

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, October 14th, 2018

October 14th Sunday, tone 3

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

October 15th Monday

6:00 a.m. Matins

October 16th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

October 17th Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

6:00 p.m. Class: St. Maximus

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

October 18th Thursday Holy Apostle & Evangelist Luke

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

October 19th Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy

October 20th Saturday

9:30 a.m. Slavonic Divine Liturgy, St. Seraphim's, Dallas

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

October 21st Sunday, tone 4

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

The Union of God with Man

In Christ, God came down to earth and appeared to us as a man. Therefore, anyone who knows Christ knows God; anyone who loves Christ loves God; anyone who lives by Christ lives by God. It is amazing how little Christians value this tremendous possibility of union with God through man. We have but to gaze attentively at the image of Christ, and the image of God will appear to us, feature by feature. Christ is filled with the forces of life. . . . How can we be united with Christ if our entire life is outside Christ? On the contrary, to live in a Christian way must mean to be close to Christ.
From Serge Verbovskoy, The Light of the World

Announcements for October 14th

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 St. Sava's building fund.

Annual Meeting: a draft of the minutes have been posted on the bulletin board.

The Second Annual Octoberfest will be held today at the church at 3:00 p.m. There will be pie and pumpkin judging, food, drink, games, fellowship. Please bring food and drink—and yourself — to share. Coffee hour today will be light to accommodate it.

Liturgies This Week: We shall have our usual Thursday Liturgy at 9:00 a.m. A Russian Liturgy will be served Saturday in Dallas.

A Coffee Hour and Church cleaning rotation will go into effect next Sunday in which all of us will be empowered to participate (excluding those over 65 or with disabilities). Stay tuned.

Classes this Week:

Sunday at the bell, Basics of Orthodoxy 101

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

Friday, 7:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy 201

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 Tuesday, October 23, at 1:30.

Building Fund Watch

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

Liturgy of St. Basil

Building fund balance: \$172,000.

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

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.

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 \$2640.27 in tithes and offerings; in October, we have given \$5617.06; our monthly budget is \$14,000 (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). Candles \$112, Building Fund \$123.04, Special Offering for Medical Need \$407. Attendance last weekend: Vigil 53; Sunday Liturgy 159.

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 Joseph and Olga Fincher—Olga is caring for Joseph since his life was changed by a stroke five years ago. His health is poor at the moment.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

4.43 It is no small struggle to be freed from self-esteem. Such freedom is to be attained by the inner practice of the virtues and by more frequent prayer; and the sign that you have attained it is that you no longer harbor rancor against anybody who abuses or has abused you.

4.44 If you want to be a just person, assign to each aspect of yourself – to your soul and your body – what accords with it. To the intelligent aspect of the soul assign spiritual reading, contemplation and prayer; to the incensive aspect, spiritual love, the opposite of hatred; to the desiring aspect, moderation and self-control; to the fleshly part, food and clothing, for these alone are necessary (cf. 1 Tim. 6:8).

4.45 The intellect functions in accordance with nature when it keeps the passions under control, contemplates the inner essences of created beings, and abides with God.

4.46 As health and disease are to the body of a living thing, and light and darkness to the eye, so virtue and vice are to the soul, and knowledge and ignorance to the intellect.

From *The Diary of a Russian Priest*

Our continual mistake is that we do not concentrate upon the present day, the actual hour, of our life; we live in the past or in the future; we are continually expecting the coming of some special moment when our life will unfold itself in its full significance. And we do not notice that life is flowing like water through our fingers, sifting like precious grain from a loosely-fastened bag.

Constantly, each day, each hour, God is sending us people, circumstances, tasks, which should mark the beginning of our renewal; yet we pay them no attention, and thus we continually resist God's will for us. Indeed, how can God help us? Only by sending us in our daily life certain people, and certain coincidences of circumstance. If we accepted every hour of our life as the hour of God's will for us, as the decisive, most important, unique hour of our life—what sources of joy, love, strength, as yet hidden from us, would spring from the depths of our soul!

Let us then be serious in our attitude towards each person we meet in our life, towards every opportunity for performing a good deed; be sure that you will then fulfill God's will for you in these very circumstances, on that very day, in that very hour.

Troparia and Kontakia for October 14th

Resurrectional Troparion, Tone 3

Let those in Heaven rejoice, / let those on Earth be glad; / for the Lord hath wrought a mighty act with His arm./ He hath trampled down death by death; / He hath become the first-born of the dead.
/ He hath delivered us from the womb of hell, / and hath granted the world / great mercy.

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 3

Today Thou didst rise from the grave, O compassionate One, / and didst lead us away from the gates of death. / Today Adam exulteth, and Eve rejoiceth. / Together with the prophets and patriarchs // they unceasingly hymn the Divine might of Thine authority.

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.

“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*
