

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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## Bulletin for Sunday September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015

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### Schedule of Services

**September 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday Fourteenth After Pentecost, tone 5**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

3:00 p.m. Maevers-Williams Wedding

**September 7<sup>th</sup> Monday**

12:00 p.m. Labor Day Picnic

5:00 p.m. Great Vespers

**September 8<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Nativity of the Theotokos**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

**September 9<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

**September 11<sup>th</sup> Friday**

6:30 a.m. Molieben to St. Maximus, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Pannikhida, Confession

**September 12<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**September 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday Fifteenth After Pentecost, tone 6**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. Vigil

**September 14<sup>th</sup> Monday Elevation of the Cross**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

### From Saint Maximus on the Lord's Prayer

For according to Scripture there are two kinds of temptation, one pleasurable, the other painful. One is the result of deliberate choice; the other is unsought. The first kind generates sin. We have been commanded by the Lord's teaching to pray not to fall into this, for He says, 'Lead us not into temptation' (Matt. 6:13), and 'Watch and pray so that you do not enter into temptation' (Matt. 26:41). The other kind of temptation punishes sin, chastising a sin-loving disposition with sufferings that are unsought. To the person who endures this kind of temptation — which comes in the form of a trial — and who in particular is not riveted to evil, the *(continued, page 3)*

## Announcements for September 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. We invite you to go first through the food line and join the priest at his 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, please see the posting on the door to the nave) 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 IOCC.

**Temple Oil** given in memory of Doris Eaton; **Temple Wine** given for the health of Carolyn.

**Classes:** The Basics of Orthodoxy Class will begin Sunday, September 13 at 11:30. The Wednesday class at 6:00 will resume that week as well, God-willing.

**Church School** will begin next Sunday, September 13. We shall also bless students and teachers.

**Wedding Today:** Michelle Maevers and Seth Williams will be married here at St. Maximus at 3:00.

**The Parish Annual Meeting** will be held Sunday, September 27 at 11:30. All members are encouraged to attend.

**Annual Labor Day Picnic** will be held tomorrow at noon. It will conclude at five with Great Vespers for the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos. Please bring picnic food and drink to share, and invite non-Orthodox friends. Please stay to help clean up and come to Vespers for the Feast.

**Please Note:** The waste pipe for the bathroom upstairs runs right through the corner of the altar next to the Table of Oblation. During services, please try to avoid using the bathroom upstairs if at all possible. For Liturgies, the bathroom should not be needed by most people during the service, if we have used it before church at home and are fasting to receive Holy Communion. As a reminder, children who are of an age to make confession (age 7) should be learning to fast before receiving Holy Communion.

**Please Pray:** for our catechumens, Adam and Jenilee, for the inquirers Rebecca, the Wells family, the Dean family, for the novices

Elias and Svetlana. Pray for Joe Fincher and Olga, for Patricia, Perpetua, and James Lydon. Please pray for former parishioner Natalya Perrin, and for our diocesan administrator, Fr. Gerasim. Pray that the Lord will send laborers into His harvest field here in Denton and North Texas. Remember always to pray for your priest. Pray for Subdeacon Anthony as he travels home from Russia.

**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 slot in the candle table (or in the basket passed during Liturgy), where there is also a box for alms (those in need) and a box for our building fund.

Last week, we gave about \$1400; in August we also gave \$1727.22 electronically for a total of \$10,604.54 in tithes and offerings; our monthly budget is \$9502 (\$2192 per week). Candles est. \$54; Drink Jar (Renovation) \$4; Special Offering Alms \$70.38; building fund \$60. Attendance: Vigil 32, Liturgy 109.

### From Saint Maximus on the Lord's Prayer, (*continued*)

words of the apostle James may be applied: 'My brethren, regard it as a great joy whenever you find yourselves beset by many trials; because the testing of your faith produces patient endurance; this endurance shapes the character; and the character thus shaped should be brought to fruition' (cf. Jas. 1:2-4; Rom. 5:4). The evil one works his malice both through the temptation that is subject to our volition and through the trial that comes unsought. Where the first is concerned, by sowing the soul with bodily pleasures and by exciting it in this manner, he contrives to divert its desire away from divine love. Where the trial is concerned, in his wish to destroy nature through pain, he cunningly tries to force the soul, enervated by its sufferings, to calumniate and abuse the Creator.

But, knowing the wiles of the evil one, let us pray for deliverance from the temptations subject to our volition [will], so that we do not defile our desire from divine love; and let us bravely endure the trials that come unsought, since they visit us with God's consent and by enduring them we show that we have not put nature before the Creator of nature. May all of us who call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ be delivered from the present delights and the future afflictions of the evil one by participating in the reality of the blessings held in store and already revealed to us in Christ our Lord

Himself, who alone with the Father and the Holy Spirit is praised by all creation. Amen. *End of St. Maximus's Commentary*

## **Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, September 6**

### **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.

### **St. Michael the Archangel, Troparion, tone 4**

Supreme commander of the heavenly armies, / we, the unworthy, do ever entreat thee / that by thy prayers thou surround us with the protection of the wings of thine immaterial glory, / preserving us who earnestly fall down before thee and cry aloud: // Deliver us from misfortunes, in that thou art the leaders of the hosts on high.

### **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.

### **St. Michael the Archangel, Kontakion, tone 2**

O chief commander of God, / minister of glory divine, / captain of the angels and instructor of men: / beg thou great mercy and that which is profitable for us, // for thou art the supreme commander of the bodiless hosts.