

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011

Schedule of Services

**April 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday St. John Climacus, tone 4**

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

6:00 p.m. *Pan Orthodox Vespers, St. John the Baptist, Eules*

**April 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday**

7:00 a.m. Matins

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

**April 6<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

6:30 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy

8:00 p.m. Great Canon of St. Andrew

**April 7<sup>th</sup> Thursday St. Tikhon of North America**

5:00 p.m. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts

**April 8<sup>th</sup> Friday**

7:00 Matins

4:00 p.m. Class: Life after Death, Chapter 6

7:00 p.m. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, Litia for Departed

9:30 p.m. Akathist, Hesychastic Vigil

**April 9<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**April 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday St. Mary of Egypt, tone 5**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy Church School

6:00 p.m. *Pan Orthodox Vespers, St. Seraphim Cathedral, Dallas*

Fear is necessary for human nature in order that it might keep within the bounds of obedience to God. But the love of God incites a man to desire the works of virtue, and through love he is caught away to the doing of good. Spiritual knowledge naturally comes after the performance of the virtues, but both are preceded by fear and love; and again, fear precedes love. Whoever says with presumption that it is possible to acquire the more perfect virtues before he accomplishes the elementary has, without a doubt, laid the first foundation for the ruin of his soul. For the Lord's way is that the more perfect be born of the former virtues.

*St. Isaac of Syria, Homily 3*

## Announcements for April 3<sup>rd</sup>

**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 our priest.

**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!

**Many Thanks** to those who came for the work day. Much was accomplished due to you! Thanks to those who clean and those who bring food for coffee hour and for after Presanctified Liturgies.

**Please Pray** for the catechumens being catecheized this morning in preparation for holy illumination on Holy Saturday: Mike, Gina, Ian Rehmet, Sam Vanderburg, Thom Anderson.

**A Yard Sale** will be held Saturday, May 7, at the church to raise money the construction of our new hall. Your donations of all sorts of unneeded household goods are welcome. Please see Ben and Lois Lyda for more information and about what to do with your donations.

**Job Needed?** If you are looking for work or if you are an employer looking for a employee who has certain qualifications please contact Michael Nolan with the Jobs4Justice volunteer organization at 210-379-9875 or MichaelUNT08@gmail.com.

**The Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts** will be served on Thursday and Friday this week.

**The Great Canon of St. Andrew** will be served in its entirety this Wednesday evening at 8:00 p.m. following the Basics Class.

### Classes this Week

Monday, 7:00 p.m. DFW Late Vocations Scripture

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: Divine Liturgy 6: Scripture Readings

Friday, 4:00 p.m. *Life After Death*, chapter 5.

### The Fast: Fifth 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).

Last week we gave \$887.63 in tithes and offerings; in March we gave \$5753.58; our monthly budget is \$7975 (\$1994 per week). Candles \$66; Special Gifts \$0, Building Fund \$5; Hall Expansion Fund \$3030, Soda Jar for Building Renovation Fund n/a, Special Offering for beautification \$33.. May God bless your giving! Attendance: Sunday Liturgy 61, Vigil 34.

**Hall Expansion Fund:** The hall expansion fund has pledges for \$7700 of the \$17,000 we need to pay for our hall expansion, \$6100 of which has been given; a total of \$11,054 has been raised so far. All coffee hour donations will go for this end. (Parish council suggests \$5 per family per week; \$4 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

Vain glory and greed and mutually begotten of each other, for while the vain grow rich, the rich grow vain, but only in a worldly sense. Since the monk is without possessions, he becomes all the more vain, and when he does have money, he hides it in shame as something unbecoming to his calling.

It is characteristic of a monk's vainglory that he become vain about his virtue and whatever is associated with it. It is characteristic of his pride that he be elated over his good deeds, dismiss other people, and ascribe these deeds to himself and not to God. It is characteristic of the worldly person's vainglory and pride that he be vain and elated over appearances, wealth, position, and pride.

*400 Chapters on Love, 3,83-84*

### Troparia and Kontakia for April 3<sup>rd</sup>



#### 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.

#### Sunday of John Climacus, Troparion tone 1

O John, our father, saint of God, thou was revealed as a citizen of the desert, / an angel in a body and a worker of miracles. / Through fasting, prayer and vigils, /thou hast received heavenly gifts of grace, /and thou healest the sick and the souls of those that turn to thee with faith. / Glory be to Him who gave thee strength; / glory, be to Him who crowned thee / glory be to Him who through thee granteth to all men healing.

#### 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.

#### John Climacus, Kontakion, tone 4

Truly the Lord hath set thee as fixed star in the firmament of abstinence, / giving light to the ends of the earth / O father John our teacher.