

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton
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Priest Justin Frederick

Bulletin for Sunday of September 9th, 2012

Schedule of Services

September 9th 14th Sunday After Pentecost, tone 5

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

September 11th Tuesday

7:00 a.m. Matins

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

September 12th Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy: Creed Article 4: Cross

September 13th Thursday

7:00 a.m. Matins

4:00 p.m. Class: *The Sermon on the Mount*

7:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

September 14th Friday Elevation of the Cross

8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

September 15th Saturday

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

September 16th 15th Sunday After Pentecost, tone 6

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

From Saint Thalassios, the Libyan (*friend of St. Maximus*)

God, who is eternal, limitless and infinite, has promised eternal, limitless and inexpressible blessings to those who obey him.

The intellect's role is to live in God and to meditate on Him, His providence and His awesome Judgments.

You have the power to incline either upwards or downwards: choose what is superior and you will bring what is inferior into subjection.

Because they are the works of God, who is Himself good, the senses and sensible objects are good; but they cannot in any way be compared with the intellect and with intelligible realities.

400 Chapters on Love, Self-Control & Life, 4.9-12

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

Announcements for September 9th

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 today will go for the Hall Expansion.

Temple Oil given in memory of Nicholas Gluschenko.

Classes this Week

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy, Creed Article 4: "And was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate" The Cross

Thursday, 4:00 p.m. The Sermon on the Mount

The Elevation of the Cross, one of the Twelve Great Feasts, will be celebrated this week with Vigil Thursday night at 7:00 and Divine Liturgy Friday morning at 8:00. We do well to love the feasts of the Church and to demonstrate it by participating in the cycle of services celebrating the feast.

The Annual Meeting will be held September 30. Please plan now to attend. Voting members are Orthodox Christians age 18 and older who have been to Confession and Communion in the past year and have fulfilled their financial obligation to the parish, a condition which the parish has left to the priest to determine. If you have any question as to whether you are a voting member of the parish, please see Fr. Justin. Please note that you may be a member of the parish without being a voting member.

Ministry to Shut-ins: We currently have two shut-ins who would welcome visits from parishioners. To visit Nina Johnston at 5892 Mills Road in Denton, call her son Richard to set up a visit at (972) 900-0201. Sherrie Joanna Hall, living at 400 East University Drive, #1103, may be reached at (817) 925-4183. She is also looking for a ride to church.

Please Pray for our Catechumens: Philip Smith, Elizabeth Dakak, Sean Chaney, Joel and Mindy Brown and their children Daniel, Anya, and Elijah, Gary & Olivia Reynolds and their children, and for our inquirers Lauren, Jason, Jacob and Faith. Please pray for

our **shut-ins** Nina Johnston and Sherrie Joanna (Sherrie) Hale, and for the novice Svetlana.

Hall Expansion Update: A gas line needs to be run for the new furnace in the all, and some additions to the framing need to be done before we can move ahead with more visible work.

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) and a box for our building fund.

Last week we gave \$2082.22; our monthly budget is \$8179 (\$2045 per week. (To build a church will require a monthly income in the neighborhood of \$10,000 a month.) In addition: Candles \$52, Expansion, \$2, Building Fund \$11, Renovation (soda,) \$20, special offering for debt reduction, \$32. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 29, Liturgy 91.

Hall Expansion Fund: A total of \$58,250.87 has been raised so far of the estimated \$79,000 it will cost. All **Coffee Hour Donations** go to support this.

From Saint Maximus

The qualities of the virtues and the inner principles of created beings are both images of divine blessings, and in them God continually becomes man. As His body He has the qualities of the virtues, and as His soul the inner principles of spiritual knowledge. In this way He deifies those found worthy, giving them the true stamp of virtue and bestowing on them the essence of infallible knowledge.

The devil is both God's enemy and His avenger (cf. Ps. 8:2). He is God's enemy when he seems in his hatred for God somehow to have acquired a destructive love form men, persuading us by means of sensual pleasure to assent to the passions within our control, and to value what is transitory more than what is eternal. In this way he seduces all our soul's desire, separating us utterly from divine love and making us willing enemies of Him who made us. He is God's avenger when - now that we have become subject to him through sin - he lays bare his hatred for us and demands our punishment. For nothing pleases the devil more than punishing us. When he has been given leave to carry this out, he contrives successive attacks of passions inflicted against our will, and like a tempest he pitilessly assails us over whom, by God's permission, he has acquired authority. He does this, not with the intention of fulfilling God's command, but out of the desire to feed his own passion of hatred towards us, so that the soul, sinking down

enervated by the weight of such painful calamities, may cut itself off from the power of divine hope, regarding the onslaught of these calamities not as a divine admonition but as a cause for disbelief in God. *Various Texts, 78, 80*

Troparia and Kontakia for September 2nd

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.

Nativity of the Theotokos, Troparion, tone 4

Thy Nativity, O Virgin, / hath proclaimed joy to the whole universe! / The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, / hath shone from thee, O Theotokos! / By annulling the curse, / He bestowed a blessing. / By destroying, death He hath granted us eternal life.

St. Maximus, Troparion, tone 3

Ss. Joachim & Anna, Troparion, tone 1

Joachim and Anna, who were righteous in the law of grace, / have for us given birth unto a God-given babe. / Wherefore, the divine Church keepeth splendid festival today, / celebrating their honored memory with gladness, / glorifying God // who hath lifted up the horn of salvation for us in the house of David.

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 6

Ss. Joachim & Anna, Kontakion, tone 2

Anna now rejoiceth, / having broken the bond of barrenness; / and she nurtureth the all-pure one, / calling upon all to hymn the One / who through her womb hath given unto men // the only Mother who knew not man.

Nativity of the Theotokos, Kontakion, tone 4

By thy Nativity, O most pure Virgin, / Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness; / Adam and Eve, from the corruption of death. / And we, thy people, freed from the guilt of sin, /celebrate and sing to thee: / the barren woman giveth birth to the Theotokos, / the Nourisher of our Life.