

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Schedule of Services

**September 18<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, tone 5**

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

**September 19<sup>th</sup> Monday**

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

**September 20<sup>th</sup> Tuesday**

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

**September 21<sup>st</sup> Wednesday**

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: Church Music

**September 11<sup>th</sup> Thursday**

7:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

**August 12<sup>th</sup> Friday**

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. *Russian Vespers, Confession in Dallas*

**August 13<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

9:30 a.m. *Russian Divine Liturgy, Dallas*

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**September 25<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, tone 6**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

11:30 p.m. Annual Meeting

The completely purified intellect is cramped by created beings and longs to go beyond them.

Blessed is he who has attained boundless infinity, transcending all that is transitory.

He who stands in awe of God searches for the divine principles that God has implanted in creation; the lover of truth finds them.

Rightly motivated, the intellect will find the truth; but motivated by the passions, it will miss the mark.

As God is unknowable in his essence, so is He infinite in His majesty.

*St. Thalassios the Libyan, 400 Chapters on Love, Self-Control & Life, 1.55-59*

## Announcements for September 18<sup>th</sup>

**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.

**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 (so as not to distract others) 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.

**The Special Offering** this morning is for our seminarian, Michael Rodgers.

**Mission Council** will meet today following the Liturgy.

**Gifts for the Building/Expansion Fund** were received in memory of Lyda Katherine, the newly departed Angelica Mamalakis (9/9/11), of an unborn child, and for the health and salvation of Mary.

**The Annual Meeting** will be held next Sunday at 11:30. All are welcome to attend, but only eligible members may vote. Eligible members are Orthodox Christians of at least 18 years of age who have indicated a desire to be members, who have received Confession and Communion at least once in the past year, and who help support the parish financially. All who consider this parish their home are invited to attend. If you have any questions about your eligibility to attend as a voting member, please see Fr. Justin.

**Church School** begins Sunday, October 2.

**The Adult Class** will resume the week of September 25.

**An All-Night Vigil** will be held Friday, September 30—Saturday, October 1 for the Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos. Starting at 10:00 p.m., we'll serve Compline with the Akathist to the Theotokos, Great Vespers with Lita, Matins, and the First Hour in full without abbreviations including Patristic & Scripture readings, we'll read the office of preparation for Holy Communion and the Third, and Sixth Hours, serve the Divine Liturgy, and conclude with breakfast upstairs sometime about 5:00.

### Classes this Week

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.: Basics of Orthodoxy Class: Church Music (Dax Stokes)

**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 in 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 \$1134.34 in tithes and offerings, the week before \$900.50; in September, we have given \$2034.84; in August we gave \$7030.53; our monthly budget is \$7975 (\$1994 per week). In addition: Candles \$24.50; Food Jar for Hall expansion \$7;. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 24, Liturgy 56.

**Hall Expansion Fund:** A Total of \$52,082.17 has been raised so far of the \$62,000. All **Coffee Hour Donations** go to support this.

**Please Pray for our Catechumens:** Ken and Pam Northam and their children Jessica, Mariah, Emalie, Sean Chaney, David Eaton, and Caleb Rehmet, and for our inquirers Elizabeth Dakak, Joel and Mindy Brown, Shane and Ashley Gibson, and Hunter Bellan. Please pray for our **shut-ins** Nina Johnston and Sherrie Joanna Hall.

### From Saint Maximus

The passions are roused in us by, for example, women, wealth, fame, and son on. We can achieve detachment with regard to women when, after withdrawing from the world, we wither the body, as we should, through self-control. We can achieve detachment where wealth is concerned when we make up our mind to be frugal in all things. We can become indifferent to fame by practising the virtues inwardly, in a way visible only to God. And we can act in a similar fashion with respect to other things. A person who has achieved such detachment as this will never hate anybody.

He who has renounced such things as marriage, possessions, and other worldly pursuits is outwardly a monk, but may not yet be a monk inwardly. Only he who has renounced the impassioned conceptual images of these things has made a monk of the inner self, the intellect. It is easy to be a monk in one's outer self if one wants to be; but no small struggle is required to be a monk in one's inner self.

*400 Chapters on Love, 4.49-50*

### From Saint John Chrysostom on Today's Gospel

"When Spiritual things call us, there is no press of business that has the power of necessity."

"The excuses seem to be reasonable; but hence we learn, though the things which hinder be necessary, to set the things spiritual at a higher price than all."

## Troparia and Kontakia for September 18<sup>th</sup>



### 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.

### Elevation of the Cross, Troparion tone 1

O Lord, save Thy people / and bless Thine inheritance. / Grant victory to Orthodox Christians / over the enemy; / and by Thy Cross / preserve Thine estate.

### 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.

### 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.

### St. Eumenius, Kontakion, tone 2

Illumined with light divine, / thou dost enlighten us / who hymn thine honored, glorious, and holy repose with love, // O most blessed and holy hierarchy, father Eumenius, unceasingly pray for us all.

### Elevation of the Cross, Kontakion tone 4

As Thou wast voluntarily crucified for our sake, / so grant mercy, O Christ God, to those who are called by Thy name; / make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power, / granting them victories over the enemy, / by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace.