

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday October 6th, 2013

Schedule of Services

October 6th 15th Sunday after Pentecost St. Innocent

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

October 8th Tuesday

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession

October 9th Wednesday

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession

6:00 p.m. Russian Class

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

October 10th Thursday Optina Elders

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m. Vespers

7:30 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy Introductory Session 4

October 11th Friday

7:30 a.m. Matins, Confession

8:00 p.m. Liturgical Theology Class, Dallas

October 12th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

October 13th 16th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

The Optina Elders on Spiritual Peace

God Himself lives in that man who has a peaceful heart. Above all, consider yourself worse than everyone, seek neither love nor honor from anyone, but have them yourself for everyone—thus you will obtain peace. But as soon as you want others to notice the goodness and virtue in you, then say good-bye to spiritual peace! *St. Anatoly*

By sinning before God, we lose peace; but by repentance peace returns, through the mercy of God. We also lose peace when we are grieved and quarrel with people; but when we extinguish this flame with self-reproach, then peace reigns. *St. Macarius*

Announcements for October 6

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.

Church School will meet for all ages after Liturgy today.

Temple Wine offered for the health and salvation of William and Carolyn; **Temple Oil** offered for the health and salvation of Photini.

Life Chain, an annual national demonstration against abortion, will be held today 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.

The Talks by Fr. Demetrios Carellas at St. Nicholas ROCOR parish in McKinney have been cancelled due to his illness.

A Taste and Tour of IOCC (International Orthodox Christian Charities) will be held at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Dallas, Sunday, October 20 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. This is a fund-raiser for the charity, one of the most efficient of its kind in the USA at getting dollars raised out into the field. Holy Trinity requests that each parish in the area participate and bring ethnic foods representing the parish as we come together to celebrate our cultural heritages and raise money for a good cause.

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 4: The Church and the Interpretation of Holy Scripture.

Friday, 8:00 p.m. Orthodox Liturgical Theology, St. Seraphim Cathedral, Dallas: The Sacrament of Baptism.

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.

No figures available yet from last week. Our monthly budget is \$8700 (\$2008 per week.) To build a church will require a monthly income in the neighborhood of \$11,000 a month.) Attendance: Saturday Vigil 48, Sunday Liturgy about 87.

From Saint Maximus

If there are some men you hate and some you neither love nor hate, and others you love strongly and others again you love but moderately, recognize from this inequality that you are far from perfect love. For perfect love presupposes that you love all men equally.

Shun evil and do good' (Ps. 34:14), that is to say, fight the enemy in order to diminish the passions, and then be vigilant lest they increase once more. Again, fight to acquire the virtues and then be vigilant in order to keep them. This is the meaning of 'cultivating' and 'keeping' (cf. Gen. 2:15).

Those permitted by God to test us either inflame the desiring aspect of the soul, or stir up its incursive power, or darken its intelligence, or envelop its body in pain, or deprive us of bodily necessities.

The demons either tempt us themselves or arm against us those who have no fear of the Lord. They tempt us themselves when we withdraw from human society, as they, tempted our Lord in the desert. They tempt us through other people when we spend our time in the company of others, as they tempted our Lord through the Pharisees. But whichever line of attack they choose, let us repel them by keeping our gaze fixed on the Lord's example.

400 Chapters on Love, Second Century 10-13

Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, October 6

Resurreccional 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. Innocent, Troparion, tone 2

Thou didst evangelize the northern people of America and Asia, / proclaiming the Gospel of Christ to the natives in their own tongues. / O Holy Hierarch, Father Innocent, / Enlightener of Alaska and all America, whose ways were ordered by the Lord: / Pray to Him for the salvation of our souls in His heavenly Kingdom.

Resurreccional 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. Innocent, Kontakion, tone 2

Thy life is a true celebration of the Providence and Grace of God, / O Holy Father Innocent, the Apostle to our land. / For in hardships and dangers, toiling for the Gospel's sake, / thou wast preserved unharmed and often delivered, / while from obscurity thou wast highly exalted as an example to the faithful everywhere / that the Lord truly guideth a man in the way he should go.