

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

2026 W. Oak Street • Denton, TX 76201

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Schedule of Services

**November 27<sup>th</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, tone 7**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

**November 30<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy

**December 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday**

7:00 a.m. Matins

8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

**December 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday**

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**December 4<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, tone 8**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

**December 5<sup>th</sup> Monday**

6:30 p.m. Great Vespers for St. Nicholas

7:30 p.m. Late Vocations Church History

**December 6<sup>th</sup> Tuesday St. Nicholas**

7:00 a.m. Matins

8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

**December 7<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy

Let us strive to fulfill the commandments so that we may be freed from the passions; and let us struggle to grasp divine doctrine so that we may be found worthy of spiritual knowledge.

The soul's immortality resides in dispassion and spiritual knowledge; no slave to sensual pleasure can attain it.

Subjugate your body, strip it of sensual pleasures, and free it from base servitude.

Created free and called to freedom, do not be enslaved by impure passions.

*St. Thalassios the Libyan, 400 Chapters on Love, Self-Control & Life, 2.13-15*

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

## Announcements for November 27<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.

### Classes this Week

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.: Basics of Orthodoxy Class: Christian Faith & Life: The Connection between What We Believe and How We Live

Friday: the Psalm class will not meet this week.

**Fr. Justin** will be in Austin next weekend to introduce a priest to the mission there in hopes of placing him there. Please pray that all goes well! One of the priests from Plano will come to serve here.

**We observe the Nativity Fast** by abstaining from meat, dairy, fish, wine and oil (modified by wall calendar) and adding prayer, almsgiving, spiritual reading and charitable works to our fasting.

**Nativity Fast Almsgiving:** we are collecting blankets and coats for the homeless of Denton County. A box has been placed in the hall for you to place your extra blankets and coats *of any size*. Before Christmas, we will donate the jackets and blankets to Our Daily Bread, for them to distribute. Remember our own alms box, too.

**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, a long-time parishioner at St. Barbara's in Fort Worth who now lives in Denton, 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 \$1442.65; in November, we have given \$4179.47; our monthly budget is \$8179 (\$2045 per week). In addition: Building Fund, \$105, Candles \$70, Special offering for coffee pot \$37; gift for wedding \$100. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 29, Liturgy 84.

**Hall Expansion Fund:** A Total of \$52,095.17 has been raised so far of the estimated \$62,000 it will cost. All **Coffee Hour Donations** go to support this.

**Expansion Update:** We have approval from the city for our expansion. We need to get the construction documents stamped by the architect, who has two projects waiting ahead of us, and then we can get the building permit and start building.

**Please Pray for our Catechumens:** David Eaton who is 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, Philip Smith, and Virginia Warwas. Please pray for our **shut-ins** Nina Johnston and Sherrie Joanna Hall.

### From Saint Maximus

Bridle your soul's incensive power with love, quench its desire with self-control, give wings to its intelligence with prayer, and the light of your intellect will never be darkened.

Disgrace, injury, slander either against one's faith or one's manner of life, beatings, blows and so on —these are the things which dissolve love, whether they happen to oneself or to any of one's relatives or friends. He who loses his love because of these things has not yet understood the purpose of Christ's commandments..

Strive as hard as you can to love every man. If you cannot yet do this, at least do not hate anybody. But even this is beyond your power unless you scorn worldly things.

Has someone vilified you? Do not hate him; hate the vilification and the demon which induced him to utter it. If you hate the vilifier, you have hated a man and so broken the commandment. What he has done in word you do in action. To keep the commandment, show the qualities of love and help him in any way you can, so that you may deliver him from evil.

Christ does not want you to feel the least hatred, resentment, anger or rancor towards anyone in any way or on account of any transitory thing whatsoever. This is proclaimed throughout the four Gospels.

*400 Chapters on Love, 4.80-84*

## Troparia and Kontakia for November 27<sup>th</sup>



### Resurrectional Troparion, tone 7

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. / To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. / For the myrrh-bearers Thou didst change their lamentation into joy. / And Thou didst command Thine Apostles, O Christ God, / to proclaim that Thou art risen, / granting unto 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.

### Martyr James the Persian, Troparion, tone 4

Thou hast astonished all by thy terrifying torments / and the valor of thine endurance, O much suffering one, / most wondrously uttering prayers of thanksgiving to the Lord / as each one of thy members was severed from thy body. / Wherefore, receiving a crown amid thy suffering, / thou hast ascended to the throne of Christ God, the King of heaven. // Entreat Him, O James, that He save our souls.

### Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 7

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, / for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. / Hell is bound, while the prophets rejoice and cry: / the Savior hath come to those in faith. / Enter, ye faithful, into the Resurrection.

### 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.

### Martyr James the Persian, Kontakion, tone 2

Persuaded by thy good spouse, O James, who wast patient of soul, / and fearing rather the dread tribunal, / thou didst spit upon the Persian's command and the fear of them, / and didst show thyself to be an honorable martyr / whose body was pruned like a vine.