

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Schedule of Services

**September 12<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Church School,

11:30 a.m. Strategic Planning (Building) Committee Meeting

**September 13<sup>th</sup> Monday**

7:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**September 14<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Elevation of the Cross**

7:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

**September 25<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

7:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy: The Nicene Creed 5

**September 17<sup>th</sup> Friday**

7:00 a.m. Matins

1:00 p.m. Adult Class: Old Testament History

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Pannikhida, Confession

**September 18<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**September 19<sup>th</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Church School, Build Committee

“To become like unto God, one must fulfill His holy commandments. But if you look closely, it will turn out that we haven’t really fulfilled a single one. We look through them, and it turns out that this commandment we’ve barely touched and another, perhaps, we’ve only somewhat begun to fulfill, while, for example, we haven’t even approached the commandment to love one’s enemies. What remains for us sinners to do? How can we be saved? Solely through humility. ‘Lord, I’m sinful in everything; there’s nothing good in me. I hope only in Thy boundless mercy.’ We are utterly bankrupt before the Lord, but for our humility He will not reject us. And truly it is better, having sins, just to consider ourselves to be great sinners, than, having some kind of good works, to become haughty over them, considering ourselves to be righteous.”

*St. Barsanuphius of Optina*

## Announcements for September 12<sup>th</sup>

**To Our Visitors: Welcome!** Please join us after the service for coffee, 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). If we are visiting from another parish, we should know that proper church etiquette is to contact the priest ahead of time if we wish to receive Holy Communion so he doesn't have to question us as to our identity in the Communion line. We should be modestly dressed 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.

**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.

**The Special Offering** this week is for our Alaskan seminarian.

**Church School** begins today after Liturgy. Matushka Michelle is teaching the elementary class, Becki Stevenson the intermediate class, and Ben Lyda the high school class. We also plan to resume the children's choir.

**Strategic Planning (Building) Committee** meets today after Liturgy. All welcome.

**The Elevation of the Cross**, one of the Twelve Great Feasts, will be celebrated this week with Vigil and veneration of the Cross Monday night at 7:00, and Divine Liturgy Tuesday morning at 7:00. (The Feast itself is observed as a strict fast day.) We do well to celebrate the Feasts by attending at least a part of the service cycle.

### Classes this Week:

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: The Creed 5 "The Almighty": we'll discuss how the question of evil, how an Almighty Good God permits evil in His world.

Friday 1:00 p.m. Old Testament History Session 2 "The World Remade: Noah".

**The Parish Phone Book** is being updated. Please make sure we have your current phone numbers, address, email, birthdays and namedays. See Lois Lyda.

**Copies** of the Confessor's Tongue and the weekly Bulletin may be found on our website each week.

**The Annual Meeting** will be held September 26 at 11:30. If you are a member here, please plan on attending.

**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).

Last week we gave \$1698.75 in tithes and offerings;; our monthly budget is \$8835 (\$2039 per week). Candles \$32.50; bookstore \$330.75, special gifts \$100. May God bless your giving! Attendance: Sunday Liturgy 53; Vigil 24.

**Please Pray for our Catechumens:** Thom Anderson, Sean Chaney, Ken and Pam Northam and their children Marsha, Jessica, Mariah, Emalie, Robert & Elisabeth Terry and their children Thomas, Calvin, Owen, and Claire; Samuel Vanderburg, Michael, Gina, and Ian Rehmet. Please pray for our **shut-in** Nina Johnston, for Elias Ashley Davis who is in Alaska, for Michael Rodgers at St. Tikhon's Seminary. Please pray for all your fellow parishioners that we all may keep the Faith and be firmly established therein.

### From Saint Maximus

All passionate thoughts either excite the concupiscible [desire/lust], disturb the irascible [anger], or darken the rational element of the soul. From this it comes about that the mind is hampered in its spiritual contemplation and in the flight of prayer. And because of this, the monk, and especially the solitary, should give serious heed to his thoughts and both know and eliminate their causes. Thus, for instance, he should know that passionate memories of women arouse the concupiscible element of the soul and are caused by incontinence in eating and drinking, as well as by frequent and unreasonable association with women. Hunger, thirst, vigils, and solitude eliminate them. Again, passionate memories of those who have hurt us stir up the temper; their causes are pleasure-seeking, vainglory, and attachment to material things, for the aroused person is saddened he has either lost these things or not attained them. Disdain and contempt of these things for the love of God eliminates them.

*400 Chapters on Love, 3.20*

## Troparia and Kontakia for September 12<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.

### Nativity of the Theotokos, Troparion, tone 4

Thy Nativity, O Virgin, / hath proclaimed joy to the whole universe! / The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, / hath shone from thee, O Theotokos! / By annulling the curse, / He bestowed a blessing. / By destroying, death He hath granted us eternal life.

### 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.

### 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.

### Nativity of the Theotokos, Kontakion, tone 4

By thy Nativity, O most pure Virgin, / Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness; / Adam and Eve, from the corruption of death. / And we, thy people, freed from the guilt of sin, / celebrate and sing to thee: / the barren woman giveth birth to the Theotokos, / the Nourisher of our Life.