

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

2026 W. Oak Street • Denton, TX 76201

(940) 565-6753 • www.stmaximus.org

Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, February 20th, 2011

Schedule of Services

February 20th Prodigal Son, tone 6

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Church School

February 21st Monday

7:00 p.m. Late Vocations Scripture Class

February 22nd Tuesday

7:00 a.m. Matins

February 23rd Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

2:00 p.m. Russian

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Class Basics of Orthodoxy

February 24th Thursday St. John the Baptist

6:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

February 25th Friday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Class: Life after Death

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Pannikhida, Confession

9:00 p.m. "Hesychastic Vigil"

February 26th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

February 27th Last Judgment, tone 7

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Church School

Fasting is praiseworthy and necessary in its time and place: it is better to keep to a moderate use of food and drink, avoiding satiety, indicated by a slight heaviness, and on the other hand, avoiding excessive and inappropriate abstinence. Moderation, the middle path, makes a person more capable of spiritual activity. *St. Ambrose of Optina*
Pay no attention to praise and fear it; remember what one of the holy Fathers says: 'If someone praises you, expect reproaches from him too.'
St. Hilarion of Optina

Announcements for February 20th

To Our Visitors: Welcome! Please join us after the service for coffee, 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

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 (so as not to distract others) and present to hear "Blessed is the Kingdom" at the beginning of the Liturgy (in *unusual* circumstances no later than the Gospel reading), and not leave until the dismissal at the end.

The Special Offering this week is for debt reduction.

Coffee Hour Donations go to support building new space for Coffee Hour (our hall expansion). A few dollars a week from each of us will do much!

Patio Breaking: Men are needed to swing the sledge against the patio to break it up in preparation for construction. Come by at any time during daylight hours for any amount of time.

Vacuuming after Coffee Hour on Sunday is needed to have the church clean for the week. Will someone who does not normally volunteer to clean undertake this as a ministry out of love for the beauty of God's house? Thank you.

Classes this Week

Monday, 7:00 p.m. Late Vocations Scripture, Session 3

Wednesday, 2:00 p.m. Beginning Russian

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: Great Litany 1

Friday, 4:00 p.m. *Life After Death*, chapter 2, part 2.

Great Lent: The Fast begins March 7. Now is a good time to begin preparing by choosing some lenten reading, making a plan for fasting, setting a rule for prayer and church attendance, and determining how one will give alms during the Fast. Please consult with your priest if you have questions about what may be helpful for you.

Meatfare Sunday is next week and marks the last day for eating animal flesh (except fish) until Pascha. Please feel free to bring left-over meat products to share at Coffee Hour.

Forgiveness Sunday is March 6. Everyone who considers this to be his home parish is expected to attend the Forgiveness Vespers at 6:00 p.m.

Soft Drinks: The soft drinks in the refrigerator are donated to raise money for restoring the outside of our building. Please take one and put a dollar in the jar to help! Parents, please be sure your children understand the drinks are not free for the taking.

Parish E-mail List: The parish email list is used as the primary means of notifying you of changes of the schedule and conveying other important announcements. If you are not signed up for it, please do! Send Fr. Justin or Dax an email with your email address and your request.

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).

Last week we gave \$1352.01 \$1363.13 in tithes and offerings; in February, we have given \$2715.14; our monthly budget is \$7975 (\$1994 per week). Candles \$35; Special Gifts \$0, Building Fund \$25; Hall Expansion Fund \$123, Soda Jar for Building Renovation Fund \$15. May God bless your giving! Attendance: Sunday Liturgy 62, Vigil (at St. Seraphim's) 13.

Hall Expansion Fund: The hall expansion fund has pledges for \$7700 of the \$17,000 we need to pay for our hall expansion, \$4300 of which has been given; a total of \$6063 has been raised so far. All coffee hour donations will go for this end. (Parish council suggests \$5 per family per week; \$50 was given last week).

Please Pray for our Catechumens: Thom Anderson, Sean Chaney, Ken and Pam Northam and their children Marsha, Jessica, Mariah, Emalie, Samuel Vanderburg, Michael, Gina, and Ian Rehmet, Jeremy Pike, and David Eaton. Please pray for our **shut-in** Nina Johnston, for the premature infant Victoria, and for Michael Rodgers at St. Tikhon's Seminary.

From Saint Maximus

God created the invisible world and the visible world, and naturally He made the soul and the body as well. Now if this visible world is so beautiful, what sort of world will the invisible be? If it is better than the former, how much better than both is the One who created them? If then the Maker of everything that is beautiful is better than all creatures, for what reason does the mind leave the best of all to be engrossed in the worst of all, by which I mean the

passions of the flesh? Or is it not clear that having lived and associated with the flesh from birth, the mind has not yet received a perfect experience of the One who is best of all and who transcends all? Therefore, if by a prolonged exercise of self-mastery over pleasure and of attention to divine things we gradually break it away from such a relationship, it expands and gradually advances in divine things and recognizes its own dignity and finally transfers its whole longing onto God.

400 Chapters on Love, 3.72

Troparia and Kontakia for February 20th



Resurrectional Troparion, tone 6

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb / and the guards became as dead men, / Mary stood by Thy grave, / seeking Thine immaculate body, / Thou didst despoil hell, not being tempted by it, / Thou didst go to meet the Virgin granting life, / O Lord, who didst rise from the dead, / glory to Thee.

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 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.

Prodigal Son, Kontakion, tone 3

Foolishly have I run away from Thy glory, O Father, / wasting in sin the wealth that Thou gavest me. / Therefore with the words of the Prodigal I cry unto Thee: / I have sinned before Thee, compassionate Father. / Accept me in repentance and make me as one of Thy hired servants.