

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton
2026 W. Oak Street • Denton, TX 76201
(940) 565-6753 • www.stmaximus.org
Priest Justin Frederick (940) 293-3032 cell

Bulletin for Sunday September 29th, 2013

Schedule of Services

September 29th 14th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
12:00 p.m. Annual Meeting

October 2nd Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Russian Class
7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

October 3rd Thursday

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
6:30 p.m. Vespers
7:30 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy Introductory Session 3

October 4th Friday

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession
8:00 p.m. Liturgical Theology Class, Dallas

October 5th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

October 6th 15th Sunday after Pentecost St. Innocent

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

The Optina Elders on the Jesus Prayer

We who are infirm must unfailingly call out to Jesus, who came to call not the righteous but sinners to repentance. And therefore, having neither deeds nor the spiritual powers for ascetic struggles, we must unavoidably call out: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us!

St. Anatoly

One can say the Jesus Prayer while in the company of others, with the mind, quietly pronouncing the words without opening your lips, but mainly one needs humility with the feeling of the publican.

St. Macarius

The work of the monastic must be kept secret. That is why the holy fathers call the Jesus Prayer the 'hidden activity.' It should be kept secret even from yourself. Do not sound the trumpet, as it says in the Gospel, not only before others but even before yourself. *St. Nikon*

Announcements for September 29

To Our Visitors: Welcome! Please join us after the service for coffee, food, 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.

Special Offering this week will be for alms.

The Annual Meeting will be held today at noon, or a bit earlier if we can manage. The main business of the annual meeting is to approve an annual budget, to make major decisions about the acquisition or construction of property, and to hear reports from the priest and parish officers about the condition and direction of the parish.

Life Chain, an annual national demonstration against abortion, will be held Sunday afternoon October 6 in Denton at University and Carroll from 2:00 to 3:30. Park at the Kroger shopping center, get a sign, stand 30 feet apart, remain silent in prayer for the duration of the event.

Fr. Demetrios Carellas will give a series of three talks on the life of Moses from the Red Sea to the Promised land from a pastristic perspective at St. Nicholas ROCOR parish in McKinney October 6, 7, 8. Vespers followed by a light meal will be served each day at 5:30; the talks will begin at 7:00; question and answer will follow.

Crossing at the Chalice: Some of us have been making the sign of the Cross immediately after receiving Holy Communion while standing right before the chalice. Because of the inherent danger of bumping or even upsetting the chalice, we ask that you step down off the ambon before making your Cross after Communion. Thank you.

Blocking Doors: Please do not stand or sit right in front of either set of doors coming into the church during Liturgy as it makes it unnecessarily difficult for those who need to come and go while caring for small children or for latecomers. Please come on into the nave: there is plenty of room up front!

Classes this Week

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. Russian

Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy Introductory Session 3: The Church and the Canon of Holy Scripture.

Friday, 8:00 p.m. Orthodox Liturgical Theology, St. Seraphim Cathedral, Dallas.

Please Pray: for catechumen Shannon Goodson, for inquirers Rebecca and Destiny, the novice Svetlana, the Nun Elizabeth in hospice care, Elizabeth (Chandler) Jones, and Paraskeve. Pray for Joe Fincher and Olga, and for Joanna (Sherri) Hale.

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 \$1371.75 in tithes and offerings. 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.) Attendance: Saturday Vigil 38, Sunday Liturgy about 80.

From Saint Maximus

Whatever a man loves he inevitably clings to, and in order not to lose it he rejects everything that keeps him from it. So he who loves God cultivates pure prayer, driving out every passion that keeps him from it.

He who drives out self-love, the mother of the passions, will with God's help easily rid himself of the rest, such as anger, irritation, rancor and so on. But he who is dominated by self-love is overpowered by the other passions, even against his will. Self-love is the passion of attachment to the body.

Men love one another, commendably or reprehensibly, for the following five reasons; either for the sake of God, as the virtuous man loves everyone and as the man not yet virtuous loves the virtuous; or by nature, as parents love their children and children their parents; or because of self-esteem, as he who is praised loves the man who praises him; or because of avarice, as with one who loves a rich man for what he can get out of him; or because of self-indulgence, as with the man who serves his belly and his genitals. The first of these is commendable, the second is of an intermediate kind, the rest are dominated by passion.

400 Chapters on Love, Second Century 7-9

Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, September 22

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 5

Let us the faithful hymn and worship the Word / who with the Father and the Spirit hath no beginning, / and was born for our salvation of the Virgin; / for He was pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh, / and to endure death / and to raise the dead / by His glorious Resurrection.

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.

Venerable Cyriacus, Troparion, tone 1

A desert dweller, an angel in the flesh, and a wonderworker / wast thou shown to be, O our God-bearing father Cyriacus; / having received heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil, and prayer, / thou dost heal the infirmities and souls of those who in faith have recourse unto thee! / Glory to Him who gave thee strength! / Glory to Him who crowned thee! // Glory to Him who worketh healings for all through thee!

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 5

Thou didst descend to Hades, O my Savior; / and, having shattered its gates as all-powerful; / Thou as Creator didst raise the dead with Thee; / and Thou didst destroy the sting of death, / and Adam hath been delivered from the curse, O Lover of Man. / Wherefore, we all cry: Save us, O Lord!

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.

Venerable Cyriacus, Kontakion, tone 2

Having armed thyself divinely with spiritual purity / and having mightily taken up unceasing prayer as a spear, / thou didst cut down legions of demons, / O Cyriacus, our father. // Pray thou unceasingly in behalf of us all.