

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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**Bulletin for Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016**

**Schedule of Services**

**October 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> after Pentecost, tone 1**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

11:30 a.m. Basics of Orthodoxy 103

**October 25<sup>th</sup> Tuesday**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

6:00 p.m. Great Vespers, Confession

**October 26<sup>th</sup> Wednesday St. Demetrios**

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:45 p.m. Class: New Testament Survey

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

**October 27<sup>th</sup> Thursday**

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

**October 28<sup>th</sup> Friday**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

6:30 p.m. Vespers (*Confession at 6:00 by appointment*)

**October 29<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**October 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> after Pentecost, tone 2**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

11:30 a.m. Basics of Orthodoxy 103

St. Theodore the Great Ascetic 100 Texts

I. Since by God's grace we have renounced Satan and his works and have sworn allegiance to Christ, both at our baptism and now again through our profession as monks, let us keep His commandments. Not only does our double profession demand this of us, but it is also our natural duty, for since we were originally created by God as 'very good' (Gen. 1:31), we owe it to God to be such. Although sin entered us through our negligence and introduced into us what is contrary to nature, we have been reclaimed through God's great mercy, and renewed by the passion of Him who is dispassionate. We have been 'bought with a price' (1 Cor. 6:20), namely by the blood of Christ, and liberated from the ancient ancestral sin. If, then, we become righteous, this is nothing great; but to fall from righteousness is pitiable and deserves condemnation.

## Announcements for October 23

**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 also invite you to go first through the food line.

**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 Fr. Seraphim Holland's prison ministry.

**Temple Oil** offered in memory of William Frederick.

**Thanksgiving Moliébens** will be offered on behalf of those who have received God's blessings and answers to prayer on the last Saturday of each month at 4:30 p.m. before Vigil. You may also ask to have a moliében served at another time, if you desire.

### Classes This Week

*Sunday:* Basics of Orthodoxy 103 is reading and discussing the Longer Catechism of the Eastern Orthodox Church, written by St. Philaret of Moscow. Reader Michael Rehmet will conduct the class. Text may be found at [http://www.pravoslavieto.com/docs/eng/Orthodox\\_Catechism\\_of\\_Philaret.htm](http://www.pravoslavieto.com/docs/eng/Orthodox_Catechism_of_Philaret.htm)

*Wednesday:* A Survey of the Epistles of the New Testament.

*Friday:* The class on the Lord's Prayer is cancelled. Father Justin will instead preach on that topic over the next few weeks.

**Poetry and Port:** Fr. Justin will host a modest gathering to discuss the poem "Choruses from the Rock" by T. S. Eliot over port at his house tomorrow at 7:30. Please let Fr. Justin know if you are interested in coming and then read the poem ahead of time.

[http://www.arak29.am/PDF\\_PPT/6-Literature/Eliot/Chtherock\\_eng.htm](http://www.arak29.am/PDF_PPT/6-Literature/Eliot/Chtherock_eng.htm)

**The Annual All Saints Party** will be held Monday evening, October 31, starting at 6:00 p.m. Be planning your saint's costume and the clues you'll give to let others guess your identity.

**The Feast Day** for Holy Archangels Monastery will be celebrated November 7-8 this year (Monday-Tuesday) with Little Vespers Monday at 4:00 p.m., Supper at 4:30, Vigil at 6:00, Hours 8:30 Tuesday morning, Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at 9:00.

**Parish Thanksgiving:** We will celebrate Thanksgiving as a parish Sunday, November 13 with a Thanksgiving meal at 3:00 p.m. followed by games (inside or out) and other picnic-type fun.

**Tithes, Offerings & Attendance:** Bringing our tithes and offerings to the temple of God is part of our worship of God and 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 slot in the candle table (or in the basket passed during service). There are also boxes for alms (those in need) and our building fund.

Last week, we gave \$2126.27; this month we have given \$11,746.46 in tithes and offerings. Our monthly budget is \$11,250. Candles \$80, Special Offering for Alms \$56, Building Fund \$256. Attendance: Liturgy 99, Vigil 38.

**Please Pray:** for our catechumen Marsha Northam, our inquirers the Wells family, the Dean family, for David & Sally Roberts, and for the Jones family; for the novices Elias and Svetlana. Pray for Patricia, Perpetua, and James Lydon. Please pray for Photina and Jude Bellan, for Olga Fincher and her husband Joseph. Please keep Eugene (Rick) and Nancy (Rachel) Hollebeak in your prayers.

**Civil Strife:** Our land is wracked with division and civil strife. Between now and the election, we'll pray for our land liturgically by serving the Litia at Vigil every week and adding petitions and a prayer to the Sunday Divine Liturgy (*See Oct 16 Bulletin for text*).

### From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

1.8 If you distract your intellect from its love for God and concentrate it, not on God, but on some sensible object, you thereby show that you value the body more than the soul and the things made by God more than God Himself.

1.9 Since the light of spiritual knowledge is the intellect's life, and since this light is engendered by love for God, it is rightly said that nothing is greater than divine love (cf. 1 Cor. 13:13).

1.10 When in the intensity of its love for God the intellect goes out of itself, then it has no sense of itself or of any created thing. For when it is illumined by the infinite light of God, it becomes insensible to everything made by Him, just as the eye becomes insensible to the stars when the sun rises.

1.11 All the virtues co-operate with the intellect to produce this intense longing for God, pure prayer above all. For by soaring towards God through this prayer the intellect rises above the realm of created beings.

1.12 When the intellect is ravished through love by divine knowledge and stands outside the realm of created beings, it becomes aware of God's infinity. It is then, according to Isaiah, that a sense of amazement makes it conscious of its own lowliness and in all sincerity it repeats the prophet's words: 'How abject I am, for I am pierced to the heart; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell among a people of unclean lips; and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts' (Isa. 6:5).

