

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton
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Priest Justin Frederick (940) 293-3032 cell

Bulletin for Sunday of September 23rd, 2012

Schedule of Services

September 23rd 16th Sunday After Pentecost, tone 7

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

September 25th Tuesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

September 26th Wednesday St. John the Theologian

8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy: Creed Article 6

September 27th Thursday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

3:00 p.m. Vespers

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

September 28th Friday

7:00 a.m. Matins

5:00 p.m. Vespers

September 29th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

September 30th 17th Sunday After Pentecost, tone 8

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

11:30 a.m. Annual Meeting

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

While controlling your senses, control your memory as well; for when its prepossessions are roused through the senses they stir up the passions.

Keep your body under control, and pray constantly; in this way you will soon be free from the thoughts that arise from your prepossessions.

Devote yourself ceaselessly to the words of God: application to them destroys the passions.

400 Chapters on Love, Self-Control & Life, 4.16-18

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

Announcements for September 16th

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 thanksgiving .

Classes this Week

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy, Creed Article 5: "And rose again on the third day..."

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

The Annual Meeting will be held September 30. Please plan now to attend. All adults who attend St. Maximus and consider it their parish are urged, even expected to attend, whether or not they are eligible to vote. Voting members of the parish 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.

Membership Forms: We will be asking all our members to fill out formal membership forms over the next few weeks. This is to regularize the process of indicating your desire to be a member and provide a record of it.

Priest's Cell Phone: You may reach your priest by cell phone and are encouraged to do so. His number is (940) 293-3032.

Please Pray for our Catechumens: for Joel and Mindy Brown and their children Daniel, Anya, and Elijah, Gary & Olivia Reynolds and their children, Jacob Neff, Elizabeth Dakak, Philip, Sean, and for our inquirers Jason, Faith Neff, and Lauren. Please pray for our **shut-ins** Nina Johnston and Sherrie Joanna (Sherrie) Hale, and for the novice Svetlana.

Hall Expansion Update: The carpenters are scheduled to come tomorrow to install flashing around the windows and finish taping

joints in the sheathing so that we can have an inspection and get going on siding, insulation, and sheetrock.

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 \$2065; this month we have given \$5285.16; 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 \$72, Expansion, \$36, Building Fund \$66, Renovation (soda,) \$13. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 29, Liturgy 87.

Hall Expansion Fund: A total of \$61,458.87 has been raised so far of the estimated \$79,000 it will cost. All **Coffee Hour Donations** go to support this.

From Saint Maximus

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, and as Logos He leads them by means of these commandments up to the Father, in whom He subsists by nature.

Reformation of life, angelic worship, the willing separation of the soul from the body, and the beginning of divine renewal in spirit — these are proclaimed in the veiled language of the New Testament. For instance, by the term 'spiritual circumcision' Scripture denotes the excision of the soul's impassioned attachment to the body (cf. Phil. 3:3; Col. 2:11).

Since God is full of goodness and wishes utterly to eradicate from us the seed of evil - that is to say, the sensual pleasure which draws our intellect away from divine love - He allows the devil to afflict us with suffering and chastisement. In this way He scrapes the poison of past pleasure from our souls; and He seeks to implant in us a hatred and complete revulsion for the things which belong to this world and pander to the senses alone, by making us realize that once we have acquired them we gain nothing from their use save chastisement. For He wishes to make the devil's power of chastisement and hatred of

men the contingent cause of the return to virtue of those who have by their own free choice lapsed from it. *Various Texts, 84-86*

Troparia and Kontakia for September 16th

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. John the Baptist, Troparion, tone 4

Make merry, O barren woman, / who before wast unable to bear a child! / For, lo! thou hast manifestly conceived the lamp of the Sun, / who will enlighten all the world, which suffereth from blindness. / Dance thou, O Zechariah, / crying out with boldness: // He who will be born is the prophet of the Most High.

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.

St. John the Baptist, Kontakion, tone 1

Great Zacharias radiantly rejoiceth / together with Elisabeth: / she worthily conceived John the Forerunner / whom the Angel announced with great gladness / and whom we honour // as an initiate of grace.