

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, October 21st, 2018

October 21st Sunday, tone 4

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

2:30 p.m. Vespers

October 22nd Monday St. Abercius, Equal to the Apostles

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

October 23rd Tuesday St. James Brother of the Lord

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

3:00 p.m. Great Vespers, Confession

October 24th Wednesday Icon of Theotokos, "Joy of All Who Sorrow"

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

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

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

October 25th Thursday Martyrs Marcian and Martyrius

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

3:00 p.m. Great Vespers, Confession

October 26th Friday Great Martyr Demetrios

6:00 a.m. Matins

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

October 27th Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

October 28th Sunday, tone 5

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

The Union of God with Man

The path to God is the path from the external to the internal, from the spiritual to the divine. In God, we find all of the highest good things toward which our soul strives, in their absolute perfection. But above all else is our communion with the Holy Trinity. From the time that the Son of God became of one essence with us men and we began to be born spiritually from the Holy Spirit, God has been our Father, our Brother, and our Mother—and this is the goal of our life. But does communion with God impart anything to earthly life? We have already shown that true goodness, truth, and beauty come only from God; hence, all moral, cultural, and social life will inevitably be false and pernicious if it is not connected with God, who is the perfect foundation of all spiritual values. *From Serge Verbovskoy, The Light of the World*

Announcements for October 21"

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. Basil's, Weatherford Oklahoma.

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

Mission Council meets today after the Basics Class. Council members for the upcoming year are Joseph Pier, Melanie Betz, Adam Skelton, Jordan Rovny, and Michael Rehmet.

Wall Calendars for 2019 are about to be ordered. We figure on one per family, but if any of you desires more, please let Dax or Fr. Justin know so we can allow for extras. They will cost \$5 each.

Liturgies This Week: We shall have our usual Thursday Liturgy at 9:00 a.m. Liturgies will also be served Monday and Wednesday mornings at 6:00.

The Annual All-Saints Party will be held October 31 at 6:00 after Vespers at 5:00. Children should start planning for which saint they wish to dress as.

A Parish Thanksgiving dinner will be held Sunday, November 11, before the Nativity Fast begins.

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

Tue 2:15 p.m. Sermon on the Mount

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

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

Building Fund Watch

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

Liturgy of St. Basil

Building fund balance: \$172,800.

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

Please Submit Commemorations the night before Divine Liturgy whenever possible. Thank you.

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 \$3103.33 \$2640.27 in tithes and offerings; in October, we have given \$5742.60; our monthly budget is \$14,000 (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). Candles \$98.50, Building Fund \$978.01, Special Offering for St. Sava's \$166.58. Attendance last week: Vigil 67; Sunday Liturgy 172.

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, Katelyn, 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

4.47 The commandments, the doctrines, the faith: these are the three objects of the Christian's philosophy. The commandments separate the intellect from the passions; the doctrines lead it to the spiritual knowledge of created beings; and faith to the contemplation of the Holy Trinity.

4.48 Some of those pursuing the spiritual way only repel impassioned thoughts; others cut off the passions themselves. Such thoughts are repelled by psalmody, or by prayer, or by raising one's mind to God, or by occupying one's attention in some similar way. The passions are cut off through appropriate detachment from those things by which they are roused.

4.49 The passions are roused in us by, for example, women, wealth, fame and so on. We can achieve detachment with regard to women when, after withdrawing from the world, we wither the body, as we should, through self-control. We can achieve detachment where wealth is concerned when we make up our mind to be frugal in all things. We can become indifferent to fame by practicing the virtues inwardly, in a way visible only to God. And we can act in a similar

fashion with respect to other things. A person who has achieved such detachment as this will never hate anybody.

Troparia and Kontakia for October 21"

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 4

Having learned the radiant proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, /the women disciples of the Lord cast off the ancestral curse, /and, boasting, told the Apostles: /Death hath been despoiled, Christ God is risen, /granting the world great mercy.

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. Hilarion, Troparion, tone 1

Illumined in mind by the light of abstinence, / thou was radiant in miracles, O Father Hilarion; / thou becamest a shining pillar of godliness / and didst enlighten the faithful who came to thee. / Glory to Him who hath strengthened thee, / glory to Him who hath crowned thee // glory to Him who worketh healings for all through thee.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 4

My Saviour and Deliverer as God/ hath raised out of the grave the earth-born from their bonds / and He hath shattered the gates of hell / and as Master / He hath risen on the third day.

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. Hilarion, Kontakion, tone 3

We gather today and praise thee with hymns / as a light of the spiritual sun, / for thou didst illumine those in the darkness of ignorance / and didst raise all to divine heights: // and we cry to thee: Rejoice, O Hilarion, summit of ascetics.

"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*
