

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, September 6, 2009

Schedule of Services

September 6th Sunday

8:45 a.m. Hours

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

September 7th Monday

10:00 a.m. Liturgy

12:00 p.m. Labor Day Picnic

5:00 p.m. Great Vespers for Nativity of Theotokos

September 8th Tuesday Nativity of the Theotokos

7:45 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m. Vespers

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

September 9th Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins

12:30 p.m. Bible Study: First John

7:00 p.m. Vespers

September 11th Friday

7:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Reader Vespers, Confession

7:00 p.m. *Russian Vespers, Dallas*

September 12th Saturday

9:30 a.m. *Russian Divine Liturgy, Dallas*

4:15 p.m. Pannikhida for Nicholas Gluschenko (40 days)

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

September 13th Sunday

8:45 a.m. Hours

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

All the programs I made—all failed. For this reason, I let God make the program of my life.

The worst hell for me is to know that I have saddened a beloved person.
Elder Epiphanius of Greece (+1989)

Announcements for September 6th

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 begins today with three classes for your children and youth.

Classes this Week

Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy, Divine Liturgy Line-by-Line: Blessed is the Kingdom and the Great Litany

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, Robert & Elisabeth Terry and their children Thomas, Calvin, Owen, and Clair, 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.

The Labor Day Picnic will be held tomorrow, September 7, at noon, following Liturgy at 10. Bring food, drink, a friend, and a willingness to interact with others. 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 Nativity of the Theotokos, one of the Twelve Great Feasts, will be celebrated this week with Great Vespers Monday evening at 5:00, Matins Tuesday morning at 7:45, and Divine Liturgy Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. We do well to celebrate the Feasts by attending at least a part of the cycle of services.

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

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 \$395.55 in tithes and offerings; in August we gave \$8162.561; our monthly budget is \$6218 (\$1554 per week). Candles \$38.50 Bookstore \$94; Building fund \$60; Special Gifts \$165. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 19, Liturgy 82.

From Saint Maximus

Two states of pure prayer are exalted above all others. One is to be found in those who have not advanced beyond the practice of the virtues, the other in those leading the contemplative life. The first is engendered in the soul by fear of God and a firm hope in Him, the second by an intense longing for God and by total purification. The sign of the first is that the intellect, abandoning all conceptual images of the world, concentrates itself and prays without distraction or disturbance as if God Himself were present, as indeed He is. The sign of the second is that at the very onset of prayer the intellect is so ravished by the divine and infinite light that it is aware neither of itself nor of any other created thing, but only of Him who through love has activated such radiance in it. It is then that, being made aware of God's qualities, it receives clear and distinct reflections of Him.

400 Chapters on Love, 2.6

Troparia and Kontakia for September 6th



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.

St. Michael the Archangel, Troparion, tone 8

Supreme commander of the heavenly armies, / we, the unworthy, do ever entreat thee / that by thy prayers thou surround us with the protection of the wings of thine immaterial glory, / preserving us who earnestly fall down before thee and cry aloud: // Deliver us from misfortunes, in that thou art the leaders of the hosts on high.

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.

St. Michael the Archangel, Kontakion, tone 2

O chief commander of God, / minister of glory divine, / captain of the angels and instructor of men: / beg thou great mercy and that which is profitable for us, // for thou art the supreme commander of the bodiless hosts.