

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, June 19th, 2011

Schedule of Services

June 19th Sunday of All Saints

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

*****Peter & Paul Fast Begins*****

June 20th Monday

7:00 a.m. Matins,

June 21st Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins

June 22nd Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers

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

June 23rd Thursday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

June 24th Friday

7:45 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

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

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

June 25th Saturday

9:30 a.m. *Divine Liturgy at Nativity of our Lord Monastery, Kemp*

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

June 26th Sunday of All Saints of North America

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Waste your body with fasting and vigils, and you will repulse the lethal thoughts of pleasure.

As wax melts before fire, so does an impure thought before the fear of God.

The intelligent soul is greatly harmed when it dallies with an ignoble passion.

St. Thalassios the Libyan, 400 Chapters on Love, Self-Control & Life, 1.25-27

Announcements for June 19th

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 the Nativity of Our Lord women's monastery. Fr. Justin will be serving Liturgy there next Saturday with Fr. John Anderson at 9:30 a.m.

The Apostles' Fast begins Monday and lasts until the Feast of Peter and Paul, June 29. The Holy Church calls us to abstain from meat, dairy, fish, wine and oil (with the modifications on the wall calendar) and marital relations so that we may devote ourselves to repentance and seeking the face of God that we may be renewed in Him.

Vigil for the Feast of Peter & Paul, the evening of June 28, will not be celebrated here in Denton but at St. Paul's in Denison at 7:00 with Chantus Maximus. This is an opportunity to help celebrate a sister parish's patronal feast and bring them a greater measure of joy. Please consider attending. Car pooling will be available.

Ten-Year Annivesary: Plans for celebrating our ten-year anniversary as a parish are being completed. Please help by filling out the questionnaire about your memories of the parish. Any other bits of parish history you can provide: pictures, anecdotes, etc., are welcome. Please give them to Dax & Amy Stokes. We are greatly honored to have Metropolitan Jonah and Bishop Nikon joining us for this celebration. Please don't miss it: Friday July 29-Sunday July 31. Tickets for the Sunday banquet go on sale soon.

Classes this Week

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.: Basics of Orthodoxy Class One on the Lord's Prayer 2 "Hallowed be Thy Name".

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

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 \$1183.82 in tithes and offerings; in June we have given \$2850.37; our monthly budget is \$7975 (\$1994 per week). In addition: Candles \$57; Special Gifts \$471; Church Building Fund \$50; Soda jar for Renovation \$12; Hall Expansion Fund \$417.43. May God bless your giving! Attendance: Vigil 47, Liturgy 94.

Hall Expansion Fund: A Total of \$48,085.30 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 \$1162 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. All **Coffee Hour Donations** go to support this.

Please Pray for our Catechumens: Sean Chaney, Ken and Pam Northam and their children Marsha, Jessica, Mariah, Emalie, Jeremy Pike, and David Eaton, and for our inquirers Joel and Mindy Brown, Shane and Ashley Gibson, and Hunter Bellan. Please pray for our **shut-ins** Nina Johnston and Sherrie Joanna Hall.

From Saint Maximus

If in time of trial a man does not patiently endure his afflictions, but cuts himself off from the love of his spiritual brethren, he does not yet possess perfect love or a deep knowledge of divine providence.

The aim of divine providence is to unite by means of true faith and spiritual love those separated in various ways by vice. Indeed, the Savior endured His sufferings to that 'He should gather together into one the scattered children of God' (John 11:52). Thus, he who does not resolutely bear trouble, endure affliction, and patiently sustain hardship, has strayed from the path of divine love and from the purpose of providence.

If 'love is long-suffering and kind' (I Corinthians 13:4), a man who is fainthearted in the face of his afflictions and who therefore behaves wickedly towards those who have offended him, and stops loving them, surely lapses from the purpose of divine providence.

Watch yourself, lest the vice which separates you from your brother lies not in him but in yourself. Be reconciled with him without delay, so that you do not lapse from the commandment of love.

400 Chapters on Love, 4.16-19

From Saint Gregory of Nyssa

{All people seem to put business before prayer}—the craftsman, the orator, the one who files a lawsuit, as well as the one who happens to be the judge. Each devotes his whole self to what is at hand and forgets the work of prayer. He considers engagement with God a harm compared to the work before him. For whoever practices a craft thinks God's alliance is useless and unprofitable for one's current business. He therefore forsakes prayer, putting all hope in his own hands and forgetting Him who has given us hands....In a similar way, other occupations, through care for material and earthly things, cut off the soul's engagement with what is better and heavenly. It is for this reason that life is engulfed by sin, entangling all human affairs and forever increasing in dimension. And that because forgetfulness of God prevails over all things. People do not connect the benefit of prayer to their pursuits. Greed enters into business. Yet 'greed is idolatry' (Colossians 3:5)....

However, if prayer precedes labors, sin will not find entrance into the soul. When the remembrance of God is established in the heart, the wiles of the adversary remain futile.... If [man] does everything with prayer, he will be prevented from committing sin. Nothing contrary will drag the soul down into passion, and the undertaking will be successful. But if one gives oneself wholly to one's affairs, he distances himself from God. *From Homilies on the Lord's Prayer*

Troparia and Kontakia for June 19th



Resurrectional Troparion, tone 8

Thou didst descend from on high, O tenderhearted One. / Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our passions. / O Lord, our life and resurrection, glory to Thee.

All Saints, Troparion, tone 4

Adorned in the blood of Thy Martyrs throughout all the world, / Thy Church as in purple and fine linen / through them doth cry unto Thee, O Christ God; / Send down Thy compassions upon Thy people; / grant peace to Thy commonwealth, and great mercy to our souls.

All Saints, Kontakion, tone 8

All the world doth offer unto Thee, O Lord, as to creation's Planter, / the God-bearing Martyrs as nature's first fruits for they bare witness unto Thee. / Thus preserve Thou Thy Church in the profoundest peace by their entreaties, O Savior, / through the pure Theotokos, O Thou who art greatly merciful.