

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, January 29th, 2012

Schedule of Services

January 29th Zacchaeus Sunday, New Martyrs of Russia

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

January 30th Monday

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

January 31st Tuesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

February 1st Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

6:00 p.m. Festal Vigil

8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy

February 2nd Thursday Meeting of the Lord in the Temple

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

4:30 p.m. Class: Orthodox Death & Burial

6:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

February 3rd Friday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

February 4th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

February 5th Sunday of the Publican & the Pharisee

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

If you abandon God and are a slave to the passions you cannot reap God's mercy.

Even if we do not wish to believe Him, it was Jesus who said that no one can serve two masters.

A soul defiled by the passions becomes obdurate: it has to undergo knife and cautery before it recovers its faith.

Fearful afflictions await the hard of heart, for without great sufferings they cannot become pliable and responsive.

A wise man pays attention to himself, and by freely choosing to suffer escapes the suffering that comes unsought.

St. Thalassios the Libyan, 400 Chapters on Love, Self-Control & Life, 2.64-68

Announcements for January 29th

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 new windows upstairs.

Temple Oil given in memory of Nicholas Gluschenko and Victor.

Meeting of the Lord: The Feast of the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple, one of the Twelve Great Feasts, is celebrated this week.

Vigil for the feast will be served at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday night (followed by the Basics class at 8:00) and the Divine Liturgy Thursday at 9:00 a.m. The faithful do well to keep the feast by attending at least a part of the feast's cycle of services.

The Triodion is opened next Sunday as we begin the period of preparation for Great Lent, which begins February 27th.

Forgiveness Sunday is in four 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 and Private

Thursday, 4:30 p.m. "A Christian Ending"

Houseblessings have begun. If you would like your house blessed, please indicate your desire by signing up on the sheet in the hall.

Jesus Prayer: When you enter the church before a service, find your place and pray the Jesus Prayer silently until the service begins.

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 \$2595.49; in January, we have given \$9371.14; our monthly budget is \$8179 (\$2045 per week). In addition: Candles \$86; building fund \$, Renovation \$8, Special Collection for Windows, \$150. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Friday Vigil 23, St. Maximus Liturgy 54, Saturday Vespers 14 Liturgy 82.

Hall Expansion Fund: A Total of \$52,129.17 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 our building permit. Work on the foundation will begin Tuesday. Please keep an eye on your children in regard to the construction site. Parents: we need to make a sweep of the play areas outside and move all toys away from the construction zone. Thank you.

Please Pray for our Catechumens: David Eaton who is preparing for Holy Illumination; Sean Chaney, Caleb Rehmet, Elizabeth Dakak, Hunter Bellan, and Philip Smith; and for our inquirers Shane and Ashley Gibson who are being received as catechumens, and for Joel and Mindy Brown and their children. Please pray for our **shut-ins** Nina Johnston and Sherrie Joanna Hall, for the novice Svetlana, for Melanie Betz on bedrest, and Daniel and Elias Brown.

From Saint Maximus

He who longing for the divine has overcome the soul's predilection for the body is free from physical limitations even though he is in a body. For God, who attracts the desire of the person who longs for Him, is incomparably higher than all things, and does not allow anyone who longs for Him to direct his desire towards anything sequent to Him. Let us therefore long for God will all the strength of our nature and let us keep our resolution unfettered by any bodily needs. Let us rise above all sensible and intelligible realities, and let us not allow any physical limitation to compromise our resolve to be with God, who is by nature beyond all limitation. *First Century of Various Texts, 15*

Troparia and Kontakia for January 29th



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.

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.

New Martyrs of Russia, Troparion, tone 4

O ye holy hierarchs, royal passion bearers and pastors, / monks and laymen, ye countless new martyrs and confessors, / men, women, and children, / flowers of the spiritual meadow of Russia, / who blossomed forth wondrously in time of grievous persecutions, / bearing good fruit for Christ in your endurance: / Entreat Him as the One who planted you, / that He deliver His people from godless and evil men, / and that the Church of Russia / be made steadfast through your blood and suffering, // unto the salvation of our souls.

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.

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.

New Martyrs of Russia, Kontakion, tone 2

O ye new passion-bearers of Russia, / who have with you r confession finished the course of this earth, / receiving boldness through your sufferings: / Beseech Christ who strengthened you, / that we also, whenever the hour of trial find us, / may receive the gift of courage from God. / For ye are a model for us who venerate your struggle; / for neither tribulation, prison, nor death / could separate you from the love of God.