

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, September 30th, 2018

September 30th Sunday, tone 1

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
12:00 p.m. Annual Meeting
5:00 p.m. Great Vespers

October 1st Monday Protection of the Theotokos

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

October 2nd Tuesday St. Andrew Fool-for-Christ

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

October 3rd Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Class: St. Maximus
7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

October 4th Thursday Hieromartyr Hierotheos

6:00 a.m. Matins
9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

October 5th Friday

6:00 a.m. Molieben to St. Maximus, Confession
7:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

October 6th Saturday St. Innocent of Alaska

9:30 a.m. Russian Divine Liturgy
5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

October 7th Sunday, tone 2

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

On Unity

The essence of Christianity lies in the union of man with God, of man with man and with the whole of creation. Christianity is founded in this dual unity, in which neither aspect of unity is divisible from the other. We cannot be with God if through enmity we are divided among ourselves, nor can we be truly united among ourselves except in God. Christ is the One Who within Himself united all with God. The vertical line of Christ's cross symbolizes unity with God, while the horizontal line symbolizes unity of men. The two lines intersect in a single point—which is Christ.
From Serge Verhovskoy, The Light of the World

Announcements for September 30th

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 Wine given in memory of newly departed Peter Boyle.

Annual Meeting: The Annual Meeting will be held today after Divine Liturgy. All adult members are urged to attend. Our main business is to pass a budget for 2018-2019. A report will be given by the Council detailing where we are in our effort to build a new church. Material from the bylaws pertinent to who may vote is posted on the bulletin board.

Liturgies This Week: Please note Vespers tonight at 5:00 for Pokrov (Protection of the Theotokos) and Liturgy tomorrow at 6:00 a.m. and Liturgy on Tuesday for Blessed Fool-for-Christ Andrew also at 6:00 a.m. in addition to our usual Thursday Liturgy.

Russian Liturgy will be served this Saturday on the Feast of St. Innocent of Alaska at 9:30 a.m. Vigil the night before will be at 7:00.

Coffee Hour: We are reorganizing the way we do coffee hour. Please be looking this week for an email with details.

Classes this Week:

No Basics today due to Annual Meeting

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m., St. Maximus: 400 Chapters on Love

Upcoming Classes: A daytime class to read Vladyka Dmitri's book *The Kingdom of God* and study the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) will start in October, time to be announced (but not on Friday as before). Fr. Justin's Basics Class will resume the second week in October.

Church School will begin October 7.

Building Fund Watch

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

Liturgy of St. Basil

Building fund balance: \$163,422.51.

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

Many Thanks to the men, led by Jr. Warden Joseph Pier and Reader Michael Rodgers, who chipped up the brush in back. There is space to park there again.

There is no blessing given to drink coffee and wine before the dismissal at Liturgy. Consumption of wine should wait for the blessing of the food.

Get to Know Someone New! With recent growth, there are many of you in the parish who do not know one another. Please make the effort each week to meet someone you don't know and to get to know better someone you don't know well.

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 week, we gave about \$2422.76 in tithes and offerings; in September, we have given \$14,322. Our monthly budget is \$12,383 (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). Candles, Building Fund \$75.50, Special Offering for Azle Mission \$57.01. Attendance last weekend: Vigil 71; Sunday Liturgy 163.

Please Pray for our catechumens Miguel Dean, Connor Patrick, James Blankenship, Donna Lange, and Jonathan Kidd; for our inquirers the Dean family, Chris Day, Robert, Pam Fortner, Esteban Lopez, Colby and Rebekah Meals and their children, David & Anita Charpie and their children, John and Christina Heitzenrater and their children, for Robert Osborne; for the nun Susannah and the novice Elias. Pray for those who have not seen for a season.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

Today's chapters apply as well to married couples as they do to other relations. Read well, ponder, and practice.

4.35 The deiform soul cannot nurse hatred against a man and yet be at peace with God, the giver of the commandments. 'For', He says, 'if you do not forgive men their faults, neither will your heavenly Father forgive you your faults' (cf. Matt. 6:14-15). If your brother does not wish to live peaceably with you, nevertheless guard yourself against hatred, praying for him sincerely and not abusing him to anybody.

4.36 The perfect peace of the holy angels lies in their love for God and their love for one another. This is also the case with all the saints from the

beginning of time. Most truly therefore is it said that ‘on these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets’ (Matt. 22:40).

4.37 Stop pleasing yourself and you will not hate your brother; stop loving yourself and you will love God.

4.38 Once you have decided to share your life with spiritual brethren, renounce your own wishes from the start. Unless you do this you will not be able to live peaceably either with God or with your brethren.

Troparia and Kontakia for September 23rd

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 8

Thou didst descend from on high, O tenderhearted One. / Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our passions. / O Lord, our life and resurrection, 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.

St. Gregory, Troparion, tone 3

Thou didst sow the knowledge of God / in the hearts of the faithful / by cultivating the Faith; / made radiant by the wounds of martyrdom / thou didst shed thy light on all. / O holy Hierarch Gregory, / pray to Christ our God // to grant us His great mercy.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 8

Having risen from the tomb Thou didst waken the dead and raise Adam, / and Eve exulteth in Thy Resurrection, / and the ends of the world keep festival for Thy rising from the dead, O Most Merciful One.

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. Gregory of Armenia, Kontakion, tone 2

O ye faithful, in songs and hymns let us all praise today / the right glorious hierarch Gregory / as an athlete, a vigilant shepherd and teacher, / a universal luminary and champion; // for he prayeth to Christ that we be saved.

“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*
