Basics Class this Week** will meet Saturday at 3:30.

**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 \$6669.77 in tithes and offerings; in March so far, we have given \$17,172.00; candles \$151; special offering for IOCC \$57; building fund \$1125; our monthly budget is \$17,560; (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). May God bless you for your faithful giving! *Please note: we do not report funds given electronically until the end of the month.*

**Please Pray** for our catechumens Makenna Baldwin, Robert Boguski, Branson Clements, Peter Dimitrov & Haley Smith, David and Melissa Sims and their children Carter, Molly, and Caroline and for our inquirers the Dean family, Drew (Andrew), Haydon Grosch, Ethan Peterson, Lance Rawlinson, Vincent Howell, Johnny Jelinek, Delsie Bussell, Reid Jones. Pray for Eugene & Rachel Hollebeak, and for all in need.

### Building Fund Watch

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

*Liturgy of St. Basil*

Building fund balance: \$303,000.

### From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

2.86 Some commandments of the Mosaic Law must be kept both physically and spiritually, others only spiritually. For example, 'You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal' (Exod. 20:13-15) and so on must be kept both physically and spiritually (the spiritual observance is threefold, as explained below). To be circumcised (cf. Lev. 12: 3), to keep the Sabbath (cf. Exod. 31:13), and to slaughter the lamb and eat unleavened bread with bitter herbs (cf. Exod. 12:8; 23:15) and similar injunctions are to be kept only spiritually.

2.87 There are three main inner states characterizing the life of the monk. The first consists in not sinning in actions; the second in not allowing the soul to dally with impassioned thoughts; the third in being able to contemplate dispassionately in the mind the forms of women and of those who have given one offence.

2.88 A man who is truly without possessions is one who has renounced all his worldly goods and has absolutely nothing on earth except his body; and who, breaking his attachment to the body, has entrusted himself to the care of God and of the devout.

(*cont. from first page*) by the holy fire which spontaneously sprang out at them. We should be afraid lest, when we bring strange words from outside into this

place of sacrifice, by which I mean the church, we should be condemned once and for all by the divine words there. *St. Gregory Palamas*

## Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, March 28

### Resurrectional Troparion, tone 1

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews / and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate body, / Thou didst rise on the third day, O Saviour, / granting life to the world. / The powers of heaven, therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of life: / Glory to the Resurrection, O Christ! / Glory to Thy Kingdom! / Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Lover of man.

### 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.

### St. Gregory Palamas, Troparion, tone 8

O Gregory the Wonderworker, light of Orthodoxy, / support and teacher of the Church, / glory of monks and invincible protector of theologians, / pride of Thessalonica and preacher of grace, / pray without ceasing for the salvation of our souls.

### 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.

### St. Gregory Palamas, Kontakion, tone 8

Holy and divine instrument of wisdom, joyful trumpet of theology, / with one accord we sing thy praises, O Gregory inspired by God. / But since thou standest now in mind and spirit before the Original Mind, / guide our minds to Him, O father that we may cry to thee: Rejoice, preacher of grace.  
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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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