

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday January 10th, 2016

Schedule of Services

January 10th Sunday after Theophany, tone 7; St. Gregory

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

11:30 a.m. Basics of Orthodoxy 102 (Orthodox Way)

12:30 p.m. Mission Council

January 12th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy 201 Prayer 1

January 13th Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

6:15 p.m. Class: Therapy of Spiritual Illnesses, Part 2, Chap 1

7:30 p.m. Vespers, Confession

January 14th Thursday St. Nina of Georgia

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

January 15th Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

4:00 p.m. Class

7:30 p.m. Compline

January 16nd Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

January 17th Sunday St. Anthony the Great tone 8

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

11:30 a.m. Basics of Orthodoxy 102 (Orthodox Way)

12:30 p.m. Mission Council

From Saint Maximus 500 Various Texts

If, instead of stopping short at the outward appearance which visible things present to the senses, you seek with your intellect to contemplate their inner essences, seeing them as images of spiritual realities or as the inward principles of sensible objects, you will be taught that nothing belonging to the visible world is unclean. For by nature all things were created good (cf. Gen. 1:31; Acts 10:15). 1.92

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

Announcements for January 10

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).

The Special Offering this week will be for building fund.

Temple Wine offered for the health and salvation of Photina and Jude; **Temple Oil** offered for the health and salvation of William, Carolyn, and Mary Grace.

Holy Water from Theophany is available on the table in the church. We all do well to keep some in our homes and use it regularly.

Classes This Week

Today 11:30 Basics of Orthodox 102: *Orthodox Way*

Tuesday 8:00 Basics of Orthodoxy 201 "When You Pray 1"

Wednesday 6:15 Therapy of Spiritual Illnesses: Volume 1, Part 2, Chapter 1 "The Passions, Spiritual Illnesses". This week we consider the passions as a group before looking at the individually in weeks to come.

House Blessings are now being scheduled. Please see the sign-up sheet and, for further information, the *Confessor's Tongue*.

Wall Calendars for 2016 have arrived. They are \$5; please put money in the basket or in the slot on the candle table. Every one of us should have a calendar, which has all the feasts and fasts and modifications to the fasts for the whole church year. If you can't afford one, please see the priest.

The Feast of St. Maximus will be observed the week of January 21. His Grace Bishop Maxim of the Western Serbian Diocese in North America will be with us. After attending Vigil on the 20th and Liturgy on the 21st, he will speak at 7:30 the evening of January 21 on the topic "World, Nature, and Church according to St Maximus the Confessor". Child care will be provided along with light refreshments. See the *Confessor's Tongue* for his full schedule.

Building Program Update: We are waiting on our local architect to put our plan to the city for review and comment.

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 \$1703.43 in tithes and offerings; our monthly budget is \$10,350 (\$2389 per week). Candles \$63.50; building fund \$75, renovation (drinks) \$3.83, Building Fund \$27, special offering for St. Basil's Misson \$76.50. Attendance: Sat Vigil 35, Sun Liturgy 84.

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. Please pray for John Roberts and his wife Edith, who has been diagnosed with cancer.

From Saint Maximus (*continued*)

He who is not affected by changes in sensible things practices the virtues in a manner that is truly pure. He who does not permit the outward appearances of sensible things to imprint themselves on his intellect has received the true doctrine of created beings. He whose mind has outstripped the very being of created things has come, as a true theologian, close to the One through unknowing. 1.93

God reveals Himself to each person according to each person's mode of conceiving Him. To those whose aspiration transcends the complex structure of matter, and whose psychic powers are fully integrated in a single unceasing gyration around God, He reveals Himself as Unity and Trinity. In this way He both shows forth His own existence and mystically makes known the mode in which that existence subsists. To those whose aspiration is limited to the complex structure of matter, and whose psychic powers are not integrated. He reveals Himself not as He is but as they are, showing that they are completely caught in the material dualism whereby the physical world is conceived as composed of matter and form. 1.95

Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, January 10

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.

Theophany, Troparion, tone 1

When Thou, O Lord wast baptized in the Jordan / the worship of the Trinity was made manifest. / For the voice of the Father bare witness to Thee, / naming Thee His beloved Son. / And the Spirit, in the form of dove, / confirmed the certainty of that word. / O Christ our God, who hast manifested Thyself and enlightened the world // glory to Thee.

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. Gregory of Nyssa, Troparion, tone 3

Showing forth godly watchfulness, / thou wast revealed as a stern mouth of piety, / O hierarch Gregory; / for by the wisdom of thy divine doctrines / thou dost gladden the fullness of the Church. / O venerable father, / entreat Christ God // that He grant 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. Gregory of Nyssa, Kontakion, tone 1

Keeping watch with the eye of thy soul, O holy hierarch, / thou didst show thyself to be a vigilant pastor for the world; / and, with the staff of thy wisdom and thy fervent intercession, / thou didst drive away all the heretics like wolves / preserving the flock unharméd, // O most wise Gregory.

Theophany, Kontakion, tone 4

Today Thou hast appeared to the universe / and Thy Light, O Lord, hath shone on us, / who with understanding praise Thee: / Thou hast come and revealed Thyself, // O Light unapproachable!