

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton
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Bulletin for Sunday of November 18th, 2012

Schedule of Services

November 18th 24th Sunday After Pentecost, tone 7
9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Mission Council Install & Meeting

November 20th Tuesday
7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession
7:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

November 21st Wednesday Entrance of Theotokos
8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
7:00 p.m. Akathist, “Glory to God for All Things”, Confession

November 23rd Friday
5:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

November 24th Saturday
5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

November 25th 26th Sunday After Pentecost, tone 8
9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

From Saint Thalassios, the Libyan (*friend of St. Maximus*)

Just as Adam through transgressing became subject to death, so the Savior through obedience put death to death.

Put evil to death so that you will not rise up dead and thus pass from a minor to a major death.

Because of Adam’s transgression the Savior became man, so that by nullifying the sentence passed on us He might resurrect all of us.

He who has put his passions to death and overcome ignorance goes from life to life.

Search the Scriptures and you will find the commandments; do what they say and you will be freed from your passions.

Obedience to a commandment purifies the soul, and purification of the soul leads to its participation in light.

The tree of life is the knowledge of God; when, being purified, you share in that knowledge you attain immortality.

The first step in the practice of the virtues is faith in Christ; its consummation, the love of Christ.

400 Chapters on Love, Self-Control & Life, 4.50-57

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

Announcements for November 18th

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 today will go for our hall expansion.

Temple Wine Temple Oil is given for the health and salvation of Terence, George, and Margaret.

No Classes this Week

The Nativity Fast has begun. We abstain from meat, dairy, fish, alcohol, and oil (except when modified on the wall calendar), cultivate repentance, give alms, and seek more of Christ in our lives.

The New Mission Council is being installed this morning. It's members are Michael Rehmet, Warden; Jordan Rovny, Treasurer; Anna Stokes, Secretary; George Rovny, and Pamela Ward. Many thanks to our outgoing council members: Rick Joines, Dax Stokes, Frieda Gluschenko, and Becki Stevenson.

Schedule Changes: Contrary to the monthly calendar, there will not be liturgies on Thanksgiving or on Saturday this week.

The Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple, one of the Twelve Great Feasts, will be celebrated this week with Vigil Tuesday night at 7:00 and Divine Liturgy Wednesday morning at 8:00. We do well to keep the feast by attending as much of its cycle of services as we can. This will serve as our Thanksgiving Liturgy this week.

Thanksgiving is this week, and while strictly it falls during the fast, it is the custom of many to keep this venerable American holiday with the traditional feast. Archbishop Dmitri gave a blessing not to keep the fast on the day, especially if one would be celebrating with non-Orthodox relatives. Some have gone further and blessed the eating of leftovers through the weekend. Whatever you do, take time to give hearty thanks to God and return to the fast by Monday at the latest. To celebrate here, we'll serve the Akathist "Glory to God for All Things" in place of the usual Vespers on Wednesday evening. Please consider our brethren without family in the area and try to include them.

Membership Forms: Please fill out a membership form and put it in the church building offering box. This is to regularize the process of indicating your desire to be a member and provide a record of it.

Oak Street Traffic Revision: The city is converting Oak Street into a one-way street going west in the next few weeks. No parking is permitted on the north side of the street (the church's side).

Please Pray for our Catechumens: for Joel and Mindy Brown and their children Daniel, Anya, and Elijah, Gary & Olivia Reynolds and their children Ariel, Analise, and Alexandra, Jacob Neff, Lauren Williams, Elizabeth Dakak, Philip, Sean, and for our inquirers Faith Neff and Jason. Please pray for the novice Svetlana. Pray for Joe Fincher (stroke) and for the Guzik and Johnston families grieving over the loss of loved ones.

Hall Expansion Update: The siding and trim have been finished. The carpenter has now to build the back deck and handicap ramp. The door hardware will be installed to make the building secure, the wall from the old building will be opened, and then the sheetrock will be installed and the attic insulated.

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) and a box for our building fund.

Last week we gave \$676.10; this month we have given \$2154.25; our monthly budget is \$9187 (\$2297 per week. (To build a church will require a monthly income in the neighborhood of \$11,000 a month.) In addition: Candles \$54, Expansion, \$6; Building Fund \$3; Renovation (soda,) \$6. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 32, Liturgy 83.

Hall Expansion Fund: A total of \$65,593.78 has been raised so far of the estimated \$79,000 it will cost. All **Coffee Hour Donations** go to support this.

From Saint Maximus

He who does not view the ritual of the Law with his senses alone, but noetically penetrates every visible symbol and thoroughly assimilates the divine principle which is hidden in each, finds God in the Law [of the Old Testament]. For rightly he uses his intellect to grope among

the material forms of the Law, as among litter, in the hope of finding hidden somewhere in its body that pearl or principle which utterly escapes the senses (cf. Matt. 13:45-46). *Various Texts, Second Century 4*

Troparia and Kontakia for November 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

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.

Ss Plato and Romanus, tone 4

In their sufferings, O Lord, / Thy Martyrs Plato and Romanus received imperishable crowns from Thee, our God. / For possessed of Thy might, / they cast down the tormentors and crushed the feeble audacity of the demons. // By his supplications save Thou our souls.

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 8 Serbian Melody

Let us the faithful praise with fitting hymns / that lover of the Holy Trinity, great Maximus, / who clearly taught the divinely-given Faith: / that we should give glory unto Christ our God, / Who, but one person, hath in very truth / two natures, wills, and energies. / Let us cry to him: // Rejoice, divine herald of the Faith.

St. Plato, Kontakion, tone 3

Thy holy memory doth gladden the whole world, / summoning all the faithful to thine all-honorable temple, / where, now assembled with joy we chant in hymns amid splendor. / Wherefore, O Plato, we cry out to thee: // Deliver thy city from the invasion of the heathen, O holy one.