

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, January 8th, 2017



Schedule of Services

January 8th Sunday, Tone 4

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

11:45 a.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy 103

January 9th Monday

6:00 a.m. Matins

5:00 p.m. Vespers

January 10th Tuesday St. Gregory of Nyssa

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

January 11th Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

5:45 p.m. Class: NT Survey

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

January 12th Thursday St. Sava of Serbia

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

January 13th Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

2:00 p.m. Class: NT Survey

6:30 p.m. Vespers, Confession

January 14th Saturday Leavetaking of Theophany

8:00 a.m. Men's Group Breakfast

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

January 15th Sunday, Tone 5

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

St. Theodore the Great Ascetic 100 Texts

15. The demons, who are always waging war against us, try to prevent us from performing actions that are within our power and that would help us to acquire the virtues, while at the same time they suggest ways of accomplishing things that in fact are impossible or else out of place. They compel those progressing in obedience to follow the hesychasts' way of life; and they implant in hesychasts and hermits a desire for the coenobitic rule. They use a similar method with respect to every virtue.

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

Announcements for January 8

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 alms.

Temple Oil offered for the health and salvation of William and Carolyn and in memory of William Frederick.

Classes This Week.

Sunday: Basics of Orthodoxy 10:30, 11:45

Wednesday: NT Survey: Ephesians & Colossians, 5:45

Friday: NT Survey 2:00 p.m.: Ephesians & Colossians

Men's Group will meet this Saturday at the church at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast and discussion.

Mission Council will meet today.

House Blessings: 'Tis the season. Sign up on the sheet in the hall or make an appointment with the priest if you want your home blessed.

Coffee Hour is a ministry to facilitate the growth of community among us who share a common faith in Christ. It is good for all of us to participate in it, first by coming to eat and to get to know others better. But for this to happen, two other things must happen: someone must bring food, set it out, and clean up afterwards. Most of us have part one down, but too few of us contribute regularly to the other essential parts. If you eat regularly but don't regularly bring food, please bring something to share at least some of the time. If you truly cannot bring food, make it a point to share regularly in the set up and clean up (which can include the weekly cleaning of the church). Currently, people at the end of the line find very little food. All of us should take less our first time through, monitor what our children take (or serve them if they are young), and not go back for seconds until everyone has had firsts. (We have small plates rather than large dinner plates out for a reason.) Also, please remember to encourage our guests and elderly to go first.

Parish Patronal Feast: The Feast of St. Maximus falls on Saturday, January 21. We'll observe it with an extended Vigil Friday night the 20th and Divine Liturgy Saturday morning at 9:00,

followed by a meal and a lecture by Fr. Justin on simple thoughts and passionate thoughts in St. Maximus.

Commemorations: Please try to submit your Sunday commemorations Saturday night (or earlier) whenever you can.

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 \$1137.51 in tithes and offerings; our monthly budget is \$11,250. Candles \$110; Building Fund \$1; Special Offering for seminarian \$15.36. Attendance: Liturgy 96, Vigil 17.

Please Pray: for the newly tonsured nun; for catechumens the Wells family and Marsha Northam, our inquirers the Dean family, for David & Sally Roberts, and for the Jones family; for the novice Elias. Pray for Patricia, Perpetua, and James Lydon. Please pray for Photina and Jude Bellan, for Olga Fincher and her husband Joseph.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

1.63 We carry about with us impassioned images of the things we have experienced. If we can overcome these images we shall be indifferent to the things which they represent. For fighting against the thoughts of things is much harder than fighting against the things themselves, just as to sin in the mind is easier than to sin through outward action.

1.64 Some passions pertain to the body, others to the soul. The first are occasioned by the body, the second by external objects. Love and self-control overcome both kinds, the first curbing the passions of the soul and the second those of the body.

1.65 Some passions pertain to the soul's incensive power, and others to its desiring aspect. Both kinds are aroused through the senses. They are aroused when the soul lacks love and self-control.

1.66 The passions of the soul's incensive power [manifesting as anger] are more difficult to combat than those of its desiring aspect. Consequently our Lord has given a stronger remedy against them; the commandment of love.

Troparia and Kontakia for January 8th



Resurrectional Troparion, tone 4

Having learned the radiant proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, /the women disciples of the Lord cast off the ancestral curse, /and, boasting, told the Apostles: /Death hath been despoiled, Christ God is risen, /granting the world great mercy.

Theophany, Troparion, tone 1

When Thou, O Lord wast baptized in the Jordan / the worship of the Trinity was made manifest. / For the voice of the Father bare witness to Thee, / naming Thee His beloved Son. / And the Spirit, in the form of dove, / confirmed the certainty of that word. / O Christ our God, who hast manifested Thyself and enlightened the world // glory to Thee.

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.

Troparion, St. Domnica, tone 8

The image of God was preserved in thee, O Mother, / for thou didst take up thy cross and follow Christ. / Thou didst teach by thine example that the flesh is to be spurned as transient, / while the soul needs great care, as immortal. // Wherefore, O holy Domnica, thou art rejoicing with the angels.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 4

My Saviour and Deliverer as God/ hath raised out of the grave the earth-born from their bonds / and He hath shattered the gates of hell / and as Master / He hath risen on the third day.

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.

Theophany, Kontakion, tone 4

Today Thou hast appeared to the universe / and Thy Light, O Lord, hath shone on us, / who with understanding praise Thee: / Thou hast come and revealed Thyself, // O Light unapproachable!