

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, November 5th, 2017

Schedule of Services

November 5th Sunday Tone 5 St. Tikhon of North America

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

November 10th Friday

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Pannikhida Confession

7:30 p.m. Compline with Akathist

November 11th Saturday

8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast

10:00 a.m. Bramlett Baptism

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

November 12th Sunday Tone 6 Martyrs St. John the Merciful

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

4:00 p.m. Great Vespers

5:00 p.m. Parish Thanksgiving Meal

November 13th Monday St. John Chrysostom

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

St. Theodore the Great Ascetic 100 Texts

88. The fragrance of a costly aromatic oil, even though kept in a vessel, pervades the atmosphere of the whole house, and gives pleasure not only to those near it but also to others in the vicinity; similarly the fragrance of a holy soul, beloved of God, when given out through all the senses of the body, conveys to those who perceive it the holiness that lies within. When in the presence of one whose tongue utters nothing harsh and discordant, but only what is a blessing and benefit for those who listen, whose eyes are humble, whose ears do not listen to improper songs or words, who moves discreetly and whose face is not dissolute with laughter but rather disposed to tears and mourning, which of us will not feel that such a soul is filled with the fragrance of holiness? Thus the Savior says: 'Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven' (Matt. 5:16).

Announcements for November 5th

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 is for seminarian Deacon Daniel.

Classes This Week

Sunday 12:00 Basics of Orthodoxy

The Men's Breakfast will be held next Saturday at 8:00 a.m. Please join us, men, for this time of fellowship.

The Baptism of Petra Bramlett will be held next Saturday morning at 10:00.

Many Thanks to the outgoing members of the parish council: Reader Michael Rehmet, George Rovny, Subdeacon Anthony Stokes.

A Parish Thanksgiving dinner will be held next Sunday afternoon, November 12. We'll eat a traditional Thanksgiving meal together, giving thanks to God for all His blessings, before the fast begins. Please use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the hall to indicate what you will bring so we may have a well-balanced meal.

Building Fund Watch: Building fund balance: \$102,821. Our goal by the end of the year is \$125,000. Petitions for the construction of a church are being added to the Augmented Litany.

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 \$1012 in tithes and offerings; in October, we gave \$9831 plus another \$3454 electronically for a total of \$13,285; our monthly budget is \$12,383 (the money received above budget will go to the building fund, about \$900 this month). Candles \$99; Special Offering for Azle Mission \$65; Building Fund \$40. Attendance: Vigil 36; Sunday Liturgy 125.

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, Marsha Northam, Connor Patrick, 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, working in Georgia, and for Adam Bramlett recovering from an injury and looking for work, and Elisabeth Terry. Memory Eternal to the newly departed Tikhon Lynch.

Thanksgiving: For those who will not be with extended family for the holiday, please consider opening your home to gather others who have no family in the area. Vladyka Dmitri always gave a blessing not to keep the fast on Thanksgiving for this purpose.

Prospora Bags: 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. Fr. Justin hopes we shall come to use these instead of plastic. We'll need at least two nice, large trays to accomplish this.

Beautification of Grounds: To care more effectively for our grounds and to beautify them, we are thinking of starting a St. Tryphon the Gardener Society. Please see Fr. Justin if gardening and beautifying our property appeals to you.

Craft Sale: We are considering a craft sale in December and a sale of baked goods after Nativity.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

2.88 A man who is truly without possessions is one who has renounced all his worldly goods and has absolutely nothing on earth except his body; and who, breaking his attachment to the body, has entrusted himself to the care of God and of the devout.

2.89 Some people with possessions possess them dispassionately, and so when deprived of them they are not dismayed but are like those who accepted the seizure of their goods with joy (cf. Heb. 10:34). Others possess with passion, so that when they are in danger of being dispossessed they become utterly dejected, like the rich man in the Gospel who went away full of sorrow (cf. Matt. 19:22); and if they actually are dispossessed, they remain dejected until they die. Dispossession, then, reveals whether a man's inner state is dispassionate or dominated by passion.

2.90 The demons attack the person who has attained the summits of prayer in order to prevent his conceptual images of sensible things from being free from passion; they attack the gnostic so that he will dally with impassioned thoughts; and they attack the person who has not advanced beyond the practice of the virtues so as to persuade him to sin through his actions. They contend with all men by every possible means in order to separate them from God.

Troparia and Kontakia for November 5th

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.

St. Tikhon, Troparion, tone 5

Sent forth to the New World as a shepherd of the flock, / thou wast called back to the old, / to take up the Cross as a staff / and from wolves and faithless shepherds to defend the Church; / and after thee, the sheep of Christ knew no shepherd to be true / who kept not thy good confession, // wherein, O Tikhon, preserve us unharméd throughout our earthly pilgrimage.

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.

St. Tikhon, Kontakion, tone 4

The most holy Patriarch, / venerable Tikhon, the Confessor of the Faith, / hath gained from Christ the crown of life; / for he did labor with godly zeal // and strove till death in defence of the Church of Christ.