

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, November 1, 2009

Schedule of Services

November 1st Sunday

8:45 a.m. Hours

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

November 3rd Tuesday

7:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodox: Divine Liturgy

November 4th Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

November 5th Thursday

7:00 a.m. Matins

November 6th Friday

7:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Russian Vespers, Pannikhida

November 7th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

November 8th Sunday St. Michael the Archangel

8:45 a.m. Hours

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

We soon grow weary of praying. Why? Because we do not vividly represent to ourselves the Lord, who is at our right hand. Look upon him unceasingly with the eyes of your heart, and then, even if you stand praying all night, you will not grow weary. What do I say—all night? You will be able to stand praying two and three nights without growing weary.

People say that if you do not feel inclined to pray, it is better not to pray; but this is crafty carnal sophistry. If you pray only when you are inclined to, you will cease praying altogether; this is what the flesh desires. *The kingdom of heaven suffereth violence.* You will not be able to work out your salvation without forcing yourself.

St. John of Kronstadt

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

Announcements for November 1st

To Our Visitors: Welcome! Please join us after the service for coffee and conversation and church school for the children. If you would, fill out a visitor's card for us and leave it in the basket on the table by the door. Be aware that shortly after the sermon, the catechumens, i.e., those preparing for Baptism & Chrismation, will be dismissed, but you are invited to stay for the rest of the service.

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 and present to hear "Blessed is the Kingdom" (in *unusual* circumstances no later than the Gospel reading).

Please Move Forward during the Liturgy! **Please be quiet** in the Narthex afterwards while the Prayers of Thanksgiving after Communion are being read in the church, or better yet, stay for the prayers so you don't have to read them later at home.

The Special Freewill Offering today will be for our priest, next week for debt reduction.

Church School will meet as usual following the Liturgy today.

Temple Oil brought for the health and salvation of the Guzik family, James Anderson, Maria Martinez, Shohrae Hajibashi, Patrick St. Jean, Michael Rodgers, Ivan Stoytchev & family.

Mission Council: Our new mission council will be commissioned today after the Liturgy next week and will then hold their first meeting. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

Classes this Week

Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy, Divine Liturgy Line-by-Line: Liturgy of the Faithful, the Great Entrance

No Wednesday Bible Study this week. We shall start new class on St. Theophan in a week or two.

N.B. no Tuesday Akathist or Thursday Vespers this week or next.

New Class: Our study of First John is finally winding down, and a new study will be offered on Wednesdays beginning in November. We shall most likely take up a work of St. Theophan the Recluse, either *Path of Salvation* or *On the Spiritual Life*.

Alms: Besides the alms box on the candle table and special offerings, we have bins under the bookstore for two local charities: woman to woman, which helps unwed pregnant mothers, and Interfaith Ministries, which helps local people in need. Items such as food and

diapers may be brought (see the sheet of needs on each bin). There is also a bin for the new women's monastery.

Please Pray for our Catechumens: Thom Anderson, and for Adam & Melanie Betz, for **our inquirers** John Parsons, Mary Moses, Robert & Elisabeth Terry and their children Thomas, Calvin, Owen, and Claire, and Ken & Pam Northam and their daughters Marsha, Jessica, Mariah, Emalie. Please pray for our **shut-ins** Nina Johnston and Georgii. Please remember Met. Jonah in your prayers, and the nun Barbara.

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) and a box for the building fund.

Last week, we gave \$1074 in tithes and offerings; in October we gave \$4681.61 in regular tithes and offerings; \$1925 was received in special gifts; our monthly budget is \$8835 (\$2039 per week). Candles \$49; Bookstore \$40; Building fund \$25; Special Gifts \$250. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 9, Liturgy 61.

From Saint Maximus

Some men abstain from the passions out of human fear; others out of vainglory; others again out of self-control; still others are freed from the passions by the divine judgments.

Comment: Some abstain from fear of being caught and the consequences; some because they consider it 'beneath them'; others have subjected the passions to the spirit, while others are delivered by the circumstances God brings into their lives.

All the Lord's words are embraced in these four: commandments, instruction, threats, and promises. Because of them, we endure every hardship such as fastings, vigils, sleeping on the ground, hard work, and stress in the service of others, outrages, disgrace, tortures, death, and the like. As the Scripture says, "For the sake of the words of Your lips, I have kept hard ways."

The reward of self-mastery is detachment and the reward of faith is knowledge. And detachment gives rise to discernment, while knowledge gives rise to love for God.

400 Chapters on Love, 2.23-25

Troparia and Kontakia for November 1st



Resurrectional Troparion, tone 4

Having learned the radiant proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, /the women disciples of the Lord cast off the ancestral curse, /and, boasting, told the Apostles: /Death hath been despoiled, Christ God is risen, /granting the world great mercy.

St. Maximus, Troparion, tone 3

By an outpouring of the Holy Spirit / thou didst pour forth Christ's sacred teachings, / thou didst expound with Divine authority / the self-emptying of God the Word / and wast radiant in thy confession of the True Faith: / O, Glorious Father Maximus / pray to Christ our God // to grant us His great mercy.

Unmercenary Healers, Troparion, tone 8

O holy unmercenary physicians and wonderworkers, / visit our infirmities. // Freely have ye received; freely give unto us.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 4

My Saviour and Deliverer as God/ hath raised out of the grave the earth-born from their bonds / and He hath shattered the gates of hell / and as Master / He hath risen on the third day.

St. Maximus, Kontakion, tone 6

The thrice-radiant Light which abode in thy soul / showed thee to be a chosen vessel / revealing divine things to the ends of the earth, / O blessed Maximus, who givest utterance to concepts hard to grasp, / and manifestly proclaimest unto all // the transcendent and unoriginate Trinity.

Unmercenary Healers, Kontakion, tone 2

Having received the grace of healings, / ye extend health to those in need, / O all-glorious physicians and wonderworkers. / By your visitation cast down the audacity of the enemy, // healing the world through your miracles.

Theotokion, tone 6

O Protection of Christians that is not put to shame, / unchanging mediation before the Creator, / despise not the voice of the sinner's prayer, / but in that thou art good come quickly to help us who call upon thee in faith, / make speed to intercede and make haste to supplicate, / O Theotokos, who dost ever protect those that honor thee.