

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, September 25th, 2011

Schedule of Services

September 25th 15th Sunday after Pentecost, tone 6 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Blessing of Students & Teachers 11:30 p.m. Annual Meeting
September 26th Monday 7:00 a.m. Matins
September 27th Tuesday 7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession
September 28th Wednesday 7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession 7:00 p.m. Vespers 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: New Session
September 30th Friday 7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession 8:30 a.m. Adult Class: St. Theophan 10:00 p.m. All-Night Vigil
October 1st Saturday Pokrov, Protection of Theotokos 3:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy 5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession
October 2nd 16th Sunday after Pentecost, tone 7 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 11:30 p.m. Annual Meeting

God, whose essence is without origin or consummation, is also impenetrable in His wisdom.

The sublime providence of the Creator preserves everything that is.

In his mercy 'the Lord supports all who fall, and raises up all who are bowed down' (Psalm 145:15).

Christ in His justice rewards the living, the dead, and every single action.

If you wish to be in control of your soul and body, forestall the passions by rooting out their causes.

Yoke the powers of the soul to the virtues and they will be freed from the tyranny of the passions.

St. Thalassios the Libyan, 400 Chapters on Love, Self-Control & Life, 1.60-65

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

Announcements for September 25th

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.

The Special Offering this morning is for a parishioner in need.

The Annual Meeting will be held today at 11:30. All are welcome to attend, but only eligible members may vote. Eligible members are Orthodox Christians of at least 18 years of age who have indicated a desire to be members, who have received Confession and Communion at least once in the past year, and who help support the parish financially. All who consider this parish their home are invited to attend. If you have any questions about your eligibility to attend as a voting member, please see Fr. Justin.

Church School begins next Sunday, October 2.

The Adult Class will resume the week of September 25.

An All-Night Vigil will be held Friday, September 30—Saturday, October 1 for the Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos. Starting at 10:00 p.m., we'll serve Compline with the Akathist to the Theotokos, Great Vespers with Lita, Matins, and the First Hour in full without abbreviations including Patristic & Scripture readings, we'll read the office of preparation for Holy Communion and the Third, and Sixth Hours, serve the Divine Liturgy, and conclude with breakfast upstairs sometime about 5:00.

Vigil Breakfast: A volunteer (or two!) is needed to oversee preparations for breakfast this Saturday morning after Liturgy. Please see Fr. Justin.

Classes this Week

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.: Basics of Orthodox Class: Church Music (Dax Stokes)

Friday, 8:30 a.m.: Adult Class: St. Theophan the Recluse

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 \$1443.05 in tithes and offerings, in September, we have given \$3477.89; our monthly budget is \$7975 (\$1994 per week). In addition: Candles \$55; Hall Expansion \$1750; Soda Jar \$8; May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 25, Liturgy 76.

Hall Expansion Fund: A Total of \$52,082.17 has been raised so far of the \$62,000. All **Coffee Hour Donations** go to support this.

Please Pray for our Catechumens: Ken and Pam Northam and their children Jessica, Mariah, Emalie, Sean Chaney, David Eaton, Caleb Rehmet, Elizabeth Dakak, and Hunter Bellan; and for our inquirers Joel and Mindy Brown, Shane and Ashley Gibson. Please pray for our **shut-ins** Nina Johnston and Sherrie Joanna Hall and for our departed Father in Christ Archbishop Dmitri.

From Saint Maximus

Who in this generation is completely freed from impassioned conceptual images, and has been granted uninterrupted, pure, and spiritual prayer? Yet this is the mark of the inner monk.

Many passions are hidden in our souls; they can be brought to light only when the objects that rouse them are present.

A man can enjoy partial dispassion and not be disturbed by passions when the objects which rouse them are absent. But once those objects are present, the passions quickly distract his intellect.

Do not imagine that you enjoy perfect dispassion when the object arousing your passion is not present. If when it is present you remain unmoved by both the object and the subsequent thought of it, you may be sure that you have entered the realm of dispassion. But even so do not be over-confident; for virtue when habitual kills the passions, but when it is neglected, they come to life again.

400 Chapters on Love, 4.51-54

St. John Chrysostom on Today's Epistle

'And wherefore,' saith one, 'doth he not punish here?' That He may display that longsuffering of His, and may offer to us the salvation that cometh by repentance, and not make our race to be swept away, nor pluck away those who by an excellent change are able to be saved, before that salvation. For if he instantly punished upon the commission of sins, and destroyed, how should Paul have been saved, how should Peter, the chief teachers of the world?... How many others? For this reason then He neither exacts the

penalty from all here, (but only from some out of all,) nor yet there from all, but from one here, and from another there; that He may both rouse those who are exceedingly insensible by means of those whom He punishes, and may cause them to expect the future things by those whom He punishes not.

Troparia and Kontakia for September 18th



Resurrectional Troparion, tone 6

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb / and the guards became as dead men, / Mary stood by Thy grave, / seeking Thine immaculate body, / Thou didst despoil hell, not being tempted by it, / Thou didst go to meet the Virgin granting life, / O Lord, who didst rise from the dead, / glory to Thee.

St. Maximus, Troparion, tone 3

St. Sergius, Troparion, tone 4

O thou who wast a struggler for the virtues, / as a true warrior of Christ God didst thou contend greatly against the passions in this transitory life, / becoming a model for thy disciples in chanting, the keeping of vigils and fasts. / Wherefore, the all-holy Spirit made His abode within thee, / by whose activities thou wast splendidly adorned. / As thou hast boldness before the Holy Trinity, / be thou mindful of the flock which thou hast assembled, O wise one, / and forget it not, as thou hast promised, // visiting thy children, O Sergius, our venerable father.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 6

With His life-originating palm, from the valleys of gloom / the Life-giver Christ God hath raised all the dead. / He hath bestowed resurrection on the human race /, for He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, and Life, and God of all.

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. Sergius, Kontakion tone 8

Wounded with the love of Christ, O venerable one, and following Him with unwavering desire, / thou didst despise all the delight of the flesh, / and hast shone forth like the sun upon thy native land; / wherefore, Christ hath enriched thee with the gift of miracles. / Be mindful of us who honor thine all-radiant memory, // that we may cry to thee: Rejoice, O divinely wise Sergius!