

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Schedule of Services

**February 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Publican & the Pharisee**

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

**February 8<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: The Services of Great Lent

**February 11<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

6:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**February 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Prodigal Son**

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

**From Saint Maximus**

There is one God, because the Father is the Begetter of the unique Son and the fount of the Holy Spirit: one without confusion and three without division. The Father is unoriginate Intellect, the unique essential Begetter of the unique Logos, also unoriginate, and the fount of the unique everlasting life, the Holy Spirit.

The divine Logos, who once for all was born in the flesh, always in His compassion desires to be born in spirit in those who desire Him. He becomes infant and moulds Himself as He knows the recipient can accept; He does not diminish the manifestation of His own greatness out of lack of generosity but estimates the receptive capacity of those who desire to see Him. In this way the divine Logos is eternally made manifest in different modes of participation, and yet remains eternally invisible to all in virtue of the surpassing nature of his hidden activity. That is why the apostle, when wisely considering the power of this hidden activity, says, 'Jesus Christ, the same, yesterday, and today, and throughout the ages'; for he sees the hidden activity as something which is always new and ever becomes outmoded through being embraced by the intellect.

*First Century of Various Texts, 8*

*Triodion:* Let us all humble ourselves, brethren; groaning and lamenting, let us beat our conscience, that at the eternal judgment we may be numbered with the faithful and the righteous, receiving forgiveness.

## Announcements for February 5<sup>th</sup>

**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.

**Church School** for children from preschool to high school meets today after Liturgy.

**The Special Offering** is for hall construction.

**The Triodion is opened** today as we begin the period of preparation for Great Lent, which begins February 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Temple Oil** given in memory of Nicholas Gluschenko and Victor; **Temple Wine** given for the health and salvation of Caleb, Connor and Ian.

**Fr. Justin** will be gone this week at the Diocese of the South Pastoral Conference in Charleston, SC. In case of emergency, please contact Fr. Photius Avant at St. Sava's or Fr. Gregory Jensen at the cathedral. Matushka will have direct numbers for use in dire need.

**N.B. Vigil next Saturday** will be at 6:00 p.m. instead of its usual 5:00 p.m. It will return to its usual time the following Saturday.

**Construction Mud:** We should like to keep the construction mud outside. To this end we ask that children either stay out of the mud entirely, or, if they must play in it, they do not re-enter the church. Adults too!

**Church Cleaning:** Help is needed to clean the church, especially now with construction underway. Please consider signing up for this needed ministry in the hall, especially if you have not done it for awhile.

**Forgiveness Sunday** is in four weeks, February 26. Forgiveness Vespers will be served at 6:00 with the rite of forgiveness; ice cream, in accordance with local tradition, will follow at Beth Marie's on the Square. It is of deep importance to our souls and the health of our parish that everyone who makes St. Maximus his parish home attends this service.

## Classes this Week:

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: The Services of Great Lent with Subdeacon Anthony Dax Stokes

**Ministry to Shut-ins:** We currently have two shut-ins who 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 may be reached at (817) 925-4183.

**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 in 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 \$1853.50 in tithes and offerings; in January, we gave \$11,224.64; our monthly budget is \$8179 (\$2045 per week)—we made budget! In addition: Candles \$53.50; building fund \$147, Special Collection for Windows, \$158. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 34, Liturgy 97.

**Hall Expansion Fund:** A Total of \$52,129.17 has been raised so far of the estimated \$62,000 it will cost. All **Coffee Hour Donations** go to support this.

**Expansion Update:** Please keep an eye on your children in regard to the construction site. Thank you.

**Please Pray for our Catechumens:** David Eaton who is preparing for Holy Illumination; Sean Chaney, Caleb Rehmert, Elizabeth Dakak, Hunter Bellan, Philip Smith, and Shane and Ashley Gibson; and for our inquirers Joel and Mindy Brown and their children. Please pray for our **shut-ins** Nina Johnston and Sherrie Joanna Hall, for the novice Svetlana, and for Melanie Betz on bedrest.

## From Saint Thalassios, the Libyan

Concern for one's soul means hardship and humility, for through these God forgives us all our sins.

Just as desire and rage multiply our sins, so self-control and humility erase them.

Distress that accords with God's will shatters the heart; it is produced by the fear of punishment.

Such distress purifies the heart, expelling from it the defilements of sensual pleasure.

## Troparia and Kontakia for February 5<sup>th</sup>



### Resurrectional Troparion, tone 1

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews / and the soldiers were guarding  
Thine immaculate body, / Thou didst rise on the third day, O Saviour, / granting  
life to the world. / The powers of heaven, therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of  
life: / Glory to the Resurrection, O Christ! / Glory to Thy Kingdom! / Glory to  
Thy dispensation, O only Lover of man.

### Meeting of the Lord, Troparion, tone 1

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos full of grace, / for from thee hath shone forth the  
Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, / who doth illumine those in darkness. /  
Be glad also, thou righteous elder, / for thou hast received in thine arms the  
Deliverer of our souls, // who bestoweth upon us Resurrection.

### St. Maximus, Troparion, tone 3

#### Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 1

Thou hast risen from the grave as God in glory / and Thou didst raise the world  
with Thee, / and human nature hymneth Thee as God, / and death hath vanished.  
/ Adam exulteth, O Master, / and Eve, delivered from her bondage, now  
rejoiceth, crying: / Thou, O Christ, / art He who granteth to all the Resurrection!

#### St. Maximus, Kontakion tone 8 *Serbian Melody*

Let us the faithful praise with fitting hymns / that lover of the Holy Trinity, great  
Maximus, / who clearly taught the divinely-given Faith: / that we should give  
glory unto Christ our God, / Who, but one person, hath in very truth / two  
natures, wills, and energies. / Let us cry to him: // Rejoice, divine herald of the  
Faith.

#### Publican and Pharisee, Kontakion, tone 4

Let us flee from the proud speaking of the Pharisee / and learn the humility of  
the Publican, / and with groaning let us cry unto the Savior: / Be merciful to us,  
// for Thou alone art ready to forgive.

#### Publican and Pharisee, Kontakion, tone 3

As the Publican let us bring cries of sorrow to the Lord, / and let us fall before  
him as sinners at the Master's feet. / For He desireth the salvation of all men; /  
He granteth forgiveness unto all that repent, / and He hath for our sake taken  
flesh, / though He is God // coeternal with the Father.

#### Meeting of the Lord, Kontakion, tone 1

Thou who hast sanctified by Thy birth a virgin womb / and fittingly blessed the  
hands of Simeon, / art come, O Christ our God, and on this day hast saved us. /  
Give peace to thy commonwealth in time of battle / and strengthen the Orthodox  
people whom Thou hast loved, // O Thou who alone lovest mankind.