

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, February 14, 2010

Schedule of Services

**February 14<sup>th</sup> Forgiveness Sunday Cheesefare**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Mission Council

6:00 p.m. Forgiveness Vespers

**February 15<sup>th</sup> Clean Monday**

6:30 a.m. Matins

2:30 p.m. Vespers, Confession

7:00 p.m. Compline & Great Canon of St. Andrew, Confession

**February 16<sup>th</sup> Clean Tuesday**

6:30 a.m. Matins

2:30 p.m. Vespers, Confession

7:00 p.m. Compline & Great Canon of St. Andrew, Confession

**February 17<sup>th</sup> Clean Wednesday**

6:30 a.m. Matins

2:30 p.m. Vespers, Confession

7:00 p.m. Compline and Great Canon of St. Andrew

8:15 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy

**February 18<sup>th</sup> Clean Thursday**

6:30 a.m. Matins

1:00 p.m. Class: St. Theophan, *Path of Salvation*

2:30 p.m. Vespers, Confession

7:00 p.m. Compline & Great Canon of St. Andrew, Confession

**February 19<sup>th</sup> Clean Friday**

6:30 a.m. Matins

5:30 p.m. Class: Solzhenitsyn *Gulag Archipelago*

7:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

**February 20<sup>th</sup> Clean Saturday**

9:00 a.m. Parish Work Day

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**February 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Orthodoxy**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Procession

6:00 p.m. Vespers, *Holy Trinity GOC, Dallas*

## Announcements for February 14<sup>th</sup>

**To Our Visitors: Welcome!** Please join us after the service for coffee and conversation and church school for the children. If you would, fill out a visitor's card for us and leave it in the basket on the table by the door. Be aware that shortly after the sermon, the catechumens, i.e., those preparing for Baptism & Chrismation, will be dismissed, but you are invited to stay for the rest of the service.

**To All:** Please be aware that Holy Communion is open only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves for worthy participation in the Mystery through prayer, fasting, and a recent confession to a priest (within the last month or so). We should be modestly dressed and present to hear "Blessed is the Kingdom" (in *unusual* circumstances no later than the Gospel reading).

**Please Move Forward** during the Liturgy! **Please be quiet** in the Narthex afterwards while the Prayers of Thanksgiving after Communion are being read in the church, or better yet, stay for the prayers lest you forget to read them on your own later.

**The Special Freewill Offering** today will be for lenten almsgiving. **Church School** today as usual right after Liturgy.

**Mission Council** will meet today at about 11:30. Meetings are open to all parishioners.

**Lenten Almsgiving:** As customary, we shall be collecting items for the local charities Women to Women and Interfaith Ministry. See bins and lists of needed items under the bookstore table.

**Forgiveness Vespers**, tonight 6:00 p.m. All parishioners should attend this service. We'll go to Beth Marie's for ice cream afterwards.

### Classes this Week

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.: Basics of Orthodoxy

Thursday, 1:00 p.m., St. Theophan, *Path of Salvation*

Friday, 5:30 p.m. Solzhenitsyn, *Gulag Archipelago*, chapter 2

**Work Day** this Saturday at 9:00 a.m. to prepare for Metropolitan Jonah's visit. Please come and help this week or next—or both!

**A Special All-Parish Meeting** has been called by the Mission Council for Sunday, March 7, after the Divine Liturgy. The Council has determined that the nave should be expanded to the left side into the hallway to give us more space to grow until we are ready to build a temple. The meeting will discuss this proposal and how to fund it.

**Please Pray for our Catechumens:** Thom Anderson, Adam & Melanie Betz, Ashley Davis, Mary Moses, Javier Largazspada, and Sean Chaney, Ken and Pam Northam and their children Marcia, Jessica, Moriah, Emalie, for **our inquirers** John Parsons, Jason

O'Brien, Robert & Elisabeth Terry and their children Thomas, Calvin, Owen, and Claire. Please pray for our **shut-in** Nina Johnston, and for Adam Betz's health.

### The Fast: Clean Week

We abstain from meat, meat products, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil, and marital relations. Those with the strength eat only one uncooked meal on Wednesday and one on Friday in the evening. Others eat similar meals on Tuesday and Thursday and so keep only Monday as a day of complete abstinence from food. Some may not be able even to do this. On weekends, two meals each day, at noon and in the evening, are permitted. Whatever level of fasting we do manage, we should keep this week as strictly as we possibly can. The rules of fasting are relaxed for the elderly, the very young, and those in poor health. As always, see your priest if you have questions how you should fast. To fasting we join prayer and almsgiving to make it yield spiritual gain. The daily services should be our priority this week, especially the Great Canon and the Presanctified Liturgy.

**Tithes, Offerings & Attendance:** Bringing our tithes and offerings to the temple of God is part of our worship of God, which also 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 throughout Denton County and north Texas. Checks should be made out to St. Maximus Orthodox Church and placed in the basket on the candle table, where there is also a box for alms (those in need) and a box for the building fund.

Last week, we gave \$757.22 in tithes and offerings; our monthly budget is \$8835 (\$2039 per week). Candles \$53.50; Bookstore \$143; Building fund \$20;. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 11, Liturgy 62.

### From Saint Maximus

The one who does not envy or is not angry, or who does not bear grudges against the one who has offended him, does not yet have love for him. For it can be that even one who does not yet love does not return evil for evil because of the commandment, but in no way does he tender good for evil spontaneously. Indeed, deliberately to do good to those who hate you is a mark of perfect spiritual love alone.

*400 Chapters on Love, 2.49*

Adam was driven out of Paradise, because in disobedience he had eaten food; but Moses was granted the vision of God, because he had cleansed the eyes of his soul by fasting. If, then, we long to dwell in

Paradise, let us abstain from all needless food; and if we desire to see God, let us like Moses fast for forty days. With sincerity let us persevere in prayer and intercession; let us still the passions of our soul; let us subdue the rebellious instincts of the flesh. With light step let us set out upon the path to heaven, where the choirs of angels with never-silent voice sing the praises of the undivided Trinity; and there we shall behold the surpassing beauty of the Master. O Son of God, Giver of Life, in Thee we set our hope: count us worthy of a place there with the angelic hosts, at the intercessions of the Mother who bore Thee, O Christ, of the apostles and the martyrs and of all the saints. *Matins for Forgiveness Sunday, Praises*

### Troparia and Kontakia for February 14<sup>th</sup>



#### 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.  
/ From the womb of hell hath He delivered us, // and hath granted the world great mercy.

#### 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. Maximus, Kontakion, tone 6

The thrice-radiant Light which abode in thy soul / showed thee to be a chosen vessel / revealing divine things to the ends of the earth, / O blessed Maximus, who givest utterance to concepts hard to grasp, / and manifestly proclaimest unto all // the transcendent and unoriginate Trinity.

#### Forgiveness Sunday, Kontakion, tone 6

O Master, Guide to wisdom, / Giver of prudent counsel, Instructor of the foolish and Champion of the poor, / make firm my heart and grant it understanding. / O Word of the Father, give me words,/ for see, I shall not stop my lips / from crying out to Thee: I am fallen, / in Thy compassion have mercy on me.