

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

2026 W. Oak Street • Denton, TX 76201

(940) 565-6753 • www.stmaximus.org

Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, October 26, 2008

Schedule of Services

**October 26<sup>th</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. OCF College-Age Dinner

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

6:00 a.m. Matins

8:00 p.m. "Credo" Concert of Church Music

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

6:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Vespers

**October 29<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:30 p.m. Class: Galatians (Conclusion)

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

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

7:30 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Reception, St. Seraphim's, Dallas

**November 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday**

9:00 a.m. Consecration of Fr. Jonah to the Episcopate, Dallas

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**November 2<sup>nd</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

And especially [St. Antony] counselled them to meditate continually on the apostle's word, 'Let not the sun go down upon your wrath.' And he considered this was spoken of all commandments in common, and that not on wrath alone, but not on any other sin of ours, ought the sun to go down. For it was good and needful that neither the sun should condemn us for an evil by day nor the moon for a sin by night, or even for an evil thought. That this state may be preserved in us it is good to hear the apostle and keep his words, for he says, 'Try your own selves and prove your own selves.' Daily, therefore, let each one take from himself the tale of his actions both by day and night; and if he have sinned, let him cease from it; while if he have not, let him not be boastful."

*Life of St. Antony the Great*

## Announcements for October 26<sup>h</sup>

**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 our Library, next week for our priest.

**The New Mission Council** will be installed next Sunday and will have its first meeting after Liturgy. Members of the parish who wish to attend the meeting are welcome.

**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.

**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: Last Session

Friday, NO CLASS, consecration preliminaries in Dallas

**The Weekday Liturgy** this week will be on Wednesday 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 \$1246.20 in tithes and offerings; this month we have given \$3810.50 our monthly budget is \$6218 (\$1554 per week). Candles \$38; NTOM \$20; Building Fund \$0; Bookstore \$12. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 11, Liturgy 50.

### From Saint Maximus

So long as the intellect [*nous*] continuously remembers God, it seeks the Lord through contemplation, not superficially, but in the fear of the Lord, that is, by practicing the commandments. For he who seeks Him through contemplation without practicing the commandments does not find Him: he has not sought Him in the fear of the Lord and so the Lord does not guide him to success. The Lord guides to success all who combine the practice of the virtues with spiritual knowledge: He teaches them the qualities of the commandments and reveals to them the true inner essences of created beings. *Second Century of Various Texts, 62*

Scripture exhorts us to offer gifts to God so that we may become conscious of His infinite goodness. For God receives our offerings as if they were entirely our own gifts and had He not given us anything. In this way, God's untold goodness towards us is fully evident, for when we offer Him things which in reality are His own, He accepts them as if they were ours, and He makes Himself our debtor as though they were not already His.

If we perceive the spiritual principles of visible things we learn that the world has a Maker. But we do not ask what is the nature of that Maker, because we recognize that this is beyond our scope. Visible creation clearly enables us to grasp that there is a Maker, but it does not enable us to grasp His nature. *Third Century of Various Texts 7, 8*

## Troparia and Kontakia for October 26<sup>th</sup>



### Resurrectional Troparion, tone 2

When Thou, didst descend to death, O Life Immortal / Thou didst slay Hell with the lightning-flash of Thy Divinity, / and, when from the nether regions Thou didst raise the dead, / all the powers of Heaven cried out: / ‘O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!’

### St. Demetrios, Troparion, tone 3

The whole world hath found thee to be / a great champion amid misfortunes, who conquered the pagans, O passion-bearer. / Therefore as thou didst cast down the pride of Lyaeus / and didst appoint the bold Nestor for the struggle, // thus, O Demetrius, beseech Christ God to grant us great mercy.

### Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 2

Thou didst rise from the grave, all –powerful Saviour; / and Hades, seeing the wonder, was affrighted; / and the dead arose; and creation, beholding, rejoiceth with Thee; / and with Thee Adam also is glad; / and the world, O my Saviour, hymneth Thee forever.

### St. Demetrios, Kontakion, tone 2

He who gave thee invincible strength, O Demetrius, / hath dyed thy Church in the streams of thy blood, // and hath preserved thy city unharmd, for thou art its confirmation.

