

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

2026 W. Oak Street • Denton, TX 76201

(940) 565-6753 • www.stmaximus.org

Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, August 30, 2009

Schedule of Services

August 30th Sunday

8:45 a.m. Hours

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Blessing of Students & Teachers

August 31st Monday

7:00 p.m. Vespers

September 1st Tuesday Church New Year

8:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m. Vespers

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

September 2nd Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins

12.30 p.m. Bible Study: First John

7:00 p.m. Vespers

September 4th Friday

7:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

September 5th Saturday

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

September 6th Sunday

8:45 a.m. Hours

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

There do not exist many or few, nor small nor great problems. The only problem is the absence of Christ from our life.

All the events of our life we must see under the prism of eternity. Then, we can discern their real dimensions.

The work of the Clergyman in and of itself is not social work, but to create real Christians. The social work will come out subsequently through the Christians themselves.

Elder Epiphanius of Greece (+1989)

Announcements for August 30th

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.

Teaches and Students of all levels will be prayed over and blessed at the end of Liturgy. Please come forward at that time.

The Special Freewill Offering today will be for our building fund, next week for our priest.

Memory Eternal to newly-reposed in the Lord Nicholas Gluschenko (August 4). May his memory be eternal!

Classes this Week

Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy, Divine Liturgy Line-by-Line, Introduction

Wednesday, 12:30: Bible Study, First John; note time change!

Please Pray for our Catechumen: Thom Anderson, for **our inquirers** John Parsons, Adam & Melanie Betz, and Robert & Elisabeth Terry and their children Thomas, Calvin, Owen, and Clair. Please pray for our **shut-ins** Nina Johnston and Georgii. Please remember Met. Jonah in your prayers, our Alaskan Seminarian Methodius Nicori, and the nun Barbara.

The Labor Day Picnic will be held Monday September 7 at noon, following Liturgy at 10. Start to plan what food or drink you will bring and whom you will invite. As the next day is the Nativity of the Theotokos, one of the Twelve Great Feasts, Great Vespers for the Feast will be served that afternoon at 5:00 in preparation for Liturgy the next morning.

The Parish Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, October 4. at 11:30 We ask that all members plan to attend this meeting. To be

able to vote on any motions, one must be an Orthodox Christian who has expressed a desire to be a member of the parish, has participated in the Sacraments of Confession and Communion within the past year, and supports the parish financially (no prescribed level, left to priest's discretion to determine per the decision of last year's annual meeting, but the assumption is regular, consistent support in proportion to one's means.) Others are welcome sit in the meeting and participate as recognized by the chair, but may not make motions or vote. If you are arrived at the parish since last year's meeting and wish to be a member of the parish, or if you have any questions about your standing, please see Fr. Justin.

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 \$1014.70 in tithes and offerings; in August we have given \$7767.01; our monthly budget is \$6218 (\$1554 per week). Candles \$19; Bookstore \$14; Building fund \$100; Special Gifts \$225; Special Offering for St. Nicholas, \$30. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 9, Liturgy 62.

From Saint Maximus

When passions dominate the intellect, they separate it from God, binding it material things and preoccupying it with them.. But when the love of God dominates the intellect, it frees it from its bonds, persuading it to rise above not only sensible things but even this transitory life.

The effect of observing the commandments is to free our conceptual images of things from passion. The effect of spiritual reading and contemplation is to detach the intellect from form and matter [from created things]. It is this which gives rise to undistracted prayer.

Unless various successive spiritual contemplations also occupy the intellect, the practice of virtues by itself cannot free it so entirely from passions that it is able to pray undistractedly. Practice of the virtues frees the intellect only from dissipation and hatred; spiritual contemplation releases it also from forgetfulness and ignorance. IN this way the intellect can pray as it should.

400 Chapters on Love, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5

Troparia and Kontakia for August 30th



Resurrectional Troparion, Tone 3

Let those in Heaven rejoice, / let those on Earth be glad; / for the Lord hath wrought a mighty act with His arm./ He hath trampled down death by death; / He hath become the first-born of the dead.

/ From the womb of hell hath He delivered us, // and hath granted the world great mercy.

St. John the Forerunner, Troparion, tone 2

The memory of the righteous is celebrated with hymns of praise, / but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for thee, O Forerunner; / for thou hast proved to be truly even more venerable than the prophets, / since thou wast granted to baptize in the running waters Him whom they proclaimed. / Wherefore, having contested for the truth, / thou didst rejoice to announce the good tidings even to those in Hades: // that God hath appeared in the flesh, taking away the sin of the world and granting us great mercy.

St. Maximus, Troparion, tone 3

St. Alexander Nevsky, Troparion, tone 4e

Recognize thy brethren, O right-believing Prince Alexander, / thou Russian Joseph who reignest not in Egypt but in heaven; / and accept their entreaties, / increasing the harvests of thy people through the fertility of thy land, / and protecting the cities of thy dominion by thy supplications. / and together with our Orthodox hierarchs // do battle against all heresies.

Resurrectional Kontakion, Tone 3

Today Thou didst rise from the grave, O compassionate One, / and didst lead us away from the gates of death. / Today Adam exulteth, and Eve rejoiceth. / Together with the prophets and patriarchs // they unceasingly hymn the Divine might of Thine authority.

St. Maximus, Kontakion, tone 8

St. Alexander Nevsky, Kontakion, tone 4

As thy kinsmen Boris and Gleb appeared to thee, / bringing thee help from heaven / when thou didst battle against Velgar the Swede and his warriors, / so now, O blest Alexander, come to our aid // and contend thou against those who wage war against us.

Beheading of John the Baptist, Kontakion, tone 5

The glorious beheading of the Forerunner / was part of God's dispensation, / that he might proclaim to those in Hades the coming of the Savior. / Let Herodias, who demanded the iniquitous murder, therefore lament, / for she loved not the law of God nor the age of life, // but rather this false and transitory one.