

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 October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Schedule of Services**

**October 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday Twenty-First After Pentecost, tone 4**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Church School, Basics Class

12:30 a.m. Mission Council

**October 27<sup>th</sup> Tuesday**

6:30 a.m. Molieben, Confession

**October 28<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

6:00 p.m. Class: An Orthodox Life in a Modern World

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

**October 29<sup>th</sup> Thursday Martyr Anastasia of Rome**

6:00 a.m. Matins

8:45 a.m. Hours

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

**October 30<sup>th</sup> Friday**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

8:00 p.m. Class: Therapy of Spiritual Illness

**October 31<sup>st</sup> Saturday**

2:30 p.m. All-Saints Party

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**November 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Twenty-Second After Pentecost, tone 5**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Church School

**From Saint Maximus 500 Various Texts**

Since self-love is, as I have said, the origin and mother of evil, when this is eradicated all the things which derive from it are eradicated as well. For when self-love is absent, not the slightest trace or form of evil can exist in any way at all. 1.33

We should care for ourselves and each other in the way that Christ Himself, who patiently suffered for us, has already shown us in His own person. 1.34

## Announcements for October 25

**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 our building fund.

**Classes:** Sunday 11:30 Basics of Orthodoxy  
Wednesday 6:00 An Orthodox Life in a Modern World  
Friday, 8:00 p.m.: The Therapy of Spiritual Illness: discussion of Jean Claude Larchet's book. We'll start with volume I. Bring the book if you have it.

**The Holy Synod** met last week, but did not elect to elect a bishop for our diocese at this time. We keep praying.

**Mission Council** will meet today after church school.

**All Saints Party:** We will hold our annual All-Saints party next Saturday, October 31, at 2:30 before Vigil. Please dress as a saint or biblical character and come prepared to present clues to your identity for the rest of us to guess. Volunteers are needed to sponsor games (bobbing for apples, three-legged race, etc.) and to bring candy. Please see the Lydas for more details.

**Building Update:** The first of two needed surveys, the property survey, has been done. This should enable us to go to the city with the project as it stands to get their feedback about any possible problems from their perspective. Once we have a green light there, we'll go ahead with the soil survey and work to complete the design.

**A Clean Church** requires someone to care to clean it. Two things are needed. First, we need people to sign up to clean each week. The same two people have been doing it for a couple months now. Second, parents whose children use the back room please be sure the room is picked up and any dirty diapers taken out when you leave. Currently, most of the books are on the floor and there is great disorder—not an attractive sight for a visitor who needs to change a baby. This is not the job of those who clean the church. Thank you.

**St. Maximus Lecture 2016:** We have confirmed with Bishop Maxim of the Western Serbian Diocese of North America that he will come speak to us about St. Maximus in January. He will be present at Vigil, January 20, 2016 and will give a brief homily after it. He will give the homily at Liturgy on January 21, will speak to those at coffee hour following, and will give his keynote address the evening of the January 21 (Thursday). So plan ahead to come to meet a fine bishop and get to know our patron saint better.

**Please Pray:** for our catechumens, Adam and Jenilee Skelton and Marsha Northam, for the inquirers Dante, 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.

**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 \$3217.80 in tithes and offerings; this month, we have given \$5855.41; our monthly budget is \$10,350 (\$2389 per week). Candles \$77.50; renovation (drinks) \$2, building fund \$5; special offering \$183.65. Attendance: Vigil 33, Liturgy 92.
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### From Saint Maximus (*continued*)

For the sake of love all the saints resisted sin, not showing any regard for this present life. And they endured many forms of death, in order to be separated from the world and united with themselves and with God, joining together in themselves the broken fragments of human nature. For this is the true and undefiled theosophy of the faithful. Its consummation is goodness and truth — if indeed goodness as compassion and truth as devotion to God in faith are the marks of love. It unites men to God and to one another, and on this account contains the unchanging permanence of all blessings. 1.35

The actualization and proof of perfect love for God is a genuine and — willing attitude of goodwill towards one's neighbor. 'For he who

does not love his brother whom he has seen', says St John, 'cannot love God whom he has not seen' (1 John 4:20). 1.36

The way of truth is love. The Logos of God called Himself the way (cf. John 14:6, 1 John 4:8); and those who travel on this way He presents, purified from every stain, to God the Father. 1.37

This is the door through which a man enters into the Holy of Holies and is brought to the vision of the unapproachable beauty of the Holy and Royal Trinity. 1.38

## Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, October 25

### Resurrectional Troparion, tone 4

Having learned the radiant proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, /the women disciples of the Lord cast off the ancestral curse, /and, boasting, told the Apostles: /Death hath been despoiled, Christ God is risen, /granting the world great mercy.

### St. Maximus, Troparion, tone 3

#### Martyrs Marcian and Martyrius, Troparion tone 4

In their sufferings, O Lord, / Thy Martyrs Marcian and Martyrius 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 their supplications save Thou our souls.

### Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 4

My Saviour and Deliverer as God/ hath raised out of the grave the earth-born from their bonds / and He hath shattered the gates of hell / and as Master / He hath risen on the third day.

### 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.

### Ss. Marcian and Matyrius, Kontakion, tone 4

Having struggled well from childhood, / O Marcian and wise Martyrius, / ye cast down the apostate Arius, / preserving the Orthodox faith unadulterated, / following Paul, the wise teacher. / Wherefore with him yet have found life, // as most excellent champions of the Trinity.