

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, October 15th, 2017

Schedule of Services

October 15th Sunday Tone 2 Fathers of the Seventh Council

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

October 17th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:30 p.m. Compline with Akathist

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

October 18th Wednesday Apostle & Evangelist Luke

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

6:00 p.m. Class: Ephesians

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

October 19th Thursday Prophet Joel

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

October 20th 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 21st Saturday

9:30 a.m. *Russian Divine Liturgy, Dallas*

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

October 22nd Sunday Tone 3

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

St. Theodore the Great Ascetic 100 Texts

84. When we receive visits from our brethren, we should not consider this an irksome interruption of our stillness, lest we cut ourselves off from the law of love. Nor should we receive them as if we were doing them a favor, but rather as if it is we ourselves who are receiving a favor; and because we are indebted to them, we should beg them cheerfully to enjoy our hospitality, as the patriarch Abraham has shown us. This is why St John, too, says: 'My children, let us love not in word or tongue, but in action and truth. And by this we know that we belong to the truth' (1John 3: 18-19).

Announcements for October 15th

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;
Temple Wine offered in memory of Nina.

The Special Offering this week is for our building fund.

Today, we receive Connor Patrick into the ranks of the catechumens. Please keep him in your prayers.

Classes This Week

Sunday 12:00 Basics of Orthodoxy

Tuesday 8:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy: First Command of XC

Wednesday 6:00 p.m. Ephesians Word Studies in Chapter 2

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 \$2028 in tithes and offerings; in October, we have given \$4948; our monthly budget is \$12,383; candles \$106; Special Offering for Loreto House \$126.25; Building Fund \$200. Attendance: Vigil 44; Sunday Liturgy 137.

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 new catechumen Connor Patrick, for catechumens Miguel Dean, Marsha Northam, and Joel and Alta Morris and their children; our inquirers 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.

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.

Prospora Bags: Over the next few months, Fr. Justin would like to move the parish away from the plastic bags we use for commemorative prospora. Traditionally, people have a small cloth bag with a drawstring that they use to carry prospora home from Liturgy. Being cloth, the bags breathe and allow the prospora to dry out rather than becoming moldy. Dried prospora will keep indefinitely. We have both youth and adults able to sew such bags, which may be decorated. Prospora in the future will likely be brought out on a tray with the bread sitting on your commemorative list or book. You will then identify and collect your own and take it home in your own bag. We will have some sort of bag available for visitors.

Craft Sale: Is there desire for a craft sale this fall, before or after Nativity? Please let Fr. Justin know.

Wall Calendars for 2018 have been ordered. They should make their appearance in the next month.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

2.78 Do not misuse your conceptual images of things, lest you are forced to make a wrong use of the things themselves. For if a man does not first sin in his mind, he will never sin in action.

2.79 The principal vices - stupidity, cowardice, licentiousness, injustice - are the 'image' of the 'earthy' man. The principal virtues - intelligence, courage, self-restraint, justice - are the 'image' of the 'heavenly' man. As we have borne the image of the earthy, let us also bear the image of the heavenly (cf. 1 Cor. 15:49).

2.80 If you wish to find the way that leads to life, look for it in the Way who says, 'I am the way, the door, the truth and the life' (John 10:7; 14:6), and there you will find it. Only let your search be diligent and painstaking, for 'few there are that find it' (Matt. 7:14) and if you are not among the few you will find yourself with the many.

2.81 Five things make a soul cut itself off from sin: fear of man, fear of judgment, hope of future reward, love of God and, lastly, the prompting of conscience.

2.82 Some say that there would be no evil in the created world unless there were some power outside this world dragging us

towards evil. But this so-called power is in fact our neglect of the natural energies of the intellect. For those who nurture these energies always do good, never evil. If this, then, is what you too wish to do, get rid of negligence and you will also drive out evil, which is the wrong use of our conceptual images of things, followed by the wrong use of the things themselves.

2.83 In its natural state, the human intelligence is subject to the divine intelligence and itself rules over the non-intelligent element in us. Let this order be maintained in all things, and there will be no evil among creatures nor anything which draws us towards evil.

Troparia and Kontakia for October 15th

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 2

When Thou, didst descend to death, O Life Immortal / Thou didst slay Hell with the lightning-flash of Thy Divinity, / and, when from the nether regions Thou didst raise the dead, / all the powers of Heaven cried out: / 'O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!'

Fathers of the 7th Council, Troparion, tone 8

All-glorious art Thou, O Christ our God, / who hast established our fathers upon the earth as beacons, / and hast thereby guided us to the true Faith! / O greatly Compassionate One, glory to Thee!

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 2

Thou didst rise from the grave, all -powerful Saviour; / and Hades, seeing the wonder, was affrighted; / and the dead arose; and creation, beholding, rejoiceth with Thee; / and with Thee Adam also is glad; / and the world, O my Saviour, hymneth Thee forever.

Fathers of the 7th Council, Kontakion, tone 6

The Son who ineffably shone forth from the Father / hath been born in two natures of a woman, / and beholding Him we do not refuse to depict His countenance; / but tracing it piously, we honor it in faith. /Wherefore, the Church, holding to the true Faith, / doth venerate the icon of the incarnation of Christ.