

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, November 16, 2008

Schedule of Services

November 16th 22nd Sunday After Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
6:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

November 17th Monday

6:00 a.m. Matins
3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

November 18th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins
8:00 p.m. Vespers

November 19th Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins
5:30 p.m. Class: St. Gregory the Theologian's *Theological Orations*
7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

November 20th Thursday

6:00 a.m. Matins
7:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

November 21st Friday Entry of Theotokos into the Temple

7:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy
7:00 p.m. Vespers
8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: *Q&A, Informal Discussion*

November 22nd Saturday

7:00 a.m. Matins
5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

November 23rd 23rd Sunday After Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

We who are infirm must unfailingly call out to Jesus, who came to call not the righteous, but sinners to repentance. And therefore, having neither deeds nor the spiritual powers for ascetic struggles, we must unavoidably call out: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us!
St. Anatoly of Optina

Announcements for November 16th

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 to hear "Blessed is the Kingdom" (in *unusual* circumstances no later than the Gospel reading), and not have missed Sunday Liturgy for three or more weeks in a row.

The Special Freewill Offering today will be for our own debt reduction (our debt to the Diocese stands at \$115,883), next week for St. Nicholas ROCOR parish in McKinney, who are building a temple there of 1900 sq. feet at \$130 a square foot. Let's help our brethren with a few of those squares!

Axios! Axios! Axios! Our new auxiliary Bishop Jonah has been elevated to be Bishop of Washington & New York and Metropolitan of the Orthodox Church in America. We deeply regret losing his direct service and ministry in our diocese, but we accept this and God's will for him and for the good of the Church in North America. Please keep Metropolitan Jonah in your prayers.

The Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple, one of the Twelve Great Feasts, will be celebrated this week with Vigil Thursday at 7:00 p.m. and Liturgy Friday morning at 7:30. All the faithful do well to keep the Feast by attending the services.

The Nativity Fast lasts through the Liturgy on Nativity morning (Dec 25). We abstain from meat and dairy for the whole fast, and fish, wine (alcohol), and oil (except when permitted per the wall calendar) and marital relations so that we can give more in alms, pray more effectively, and open our hearts more widely to God.

Nativity Lent Almsgiving: As is our practice, as part of our almsgiving during the Nativity Fast, we shall collect items for Woman to Woman and Interfaith Ministries, two worthy local charities. Boxes will be placed under the bookstore table with sheets describing what sort of items are needed.

Classes this Week:

Wednesday, 5:30: St. Gregory the Theologian Theological Orations, Second Oration

Friday, the Basics of Orthodoxy Class at 8:00 p.m.

November 28: The Church and Holy Scripture

December 5: The Church and Holy Tradition

December 12: The Church and the Ecumenical Councils

December 19: The Church and Salvation

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

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, and for Frieda Glusheknko's mother Galina diagnosed with cancer, and Elder Zacharias, also diagnosed with cancer. Please remember our **new Metropolitan** Jonah in our prayers.

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 \$2576.50 in tithes and offerings; this month we have given \$3781.97; our monthly budget is \$6218 (\$1554 per week). Candles \$44; Building Fund \$150; Bookstore \$85, Alaskan Seminarian \$35. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 25, Liturgy 54.

From Saint Maximus

The passion of pride arises from two kinds of ignorance, and when these two kinds of ignorance unite together, they form a single confused state of mind. For a man is proud only if he is ignorant both of divine help and of human weakness. Therefore pride is a lack of knowledge both in the divine and in the human spheres. For the denial of two true premisses results in a single false affirmation.

Self-esteem is the replacing of a purpose which accords with God by another purpose which is contrary to the divine. For a man full of self-esteem pursues virtue not for God's glory but for his own, and so purchases with his labors the worthless praise of men.

Various Texts 3.64, 3.65

Troparia and Kontakia for November 16th



Resurrectional Troparion, tone 5

Let us the faithful hymn and worship the Word / who with the Father and the Spirit hath no beginning, / and was born for our salvation of the Virgin; / for He was pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh, / and to endure death / and to raise the dead / by His glorious Resurrection.

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.

Apostle Matthew, Troparion, tone 3

Zealously following Christ the Master, / who, in His goodness, appeared to men on earth / and called thee from thy tax-booth, / thou was shown to be a chosen apostle / and a clarion-voiced proclaimer of the Gospel to the whole world. / Wherefore, we honor thy precious memory, / O divinely-wise eloquent Matthew. // Entreat the merciful God that He grant remission of sins unto our souls.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 5

Thou didst descend to Hades, O my Savior; / and, having shattered its gates as all-powerful; / Thou as Creator didst raise the dead with Thee; / and Thou didst destroy the sting of death, / and Adam hath been delivered from the curse, O Lover of Man. / Wherefore, we all cry: Save us, O Lord!

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.

Apostle Matthew, Kontakion, tone 4

Casing of the yoke of the publican's office, / thou didst shoulder the yoke of righteousness / and wast shown to be a most excellent merchant. / bringing in the wisdom from on high as riches. / Wherefore, thou didst preach the Word of truth / and hast uplifted the souls of the despondent, / describing the hour of judgement.