

Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, August 10

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 8

Thou didst descend from on high, O tenderhearted One. / Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our passions. / O Lord, our life and resurrection, glory to Thee.

Transfiguration, Troparion, tone 7

Thou wast transfigured upon the mountain, O Christ God, / showing Thy glory to Thy disciples as far as they could bear it. / Through the prayers of the Theotokos, / make Thine everlasting light shine also upon us sinners. / O Giver of Light, glory to Thee!

St. Maximus, Troparion, tone 3

Martyr Lawrence, Troparion, tone 4

In his sufferings, O Lord, / Thy Martyr Lawrence 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 8

Having risen from the tomb Thou didst waken the dead and raise Adam, / and Eve exulteth in Thy Resurrection, / and the ends of the world keep festival for Thy rising from the dead, O Most Merciful One.

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.

Kontakion, St. Lawrence, tone 2

Kindling thy heart with fire divine, / thou didst utterly reduce the fire of the passions to ashes, / O God-bearing martyr Lawrence, / thou confirmation of athletes; / and in the midst of thy sufferings, / thou didst cry out with faith: // Nothing can separate me from the love of Christ.

Transfiguration, Kontakion, tone 7

Upon the mountain wast Thou transfigured, O Christ God, / and Thy disciples beheld Thy glory as far as they could see it; / so that when they would behold Thee crucified, / they would understand that Thy suffering was voluntary, / and would proclaim to the world / that Thou art truly the Radiance of the Father.

Announcements for August 10

To Our Visitors: Welcome! Please join us after the service for coffee, food, 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. We invite you to go first through the food line and join the priest at the table.

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 if we are communing), and not leave until the dismissal at the end.

The Special Offering this week will be for debt reduction.

Classes this Week

Sunday, noon: Basics of Orthodoxy. Today: Nicene Creed, part seven: "One Lord Jesus Christ the Son of God".

Great Feasts: This week we celebrate two: our patronal feast, St. Maximus, and the Dormition of the Theotokos. We do well to make the effort to keep the feast by attending as much of the festal cycle of services as we can.

N.B. The time for the Liturgy for St. Maximus this week has been changed from 7:00 to 9:00 a.m.

An All-Night Vigil for St. Maximus will be held August 12 at 7:00 p.m. We'll serve Compline with the Akathist to the Theotokos, full Great Vespers, and a full Matins. We shall conclude about 11:00 p.m., and Liturgy will be served the next morning at 7:00.

The Dormition Fast end Friday. Until then, we abstain from meat, dairy, fish, wine and oil in order to devote ourselves to restraint of passions, fervent prayer, almsgiving, and good works. May Christ grant each of us an abundance of grace!

Plans for the Fall:

1. Russian Class on Thursdays after Liturgy
2. College Age Dinner and More: Sept 21, Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7.
3. All-Night Vigil Dec 31-Jan 1
4. Church School begins Sept 14.

Please Pray: for catechumens Shannon Goodson, Holly Bellan, Seth Williams, and Virginia Warwas, for inquirer Rick Hollembeak, the postulant Elias, the novice Svetlana, and Elizabeth (Chandler) Jones. Pray for Joe Fincher and Olga, for Joanna (Sherri) Hale, for Patricia,

Perpetua, and James Lydon, and for Natalya (a Russian lady on her deathbed).

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 \$2348.79 in tithes and offerings; our monthly budget is \$8700 (\$2008 per week). Candles \$78; Soda (renovation) \$4; Building Fund \$8, Special Offering for St. Basil Mission \$84. Attendance: Liturgy 77, Vigil 34.

From Saint Maximus

The passion of love, when reprehensible, occupies the intellect with material things, but when rightly directed unites it with the divine. For the intellect tends to develop its powers among those things to which it devotes its attention; and where it develops its powers, there it will direct its desire and love. It will direct them, that is to say, either to what is divine, intelligible and proper to its nature, or to the passions and things of the flesh.

God created both the invisible and the visible worlds, and so He obviously also made both the soul and the body. If the visible world is so beautiful, what must the invisible world be like? And if the invisible world is superior to the visible world, how much superior to both is God their Creator? If, then, the Creator of everything that is beautiful is superior to all His creation, on what grounds does the intellect abandon what is superior to all and engross itself in what is worst of all – I mean the passions of the flesh? Clearly this happens because the intellect has lived with these passions and grown accustomed to them since birth, whereas it has not yet had perfect experience of Him who is superior to all and beyond all things. Thus, if we gradually wean the intellect away from this relationship by long practice of controlling our indulgence in pleasure and by persistent meditation on divine realities, the intellect will gradually devote itself more and more to these realities, will recognize its own dignity, and finally transfer all its desire to the divine. *400 Chapters on Love, 3.71-72*

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday August 10th, 2014

Schedule of Services

August 10th Sunday

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

11:45 Basics of Orthodoxy: Creed 7 “One Lord Jesus Christ”

12:30 Mission Council

August 11th Monday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

August 12th Tuesday

7:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. All-Night Vigil

August 13th Wednesday St. Maximus, Trans. Leavetaking

9:00 a.m. Hours, Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

August 14th Thursday

7:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

August 15th Friday Dormition

9:00 a.m. Hours, Divine Liturgy

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

August 16th Saturday

9:00 a.m. *Russian Divine Liturgy, Dallas*

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

August 17th Sunday

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

noon Basics of Orthodoxy: Creed 8 “Who Became Man”

The mountain that was once gloomy and veiled in smoke hath now become venerable and holy, since Thy feet, O Lord, have stood upon it. For Thy dread Transfiguration, the mystery hidden before the ages, hath been made manifest in the last times to Peter, John, and James. Unable to endure the shining of thy countenance and the brightness of Thy garments, they fell to the ground upon their faces. Seized with astonishment and wonder, they saw Moses and Elijah talking with Thee of the things that should befall Thee; and a voice in testimony came from the Father, saying: “This is My beloved Son in whom I am well-pleased: hear ye Him. He it is who granteth the world great mercy.” *Vespers of Transfiguration*

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission
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