

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, October 8th, 2017

Schedule of Services

October 8th Sunday Tone 1

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour

2:00 p.m. Great Vespers Fr. St. Tikhon

October 9th Monday St. Tikhon of North America

6:00 a.m. Matins

4:00 p.m. Vespers

October 10th Tuesday Synaxis of the Optina Elders

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

7:30 p.m. Compline

8:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy

October 11th Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

6:00 p.m. Class: Ephesians

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

October 12th Thursday Martyrs Probus, Tarchus, Andronicus

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

October 13th Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

10:00 a.m. Class: A Spiritual Psalter (St. Ephrem Syrian)

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Pannikhida Confession

7:00 p.m. Compline with Akathist

October 14th Saturday

8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

October 15th Sunday Tone 2

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour

St. Theodore the Great Ascetic 100 Texts

83. If God is love, he who has love has God within himself. If love is absent, nothing is of the least profit to us (cf. 1 Cor. 13:3); and unless we love others we cannot say that we love God. For, writes St John, 'If a man says, I love God, and hates his brother, he is a liar' (1 John 4:20). (*cont. p. 3*)

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

Announcements for October 8th

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).

Temple Wine offered for the health and salvation of Mykola Tokaryev.

The Special Offering this week is for the Loreto House.

Many Thanks to Amy Stokes and Olivia Reynolds for organizing last Sunday's Oktoberfest and to all who helped make it wonderful.

Congratulations to the Bramlett family on the birth of their daughter to be named Petra Elizabeth on October 6, weighing 10.5 pounds and measuring 22.25 inches!

Classes This Week

Sunday 12:00 Basics of Orthodoxy

Tuesday 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy

Wednesday 6:00 p.m. Ephesians continues

Friday 10:00 a.m. A Spiritual Psalter

Building Fund Watch: Building fund balance: \$101,751.73. Our goal by the end of the year is \$125,000.

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 and our building fund.

Last Sunday, we gave \$2919.87 in tithes and offerings; our monthly budget is \$12,383; candles \$86.50; Special Offering for Seminarian \$31, for St. Elizabeth's Monastery \$950; Building Fund \$0. Attendance: Vigil 53; Sunday Liturgy 142.

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

Please Pray for Cassian and Ruth Brown and their children Daniel, Anna, Elijah; for our catechumens Miguel Dean and Marsha Northam, and Joel and Alta Morris and their children; our inquirers

Connor, Brandon and Lanie Veazey, Donna, and the Dean family; for the nun Susannah and the novice Elias. Please pray for Photina and Jude Bellan, for Olga Fincher and her husband Joseph, for Eugene and Rachel, for Jeremy Gleb Rovny, travelling in India, and for Adam Bramlett recovering from an injury and looking for work, and Elisabeth Terry.

Many Years to those celebrating namedays – Gareth Tikhon Barnard (10/9), Kenneth Northam (10/11), – and birthdays — John Colias (10/8), Thomas Terry, (10/11)—this coming week. Please check the birthday/nameday list on the candle table and correct any mistakes, please. I've come across several.

The All-Saints party will be held the evening of October 6 at which those who wish dress up as saints and provide clues to help us guess their identity. It is not too early to start planning.

A Parish Thanksgiving dinner will be held Sunday afternoon, November 12. We'll eat a traditional Thanksgiving meal together, giving thanks to God for all His blessings, before the fast begins.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

2.75 Some of the things given to us by God for our use are in the soul, others are in the body and others relate to the body. In the soul are its powers; in the body are the sense organs and other members; relating to the body are food, money, possessions and so on. Our good or bad use of these things given us by God, or of what is contingent upon them, reveals whether we are virtuous or evil.

2.76 Of the things contingent upon those given us by God, some are in the soul, some are in the body, and some relate to the body. Those in the soul are spiritual knowledge and ignorance, forgetfulness and memory, love and hate, fear and courage, distress and joy, and so on. Those in the body are pleasure and pain, sensation and numbness, health and disease, life and death, and so on. Those relating to the body are having children and not having children, wealth and poverty, fame and obscurity, and so on. Some of these are regarded as good and others as evil. Not one of them is evil in itself. According to how they are used they may rightly be called good or evil.

2.77 Both spiritual knowledge and health are good by nature, yet their contraries have been of more benefit to many people. For such knowledge may serve no good purpose where the wicked are concerned, even though, as we have said, it is good in itself. The same is true with regard to health, riches and joy, for they are not used advantageously by such people. But certainly their contraries do benefit them. Therefore not one of them is evil in itself, even though it may appear to be evil.

(cont. from page 1) And again he states: 'No man has ever seen God. If we love one another, God dwells in us, and His love is perfected in us' (1 John 4:12). From this it is clear that love is the most comprehensive and the highest of

all the divine blessings spoken of in the Holy Scriptures. And there is no form of virtue through which a man may become akin to God and united with Him that is not dependent upon love and encompassed by it; for love unites and protects the virtues in an indescribable manner.

Troparia and Kontakia for October 8th

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 1

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews / and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate body, / Thou didst rise on the third day, O Saviour, / granting life to the world. / The powers of heaven, therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of life: / Glory to the Resurrection, O Christ! / Glory to Thy Kingdom! / Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Lover of man.

St. Maximus, Troparion, tone 3

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 1

Thou hast risen from the grave as God in glory / and Thou didst raise the world with Thee, / and human nature hymneth Thee as God, / and death hath vanished. / Adam exulteth, O Master, / and Eve, delivered from her bondage, now rejoiceth, crying: / Thou, O Christ, / art He who granteth to all the Resurrection!

St. Maximus, Kontakion tone 8

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.

Troparion, tone 8 of the Venerable Mothers Pelagia & Thais

In you the image was preserved with exactness, O Mothers; / for taking up your crosses, ye followed Christ, / and by your deeds ye taught us to overlook the flesh, for it passeth away, / but to attend to the soul since it is immortal. // Wherefore, O righteous Pelagia and Thais, your spirits rejoice with the angels.

Kontakion, tone 2 of the Ven. Pelagia

Laying waste thy body with fasting, / with vigilant supplication thou didst entreat the Creator concerning thy deeds, / that thou mightest receive complete remission; // and this thou has manifestly acquired, O mother Pelagia, having shown us the path of repentance.

Kontakion, tone 2 of the Ven. Thais

Let us praise the blessed Tha-`is, / the right fruitful scion of a corrupt root, / the sweet stream which arose from a salty source, / the image of repentance and model of patience, / once a vessel of sin, but now the chosen vessel of grace; / and let us cry aloud to her: // "Entreat Christ God, O venerable Tha-`is, that our souls may be saved!"