

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, September 27, 2009

Schedule of Services

September 27th Sunday

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

September 29th Tuesday

7:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Akathist

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodox: Divine Liturgy the Antiphons

September 30th Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins

12.30 p.m. Bible Study: First John

7:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

October 1st Thursday Protection of the Theotokos

9:00 a.m. Liturgy

October 2nd Friday

7:00 a.m. Liturgy

7:00 p.m. Russian Vespers, Pannikhida, Confession

October 3rd Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

October 4th Sunday

8:45 a.m. Hours

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

11:30 a.m. Annual Meeting

Leaving for High School one day, the young Epiphanius told his Aunt Alexandra: "Aunt, from today, no more meat! Please fix something else for lunch." His aunt paid no attention to his words, considering them a passing oddity, and she prepared meatballs, which—it should be noted—he liked a lot! As soon as he returned at noon and saw the meatballs, he told his Aunt: "Didn't I tell you, Aunt, to fix me something else, because from today I am stopping meat?" "Oh, well, my dear child, what could I cook now? I decided to make meatballs since I already had the hamburger. Eat now, and tomorrow you can stop eating meat." "No, aunt! When we say something, we must keep it!" And from that day, without eating the already prepared meatballs, he ceased eating meat, a practice he kept till his death.

Elder Epiphanius of Greece (+1989)

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

Announcements for September 27th

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).

Please Move Forward during the Liturgy! **Please be quiet** in the Narthex afterwards while the Prayers of Thanksgiving after Communion are being read in the church, or better yet, stay for the prayers so you don't have to read them later at home.

The Special Freewill Offering today will be for FOCUS North America, "Fellowship of Orthodox Christians United to Serve", which is entirely dedicated to ministering to those in need here at home; this is a new national Orthodox ministry started this year. Next week the special offering will be for our priest.

Church School meets after Liturgy today for children and youth.

Classes this Week

Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy, Divine Liturgy Line-by-Line: the Three Antiphons and the Little Litany.

Wednesday, 12:30: Bible Study, First John chapter 4.

The Parish Annual Meeting will be held next Sunday, October 4. at 11:30 We ask that all members plan to attend this meeting. To be able to vote on any motions, one must be an Orthodox Christian who has expressed a desire to be a member of the parish, has participated in the Sacraments of Confession and Communion within the past year, and supports the parish financially. Though there is no officially prescribed level of financial support, it is assumed that members give regularly in proportion to their means with tithing as their goal. (At the last annual meeting, the parish left it to the priest's discretion to determine whether someone is supporting the parish financially for purposes of voting membership.) Those not classified as voting members are welcome sit in the meeting and participate as recognized by the chair, but may not make motions or vote. If you have arrived at the parish since last year's meeting and wish to be a member of the parish, or if you have any questions about your standing, please see Fr. Justin immediately.

Please Pray for our Catechumen: Thom Anderson, for **our inquirers** John Parsons, Mary Moses, Adam & Melanie Betz, Robert & Elisabeth Terry and their children Thomas, Calvin, Owen, and Claire, and Ken & Pam Northam and their daughters Marsha, Jessica, Mariah, Emalie. Please pray for our **shut-ins** Nina Johnston and Georgii. Please remember Met. Jonah in your prayers, and the nun Barbara.

The New Women's Monastery, The Nativity of the Lord Monastery, has closed on its property southeast of Dallas, in part by God's provision through your generosity.

The Protection of the Theotokos, considered by many to be on the level of the Twelve Great Feasts, will be celebrated October 1 this week with Vigil Wednesday night at 7:00, and Divine Liturgy Thursday at 9:00 a.m.

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 throughout Denton County and north Texas. Checks should be made out to St. Maximus Orthodox Church and placed in the basket on the candle table, where there is also a box for alms (those in need) and a box for the building fund.

Last week, we gave \$946 in tithes and offerings; this month we have given \$3297; our monthly budget is \$6218 (\$1554 per week). Candles \$27; Bookstore \$3; Building fund \$0; Special Gifts \$325; Seminarian \$10. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 12, Liturgy 73.

From Saint Maximus

"Decline from evil and do good." That is, do battle with your enemy to diminish the passions, then keep sober lest they increase. Or again, do battle to acquire virtues, and then remain watchful in order to guard them. This is also what is meant by "working" and "keeping".

Those who tempt us with God's permission either arouse the lusts of our soul or stir up our temper or darken our reason, or encompass the body with pain, or plunder our material goods.

Either the demons tempt us themselves, or they equip those who do not fear the Lord against us: themselves, when we are alone, away from others, just as they tempted the Lord in the desert; through others, when we associate with them, as they tempted the Lord through the Pharisees. It is for us to look to our model and beat them back on both fronts.

400 Chapters on Love, 2.11-13

Troparia and Kontakia for September 27th



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.

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. Callistratus & Companions, Troparion, tone 4

In their sufferings, O Lord, / Thy Martyrs *Name* received imperishable crowns from Thee, our God. / For possessed of Thy might, / they cast down the tormentors and crushed the feeble audacity of the demons. // By their supplications save Thou our souls.

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 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, / O blessed Maximus, who givest utterance to concepts hard to grasp, / and manifestly proclaimest unto all // the transcendent and unoriginate Trinity.

Martyr Callistratus & Companions, Kontakion, tone 4

Having endured multifarious wounds / and manifestly received crowns from God, / pray to Christ for us who celebrate you most festive memorial, / O great Callistratus and ye blessed ones who suffered with him, // that He may grant peace to His flock and people, for He is the confirmation of the faithful.