

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, January 15th, 2017

Schedule of Services

January 15th Sunday, Tone 5

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

January 16th Monday

6:00 a.m. Matins

6:00 p.m. Vigil Confession

January 17th Tuesday St. Anthony the Great

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

January 18th Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

5:45 p.m. Class: NT Survey Ephesians & Colossians

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

January 19th Thursday St. Mark of Ephesus

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

January 20th Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

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

7:00 p.m. All-Night Vigil

January 21st Saturday St. Maximus

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

11:00 a.m. Festive Meal, Lecture

6:00 p.m. Great Vespers, Confession

January 22nd Sunday, Tone 6

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

St. Theodore the Great Ascetic 100 Texts

17. With reference to the perfect mortification of the passions St Paul says: 'They that are Christ's have crucified the flesh together with the passions and desires' (Gal. 5:24). For when we mortify the passions, utterly destroy desires, and subjugate the will of the flesh to the Spirit, we take up the cross and follow Christ (cf. Matt. 16:24). For withdrawal from the world is nothing else but the mortification of the passions and the manifestation of the life that is hidden in Christ (cf. Col. 3:3-4).

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

Announcements for January 15

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 103, 11:45

Wednesday: NT Survey 5:45 p.m.: Ephesians & Colossians

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

The Choir will rehearse today after Divine Liturgy. If you sing in the choir, you must attend.

Parish Patronal Feast: The Feast of St. Maximus is celebrated this Saturday, January 21. We'll observe it with an extended Vigil Friday night the 20th at 7:00 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. For the feast, the parish will provide smoked brisket, but we look to you to provide whatever is needed to make the day festive. Great Vespers will be served Saturday evening at 5:00 instead of Vigil. Your presence will help make the day festive.

House Blessings: 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.

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 \$2492.88 in tithes and offerings. This month we have given \$3630.39; our monthly budget is \$11,250. Candles \$92; Building Fund \$221.26; Special Offering for alms \$27. Attendance: Liturgy 75, Vigil 24.
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Please Pray: for catechumens the Wells family and Marsha Northam, our inquirers the Dean family, for David & Sally Roberts, and for the Jones family; for the nun Susannah and the novice Elias. Please pray for Photina and Jude Bellan, for Olga Fincher and her husband Joseph.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

1.67 While passions such as forgetfulness and ignorance affect but one of the soul's three aspects — the incensive, the desiring or the intelligent — listlessness alone seizes control of all the soul's powers and rouses almost all the passions together. That is why this passion is more serious than all the others. Hence our Lord has given us an excellent remedy against it, saying: "You will gain possession of your souls through your patient endurance" (Luke 21:19).

1.68 Never strike any of the brethren, especially without reason, in case he is unable to bear the affliction and leaves the monastery. For then you would never escape the reproach of your conscience. It would always bring you distress in the time of prayer and divert your intellect from intimate communion with God.

1.69 Shun all suspicions and all persons that cause you to take offence. If you are offended by anything, whether intended or unintended, you do not know the way of peace, which through love brings the lovers of divine knowledge to the knowledge of God.

Troparia and Kontakia for January 15th



Resurrectional Troparion, tone 5

Let us the faithful hymn and worship the Word / who with the Father and the Spirit hath no beginning, / and was born for our salvation of the Virgin; / for He was pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh, / and to endure death / and to raise the dead / by His glorious Resurrection.

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.

Venerable Paul & John, Troparion, tone 4

O God of our fathers, / who ever dealest with us according to Thy gentleness, / withdraw not Thy mercy from us, / but by their entreaties // direct our life in peace.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 5

Thou didst descend to Hades, O my Savior; / and, having shattered its gates as all-powerful; / Thou as Creator didst raise the dead with Thee; / and Thou didst destroy the sting of death, / and Adam hath been delivered from the curse, O Lover of Man. / Wherefore, we all cry: Save us, O Lord!

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.

Venerable Paul, Kontakion, tone 3

Assembling today, in hymns we praise thee, / the never-waning luminary of the noetic Sun; / for thou didst shine forth upon those in the darkness of ignorance, / leading all to the divine heights, / O venerable Paul, / adornment of the Thebans, / steadfast foundation // of the fathers and the venerable.

Venerable John, Kontakion, tone 2

Loving the riches which cannot be stolen, / O all-wise John, / thou didst hate the riches of thy parents; / and, holding the Gospel in thy hands, // thou didst follow after Christ God, praying unceasingly for us all.