


St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton
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Bulletin for Sunday, January 22nd, 2017



Schedule of Services

January 22nd Sunday, Tone 6

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

January 25th Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

January 26th Thursday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

5:45 p.m. Class: NT Survey Philippians & Philemon

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

January 27th Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

2:00 p.m. Class: NT Survey Philippians & Philemon

6:30 p.m. Vespers

January 28th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

January 29th Sunday, Tone 7 New Martyrs of Russia

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

St. Theodore the Great Ascetic 100 Texts

19. Every assent in thought to some forbidden desire, that is, every submission to self-indulgence, is a sin for a monk. For first the thought begins to darken the intellect through the passable aspect of the soul, and then the soul submits to the pleasure, not holding out in the fight. This is what is called assent, which – as has been said – is a sin. When assent persists it stimulates the passion in question. Then little by little it leads to the actual committing of the sin. This is why the prophet calls blessed those who dash the children of Babylon against the stones (cf. Ps. 137: 9). People with understanding and discretion will know what is meant.

20. Being servants of love and peace, the angels rejoice over our repentance (cf. Luke 15:7) and our progress in holiness. Hence they try to develop spiritual contemplation within us and they cooperate with us in the achieving of every form of blessing. The demons, on the contrary, being producers of anger and of evil, rejoice when holiness diminishes in us, and they attempt to seduce our souls with shameful fantasies.

Announcements for January 22

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 for the health and salvation of William and Carolyn and in memory of Moses Christian and William Frederick.

Classes This Week.

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

Wednesday: NT Survey 5:45 p.m.: Philippians & Philemon

Friday: NT Survey 2:00 p.m.: Philippians & Philemon

The Choir will rehearse next Saturday at 4:00.

Welcome back to the Bramletts and the Williams who are visiting us this weekend from the Show Me State!

House Blessings: Sign up on the sheet in the hall or make an appointment with the priest if you want your home blessed. The priest will contact you soon to schedule.

NTOM North Texas Orthodox Missions invites you to join us for our annual Orthodox Christian Perspectives this January 27 and 28, hosted at two locations in the Metroplex. Our guest speakers will be Archimandrite Gerasim (Eliel), Dean of St. Seraphim Cathedral in Dallas and former abbot of St. Herman Monastery in Platina, CA; and Fr. Anthony Karbo, who has served at the parish of Sts. Constantine and Helen in Colorado Springs since 1995. Friday 5-9 at St. Barbara's, FW (Vespers, Supper, Program 7-9); Saturday, 8:30 to noon at St. Sarkis Armenian Church in Carrollton.

The Parish Directory is being updated and may be ready to be issued next Sunday—but a few of you have yet to fill out the information form. Please see Subdeacon Anthony Stokes—if you want your data to be correct.

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

Forgiveness Sunday comes five Sundays from today, February 26. Please put Forgiveness Vespers at 6:00 that day on your calendar and plan to come. All members should attend.

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 \$1668.67 in tithes and offerings. This month we have given \$5299.08; our monthly budget is \$11,250. Candles \$; Building Fund \$100; Special Offering for alms \$11. Attendance: Liturgy 93, Vigil 34.

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

1.70 You have not yet acquired perfect love if your regard for people is still swayed by their characters for example, if, for some particular reason, you love one person and hate another, or if for the same reason you sometimes love and sometimes hate the same person.

1.71 Perfect love does not split up the single human nature, common to all, according to the diverse characteristics of individuals; but, fixing attention always on this single nature, it loves all men equally. It loves the good as friends and the bad as enemies, helping them, exercising forbearance, patiently accepting whatever they do, not taking the evil into account at all but even suffering on their behalf if the opportunity offers, so that, if possible, they too become friends. If it cannot achieve this, it does not change its own attitude; it continues to show the fruits of love to all men alike. It was on account of this that our Lord and God Jesus Christ, showing His love for us, suffered for the whole of mankind and gave to all men an equal hope of resurrection, although each man determines his own fitness for glory or punishment.

1.72 If you are not indifferent to both fame and dishonor, riches and poverty, pleasure and distress, you have not yet acquired perfect love. For perfect love is indifferent not only to these but even to this fleeting life and to death.

Troparia and Kontakia for January 22nd



Resurrectional Troparion, tone 6

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb / and the guards became as dead men, / Mary stood by Thy grave, / seeking Thine immaculate body, / Thou didst despoil hell, not being tempted by it, / Thou didst go to meet the Virgin granting life, / O Lord, who didst rise from the dead, / 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.

Apostle Timothy, Troparion, tone 4

Learning goodness and being sober in all things with a good conscience, / arrayed as a priest, thou didst draw forth ineffable things from the chosen vessel, Paul; / and having kept the faith, / thou didst finish the even course. // O Apostle Timothy, entreat Christ God that our souls be saved.

Martyr Anastasius, tone 4

In his sufferings, O Lord, / Thy Martyr Anastasius 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 6

With His life-originating palm, from the valleys of gloom / the Life-giver Christ God hath raised all the dead. / He hath bestowed resurrection on the human dough, / for He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, and Life, and God of all.

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.

SS Timothy & Anastasius, Kontakion, tone 1

O ye faithful, let us all hymn Timothy, / the divine disciple and companion of Paul, / honoring with him the wise Anastasius, / who shone forth from Persia like star / and dispelleth the passions of our souls // and our bodily infirmities.