

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, May 22nd, 2011

Schedule of Services

May 22nd 5th Sunday of Pascha: Samaritan Woman

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

May 23rd Monday

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

May 25th Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers

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

May 26th Thursday

7:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

May 27th Friday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Class: Life after Death, Chapter 9

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

May 28th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

May 29th 6th Sunday of Pascha: Blind Man

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

An all-embracing and intense longing for God binds those who experience it both to God and to one another.

An intellect that has acquired spiritual love does not have thoughts unworthy of this love about anyone.

He who conceals his hypocrisy beneath feigned love blesses with his mouth but curses inwardly.

He who has acquired love endures calmly and patiently the injuries and sufferings that his enemies inflict on him.

Love alone harmoniously joins all created things with God and with each other.

A person who does not tolerate suspicion or disparagement of others possesses true love.

He who does nothing to dispel love is precious in the sight of God and men.

St. Thalassios the Libyan, 400 Chapters on Love, Self-Control & Life, 1.1-7

Announcements for May 22nd

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.

No Special Offering this week.

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,

Anaphora of St. John Chrysostom

Friday, 4:00 p.m. *Life After Death*, chapter 9.

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 \$1601 in tithes and offerings; this month we have given \$5102.33; our monthly budget is \$7975 (\$1994 per week). Candles \$46.50; Special Gifts \$0, Church Building Fund \$0; Hall Expansion Fund \$10,000, Soda Jar for Building Renovation Fund \$9. May God bless your giving! Attendance: Vigil 24, Liturgy 64.

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 \$24,172.87 has been raised so far. All coffee hour donations will go for this end. All told, we have raised \$44,172.87; after the tithe we pay to the diocese, we have \$39,755 with which to build the addition, estimated most recently to cost \$62,000. Another \$20,000 has been pledged but will not be given (for tax reasons) until January of 2012 and 2013. Thus, after tithe, \$57,755 is raised and/or promised. We need to raise about \$4725 to cover the estimated cost of construction. We are working on getting permits from the city and providing the additional drawings they asked of us.

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

First the intellect marvels when it reflects on the absolute infinity of God, that boundless seas for which it longs so much. Then it is amazed at how God has brought things into existence out of nothing. But just as 'His magnificence is without limit', so 'there is no penetrating His purposes.'

God is the Creator from all eternity, and He creates when He wills, in His infinite goodness, through His coessential Logos and Spirit. Do not raise the objection: 'Why did He created at a

particular moment since He is good from all eternity?' For I reply that the unsearchable wisdom of the infinite essence does not come within the compass of human knowledge.

When the Creator willed, He gave being to and manifested that knowledge of created things which already existing in Him from all eternity. For in the case of almighty God it is ridiculous to doubt that He can give being to anything when He so wills.

400 Chapters on Love, 4.1, 3, 4

Troparia and Kontakia for May 22nd



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.

Mid-Pentecost, Troparion, tone 8

In the middle of the Feast, O Savior, / fill my thirsting soul with the waters of godliness, as Thou didst cry to all: / "If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink!" // O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to Thee!

Kontakion of Samaritan Woman, tone 8

The Samaritan Woman came to the well in faith; / she saw Thee, the Water of Wisdom, and drank abundantly! / She inherited the Kingdom on high, and is ever glorified.

Mid-Pentecost, Kontakion, tone 4

O sovereign Master and Creator of all things, Christ our God, / Thou didst cry unto those present at the Judaic Mid-feast and address them thus: / Come hither and draw ye forth immortality's water. / Wherefore, we fall down before Thee and faithfully cry out: //Grant Thy compassions unto us, O Lord, for Thou art truly the Well-spring of life for all.