

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, June 5th, 2011

Schedule of Services

June 5th - 7th Sunday of Pascha: Fathers of First Council

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

June 8th Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: Lord's Prayer 1

June 9th Thursday

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

June 10th Friday Leavetaking of Ascension

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Class: Life after Death, Chapter 10

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

June 11th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

June 12th Sunday Holy Pentecost; Holy Trinity

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. Vespers with Kneeling Prayers

Perfume is not to be found in mud, or the fragrance of love in the soul of a rancorous man.

Firmly control anger and desire, and you will speedily rid yourself of evil thoughts.

Inner work destroys self-esteem, and if you despise no one, you will repel pride.

The signs of self-esteem are hypocrisy and falsehood; those of pride are presumption and jealousy.

The true ruler is he who rules over himself and has subjected soul and body to the intelligence.

The genuineness of a friend is shown at a time of trial, if he shares the distress you suffer.

Seal your senses with stillness and sit in judgment upon the thoughts that attack your heart.

St. Thalassios the Libyan, 400 Chapters on Love, Self-Control & Life, 1.16-22

Announcements for June 5th

To Our Visitors: Welcome! Please join us after the service for coffee and conversation. 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!

The Mission Council meets today after the Liturgy. All are welcome to sit in.

The Feast of Pentecost, one of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Church, will be celebrated next weekend with the Festal Vigil Saturday evening at 5:00 and the Divine Liturgy Sunday morning at 9:00. All the faithful should attend both services. With Pentecost, the Church resumes using the prayer to the Holy Spirit, "O Heavenly King." The Kneeling Vespers of Pentecost will be served Sunday evening at 6:00, the time when we resume kneeling and doing prostrations for the first time since Pascha.

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

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.: Basics of Orthodoxy Class One on the Lord's Prayer.

Friday, 4:00 p.m. *Life After Death*, chapter 10.

The Lord's Prayer will be the topic of the Basics of Orthodoxy Class for the next few weeks when it resumes June 9. All are encouraged to the sessions treating this most basic Christian prayer.

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 \$1020.44 in tithes and offerings; in May we gave \$7171.29; our monthly budget is \$7975 (\$1994 per week). Candles \$58.50 (May \$307); Special Gifts \$266 (May \$1161), Church Building Fund \$30 (May \$65); Hall Expansion Fund \$338 (May \$10,675.51) Total general funds for May (tithes + special): \$8332.29 = budget met! May God bless your giving! Attendance: Vigil 25, Liturgy 73. May averages: Vigil 26, Liturgy 63.

Hall Expansion Fund: A Total of \$44,467.87 has been raised so far of the \$62,000. Another \$20,000 has been pledged but will not be given (for tax reasons) until January of 2012 and 2013. After paying our tithe to the diocese we still need to raise about \$4460 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 Matthew Holiday, a founder of the parish, who is getting married today in Dallas.

From Saint Maximus

Try to learn why God created; for that is true knowledge. But do not try to learn how He created or why He did so comparatively recently; for that does not come within the compass of your intellect. Of divine realities, some may be apprehended by men and others may not. Unbridled speculation, as one of the saints has said, can drive one headlong over the precipice.

Some say that the created order has coexisted with God from eternity; but this is impossible. For how can things which are limited in every way coexist from eternity with Him who is altogether infinite? Or how are they really creations if they are coeternal with the Creator? This notion is drawn from the pagan Greek philosophers, who claim that God is in no way the Creator of being but only of qualities. We, however, who know almighty God, say that He is the Creator not only of qualities but also of the being of

created things. If this is so, created things have not coexisted with God from eternity.

Divinity and divine realities are in some respects knowable and in some respects unknowable. They are knowable in the contemplation of what appertains to God's essence and unknowable as regards that essence itself.

400 Chapters on Love, 4.5-7

Troparia and Kontakia for June 5th



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.

Ascension, Troparion, tone 4

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, / granting joy to Thy disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. / Through the blessing they were assured / that Thou art the Son of God, / the Redeemer of the world.

Fathers, Troparion, tone 8

Most glorious art Thou, O Christ our God! / Thou hast established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth! / Through them Thou hast guided us to the true faith! / O greatly Compassionate One, glory to Thee!

Fathers, Kontakion, tone 8

The Apostles' preaching and the Fathers' doctrines have established one faith for the Church. / Adorned with the robe of truth, woven from heavenly theology; / great is the mystery of piety which it defines and glorifies.

Ascension, Kontakion, tone 6

When Thou didst fulfill the dispensation for our sake, / and unite earth to heaven; / Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, / not being parted from those who love Thee, / but remaining with them and crying: / I am with you and no one will be against you!