

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, October 19, 2008

Schedule of Services

October 19th 18th Sunday After Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

October 20th Monday

6:00 a.m. Matins

October 21st Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins

October 22nd Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins

5:30 p.m. Class: Galatians

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

October 23rd Thursday

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

October 24th Friday

7:30 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Talk: Fr. Jonah on the Jesus Prayer

October 25th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

October 26th 19th Sunday After Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. OCF at Rectory with St. Sava's group

The practice of the Jesus Prayer is simple. Stand before the Lord with the attention in the heart, and call to Him: 'Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me!' The essential part of this is not in the words, but in faith, contrition, and self-surrender to the Lord. With these feelings one can stand before the Lord even without any words, and it will still be prayer.

I remember that St. Basil the Great solved the question how the Apostles could pray without ceasing, in this way: in everything they did, he replied, they thought of God and lived in constant devotion to Him. This spiritual state was their unceasing prayer.

St. Theophan the Recluse

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

Announcements for October 19^h

To Our Visitors: Welcome! Please join us after the service for coffee and conversation and church school for the children. If you would, fill out a visitor's card for us and leave it in the basket on the table by the door. Be aware that shortly after the sermon, the catechumens, i.e., those preparing for Baptism & Chrismation, will be dismissed, but you are invited to stay for the rest of the service.

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 and present from the very beginning of the Liturgy (in *unusual* circumstances no later than the Gospel reading—thus, if you arrive later than the Gospel, you should not present yourself at the chalice for Communion, children excepted), and not have missed Sunday Liturgy for three or more weeks in a row.

The Special Freewill Offering today will be for North Texas Orthodox Missions (NTOM), next week for our Library.

Membership Forms: If you are Orthodox and consider this to be your home parish and did not fill out a membership form at the Annual Meeting, please do so today and give it to Fr. Justin. Thank you.

Demolition Help needed on the floor by the changing table outside the sacristy this week; Fr. Justin also needs to make a run to Home Depot with a pickup truck to pick up some plywood and sheetrock.

Abbot Jonah will be with us Friday, October 24 to give a talk on the Jesus Prayer after the usual 7:00 p.m. He will address what it is, what the purpose of it is, and how to use it.

Archimandrite Abbot Jonah will be consecrated as auxiliary bishop to Archbishop Dmitri on Saturday, November 1 in Dallas, 9:00 a.m. This is an occasion not to miss!

Archbishop Dmitri and newly-consecrated bishop Jonah will pay a pastoral visit Sunday, November 9 and will celebrate the Divine Liturgy with us and present our parish with a relic of St. Raphael of Brooklyn.

Classes this Week:

Wednesday, 5:30 Epistle to the Galatians

Friday, 8:00 The Jesus Prayer, Fr. Jonah (Paffhausen)

The Weekday Liturgy this week will be on Thursday at 6:00 a.m.

Church School for our children will meet right after Liturgy today.

Please Pray for our Catechumen: Thom Anderson, **our inquirers** John Parsons and Adam Betz. Please pray for our **shut-ins** Nina Johnston and Samantha Stateson, and Lois Lyda's father James, recently diagnosed with stage-4 cancer, and for Frieda Glusheknko's mother Galina diagnosed with cancer.

Tithes, Offerings & Attendance: Bringing our tithes and offerings to the temple of God is part of our worship of God and an act of obedience to God, a sign that Christ is, for us, Lord of all, including our money—that it all belongs to Him and we are but stewards of it. Your worship of God through giving 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 throughout Denton County and north Texas. Checks should be made out to St. Maximus Orthodox Church. Stamped, addressed envelopes are available on the candle table if you know you will be gone.

Last week, we gave \$1101.90 in tithes and offerings; this month we have given \$2564.30 our monthly budget is \$6218 (\$1554 per week). Candles \$46.50; Debt Reduction \$30; Building Fund \$40; Bookstore \$24. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 18, Liturgy 53.

From Saint Maximus

In Scripture hearts capable of receiving the heavenly gifts of holy knowledge are called cisterns (2 Chronicles 26:10). They have been hewn out by the firm principle of the commandments; they have been cleared, as if of earth, of self-indulgence in the passions and of natural attachment to sensible things; and they have been filled with that spiritual knowledge which purges the passions and gives life and sustenance to the virtues.

The Lord hews out cisterns in the desert, that is to say, the world and in human nature. He excavates the hearts of those who are worthy, clears them of their material sordidness and arrogance, and makes them deep and wide in order to receive the divine rains of wisdom and knowledge. He does this so that they may water Christ's flocks, those who need moral instruction because of the immaturity of their souls.

Second Century of Various Texts, 59, 60

Spiritual knowledge without ascetic practice is the theology of the demons.

Troparia and Kontakia for October 19th



Resurrectional Troparion, tone 1

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews / and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate body, / Thou didst rise on the third day, O Saviour, / granting life to the world. / The powers of heaven, therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of life: / Glory to the Resurrection, O Christ! / Glory to Thy Kingdom! / Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Lover of man.

St. Maximus, Troparion, tone 3

Prophet Joel, Troparion, tone 1

We celebrate the memory / of Thy Prophet Joel, O Lord; // through him we beseech Thee: “Save our souls!”

Martyr Varus, Troparion, tone 4

In his sufferings, O Lord, / Thy Martyr *Name* received an imperishable crown from Thee, our God. / For possessed of Thy might, / he cast down the tormentors and crushed the feeble audacity of the demons. // By his supplications save Thou our souls.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 1

Thou hast risen from the grave as God in glory / and Thou didst raise the world with Thee, / and human nature hymneth Thee as God. / and death hath vanished. / Adam exulteth, O Master, / and Eve, delivered from her bondage, now rejoiceth, crying: / Thou, O Christ, / art He who granteth to all the Resurrection!

St. Maximus, Kontakion, tone 6

The thrice-radiant Light which abode in thy soul / showed thee to be a chosen vessel / revealing divine things to the ends of the earth. . .

Prophet Joel, Kontakion, tone 1

Since thou hadst seen the glory of God in the spirit, / thou truly didst foreknow His divine dispensation; / for as thou didst say, God’s Spirit is poured forth upon all flesh / that believeth in Him appeared to the earthborn in a servant’s form / and made thee wondrous forever, // O Joel, thou see-er of God.

Martyr Varus, Kontakion, tone 6

Following Christ, O martyr Varus, and draining his cup, / thou wast crowned with the wreath of martyrdom, / and joinest chorus with the angels. // Pray thou without ceasing for our souls.