

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Schedule of Services During the Third Week of Lent

**March 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Orthodoxy St Gregory Palamas**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. *Vespers at St. Mary's Romanian Church, Colleyville*

**March 13<sup>th</sup> Tuesday**

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

**March 14<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

6:00 p.m. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, Meal

8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: Fasting

**March 15<sup>th</sup> Thursday**

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

4:30 p.m. Class:

**March 16<sup>th</sup> Friday**

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

8:00 p.m. *Late Vocations Class: Doctrine, Dallas*

**March 17<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

9:30 a.m. *Russian Divine Liturgy, Dallas*

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**March 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday Veneration of the Cross**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. *Vespers at SS Constantine & Helen Church, Dallas*

**From Saint Thalassios, the Libyan**

The soul's disease is an evil disposition, while its death is sin put into action.

Spiritual poverty is complete dispassion; when the intellect has reached this state it abandons all worldly things.

Preserve the harmony of the soul's virtues, and it will bring forth the fruit of righteousness.

The contemplation of noetic realities is said to be bodiless because it is completely free of matter and form.

*400 Chapters on Love, Self-Control & Life, 2.89-92*

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission  
belongs to the Diocese of the South, Orthodox Church in America

## Announcements for March 11<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.

**A Procession and Molieben for the Sunday of Orthodoxy** will be held at the end of the Liturgy. Following the servers and choir, we shall go out to the right front corner of the property at the street, go down the street to the driveway, turn in and come back to the porch for the Molieben. Copies of the hymns will be available.

**Church School** will meet today after the Liturgy.

**The Special Offering** is for Mike Rodgers at St. Tikhon's.

**The Pan-Orthodox Vespers** tonight is at St. Mary's Romanian Church, Colleyville on Glade Road.

**Schedule Change:** Vespers on Thursday will be served at 3:00 p.m. instead of 6:00, followed by class at 4:30.

**Class Change:** The Thursday class will begin a series of lessons based on St. Ignatius Branchaninov's important book *The Arena*. Please join us!

**Orthodox Burial:** The Christian Ending Class is transitioning into a ministry group that will meet monthly to develop the capability of providing the ministry of a traditional Orthodox Christian burial without embalming and expensive caskets and funeral homes to those desiring it. More information will be forthcoming.

### Classes this Week:

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: When You Fast: Why We Fast and How to Do It.

Thursday, 4:30 p.m. *The Arena*, St. Ignatius Branchaninov

Friday, 8:00 p.m. *St. Seraphim's, Dallas*: Orthodox Doctrine.

**Many Years** to the newly illumined Moses David Eaton and his sponsor Tikhon Gareth Barnard, and to Reader Vladimir Rovny on the occasion of his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday.

**Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts:** The customary preparation for Holy Communion is needed: pre-Communion Prayers, recent

confession, and fasting. Strictly, this eucharistic fasting is from midnight, but our bishops have blessed beginning the complete abstinence from food and drink at noon.

**Church Cleaning:** Help is needed to clean the church. Please sign up for this ministry in the hall.

**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 \$2526.92 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 \$137; building fund \$262.50. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 30, Liturgy 74.

**Hall Expansion Fund:** A total of \$57,888.62 has been raised so far of the estimated \$79,000 it will cost. All **Coffee Hour Donations** go to support this.

**Expansion Update:** Rain is hampering efforts to move forward. Please keep an eye on your children in regard to the construction site. Thank you.

### The Fast: Third Week

We abstain from meat, meat products, dairy, fish, wine (alcohol), oil. If fasting strictly, we take one meal a day M-F after 3 p.m. or after the Presanctified Liturgy. We join increased prayer and almsgiving to our fasting and cut back on (or cut out) all things that distract us unnecessarily from Christ.

**Please Pray for our Catechumens:** Caleb Rehmet, Shane Gibson, Ashley Gibson, and Madeline preparing for Holy Illumination; Hunter Bellan, Sean Chaney, Elizabeth Dakak, Philip Smith, and ; 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.

### From Saint Maximus

Nothing disciplines the disposition of the soul so well as the protests of the afflicted flesh. If the soul gives way to them, it will be evident that it loves the flesh more than God. But if it remains unshaken by

these disturbances, it will be shown to honor virtue more than the flesh. Through virtue God will come to dwell in it—God who for the soul's sake patiently bears our human suffering—and will say to it as He once did to His disciples, 'Have courage, for I have overcome the world.'

*First Century of Various Texts, 21*

## Troparia and Kontakia for March 11<sup>th</sup>



### 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.

### St. Maximus, Troparion, tone 3

#### Palamas Sunday, Troparion, tone 8

O Gregory the Wonderworker, light of Orthodoxy, / support and teacher of the Church, / glory of monks and invincible protector of theologians, / pride of Thessalonica and preacher of grace, / pray without ceasing for the salvation of our souls.

#### 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.

#### Gregory Palamas, Kontakion, tone 8

Holy and divine instrument of wisdom, joyful trumpet of theology, / with one accord we sing thy praises, O Gregory inspired by God. / But since thou standest now in mind and spirit before the Original Mind, / guide our minds to Him, O father that we may cry to thee: Rejoice, preacher of grace.

#### Palamas Sunday, Kontakion, tone 4

The season of the virtues now hath come, /and the Judge is at the door. / Let us not hold back with darkened face, / but let us keep the Fast, / offering tears, contrition, and almsgiving; / and let us cry out: / our sins are more in number than the sands of the sea, / but Deliverer of all, forgive each one of us, // that we may receive an incorruptible crown.