

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, February 27th, 2011

Schedule of Services

February 27th Last Judgment, Meatfare tone 7

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

March 1st Tuesday

7:00 a.m. Matins

March 2nd Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

2:00 p.m. Beginning Russian Class

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Class Basics of Orthodoxy: Great Litany 2

March 3rd Thursday

7:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Late Vocations Scripture Class

March 4th Friday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

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

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

March 5th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

March 6th Forgiveness Sunday, Cheesefare, tone 8

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

6:00 p.m. Forgiveness Vespers

In order to fulfill the commandments of Christ, you must know them. They are expounded in the Gospels. Read the Holy Gospel, penetrate its spirit, make it the rule of your life, your manual in everything you do and, for every question in life, act in accordance with the teachings of the Gospels. This is the one light in our life.
St. Nikon of Optina

Our chief enemies are the demons who fight to conquer us through our passions. The most powerful weapon against all their evil machinations, snares, and arrows is humility. They are the creatures of pride, and are able to conquer those who proudly think that they can do battle with them; but they cannot stand up against humility.
St. Macarius of Optina

Announcements for February 27th

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 the women's monastery in Kemp, Texas.

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!

Fasting this Week: This week, preparatory for Great Lent, is a week of abstention from meat only.

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.

Temple Oil given for the healing of Joshua & Anna's marriage.

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

Wednesday, 2:00 p.m. Beginning Russian

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: Great Litany 2

Thursday, 7:00 p.m. Late Vocations Scripture, Session 4

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.

Cheesefare Sunday is next week and marks the last day for dairy products until Pascha. Please feel free to bring left-over dairy 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 \$1079 in tithes and offerings; in February, we have given \$3794.14; our monthly budget is \$7975 (\$1994 per week). Candles \$61.50; Special Gifts \$350, Building Fund \$6; Hall Expansion Fund \$6, Soda Jar for Building Renovation Fund \$20. May God bless your giving! Attendance: Sunday Liturgy 63, Vigil 24

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 \$6069 has been raised so far. All coffee hour donations will go for this end. (Parish council suggests \$5 per family per week; \$6 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

There is not just one reason why sinners commit the same sin in deed, but several. For instance, it is one thing to sin from habit and another to sin by being carried away. In this case, the sinner did not fully reflect either before or after the sin but rather was deeply

grieved over the incident. The who sins from habit is quite the reverse, for first he does not stop sinning in thought, and after the act, he maintains the same disposition.

The one who seeks after the virtues out of vainglory obviously seeks after knowledge as well out of vainglory. Clearly such a person neither does nor says anything for the sake of improvement but is in all circumstances pursuing the approval of the onlookers or hearers. The passion is detected when some of these people impose censure on his deeds or on his words, and he is enormously grieved thereby, not because he did not edify, for such was not his purpose, but because of his own disgrace.

400 Chapters on Love, 3.74-75

Troparia and Kontakia for February 27th



Resurrectional Troparion, tone 7

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. / To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. / For the myrrh-bearers Thou didst change their lamentation into joy. / And Thou didst command Thine Apostles, O Christ God, / to proclaim that Thou art risen, / granting unto 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.

Last Judgment, Kontakion, tone 1

When Thou comest, O God, upon the earth with glory, / the whole world will tremble. / The river of fire will bring men before Thy judgment seat, / the books will be opened and the secrets disclosed. / Then deliver me from the unquenchable fire, / and count me worthy to stand on Thy right hand, O most righteous Judge.