

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, May 15th, 2011

Schedule of Services

May 15th 4th Sunday of Pascha: Paralytic

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

May 16th Monday

7:00 p.m. DFW Late Vocations Scripture Survey

May 18th Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: Divine Liturgy

May 19th Thursday

7:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

May 20th Friday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Class: Life after Death, Chapter 8

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

May 21st Saturday

9:30 a.m. Russian Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

May 22nd 5th Sunday of Pascha: Samaritan Woman

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Speak more to God about your children, rather than to your children about God.

For the correct, Christian upbringing of your children: few words, much example, and more prayer are necessary.

“Elder, the parents of this child are in much distress because of the life he is leading.” “Tell them, my child: much prayer! God will help. There do not exist people for whom hands are lifted in prayer or knees are bloodied who are not led to repentance.”

The soul of the adolescent, he used to say, is in an explosion of freedom. For this reason, it receives various counsels with difficulty. So, instead of advising him constantly and scolding him every so often, through the weight of your effort to the following: present the problem to Christ, to the Panagia and to the saints and ask them to wise him up.

Elder Epiphanius of Greece.

Announcements for May 15th

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 Offerings this week is for our choir director in appreciation for all his hard work.

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!

Our Annual Memorial Day Picnic will be held Monday, May 30 from noon to five at the church. Start planning to bring food and drink and friends.

Paschal Notes

The prayer "O Heavenly King" is not said at home or in church during this season until Pentecost, June 12.

During the 50 days from Pascha to the Feast of Pentecost, we do not kneel or make prostrations at home or in church in keeping with the joyful, festal character of the season. We begin to kneel and do prostrations again with the Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost.

For 40 days until the Feast of Ascension (June 2), we greet each other by saying, "Christ is Risen!" "Indeed, He is Risen!"

During the same period, we replace "Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal..." with the paschal troparion said thrice.

Through the Leavetaking of Pascha (June 1), we use the Paschal Troparion before and after meals and when setting out on a trip.

Ministry to Shut-ins: We currently have two shut-ins whom the priest visits and to whom he administers the Mysteries. Each would welcome visits from parishioners. To visit Nina Johnston at 5892 Mills Road in Denton, call her son Richard to set up a visit at (972) 900-0201. Sherrie Joanna Hall has been a long-time parishioner at St. Barbara's in Fort Worth who now lives in Denton. She lives right

across from the Cumberland Children's Home at 1407 Bernard apt. #1011. You may reach her by phone at (940) 381-303 or (817) 925-4183.

Classes this Week

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

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: Divine Liturgy, Great Entrance, Cherubic Hymn, Anaphora

Friday, 4:00 p.m. *Life After Death*, chapter 7.

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 \$1956.32 in tithes and offerings; this month we have given 3501.33; our monthly budget is \$7975 (\$1994 per week). Candles \$48.50; Special Gifts \$0, Church Building Fund \$0; Yard Sale \$2553.87; Hall Expansion Fund \$22, Soda Jar for Building Renovation Fund \$30. May God bless your giving! Attendance: Vigil 24, Liturgy 66.

Hall Expansion Fund: The hall expansion fund has pledges for \$7700 of the \$17,000 we need to pay for our hall expansion, \$6300 of which has been given; a total of \$14,172.87 has been raised so far. All coffee hour donations will go for this end.

Please Pray for our Catechumens: Sean Chaney, Ken and Pam Northam and their children Marsha, Jessica, Mariah, Emalie, Jeremy Pike, and David Eaton. Please pray for our **shut-ins** Nina Johnston and Sherrie Joanna Hall, and for Michael Rodgers at St. Tikhon's Seminary.

From Saint Maximus

The perfect soul is the one whose affective drive is wholly directed to God.

The perfect mind is the one that through genuine faith supremely knows in supreme ignorance the supremely unknowable, and in gazing on the universe of His handiwork has received from God comprehensive knowledge of His Providence and judgment in it, as far as is allowable to men.

Time is divided in three, and faith extends to all three divisions, hope to one, love to two. Faith and hope remain to a certain point, but love for infinite ages in a supreme and ever abounding union with

the One who is supremely infinite. And because of this, “the greatest of these is love.”
400 Chapters on Love, 3.98-100

On the Eucharist

The Protestants maintain that, in the Sacrament of Divine Eucharist, we don't have the actual Body and Blood of our Lord, but that it is a simple remembrance of the Sacrifice of his Crucifixion.

The Elder responded to this:

“As we know, the Body of the Lord upon the Cross not only was not broken up into small pieces, but not even of bone of His was broken. So, how then, does the Lord, during the imparting of the Sacrament of Divine Eucharist say: ‘Take, eat, this is My Body, which is broken’; If it were merely a simple remembrance, he would not have said ‘which is broken (*klomen*)’—that is, ‘broken up into small pieces,’ because such a thing had not occurred in the crucifixion for them to remember it.
Elder Ephiphanius of Greece

Troparia and Kontakia for May 15th



Resurrectional Troparion, Tone 3

Let those in Heaven rejoice, / let those on Earth be glad; / for the Lord hath wrought a mighty act with His arm./ He hath trampled down death by death; / He hath become the first-born of the dead. / From the womb of hell hath He delivered us, // and hath granted the world great mercy.

Paralytic, Kontakion, Tone 3

As of old Thou didst raise up the paralytic, / O Lord God, by Thy God-like care and might, raise up my soul / which is palsied by diverse sins and transgressions / and by unseemly deeds and acts, / that saved I may also cry out: / O Compassionate Redeemer, / O Christ God, / glory to Thy dominion and might.

Paschal Kontakion, tone 8

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, / Thou didst destroy the power of death. / In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, / proclaiming, “Rejoice!” to the myrrhbearing women, / granting peace to Thine Apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.