

## St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission

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### Bulletin for Sunday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021

#### **August 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Procession of the Holy Cross; Fast Begins**

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

2:00 p.m. Vespers with Paracletis

#### **August 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

6:00 p.m. Book Study: *Nililism*

7:30 p.m. Vespers, Confession

#### **August 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday Eve of Transfiguration**

7:30 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m. Festal Vigil, Confession

#### **August 6<sup>th</sup> Friday Holy Transfiguration**

8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. Vespers

7:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy 301 Creed

#### **August 7<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

9:30 a.m. Russian Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vigil

#### **August 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

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

Poor wretch that I am, despising Thy laws and Scriptures, O my God and my Maker, I have set aside Thy commandments. How then shall I escape the inevitable torments, O my Savior? Therefore, before I reach mine end, grant me forgiveness, endowing me with floods of tears and true contrition, and, as Thou art God, the Height of Goodness, chase away the hosts of evil spirits that seek to lead me down to the pit of hell, and, I entreat Thee, take not Thine all-powerful hand from me.

*Sunday Vespers, tone 5*

## Announcements for August 1

**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 St. Gabriel Mission, Azle.

**Temple Wine** given in memory of Gerasimos & Seraphim Gill.

**The Teen Class** will meet today.

### Classes this Week:

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. Book Study of Rose's *Nililism*

Friday, 7:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy 301 "Creator"

**The Sunday Catechesis** class will return, starting August 22.

**We Keep the Dormition Fast** today until after Liturgy, August 15, by abstaining from meat, dairy products, fish, wine, and oil, and marital relations (exceptions noted on wall calendar). We give ourselves to prayer, fasting, almsgiving, spiritual reading, and works of mercy. May God grant us all great mercy in it!

**Transfiguration**, one of the twelve Great Feasts, will be celebrated this week with Vigil Thursday evening and Divine Liturgy Friday morning. We do well to keep the feast by attending as much of the cycle of services for it as we can.

**Confession:** Everyone should plan on making a good confession between now and August 15. Fr. Justin will be gone on vacation after that. Fr. Nicholas Park will substitute Aug 22 & Sept 5.

**Holy Unction** for the healing of soul and body will be offered Tuesday, August 10 at 6:30. It is for any Orthodox Christian who has had a recent confession.

**St. Anthony of Optina** said, "With childlike submission we must endure both the pleasant and the unpleasant and give glory for everything to God who is good, i.e., when any sorrow or sickness comes we say "Glory to Thee, O Lord!" If the sorrows and illnesses increase, again we say: "Glory to Thee, O Lord!" When the unhappy sorrows and illness have worsened and lead to the grave, again: "Glory to Thee, O Lord!"

**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 \$2543.50 in tithes and offerings; in July, we gave \$11,901 plus \$9190.86 electronically for a total of \$21,091.86; candles \$126.50; Special Offering for seminarians, \$190; Building Fund \$100; 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.* Attendance: Saturday Vigil 59, Sunday Liturgy 137, Thursday Liturgy 50.

**Please Pray** for our catechumens Makenna Baldwin, Branson Clements, Peter Dimitrov, Haley Smith, David and Melissa Sims and their children Carter, Molly, and Caroline, Reid Jones, Ethan Peterson, Vincent Howell, Lance Rawlinson, Delsie Bussell, Kristen & Clementine Hatten, Amanda Putnam and Haydon Grosch, and for our inquirers Ben Pimpler, Ryan McDowell, Douglas Burr. Pray for Eugene & Rachel Hollembeak, and for all in need.

### Building Fund Watch

Building fund balance at end of June: \$372,223.67

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

*Liturgy of St. Basil*

### From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

3,55 He who busies himself with the sins of others, or judges his brother on suspicion, has not yet even begun to repent or to examine himself so as to discover his own sins, which are truly heavier than a great lump of lead; nor does he know why a man becomes heavy-hearted when he loves vanity and chases after falsehood (cf. Ps. 4:1). That is why, like a fool who walks in darkness, he no longer attends to his own sins but lets his imagination dwell on the sins of others, whether these sins are real or merely the products of his own suspicious mind.

3,56 Self-love, as has often been said, is the cause of all impassioned thoughts. For from it are produced the three principal thoughts of desire; those of gluttony, avarice and self-esteem. From gluttony is born the thought of unchastity; from avarice, the thought of greed; from self-esteem, the thought of pride. All the rest - the thoughts of anger, resentment, rancor, listlessness, envy, backbiting and so on - are consequent upon one or other of these three. These passions, then, tie the intellect to material things and drag it down to earth, pressing on it like a massive stone, although by nature it is lighter and swifter than fire.

## Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, August 1\*

### 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.

### Cross, Troparion tone 1

O Lord, save Thy people / and bless Thine inheritance. / Grant victory to Orthodox Christians / over the enemy; / and by Thy Cross / preserve Thine estate.

### St. Maximus, Troparion tone 3

#### Maccabean Martyrs, Troparion, tone 1

By the pangs of the saints, which they suffered for Thee, O Lord, / be Thou entreated, and heal Thou all our infirmities, // we pray Thee, O Thou who lovest mankind.

### Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 5

Thou didst descend to Hades, O my Savior; / and, having shattered its gates as all-powerful; / Thou as Creator didst raise the dead with Thee; / and Thou didst destroy the sting of death, / and Adam hath been delivered from the curse, O Lover of Man. / Wherefore, we all cry: Save us, O Lord!

### St. Maximus, Kontakion tone 8 *Serbian Melody*

#### Maccabean Martyrs, Kontakion, tone 2

O ye seven pillars of the wisdom of God, / seven-branched lamp of the Light divine, / O most wise Maccabees / who before the martyrs were martyrs most great: // with them entreat the God of all, that we who honor you may be saved.

### Cross, Kontakion tone 4

As Thou wast voluntarily crucified for our sake, / so grant mercy, O Christ God, to those who are called by Thy name; / make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power, / granting them victories over the enemy, / by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace.

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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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