

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, October 9th, 2011

Schedule of Services

October 9th 17th Sunday after Pentecost, tone 8

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

October 10th Monday Optina Elders

7:00 a.m. Matins

7:30 p.m. Late Vocations Class: Church History

October 11th Tuesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

October 12th Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy

October 14th Friday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

4:00 p.m. Adult Class: The Psalms

7:00 p.m. Vespers

October 15th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

October 16th 18th Sunday after Pentecost, tone 1

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Only those who have reached the extremes of virtue or of evil are not judged by their consciences.

Total dispassion renders our conceptual images passion-free: perfect spiritual knowledge brings us into the presence of Him who is utterly beyond knowledge.

Failure to obtain pleasure induces a culpable kind of distress: he who scorns pleasure is free from distress.

In general, distress arises from the privation of pleasure, whether it be of a worldly kind or related to God.

Kingship, goodness, and wisdom belong to God; he who attains them dwells in heaven.

The person who in his actions shows that he prefers his body to his soul, and the world to God, is a pathetic creature.

St. Thalassios the Libyan, 400 Chapters on Love, Self-Control & Life, 1.72-77

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

Announcements for October 9th

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.

Catechizing: Today before Liturgy, we catechize David Eaton and the Northam family in preparation for their baptism Saturday, Oct 22. Please pray for David, Kenneth, Pamela, Jessica, Moriah, and Emalie as they make their final preparations for Baptism.

Church School meets today after Liturgy.

Babysitter Needed: We should like to offer childcare during the Basics of Orthodoxy Class on Wednesday evenings from 8:00 to 9:15 to make it easier for our catechumens with children to attend class. If anyone is interested in undertaking this ministry, please the priest.

The Seventh Annual Winter Service Retreat will be held December 26 through January 1 at St. George's Orthodox Church in Pharr, Texas. Cost is \$225 a person. Make plans now!

Classes this Week

Monday, 7:30 p.m.: Late Vocations Church History

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.: Basics of Orthodoxy Class: Introductory
Session 2: The Church and Jesus Christ

Friday, 4:00 p.m.: Adult Class: Psalms 1-16.

A New Parish Phonebook will be compiled and published soon. Please look at the master copy on the candle table and check that we have your latest information: address, phone, email, birthday, nameday, anniversary. Please give it if we don't.

Learning Russian: If anyone is interested in learning Russian, please let Fr. Justin know. He is considering offering a beginning class in the language.

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 \$1522.88 in tithes and offerings; our monthly budget is \$8179 (\$2045 per week). In addition: Candles \$109; May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 36, Liturgy 74.

Hall Expansion Fund: A Total of \$52,092.17 has been raised so far of the estimated \$62,000 it will cost. All **Coffee Hour Donations** go to support this.

Expansion Update: revised drawings of our hall expansion are at the city awaiting approval and feedback.

Please Pray for our Catechumens: Ken and Pam Northam and their children Jessica, Mariah, Emalie, and David Eaton who are preparing for Holy Illumination; Sean Chaney, Caleb Rehmet, Elizabeth Dakak, and Hunter Bellan; and for our inquirers Joel and Mindy Brown, Shane and Ashley Gibson. Please pray for our **shut-ins** Nina Johnston and Sherrie Joanna Hall.

From Saint Maximus

Since 'knowledge puffs up, but love edifies,' unite love with knowledge and you will free yourself from arrogance and be a spiritual builder, edifying both yourself and all who draw near you.

Love edifies because it does no envy, or feel any bitterness towards those who are envious, or ostentatiously display what provokes envy; it does not reckon that its purpose has yet been attained (Philippians 3:13), and it unhesitatingly confesses its ignorance of what it does not know. Hence it frees the intellect from arrogance and always equips it to advance in knowledge.

It is natural for spiritual knowledge to produce conceit and envy, especially in the early stages. Conceit comes only from within, but envy comes both from within and from without—from within when we feel envious of those who have knowledge, from without when those who love knowledge feel envious of us. Love destroys all three of these failings: conceit, because love is not puffed up; envy from within, because love is not jealous; and envy from without, because love is 'long-suffering and kind'. A person with spiritual knowledge must, then, also acquire love, so that he may always keep his intellect in a healthy state.

He who has been granted the grace of spiritual knowledge and yet harbors resentment, rancor, or hatred for anybody, is like someone who lacerates his eyes with thorns and thistles. Hence, knowledge must be accompanied by love. *400 Chapters on Love, 4.59-63*

Troparia and Kontakia for October 9th



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.

Fathers of the 7th Council, Troparion, tone 8

All-glorious art Thou, O Christ our God, / who hast established our fathers upon the earth as beacons, / and hast thereby guided us to the true Faith! / O greatly Compassionate One, glory to Thee!

St. Maximus, Troparion, tone 3

St. Tikhon, Troparion, tone 5

Sent forth to the New World as a shepherd of the flock, / thou wast called back to the old, / to take up the Cross as a staff / and from wolves and faithless shepherds to defend the Church; / and after thee, the sheep of Christ knew no shepherd to be true / who kept not thy good confession, / wherein, O Tikhon, preserve us unharméd throughout our earthly pilgrimage.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 8

Having risen from the tomb Thou didst waken the dead and raise Adam, / and Eve exulteth in Thy Resurrection, / and the ends of the world keep festival for Thy rising from the dead, O Most Merciful One.

Fathers of the 7th Council, Kontakion, tone 6

The Son who ineffably shone forth from the Father / hath been born in two natures of a woman, / and beholding Him we do not refuse to depict His countenance; / but tracing it piously, we honor it in faith. / Wherefore, the Church, holding to the true Faith, / doth venerate the icon of the incarnation of Christ.

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.

St. Tikhon, Kontakion, tone 4

The most holy Patriarch, / venerable Tikhon, the Confessor of the Faith, / hath gained from Christ the crown of life; / for he did labor with godly zeal // and strove till death in defence of the Church of Christ.