

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission

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Warden: Adam Skelton; Treasurer: Meghan Jones; Council Members: David Charpie,
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Bulletin for Sunday, June 6th, 2021

June 6th Sunday of the Blind Man

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

June 9th Wednesday Leavetaking of Pascha

7:30 a.m. Paschal Matins

9:00 a.m. Paschal Divine Liturgy

7:00 Vigil

June 10th Thursday Ascension of the Lord

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

3:00 p.m. Vespers

June 11th Friday St. Luke of Crimea

6:30 a.m. Matins

8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. Vespers

7:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy: Almsgiving 2

June 12th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

June 13th Sunday of the Fathers of the First Council

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

June 14th Monday

6:30 a.m. Matins

3:00 p.m. Vespers

7:30 p.m. Mission Council

June 15th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:30 p.m. Holy Unction

Who can tell of Thy mighty acts, O Christ, or who can number the multitudes of Thy wonders? For even as Thou, in Thy goodness, didst appear on earth twofold of nature, so didst Thou grant twofold healings to the sick; for Thou didst open not only the bodily eyes of the man who was blind from the womb, but also those of his soul. Wherefore, he confessed Thee, the hidden God who grantest great mercy to all. *Vigil for the Sunday of the Blind Man*

Announcements for June 6

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 the Aiden Phelps memorial fund.

Temple Oil given for the health and salvation of Judy and Nathan Eaton.

The Teen Class will not meet today due to the baby shower.

Unction: We will serve a general Unction service Tuesday, June 15 at 6:30 p.m. for the healing of soul and body. All Orthodox Christians who have had a recent confession may receive anointing.

Twenty-Year Anniversary: We shall celebrate the twenty-year anniversary of our parish with Bishop-to-be Hieromonk Gerasim on July 26.

Holy Water from the blessing at Midfeast Pentecost is available.

Holy Ascension, one of the twelve Great Feasts, will be celebrated this Wednesday night with Vigil and Thursday morning with Divine Liturgy. We do well to keep the feast by attending at least part of the cycle of services celebrating it.

St. Luke of Simferopol: For the first time, we shall celebrate the feast of this great modern saint, healer, and confessor this week on June 11.

Thursday Bible Talks for Children will resume this week and run to the end of the Dormition Fast with the Prophet Moses and his ministry as our subject. We encourage parents to bring their children to the Thursday Liturgies.

St. Barsanuphius of Optina said, "For one who has acquired the love and habit of examining his surroundings, life in nature is beneficial; it saves him from petty, one-sided thinking and imparts to him a broader vision, integrity, and depth."

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. If we desire to commune regularly, we should confess monthly.

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 \$4626.62 in tithes and offerings; in May we have given \$15,392.99; we also gave \$11,950.82 electronically for a total of \$27,343.81; candles \$85.50; Building Fund \$240; Special Offering for St. Herman Seminary \$275; 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 catechumen Vincent Howell, 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, Johnny Jelinek, Amanda, Kristen & Clementine Hatten. Pray for Eugene & Rachel Hollembeak, 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: \$351,000.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

3.26 All beings endowed with intelligence and intellect are either angelic or human. All angelic beings may be subdivided further into two general moral categories or classes, the holy and the accursed — that is, the holy powers and the impure demons. All human beings may also be divided into two moral categories only, the godly and the ungodly.

3.27 Since God is absolute existence, absolute goodness and absolute wisdom, or rather, to put it more exactly, since God is beyond all such things, there is nothing whatsoever that is opposite to Him. Creatures, on the other hand, all exist through participation and grace, while those endowed with intelligence and intellect also have a capacity for goodness and wisdom. Hence they do have opposites. As the opposite to existence they have non-existence, and as the opposite to the capacity for goodness and wisdom they have evil and ignorance. Whether or not they are to exist eternally lies Within the power of their Maker. But whether or not intelligent creatures are to participate in His goodness and wisdom depends on their own will.

3.28 The ancient Greek philosophers say that the being of created things has coexisted with God from all eternity and that God has only given it its qualities. They say that this being itself has no

opposite, and that opposition lies only in the qualities. But we maintain that only the divine essence has no opposite, since it is eternal and infinite and bestows eternity on other things. The being of created things, on the other hand, has non-being as its opposite. Whether or not it exists eternally depends on the power of Him who alone exists in a substantive sense. But since 'the gifts of God are irrevocable' (Rom. 11:29), the being of created things always is and always will be sustained by His almighty power, even though it has, as we said, an opposite; for it has been brought into being from non-being, and whether or not it exists depends on the will of God.

Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, June 6th

Sunday of Blind Man

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*
