

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Schedule of Services

**January 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday St. Anthony the Great tone 8**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Clean up

11:30 a.m. Basics of Orthodoxy 102 (Orthodox Way)

**January 18<sup>th</sup> Monday SS Athanasius & Cyril of Alexandria**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

**January 19<sup>th</sup> Tuesday St. Mark of Ephesus**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers

8:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy 201 Prayer 2

**January 20<sup>th</sup> Wednesday St. Euthymius the Great**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

6:00 p.m. Meet & Greet with Bishop Maxim

7:00 p.m. Festal Vigil

**January 21<sup>st</sup> Thursday St. Maximus the Confessor**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour with Bishop Maxim

6:00 p.m. Vespers

7:30 p.m. Lecture: "World, Nature, and Church according to St Maximus the Confessor", Q&A

**January 22<sup>nd</sup> Friday**

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

7:30 p.m. Compline

**January 23<sup>rd</sup> Saturday**

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**January 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday St. Xenia of St. Petersburg tone 1**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Church School

11:30 a.m. Basics of Orthodoxy 102 (Orthodox Way)

**From Saint Maximus 500 Various Texts**

St Paul refers to the different energies of the Holy Spirit as different gifts of grace, stating that they are all energized by one and the same Holy Spirit. The 'manifestation of the Spirit' is given according to the measure of every man's faith through participation in a particular gift of grace. Thus every believer is receptive to the energy of the Spirit in a way that corresponds to his degree of faith and the state of his soul; and this energy grants him the capacity needed to carry out a particular commandment. 1,96

## Announcements for January 17

**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 his 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).

**The Special Offering** this week will be for St. Herman's Seminary in Alaska.

**Instead of Church School** today, we will do some cleaning in preparation for Thursday.

**Temple Wine** offered for the health and salvation of Photina and Jude; **Temple Oil** offered for the health and salvation of William, Carolyn, and Mary Grace.

**Mission Council** will meet briefly today at 12:30.

**Holy Water** from Theophany is available on the table in the church. We all do well to keep some in our homes and use it regularly.

### Classes This Week

Today 11:30 Basics of Orthodox 102: *Orthodox Way 2*

Tuesday 8:00 Basics of Orthodoxy 201 "When You Pray 2"

Wednesday Class will not meet this week.

Friday Bible Study (Pastoral Epistles) will not meet this week.

**House Blessings** are now being scheduled. Please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

**Wall Calendars** for 2016 have arrived. They are \$5; please put money in the basket or in the slot on the candle table. If you can't afford one, please see the priest.

**The Feast of St. Maximus** will be observed this week. We welcome His Grace Bishop Maxim of the Western Serbian Diocese in North America will be with us. After attending Vigil on the 20<sup>th</sup> and Liturgy on the 21<sup>st</sup>, he will speak at 7:30 the evening of January 21 on the topic "World, Nature, and Church according to St Maximus the Confessor". Child care will be provided along with light refreshments. See the *Confessor's Tongue* for his full schedule. Sign up sheets for food at the various events are posted. Let us keep feast joyously together this week!

**Parking** on Thursday evening will be tight. If you are a member here and in good health, please consider parking on the street and walking to leave room in the lot for visitors from outside.

**His Grace Bishop Maxim** (Vasiljevic) was elected Bishop of the Western American Diocese of the Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South American at the regular assembly of the Hierarchs of the Serbian Orthodox Church in Belgrade, Serbia in 2006. Bishop Maxim is professor of Patristics at the Theological Faculty of the University of Belgrade, and was teaching Christian Anthropology and Sociology at the University of East Sarajevo and Patrology at the St. Sava School of Theology in Libertyville, Illinois. His Grace Bishop Maxim graduated from the Faculty of Orthodox Theology, University of Belgrade, in 1993. He completed his Masters of Theology at the University of Athens in 1996, and then three years later, in 1999, at the same university, he defended his doctorate in the field of Dogmatics and Patristics. He worked for one year on his post-doctorate in Paris and the Sorbonne in 2003-04, in the field of Byzantine History and Hagiography. During this time, he also delved in the theory and practical application of painting at the French Academy of Fine Arts in Paris. Bishop Maxim speaks Greek, French, Russian and English. He was the editor of "Theology" – Journal of the Faculty of Orthodox Theology, University of Belgrade. He also leads the Diocesan iconographical school inspired by Byzantine and Serbian medieval fresco painting and by Fr. Stamatis Skliris. Bishop Maxim's scholarly books, studies, and articles include essays on Holy Fathers and Saints; he has also written on the hagiographical and iconographical themes

**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 slot in the candle table (or in the basket passed during Liturgy), where there is also a box for alms (those in need) and a box for our building fund.

Last week, we gave \$1498 in tithes and offerings; this month, we have given \$3201.43; our monthly budget is \$10,350 (\$2389 per week). Candles \$74.50; building fund \$128. Attendance: Sat Vigil 24, Sun Liturgy 70.

**Please Pray:** for our catechumens, Adam and Jenilee Skelton and Marsha Northam, for the inquirers Dante, the Wells family, the Dean family, for the novices Elias and Svetlana. Pray for Joe Fincher and Olga, for Patricia, Perpetua, and James Lydon. Please pray for former parishioner Natalya Perrin, and for our diocesan administrator, Fr. Gerasim. Pray that the Lord will send laborers into

His harvest field here in Denton and North Texas. Remember always to pray for your priest. Please pray for John Roberts and his wife Edith, who has been diagnosed with cancer. Pray for those whom you have not seen at church for some time.

**From Saint Maximus (*continued*)**

One person is given the quality of wisdom, another the quality of spiritual knowledge, another the quality of faith, and someone else one of the other gifts of the Spirit enumerated by St Paul (cf. 1 Cor. 12:8-11). In the same way, one person receives through the Spirit, according to the degree of his faith, the gift of that perfect and direct love for God which is free from all materiality; another through the same Spirit receives the gift of perfect love for his neighbor and another receives something else from the same Spirit. In each, as I have said, the gift that conforms with his state is energized. For every capacity for fulfilling a commandment is called a gift of the Spirit. 1.97

The baptism of the Lord (cf. Matt. 20:22) is the utter mortification of our propensity for the sensible world; and the cup is the disavowal of our present mode of life for the sake of truth. 1.98

**Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, January 17**

**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.

**St. Anthony, Troparion, tone 4**

Emulating the ways of the zealous Elijah, / and following the Baptist with forthright steps, O father Anthony, / thou wast a dweller in the desert, / and hast made the whole world steadfast by thy supplications. // Wherefore entreat Christ God, that our souls be saved.

**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. Anthony, Kontakion, tone 2**

Having cast off the tumults of life, / thou didst live a life of stillness to the end, / emulating the Baptist in every way, O all venerable one. // Wherefore, we honor thee with him, O Anthony, first among the fathers.