

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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**Bulletin for Sunday January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Schedule of Services**

**January 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Theophany, tone 7 St. Athanasius**

8:45 a.m. Hours

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

12:00 noon Class: Basics of Orthodoxy: Divine Liturgy

2:00 p.m. Vespers

**January 19<sup>th</sup> Monday St. Mark of Ephesus**

6:00 a.m. Hours

6:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy

**January 20<sup>th</sup> Tuesday St Maximus**

5:00 p.m. Little Vespers

6:00 p.m. Festal Meal

7:30 p.m. All-Night Vigil

**January 21<sup>st</sup> Wednesday St Maximus**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:45 p.m. Class: St. Athanasius

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

**January 23<sup>rd</sup> Friday**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Pannikhida, Confession

**January 24<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**January 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Theophany, tone 8 St. Gregory**

8:45 a.m. Hours

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

12:00 noon Class: Basics of Orthodoxy: Divine Liturgy

For whence do Marcion and Manichaeus receive the Gospel while they reject the Law? For the New Testament arose out of the Old, and bears witness to the Old; if then they reject this, how can they receive what proceeds from it? Thus Paul was an Apostle of the Gospel, which God promised afore by His prophets in the holy Scriptures: and our Lord Himself said, ye search the Scriptures, for they are they which testify of Me.' How then shall they confess the Lord unless they first search the Scriptures which are written concerning Him?

*St. Athanasius, Letter to the Bishops of Egypt*

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

## Announcements for January 18

**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. We invite you to go first through the food line and join the priest at the table.

**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 if we are communing), and not leave until the dismissal at the end.

**The Special Offering** this week will be for prison ministry.

### Classes this Week

Today: Basics of Orthodoxy: Divine Liturgy. Vigil: Preparation for Liturgy.

Wednesday, 5:45 p.m. St. Athanasius the Great: Letter to the Bishops of Egypt

**Today**, we honor the Resurrection of Christ and Ss. Athanasius the Great & Cyril of Alexandria. O venerable fathers Athanasius and Cyril, pray to Christ God for us!

**Giving Statements** for 2014, produced by our treasurer, Jordan Rovny, are available on the candle table. Please find and take yours. See Jordan if you have any questions.

**Feast of St. Maximus:** This Wednesday we celebrate our patronal feast. Tuesday evening, All-Night Vigil will be served from 7:30 to 11:00 or so, with a festal meal before it at 6:00, preceded by Little Vespers at 5:00. Divine Liturgy for the feast will be served at 9:00 a.m. Do plan to participate! Please bring a festive dish to share Tuesday evening.

**Falling Asleep in the Lord**, a local conference sponsored by North Texas Orthodox Missions (NTOM), will be held Friday, January 30 at St. Demetrios, Fort Worth, 6:00 to 9:30 p.m., and Saturday, January 31, at Holy Trinity, Dallas, 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. See flyer on bulletin board or go to [ntom.org](http://ntom.org).

**House Blessings:** Theophany is the season for blessing houses with the newly blessed water. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board.

**Candle Snuffing:** Please use the candle snuffers when extinguishing candles rather than blowing them out. This is advance preparation to

reducing soot and smoke damage to walls and icons in the new church when we build it.

**Commemorations:** It is good to see so many of you submitting names for commemoration at the Proskomide. Please try to submit your books or slips ahead of time at Vigil or even on Friday whenever possible. Put them in the basket on the candle table.

**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 \$1029 in tithes and offerings; this month, we have given \$2594.86 our monthly budget is \$9502 (\$2192 per week). Candles \$138.50; Special offering for debt reduction \$77. Attendance: Liturgy 88, Vigil 34.
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**Please Pray:** for the newly illumined Photina (Holly) Bellan, John (Seth) Williams, and Eugene (Rick) Hollembeak the novice Elias, and the novice Svetlana. Pray for Joe Fincher and Olga, for Joanna (Sherri) Hale, for Patricia, Perpetua, and James Lydon. Please pray for former parishioner Natalya Perrin.

### From Saint Maximus

The commandments, the doctrines, the faith: these are the three objects of the Christian's philosophy. The commandments separate the intellect from the passions; the doctrines lead it to the spiritual knowledge of created beings; and faith to the contemplation of the Holy Trinity.

Some of those pursuing the spiritual way only repel impassioned thoughts; others cut off the passions themselves. Such thoughts are repelled by psalmody, or by prayer, or by raising one's mind to God, or by occupying one's attention in some similar way. The passions are cut off through appropriate detachment from those things by which they are roused.

The passions are roused in us by, for example, women, wealth, fame and so on. We can achieve detachment with regard to women when, after withdrawing from the world, we wither the body, as we should, through self-control. We can achieve detachment where wealth is concerned when we make up our mind to be frugal in all things. We can become indifferent to fame by practicing the virtues inwardly, in a way visible only to God. And we can act in a similar fashion with

respect to other things. A person who has achieved such detachment as this will never hate anybody. *400 Chapters on Love, 4.47-49*

## Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, January 18

### 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.

### 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 Athanasius & Cyril, Troparion, tone 3

Resplendent with the works of Orthodoxy / and reducing all heresy to ashes, / ye were victors and conquerors, O Athanasius and Cyril, / enriching all with piety; / and, having greatly adorned the Church, / ye have acquired Christ God, as is meet, // who granteth us 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 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 Athanasius, Kontakion, tone 2

Planting Orthodox doctrine, / thou didst mow down the tares of heresy, / causing the seed of faith to increase / through the rain of the Spirit, O venerable one. // Wherefore we hymn thee, O Athanasius.