

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, October 28th, 2018

October 28th Sunday, tone 5 St. Job of Pochaev

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

October 30th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

October 31st Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

1:30 p.m. Class: Sermon on the Mount

5:00 p.m. Vespers

6:00 p.m. All Saints Party

November 1st Thursday Unmercenaries Cosmos and Damian

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

November 2nd Friday

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

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

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

November 3rd Saturday

9:30 a.m. Slavonic Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

November 4th Sunday, tone 6 Synaxis of the Unmercenaray Healers

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Where Is the Measure of Truth?

The material and organic world is not a world of thought. Only man can think, knowing himself and everything that surrounds him. In our mind, an entire ideal world is borne in which is reflected everything we know. But we see that the universe is filled with wisdom, that in acquiring the knowledge of the truth, we do not invent it but perceive it through our spiritual eyes. The truth about the universe is neither matter nor a human concept. What is the source of this truth and this wisdom, which penetrates all that exists without merging with it, this wisdom which abides in the world but is not the world itself?.... It is precisely in the divine ideas that we find an ideal measure of the truth toward which we are striving when we try to know anything. All truth reveals to us not only what is, but what ought to be as well, for reality itself would be incomprehensible for us without this. If we do not know how things ought to be, how then can we distinguish good from evil, health from disease, beauty from ugliness, etc.? The wisdom of God is the wisdom of the world. It ought to become our wisdom as well. *From Serge Verbovskoy, The Light of the World*

Announcements for October 28th

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 Loreto House.

Russian Divine Liturgy will be served here this Saturday at 9:30 a.m. Confessions will be heard starting at 8:00 if not earlier in the week.

Liturgies This Week: We shall have our usual Thursday Liturgy at 9:00 a.m.

The Annual All-Saints Party will be held Wednesday October 31 at 6:00 after Vespers at 5:00. Children will get to dress as saints and give us clues as to who they are.

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, November 4 (finally!) in which all of us will be empowered to participate (excluding those over 65 or with disabilities). Stay tuned.

Confession: Fr. Justin and his family will be at Holy Archangels Monastery for their feast day most of the week of November 4. If you need to make a confession, please plan accordingly. Neither the St. Maximus nor the Sermon on the Mount classes will meet that week. Incidentally, there was no one for Confession Wednesday after Vespers, but there were ten for it after Vigil last night.

Classes this Week:

Sunday at the bell during coffee hour, Basics of Orthodoxy 101
Wednesday 1:30 p.m. Sermon on the Mount
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: \$172,964.

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

Coffee Hour begins after the dismissal at Liturgy, when the consumption of coffee may begin. Eating should await the blessing.

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 \$2090 in tithes and offerings; in October, we have given \$7832.60; our monthly budget is \$14,000 (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). Candles \$84.50, Building Fund \$182.12, Special Offering for St. Basil's, OK \$27.04. Attendance last week: Vigil 59; Sunday Liturgy 166.

Please Pray for our new catechumen Katelyn Davis, received today, for 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

4.52 Many passions are hidden in our souls; they can be brought to light only when the objects that rouse them are present.

4.53 A man can enjoy partial dispassion and not be disturbed by passions when the objects which rouse them are absent. But once those objects are present, the passions quickly distract his intellect.

4.54 Do not imagine that you enjoy perfect dispassion when the object arousing your passion is not present. If when it is present you remain unmoved by both the object and the subsequent thought of it, you may be sure that you have entered the realm of dispassion. But even so do not be over-confident; for virtue when habitual kills the passions, but when it is neglected they come to life again.

From Saint Ignatius Letter to the Romans

It is better for me to die in Christ Jesus than to be king over the ends of the earth. I seek him who died for our sake. I desire him who rose for us. Birth-pangs are upon me. Suffer me, my brethren; hinder me not from living, do not wish me to die. ... Suffer me to receive the pure light; when I shall have arrived there, I shall become a human being (*anthropos*). Suffer me to follow the example of the passion of my God.

Troparia and Kontakia for October 28th

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. Job of Pochaev, Troparion tone 4

Acquiring the patient endurance of the long-suffering forefather / emulating the abstinence of the Baptist and sharing in the divine zeal of both / thou wast vouchsafed worthily to receive their names / and wast a fearless preacher of the True Faith. / Wherefore, thou didst lead a multitude of monks to Christ / and didst confirm all the people in Orthodoxy. // O Job our venerable father, pray thou that our souls be saved.

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. Job of Pochaev, Kontakion tone 4

Thou wast shown to be a pillar of the True Faith, / a zealot of the commandments of the Gospel / the reproof of pride, / and an intercessor and instructor for the lowly. / Wherefore, beg thou forgiveness of sins for those who bless thee, / and preserve thy monastery unharmed, O Job our father, // who art like unto the longsuffering one of old.

“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*
