

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, July 9th, 2017

Schedule of Services

July 9th Sunday Tone 4

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

July 11th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Vespers with Paracletis, Confession

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

July 12th Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

6:00 p.m. Class: Ephesians

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

July 13th Thursday Archangel Gabriel

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

July 14th Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

10:00 a.m. Class: Ephesians

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Pannikhida, Confession

7:00 p.m. Compline with Akathist

July 15th Saturday

9:30 a.m. *Russian Divine Liturgy, St. Seraphim's, Dallas*

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

July 16th Sunday Tone 5

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

St. Theodore the Great Ascetic 100 Texts

70. One of the ancients spoke wisely and simply about thoughts. Judge thoughts, he said, before the judgment seat of the heart, to discern whether they are ours or those of our enemy. Place those which are good and properly our own in the inmost shrine of the soul, keeping them in this inviolable treasury. But chastise hostile thoughts with the whip of the intelligence and banish them, giving them no place, no abode within the bounds of your soul. Or, to speak more fittingly, slay them completely with the sword of prayer and divine meditation, so that when the robbers have been destroyed, their chief may take fright. For, so he says, a man who examines his thoughts strictly is one who also truly loves the commandments.

Announcements for July 9th

To Our Visitors: Welcome! Please join us after the service for coffee, food, and conversation. If you would, fill out a visitor's card for us and leave it in the basket on the table by the door. We also invite you to go first through the food line.

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).

Temple Wine offered for the health and salvation of Nina and Mykola and in Memory of Daniel Holland; **Temple Oil** in memory of William Frederick.

The Special Offering this week is for the local charity Interfaith Ministries that provides short-term assistance to qualified families in Denton who are in need.

Mission Council will meet today.

Welcome back to the Bramletts and Williams.

Classes This Week:

Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy (Fr. Justin)

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. Ephesians

Friday, 10:00 a.m. Ephesians

Building Fund Watch: Building fund balance: \$93,779. We are aiming to break \$100k by September 1. Special, designated gifts are welcome (and needed!), but the most important regular giving is our tithe. If all who have regular income tithe, we shall have plenty, for whatever we take in over our budget will go to the building fund.

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 are also boxes for alms (those in need) and our building fund.

Last Sunday, we gave \$2784.01 in tithes and offerings; our monthly budget is \$11,250; candles \$96.50; special offering for Building Fund 339.25. Attendance: Vigil last Saturday 32; Sunday Liturgy 126.

Commemorations: Please try to submit your Sunday commemorations Saturday night (or earlier) whenever you can.

Please Pray: for Cassian and Ruth Brown and their children Daniel, Anna, Elijah; for our catechumens Miguel Dean and Marsha Northam, for our inquirers Joel and Alta Morris, Connor, and the Dean family; for the nun Susannah and the novice Elias. Please pray for Photina and Jude Bellan, for Olga Fincher and her husband Joseph, for Eugene and Rachel, and for Jeremy Gleb Rovny, travelling in India.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

2.41 Almost every sin is committed for the sake of sensual pleasure; and sensual pleasure is overcome by hardship and distress arising either voluntarily from repentance, or else involuntarily as a result of some salutary and providential reversal. 'For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged; but when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, so that we should not be condemned with the world' (1Cor. 11:31-32).

2.42 When a trial comes upon you unexpectedly, do not blame the person through whom it came but try to discover the reason why it came, and then you will find a way of dealing with it. For whether through this person or through someone else you had in any case to drink the wormwood of God's judgments.

2.43 As long as you have bad habits do not reject hardship, so that through it you may be humbled and eject your pride.

2.44 Sometimes men are tested by pleasure, sometimes by distress or by physical suffering. By means of His prescriptions the Physician of souls administers the remedy according to the cause of the passions lying hidden in the soul.

2.45 Trials are sent to some so as to take away past sins, to others so as to eradicate sins now being committed, and to yet others so as to forestall sins which may be committed in the future. These are distinct from the trials that arise in order to test men in the way that Job was tested.

2.46 The sensible man, taking into account the remedial effect of the divine prescriptions, gladly bears the sufferings which they bring upon him, since he is aware that they have no cause other than his own sin. But when the fool, ignorant of the supreme wisdom of God's providence, sins and is corrected, he regards either God or men as responsible for the hardships he suffers.

Troparia and Kontakia for July 9th

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 4

Having learned the radiant proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, /the women disciples of the Lord cast off the ancestral curse, /and, boasting, told the Apostles: /Death hath been despoiled, Christ God is risen, /granting 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.

Hieromartyr Pancratius, Troparion, tone 4

As thou didst share in the ways of the apostles / and didst occupy their throne, / thou didst find thine activity to be a passage to divine vision, / O divinely inspired one. / Wherefore, ordering the word of truth, / thou didst suffer for the Faith even to the shedding of thy blood. / O hieromartyr Pancratius, / entreat Christ God, // that our souls be saved.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 4

My Saviour and Deliverer as God/ hath raised out of the grave the earth-born from their bonds / and He hath shattered the gates of hell / and as Master / He hath risen on the third day.

St. Maximus, Kontakion tone 8 *Serbian Melody*

Let us the faithful praise with fitting hymns / that lover of the Holy Trinity, great Maximus, / who clearly taught the divinely-given Faith: / that we should give glory unto Christ our God, / Who, but one person, hath in very truth / two natures, wills, and energies. / Let us cry to him: // Rejoice, divine herald of the Faith.

Hieromartyr Pancratius, Kontakion, tone 4

Thou wast shown to be a brilliant star / for the people of Taormina, O Pancratius, / and wast also shown to be a sufferer for Christ. / Standing now before Him, // pray thou for those who honor thee, O blessed one.