

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, October 10th, 2010

Schedule of Services

October 10th 20th Sunday after Pentecost, tone 3 Optina Elders

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

11:45 a.m. Strategic Planning Committee Meeting

October 13th Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy: The Nicene Creed 9

October 15th Friday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

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

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

October 16th Saturday

6:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

October 17th 21st Sunday after Pentecost, tone 4

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

We must always say: "O Lord, let it be according to Thy will," either this way or that, or we must receive all that is sent to us as from the hand of God; the sorrowful with patience, the pleasant with thanksgiving.

If the inner man is not instructed in the Law of God, nor nourished and fortified with reading and prayer, then he is defeated from without, and then he labors for whomever defeated him. From this, we see works pleasing to them, but not pleasing to God, such as pride, greed, gluttony, every sort of lustful sin, idle talking, laughing, carousing, drunkenness, malice, cunning, lying, envy, laziness, etc. These are the fruits of sowing to the flesh [Gal 6:8], and why flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God [I Cor 15:50].

Grievous encounters are always difficulty to bear, but we must force ourselves to bear them, according to the Apostolic teaching: *let us run with patience the race set before us* [Heb 12:1], calling on the help of the Lord and praying to Him for those who have grieved us, that He may send down peace to our souls.

St. Moses of Optina

Announcements for October 10th

To Our Visitors: Welcome! Please join us after the service for coffee, 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 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). If we are visiting from another parish, we should know that proper church etiquette is to contact the priest ahead of time if we wish to receive Holy Communion so he doesn't have to question us as to our identity in the Communion line. 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 debt reduction.

The Strategic Planning Committee meets today after Church School. Open to those who wish to attend.

Church School meets today following the Divine Liturgy. Please let the children and teachers go through the line first.

Vigil Next Saturday will be served at 6:00 p.m.

Remodeling to add more space to the nave is going on this week and possibly into next. Please bear with any inconvenience, as it is necessary to make more room for us to worship.

Nursing Room: We have converted the preschool classroom into a room for nursing mothers or mothers wish small children who need to take them out. Go through the curtained doorway by the choir and straight through the next door. The changing table is there, too. You're not obligated to us this room, but it is now available for your convenience.

Classes this Week:

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: The Creed 9 "And was crucified for us..."

Friday 1:00 p.m. Old Testament History Session 7 "Binding the Strongman: Samson & the Judges".

Copies of the Confessor's Tongue and the weekly Bulletin may be found on our website. So too recordings of some homilies and some of the Basics of Orthodoxy Class lectures.

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).

Last week we gave \$1688.05 in tithes and offerings; our monthly budget is \$7975. Candles \$60; bookstore \$76.25. May God bless your giving! Attendance: Sunday Liturgy 80; Vigil 22.

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 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

Just as evil is a privation of good and ignorance a privation of knowledge, so non-being is a privation of being—not of being in a substantive sense, for that does not have any opposite, but of being that exists by participation in substantive being. The first two privations mentioned depend on the will of creatures; the third lies in the will of the Maker, who in His goodness wills beings always to exist and always to receive His blessings.

Of all creatures, some are rational and intelligent and admit of opposites such as virtue and vice, knowledge and ignorance. Others are various bodies composed of opposites such as earth, air, fire, and water. And there are some completely without body or matter, though some of these are united to bodies, and others have their makeup only of matter and form. *400 Chapters on Love, 3.29-31*

Real faith is faith which is manifest and active. Accordingly, to those engaged in the practice of the virtues, the Logos of God is revealed embodied in the commandments [of Christ], and, as Logos, he leads them by means of these commandments up to the Father, in whom He subsists by nature. *Various Texts, 1.84*

Troparia and Kontakia for October 10th



Resurrectional Troparion, Tone 3

Let those in Heaven rejoice, / let those on Earth be glad; / for the Lord hath wrought a mighty act with His arm./ He hath trampled down death by death; / He hath become the first-born of the dead.
/ From the womb of hell hath He delivered us, // and hath granted 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.

Optina Elders, Troparion, tone 1

Abiding in unceasing prayer, / and embracing the wicked as well as the good with love, / O venerable elders of Optina, / ye served God and your neighbors, / and through vigils, tears and fasting / received the gift of divers miracles. / Glory to Him who hath given us such mediators! / Glory to Him who hath glorified you! (*bridge*) // Glory to God who is wondrous in His saints!

Resurrectional Kontakion, Tone 3

Today Thou didst rise from the grave, O compassionate One, / and didst lead us away from the gates of death. / Today Adam exulteth, and Eve rejoiceth. / Together with the prophets and patriarchs // they unceasingly hymn the Divine might of Thine authority.

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.

Optina Elders, Kontakion tone 8

Having withdrawn from this vain world / and discovered a treasure through your pure life, / ye have not ceased your care for sinners in this world; / but, as guides for the lost, deliver us from the vanity of this world, // that we may say: Rejoice, O divinely wise elders!