

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission

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Bulletin for Sunday, May 23rd, 2021

May 23rd Sunday of the Paralytic

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour

May 24th Monday

6:30 a.m. Matins

3:00 p.m. Vespers

May 25th Tuesday

6:30 a.m. Matins

3:00 p.m. Vespers

May 26th Wednesday Midfeast Pentecost

6:30 a.m. Matins

8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Blessing of Water

7:00 Vespers, Confession

May 27th Thursday

7:30 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Meal

3:00 p.m. Vespers

May 28th Friday

6:30 a.m. Matins

6:00 p.m. Vespers

7:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy

May 29th Saturday

7:30 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

May 30th Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour

In Solomon's Porch there lay a multitude of the sick. And at Mid-feast Christ found there a paralytic who had been bedridden for eight and thirty years. To him He called out with a voice of authority: "Wouldst thou be made whole?" And the infirm replied: "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is troubled." And He saith unto him: "Take up thy bed. Behold, thou art become whole, sin not again. By the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Lord, send down to us Thy great mercy. *Vigil for the Sunday of the Paralytic*

Announcements for May 23

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.

The Special Offering today will be for a new hall at Holy Apostles in Tulsa. Every dollar given will be matched by a donor.

Midfeast Pentecost will be celebrated this Wednesday with the Blessing of Water.

Memorial Day: We plan to have our annual picnic at noon on May 31. This is a good time to invite your non-Orthodox family and friends.

New Books in the Library include *The Saints of Cyprus, The Paterik of the Kieven Caves Monastery, The Hagiography of Kieven Rus, Habitation of Holiness: Selections from the Writings of St. Nektarios, Shocking Witness of Prisoners: Contemporary Martyrologies, From Crimea to the Stars: The Story of St. Luke the Physician, The Departure of the Soul According to the Teach of the Orthodox Church (Reader's Edition), Orthodox Faith, Worship, and Life: Orthodox Catechism: An Outline, and Bright Faith: Father Artemy Vladimirov Talks with Western Orthodox Christians*. Our library contains many fine books to nourish your faith. Please make use of it! Also, if you have books out that you have finished or have not been reading, please return them that others may benefit from them.

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 (June 9), 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.

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 is also a box for alms at the candle table.

Last week, we gave \$1393.18 in tithes and offerings; in May we have given \$6895.18; candles \$60; 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 new catechumens for our catechumens Makenna Baldwin, Robert Boguski, Branson Clements, Peter Dimitrov, Haley Smith, David and Melissa Sims and their children Carter, Molly, and Caroline, Reid Jones, Delsie Bussell and Ethan Peterson, and for our inquirers the Dean family, Drew (Andrew), Haydon Grosch, Lance Rawlinson, Vincent Howell, Johnny Jelinek, Amanda, Kristen & Clementine Hatten. Pray for Eugene & Rachel Hollembeak, and for all in need.

Confessions will be heard after Vigils, weekday Vespers (except Fridays), and Matins, and by appointment. It helps the priest if you let him know you'd like to come.

Building Fund Watch

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

Liturgy of St. Basil

Building fund balance: \$351,000.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

3.20 All impassioned thoughts either stimulate the soul's desiring power, or disturb its incensive power, or darken its intelligence. It is in this way that the intellect's capacity for spiritual contemplation and for the ecstasy of prayer is dulled. And for this reason a monk, especially the hesychast, must pay close attention to such thoughts, searching out and eliminating their causes. For example, the soul's power of desire is stimulated by impassioned thoughts of women. Such thoughts are caused by intemperance in eating and drinking, and by frequent and senseless talk with the women in question; and they are cut off by hunger, thirst, vigils and withdrawal from human society. Again, the incensive power is disturbed by impassioned thoughts about those who have offended us. This is caused by self-indulgence, self-esteem and love of material things. For it is on account of such vices that the passion-dominated man feels resentment, being frustrated or otherwise failing to attain what he wants. These thoughts are cut off when the vices provoking them are rejected and nullified through the love of God.

3.21 God knows Himself and He knows the things He has created. The angelic powers, too, know God and know the things He has

created. But they do not know God and the things He has created in the same way that God knows Himself and the things He has created.

3.22 God knows Himself through knowing His blessed essence. And the things created by Him He knows through knowing His wisdom, by means of which and in which He made all things. But the angelic powers know God by participation, though God Himself transcends such participation; and the things He has created they know by apprehending that which may be spiritually contemplated in them.

Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, May 23rd

Resurrectional Troparion, Tone 3

Let those in Heaven rejoice, / let those on Earth be glad; / for the Lord hath wrought a mighty act with His arm./ He hath trampled down death by death; / He hath become the first-born of the dead./ He hath delivered us from the womb of hell, / and hath granted the world / great mercy.

Paralytic, Kontakion, Tone 3

As of old Thou didst raise up the paralytic, / O Lord God, by Thy God-like care and might, raise up my soul / which is palsied by diverse sins and transgressions / and by unseemly deeds and acts, / that saved I may also cry out: / O Compassionate Redeemer, / O Christ God, / glory to Thy dominion and might.

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*
