

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday of February 10th, 2013

Schedule of Services

February 10th Sunday

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

February 12th Tuesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

February 13th Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

5:30 p.m. Community Meal

6:00 p.m. Class: Orthodox Spirituality

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

February 14th Thursday

8:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m. Little Compline w/Akathist

7:30 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy

February 15th Friday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

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

February 16th Saturday

9:30 a.m. *Russian Divine Liturgy, St. Seraphim's, Dallas*

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

February 17th Sunday

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

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

The Father is the sole origin of all things. He is the origin of the Son and the Spirit as Their begetter and source, coeternal, co-infinite, limitless, coessential and undivided. He is the origin of created things, as the one who produces, provides for, and judges them through the Son in the Holy Spirit. 'For all things are from Him and through Him, and have Him as their goal. To Him be glory throughout the ages. Amen' (Rom. 11:36).

400 Chapters on Love, Self-Control & Life, 4.99

Announcements for February 10th

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 will go for our hall expansion.

Temple wine given for the health and salvation of Michael Rodgers.

Classes this Week:

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. Orthodox Spirituality, chapter 5.

Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: Series on the Divine Liturgy begins.

North Texas Orthodox Missions (NTOM) is sponsoring a conference Friday February 22 at St. Barbara's in Fort Worth and Saturday February 23 at Holy Trinity in Dallas on the topic of "How to Talk with Our Children and Grandchildren about God." The conference is free (and meals), but you are asked to register online at ntom.org.

Parenting Help: A Love and Logic class will be taught by Anna Stokes at the church on Saturday, February 23, time to be announced. Please see Anna or Fr. Justin if you plan to attend.

House Blessings: If you would like your house blessed, look for he sign-up sheet in the hall. Fr. Justin will call to confirm a time.

Please Pray for our Catechumens: for Joel and Mindy Brown and their children Daniel, Anya, and Elijah, Gary & Olivia Reynolds and their children Ariel, Analise, and Alexandria, Lauren Williams, Philip, and Sean. Please pray for the novice Svetlana. Pray for Joe Fincher, (Olga's husband).

Hall Expansion Update: The floor has been finished, the power hooked up. The floor may be walked upon after Tuesday. The electrical fixtures will be installed next Saturday. The gas meter should be installed soon, leaving only the front porch and gutters to have done.

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 \$946.55; our monthly budget is \$9187 (\$2297 per week. To build a church will require a monthly income in the neighborhood of \$11,000 a month.) In addition: Candles \$55, Renovation (Soda) \$0, Building Fund \$0, Expansion \$73. May God bless your faithful giving! Attendance: Vigil 38, Liturgy 91.

Hall Expansion Fund: A total of \$66,243.75 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 vine produces wine, the wine drunkenness and drunkenness an evil form of ecstasy. Similarly the intelligence—which is the vine—when well-nurtured and cultivated by the virtues, generates spiritual knowledge; and such knowledge produces a good form of ecstasy which enables the intellect to transcend its attachment to the senses.

It is the devil's practice maliciously to confound the forms and shapes of sensible things with our conceptual images of them. Through these forms and shapes are generated passions for the outward aspects of visible things, and our intellectual energy, being halted at the level of what pertains to sense-perception, cannot raise itself to the realm of intelligible realities. In this way the devil despoils the soul and drags it down into the turmoil of the passions.

The Logos of God is at the same time both a lamp and a light (cf. Ps. 119:105; Prov. 6:23). For he humiliates those thoughts of the faithful which are in accordance with nature, but bums those which are contrary to nature; He dispels the darkness of sensory life for those who press forward by means of the commandments towards the life that they hope for, but punishes with the fire of judgment those who willfully cleave to the dark night of this present life because of their love for the flesh.

Various Texts, Second Century 37-39

Troparia and Kontakia for February 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.

St. Haralambos, Troparion tone 4

In his sufferings, O Lord, / Thy Martyr Haralombos received an imperishable crown from Thee, our God. / For possessed of Thy might, / he cast down the tormentors and crushed the feeble audacity of the demons. // By his supplications save Thou our souls.

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 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. Haralmbos, Kontakion, tone 8

Perfected by the grace of the priesthood, O glorious one, / thou didst splendidly adorn the Church with thy divine suffering, / which thou didst manfully accept rejoicing for Christ's sake, / O Haralambos, thou honored beacon of the whole world, // illuminating the ends of the earth, in that thou art invincible.