

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

2026 W. Oak Street • Denton, TX 76201

(940) 565-6753 • www.stmaximus.org

Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, February 12th, 2012

Schedule of Services

February 12th Sunday of the Prodigal Son

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

February 14th Tuesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

February 15th Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: Prayer Corporate & Private

February 16th Thursday St. Nicholas of Japan

7:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

February 17th Friday

7:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. *Russian Vespers, Confession, Dallas*

February 18th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

February 19th Sunday of the Last Judgment, Meatfare

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

From Saint Thalassios, the Libyan

Patient endurance is the soul's struggle for virtue; where there is struggle for virtue, self-indulgence is banished.

All sin is due to sensual pleasure, all forgiveness to hardness and distress.

If you are not willing to repent through freely choosing to suffer, unsought sufferings will providentially be imposed on you.

Christ is the Savior of the whole world, and has conferred on men the gift of repentance so that they may be saved.

Repentance engenders the keeping of the commandments, and this in its turn purifies the soul.

The purification of the soul is release from the passions, and release from the passions gives birth to love.

A pure soul is one that loves God, and a pure intellect is one divorced from ignorance. *400 Chapters on Love, Self-Control & Life, 2.73-79*

Announcements for February 12th

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.

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

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 two 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: Prayer Corporate & Private

Christian Burial Class: read *A Christian Ending* and do the homework assigned. No class this week.

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 \$2653.80 in tithes and offerings; our monthly budget is \$8179 (\$2045 per week. (To build a church will require a monthly income in the neighborhood of \$10,000 a month.) In addition: Candles \$46.50; building fund \$103, Hall Expansion \$187. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 38, Liturgy 82.

Hall Expansion Fund: A Total of \$55,316.17 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 Rehmet, 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 Maximus

From created beings we come to know their Cause; from the differences between created things we learn about the indwelling Wisdom of creation; and from the natural activity of created beings we discern the indwelling Life of creation, the power which gives created beings their life—the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is not absent from any created being, especially not from one which in any way participates in intelligence. For being God and God's Spirit, He embraces in unity the spiritual knowledge of all created things, providentially permeating all things with His power, and vivifying their inner essences in accordance with their nature. In this way He makes men aware of things done sinfully against the law of nature, and renders them capable of choosing principles which are true and in conformity with nature. Thus we find many barbarians and nomadic peoples turning to a civilized way of life and setting aside the savage laws which they had kept among themselves from time immemorial. *First Century of Various Texts, 71, 72*

