

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, September 5th, 2010

Schedule of Services

September 5th 15th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Church School, Mission Council

September 6th Monday Labor Day

9:00 Matins

10:00 Divine Liturgy

12:00 – 5:00 Picnic

September 7th Tuesday

7:00 p.m. Festal Vigil, Confession

September 8th Wednesday Nativity of the Theotokos

7:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy: The Nicene Creed 5

September 10th Friday

7:00 a.m. Matins

1:00 p.m. Adult Class: Old Testament History

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

9:00 p.m. Molieben to St. Maximus for Parish

September 11th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

September 12th 16th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Church School, Build Committee

Prayer, fasting, and vigilance over oneself, that is, the guarding of one's thoughts and feelings, make us conquerors of the enemies of our salvation. The most difficult of these three works is prayer—and eternal virtue which, as a result of practice, becomes a habit,; but right up to death, prayer requires motivation and, consequently, podvig. Prayer is difficult, since it opposes our 'old man,' but it is also difficult because the enemy rises up with all his strength against one who prays. Prayer is the insinuation of death to the devil. Although, of course, he has already died spiritually, prayer as it were defeats him again, and therefore he opposes it in every way. Even the saints who, it seems, should only be consoled by prayer, found it at times difficult.

St. Barsanuphius of Optina

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

Announcements for September 5th

To Our Visitors: Welcome! Please join us after the service for coffee 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. 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" at the beginning of the Liturgy (in *unusual* circumstances no later than the Gospel reading), and not leave until the dismissal at the end.

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.

The Special Offering this week is for our priest.

Church School begins today after Liturgy. Matushka Michelle is teaching the elementary class, Becki Stevenson the intermediate class, and Ben Lyda the high school class. We also plan to resume the children's choir.

Mission Council meets today after Liturgy. All welcome.

Annual Labor Day Picnic: Monday, September 6, we'll hold our annual Labor Day Picnic. We expect a lot of visitors from other parishes. We ask that you attend, that you see this as a ministry to build unity among parishes and to acquaint the curious non-Orthodox with the Church. We ask you to sign up for food and bring it, and in addition that everyone bring water, either a flat of small bottles or gallon jugs. We also ask that you help clean up; if you leave before 5:00, find some picking up and wiping up to do before going.

Classes this Week:

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: The Creed 5 "The Almighty": we'll discuss how the question of evil, how an Almighty Good God permits evil in His world. The talks on the Creed beginning with last week's are being posted on our website.

Friday 1:00 p.m. Old Testament History Session 2 "The World Remade: Noah".

The Parish Phone Book is being updated. Please make sure we have your current phone numbers, address, email, birthdays and namedays. See Lois Lyda.

Copies of the Confessor's Tongue and the weekly Bulletin may be found on our website each week.

The Annual Meeting will be held September 26 at 11:30. If you are a member here, please plan on attending.

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 \$398.27 in tithes and offerings; in August we gave \$5926.08; our monthly budget is \$8835 (\$2039 per week). Candles \$53; bookstore \$71, special gifts \$50, special offering for library \$5. May God bless your giving! Attendance: Sunday Liturgy 78; Vigil 32.

Please Pray for our Catechumens: Thom Anderson, Sean Chaney, Ken and Pam Northam and their children Marsha, Jessica, Mariah, Emalie, Robert & Elisabeth Terry and their children Thomas, Calvin, Owen, and Claire; Samuel Vanderburg, Michael, Gina, and Ian Rehmet. Please pray for our **shut-in** Nina Johnston, for Elias Ashley Davis who is in Alaska, for Michael Rodgers at St. Tikhon's Seminary. Please pray for all your fellow parishioners that we all may keep the Faith and be firmly established therein.

From Saint Maximus

Not so much out of necessity has gold become enviable by men as that with it most of them can provide for their pleasures.

There are three reasons for the love of money: pleasure-seeking, vainglory, and lack of faith. And more serious than the other two is lack of faith.

The hedonist loves money because with it he lives in luxury; the vain person because with it he can be praised; the person who lacks faith because he can hide it and keep it while in fear of hunger, or old age, or illness, or exile. He lays his hope on it rather than on God the maker and provider of the whole creation, even of the last and least of living things.

There are four kinds of people who acquire money, the three just mentioned [hedonist, vain person, lacker of faith] and the financial administrator. Obviously only he acquires it for the right reason: so that he might never run short in relieving each one's need.

Troparia and Kontakia for September 5th



Resurrectional Troparion, tone 6

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb / and the guards became as dead men, / Mary stood by Thy grave, / seeking Thine immaculate body, / Thou didst despoil hell, not being tempted by it, / Thou didst go to meet the Virgin granting life, / O Lord, who didst rise from the dead, / glory to Thee.

St. Maximus, Troparion, tone 3

SS Zacharias & Elizabeth, Troparion, tone 2

Celebrating the memory of Thy righteous ones, / Zacharias and Elizabeth, // O Lord, through them do we entreat Thee: save Thou our souls!

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 6

With His life-originating palm, from the valleys of gloom / the Life-giver Christ God hath raised all the dead. / He hath bestowed resurrection on the human race /, for He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, and Life, and God of all.

St. Maximus, Kontakion tone 8

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.

St. Zacharias, Kontakion tone 3

Today Zacharias, the prophet and priest of the Most High, / the father of the Forerunner, / setteth the table of his memorial, / feeding the faithful; / for he hath distributed the food of righteousness to all. / Wherefore, he hath reposed / as a divine initiate // of the mysteries of the grace of God.

St. Elizabeth, Kontakion, tone 4

Like the full moon, / thou didst receive the light of righteousness from the Messiah, the noetic Sun, / O Elizabeth beloved of God, / and with Zacharias didst walk in all the commandments of the Lord. / Wherefore, blessing thee with worthy hymns, / we magnify the Lord, // the most compassionate Light who illumineth all.