

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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**Bulletin for Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**Schedule of Services**

**October 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> after Pentecost, tone 8**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

11:30 a.m. Basics of Orthodoxy 103

**October 20<sup>th</sup> Thursday**

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

**October 21<sup>st</sup> Friday**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

6:30 p.m. Vespers (*Confession at 6:00 by appointment*)

7:10 p.m. Pannikhida

7:30 p.m. Myrrhbearers: Documenting Your Last Wishes

**October 22<sup>nd</sup> Memorial Saturday**

6:45 a.m. Matins for the Departed

8:00 a.m. Memorial Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**October 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> after Pentecost, tone 1**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

11:30 a.m. Basics of Orthodoxy 103

Isaiah the Solitary on Guarding the Senses, 27 Texts

If some shameful thought is sown in your heart as you are sitting in your cell, watch out. Resist the evil, so that it does not gain control over you. Make every effort to call God to mind, for He is looking at you, and whatever you are thinking in your heart is plainly visible to Him. Say to your soul: 'If you are afraid of sinners like yourself seeing your sins, how much more should you be afraid of God who notes everything?' As a result of this warning the fear of God will be revealed in your soul, and if you cleave to Him you will not be shaken by the passions; for it is written: 'They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Zion; he that dwells in Jerusalem shall never be shaken' (Ps. 125:1. LXX). Whatever you are doing, remember that God sees all your thoughts, and then you will never sin. To Him be glory through all the ages. Amen.

## Announcements for October 16

**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 also invite you to go first through the food line.

**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 alms.

**Temple Oil** offered in memory of William Frederick.

**Boys Church School** will go through the line and eat with Fr. Justin and then go into the church for class this morning.

**Memorial Saturday:** As next Saturday is a memorial Saturday, we'll remember the departed with a full cycle of services: Vespers, Matins, Divine Liturgy. A pannikhida will be served Friday evening after Vespers. After the pannikhida there will be time to fill out papers provided by the Myrrhbearers to document your wishes for your funeral and burial.

### Classes This Week

*Sunday:* Starting today, Basics of Orthodoxy 103 is reading and discussing the Longer Catechism of the Eastern Orthodox Church, written by St. Philaret of Moscow. Reader Michael Rehmet will conduct the class. Text may be found at [http://www.pravoslavieto.com/docs/eng/Orthodox\\_Catechism\\_of\\_Philaret.htm](http://www.pravoslavieto.com/docs/eng/Orthodox_Catechism_of_Philaret.htm)

*Friday:* Basics of Orthodoxy 301 will not meet.

**Fr. Justin** will be at Holy Archangels Monastery Monday through Thursday this week.

**The Annual All Saints Party** will be held Monday evening, October 31. Start planning now.

**The Feast Day** for Holy Archangels Monastery will be celebrated November 7-8 this year (Monday—Tuesday) with Little Vespers Monday at 4:00 p.m., Supper at 4:30, Vigil at 6:00, Hours 8:30 Tuesday morning, Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at 9:00.

**Parish Thanksgiving:** We will celebrate Thanksgiving as a parish Sunday, November 13 with a Thanksgiving meal at 3:00 p.m. followed by games (inside or out) and other picnic-type fun.

**Poetry and Port:** Fr. Justin will host a modest gathering to discuss the poem "Choruses from the Rock" by T. S. Eliot over port at his house Monday, October 24, at 7:30. Please let Fr. Justin know if you are interested in coming and then read the poem ahead of time.

**Tithes, Offerings & Attendance:** Bringing our tithes and offerings to the temple of God is part of our worship of God and 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 slot in the candle table (or in the basket passed during service). There are also boxes for alms (those in need) and our building fund.

Last week, we gave \$8078.47; this month we have given \$9620.19 in tithes and offerings. Our monthly budget is \$11,250. Candles \$47, Special Offering for Building Fund \$27. A special gift for alms in the amount of \$4000 was also received. Attendance: Liturgy 95, Vigil 37.

**Please Pray:** for our catechumen Marsha Northam, our inquirers the Wells family, the Dean family, for David & Sally Roberts, and for the Jones family; for the novices Elias and Svetlana. Pray for Patricia, Perpetua, and James Lydon. Please pray for Photina and Jude Bellan, for Olga Fincher and her husband Joseph. Give thanks that Eugene (Rick) Hollembeak has been released from the hospital. Please keep him and Nancy (Rachel) in your prayers.

**Civil Strife:** Our land is wracked with division and civil strife. Between now and the election, we'll pray for our land liturgically by serving the Litia at Vigil every week and adding petitions and a prayer to the Sunday Divine Liturgy from the "Molieben for the Salvation of Our Land and the Appeasing in it of Discord and Strife."

Petitions for the Salvation of Our Land and the Appeasing in it of  
Discord and Strife

We have warranted meet chastisement and Thy righteous judgment hath overtaken us, O Lord. But do Thou spare Thy people who have sinned and destroy us not forever. We fall down before Thee in repentance and humbly pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

We know that we have provoked Thy love for mankind, O All-good Master, and we have angered Thy goodness. But do Thou turn away from us Thy wrath which justly riseth against us: drive the present civil strife and discord and shedding of blood from our land, in repentance and with broken hearts, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Encompassed round about by civil strife and discord, with compunction we cry out unto Thee, O Lord, our God, that our life be brought up from corruption, that we not be destroyed forever, and that all our enemies may be scattered. For we flee unto Thee and we call upon Thy help only: Hearken unto Thy people who are afflicted and in need, O Lord, and out of Thy love for mankind have mercy.

### From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

1.4. The person who loves God values knowledge of God more than anything created by God, and pursues such knowledge ardently and ceaselessly.

1.5 If everything that exists was made by God and for God, and God is superior to the things made by Him, he who abandons what is superior and devotes himself to what is inferior shows that he values things made by God more than God Himself.

1.6 When your intellect is concentrated on the love of God you will pay little attention to visible things and will regard even your own body as something alien.

1.7 Since the soul is more noble than the body and God incomparably more noble than the world created by Him, he who values the body more than the soul and the world created by God more than the Creator Himself is simply a worshipper of idols.

### Troparia and Kontakia for October 16<sup>th</sup>



#### Resurrectional Troparion, tone 8

Thou didst descend from on high, O tenderhearted One. / Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our passions. / O Lord, our life and resurrection, glory to Thee.

#### Fathers of the 7<sup>th</sup> Council, Troparion, tone 8

All-glorious art Thou, O Christ our God, / who hast established our fathers upon the earth as beacons, / and hast thereby guided us to the true Faith! / O greatly Compassionate One, glory to Thee!

#### 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.

#### Fathers of the 7<sup>th</sup> Council, Kontakion, tone 6

The Son who ineffably shone forth from the Father / hath been born in two natures of a woman, / and beholding Him we do not refuse to depict His countenance; / but tracing it piously, we honor it in faith. / Wherefore, the Church, holding to the true Faith, / doth venerate the icon of the incarnation of Christ.