

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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**Bulletin for Sunday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

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**August 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday, tone 2 Martyrs Anicetus and Photius**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Mission Council

6:00 p.m. Vigil for St. Maximus and Leavetaking

**August 13<sup>th</sup> Monday Leavetaking of Transfiguration & St. Maximus**

7:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

**August 14<sup>th</sup> Tuesday**

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**August 15<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Dormition**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

**August 17<sup>th</sup> Friday**

6:00 a.m. Midnight Office, Molioben to Theotokos, Confession

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

7:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Divine Liturgy

**August 18<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

6:30 a.m. St. David Brotherhood Work Day

9:30 a.m. Russian Divine Liturgy, St. Seraphim, Dallas

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**August 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday, tone 3**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

*Detachment Through Remembrance of Death*

The remembrance of death, as a preliminary gift of the Holy Spirit, is like the earthquake of old which preceded the gentle breeze in which the Lord was present. It is like the rushing mighty wind which made ready for the coming of the Comforter in tongues of fire. It is a powerful experience which is able to detach man from every attachment of this life and to disclose to him his uselessness and nothingness. Thus, suddenly, man awakes out of his age-old stupor. He perceives that God's eternity summons him from every side, but he is as yet unable to face it directly, and there is no place in him suitable to receive it. He is cut off far from the living eternity of God, and yet, his spirit demands eternal life and nothing less can give him rest. He suffers deeply, and through this very suffering, the most significant marvel in human life begins. According to Elder Sophrony, this preliminary experience 'is the first step towards the awakening in man of the hypostatic principle' [full human personhood]. *Elder Zacharias in "Man, the Target of God"*

## Announcements for August 12<sup>th</sup>

**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 line at Coffee Hour.

**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 Fr. Seraphim Holland's prison ministry.

**Temple Oil** given for the health and salvation of Susan Pearson.

### Classes this Week

Friday, 7:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodox, The Divine Liturgy.

**The Dormition of the Theotokos**, one of the Twelve Great Feasts, is celebrated this week. We do well to keep the feast by attending the services celebrating the Feast: Vigil Tuesday evening at 7:00 and Liturgy Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. As the Feast falls on Wednesdays, it is observed with fish, wine, and oil.

**St. Maximus:** we celebrate the August Feast of St. Maximus with Vigil tonight at 6:00 and Liturgy tomorrow morning at 7:00 along with the Leavetaking of Transfiguration. Fish, wine, and oil are permitted on this day.

**Today** we receive Donna Lange into the ranks of the catechumens.

**Workday:** The St. David Brotherhood will have a workday this Saturday starting at dawn to clear brush in the back yard. All men and boys are welcome.

**Blessing of Students:** Next Sunday we will have a brief Molioben at the end of the Liturgy for all our pupils, students, and teachers as a new school year begins.

### Building Fund Watch

"Establish Thou this holy house, even unto the consummation of the age."

*Liturgy of St. Basil*

Building fund balance: \$151,598.

New goal: \$200,000 by year's end.

**Commemorations:** Please put in your commemoration slips and books the night before Liturgy whenever possible. Many thanks to those who are doing it.

**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 \$2351.76 in tithes and offerings; our monthly budget is \$12,383 (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). Candles \$91.50; Building Fund \$87.36. Attendance: Vigil 50; Sunday Liturgy 126.

**Please Pray** for our catechumens Miguel Dean, Connor Patrick, James Blankenship, and Donna Lange, for our inquirers the Dean family, Chris Day, Jonathan Kidd, Robert, Pam Fortner, Colby and Rebekah Meals and their children, John and Christina Heitzenrater and their children; for the nun Susannah and the novice Elias, for Katherine and Thea at St. John's Monastery, Goldendale, WA. Pray for those who have not seen for a season.

### From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

4.23 A long-suffering man is one who waits patiently for his trial to end and hopes that his perseverance will be rewarded.

4.24 'The long-suffering man abounds in understanding' (Prov. 14:29), because he endures everything to the end and, while awaiting that end, patiently bears his distress. The end, as St Paul says, is everlasting life (cf. Rom. 6:22). 'And this is life eternal, that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent' (John 17:3).

4.25 Do not lightly discard spiritual love: for men there is no other road to salvation.

4.26 Because today an assault of the devil has aroused some hatred in you, do not judge as base and wicked a brother whom yesterday you regarded as spiritual and virtuous; but with long-suffering love dwell on the goodness you perceived yesterday and expel today's hatred from your soul.

4.27 Do not condemn today as base and wicked the man whom yesterday you praised as good and commended as virtuous, changing from love to hatred, because he has criticized you; but even though you are still full of resentment, commend him as before, and you will soon recover the same saving love.

### What is Repentance?

Repentance is a man's return to the state of a regular functioning of his free self-determination. It first becomes manifest in the negative struggle to put off the corruption of the old man and then in the positive one to put on the 'grace of God that brings salvation', which regenerates and develops man so that he becomes fit to be 'partaker of the inheritance of the saints in light'. From this perspective, one can see why there is 'no end to repentance on earth'. The hypostatic principle in man develops and is perfected by this struggle to restore the divine image and return to a regular functioning of his free self-determination. This principle

constitutes a gift of God bestowed on created, reason-endowed humanity, and it enables man to become truly the possessor of his human nature.  
*Elder Zacharias in "Man, the Target of God"*

### **Troparia and Kontakia for August 12<sup>th</sup>**

#### **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!'

#### **Transfiguration, Troparion, tone 7**

Thou wast transfigured upon the mountain, O Christ God, / showing Thy glory to Thy disciples as far as they could bear it. / Through the prayers of the Theotokos, / make Thine everlasting light shine also upon us sinners. / O Giver of Light, 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.

#### **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.

#### **Transfiguration, Kontakion, tone 7**

Upon the mountain wast Thou transfigured, O Christ God, / and Thy disciples beheld Thy glory as far as they could see it; / so that when they would behold Thee crucified, / they would understand that Thy suffering was voluntary, / and would proclaim to the world / that Thou art truly the Radiance of the Father.

#### **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.

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"It is not he who begins well who is perfect. It is he who ends well who is approved in God's sight." *St. Basil the Great*

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