

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, March 21, 2010

Schedule of Services

March 21st Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. Vespers, *St. Seraphim's, Dallas*

March 22nd Monday

6:30 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

March 23rd Tuesday

6:30 a.m. Matins

2:30 p.m. Vespers, Confession

March 24th Wednesday

6:30 a.m. Matins

6:00 p.m. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts

8:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy

March 25th Thursday Holy Annunciation *Fish, Wine, Oil*

6:30 a.m. Festal Matins

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

5:00 p.m. Vespertal Liturgy

March 26th Friday *(End of the 40 Days)*

6:30 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts

March 27th Lazarus Saturday

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Work Day

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

March 28th Palm Sunday *Fish, Wine, Oil*

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:30 p.m. Vespers; Holy Week Begins

6:00 p.m. Bridegroom Matins

As we begin with eagerness, O ye faithful, the sixth week of the holy Fast, let us sing a hymn in preparation for the Feast of Palms, to the Lord who cometh with glory to Jerusalem in the power of the Godhead, that He may slay death. So with reverence let us prepare the branches of the virtues, as emblems of victory; and let us cry Hosanna! to the Creator of all. *Vespers of the Fifth Sunday*

Announcements for March 21st

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.

The Special Offering today will be for our seminarian, next week for St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, McKinney.

Lenten Pan-Orthodox Vespers tonight, 6:00 p.m., at St. Seraphim Cathedral, Dallas.

Holy Annunciation, one of the Twelve Great Feasts, is celebrated this Thursday. Festal Matins at 6:30 a.m., Vespers Liturgy of St. John at 5:00 p.m.

A Work Day will be held Lazarus Saturday after Liturgy to tie palm fronds and pussy willows together and to get ready for Holy Week.

Confessions: One week remains until Palm Sunday and Holy Week! You are asked to make every effort to make your Confession before Holy Week. Please see Fr. Justin if you need to schedule a special time.

Lenten Almsgiving: As customary, we are collecting items for the local charities Women to Women and Interfaith Ministry and for our own "Care Bundles". See bins and lists of needed items under the bookstore table.

Care Bundles: We are collecting items to assemble into "care bundles" for the homeless. Our goal is to assemble 200 bags. A list of needed items is posted in the coffee hour room. Items may be placed in the black bin under the bookstore table.

Classes this Week

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

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

The Fast: Sixth Week

We abstain from meat, meat products, dairy, fish, wine (alcohol), and oil. If fasting strictly, we take one meal a day M-F after 3 p.m. or after the Presanctified Liturgy. We join increased prayer and almsgiving to our fasting and avoid all things that distract us unnecessarily from Christ. Those wishing to receive Holy Communion at the Presanctified Liturgy keep a Eucharistic fast from noon. Please see your priest if you have problems or questions.

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 \$674.25 in tithes and offerings; this month we have given \$2997.19; our monthly budget is \$8835 (\$2039 per week). Candles \$45; Bookstore \$257.50; Building fund \$60; special gifts \$380. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 19, Liturgy 55. Expansion fund: \$325, minimum goal \$2500.

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 Marsha, Jessica, Mariah, 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 who has suffered a stroke and is recovering at home, and for Adam Betz's health.

From Saint Maximus

Once the body is moved to the senses by its own lusts and pleasures, the careless mind follows along and assents to its imaginings and impulses. The virtuous mind, in contrast, is in firm control and holds itself back from the passionate imaginings and impulses and instead concentrates on improving its emotions of this type.

There are virtues of the body and virtues of the soul. Bodily virtues are, for example, fasting, vigils, sleeping on the ground, service to others, manual labor done so as not to burden anyone or to have something to share, and so forth. The virtues of the soul are love, forbearance, meekness, self-mastery, prayer, and so forth. Now if

