

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, February 10th, 2019

February 10th Sunday tone 4

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour, Church School, Basics 103

February 12th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

2:30 p.m. Class: Sermon on the Mount

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

February 13th Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

6:00 a.m. Class: St. Maximus *400 Chapters on Love*

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

February 14th Thursday

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

February 15th Friday

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

7:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodox 202

February 16th Saturday

*9:30 a.m. Hierarchical Divine Liturgy & Consecration, St. Sava,
Ordination of Subdeacon Michael Rehmet to the Diaconate*

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

February 17th Sunday tone 5

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour, Church School, Basics 103

St. Diodochus: 100 Chapters on Spiritual Knowledge & Discrimination

Definition of *Faith*: the dispassionate understanding of God.

1. All spiritual contemplation should be governed by faith, hope and love, but most of all by love. The first two teach us to be detached from visible delights, but love unites the soul with the excellence of God, searching out the Invisible by means of intellectual perception.

2. Only God is good by nature, but with God's help man can become good through careful attention to his way of life. He transforms himself into what he is not when his soul, by devoting its attention to true delight, unites itself to God, in so far as its energized power desires this. For it is written: 'Be good and merciful as is your Father in heaven' (cf. Luke 6:36; Matt. 5:48).

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission
belongs to the Diocese of the South, Orthodox Church in America

Announcements for February 10th

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 with the priest 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 our building fund.

Team Four is cleaning today, last names Rehmet through Sidorenko.

The Mission Council will meet today Sunday after Coffee Hour.

Classes this Week:

Sunday at the bell during coffee hour, Basics of Orthodoxy 103
Tuesday, 2:30 p.m. Sermon on the Mount
Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. St Maxims *400 Chapters on Love*
Friday, 7:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodox 202 on Prayer

Building Fund Watch

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

Liturgy of St. Basil

Building fund balance: \$201,100.

New goal: \$225,000 by Pascha, \$300,000 by end of year. We probably need to raise \$500,000 before we start building per the current plan.

Subdeacon Michael Rehmet will be ordained by Archbishop Alexander to the diaconate this Saturday at St. Sava. Axios!

Confessions at Matins: If you wish to confess after Matins on a weekday, please let the priest know the day before that you plan to come.

The Flow of Traffic in and out and back into the church during the Liturgy needs to decrease. (We speak not of parents taking out children who need to be quieted, corrected, or changed.) The flow from what your priest is told is nearly constant. The problem is this: it is distracting. Not only are those leaving the church distracted from the Liturgy, but so are those they pass on their way out. No one who is communing should be going out for water (children under the age of seven who still may get a bite to eat and something to drink before Liturgy should do it at home before coming to church); if we are fasting and have attended to our needs before Liturgy, we generally will not have to go out to the bathroom. Parents, please do not let your children wander in and out, both for their safety and for their training in good order. Thank you all!

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). Alms may be placed in the box above the candle table.

Last week, we gave \$1988.72 in tithes and offerings; our monthly budget is \$15,112; (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). Candles \$108, Building Fund \$70, Special Offering for Interfaith \$54.01, New Icons \$50. Attendance last week: Vigil 56: Sunday Liturgy 150.

Please Pray for our catechumens Donna Lange, Jonathan Kidd, Katelyn Davis, Chris Day, and the Heitzenrater family: John, Christina, Madeleine, Margaret, Aemelia, John "William", Isabella, Mary Elizabeth, Thomas, Charles, Charlotte; for Esteban Lopez, Brian, Adrienne, and Hannah Freas; for our inquirers the Dean family, Robert Peterson, Colby and Rebekah Meals and their children, David & Anita Charpie and their children, for Robert Osborne; for the nun Susannah. Pray for Joseph and Olga Fincher.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

4.97 Only those who scrupulously keep the commandments, and are true initiates into divine judgments, do not abandon their friends when God permits these friends to be put to the test. Those who scorn the commandments and who are ignorant about divine judgments rejoice with their friend in the times of his prosperity; but when in times of trial he suffers hardships, they abandon him and sometimes even side with those who attack him.

4.98 The friends of Christ love all truly but are not themselves loved by all; the friends of the world neither love all nor are loved by all. The friends of Christ persevere in love to the end; the friends of the world persevere only until they fall out with each other over some worldly thing.

4.99 'A faithful friend is a strong defense' (Ecclus. 6:14); for when things are going well with you, he is a good counselor and a sympathetic collaborator, while when things are going badly, he is the truest of helpers and a most compassionate supporter.

4.100 Many have said much about love, but you will find love itself only if you seek it among the disciples of Christ. For only they have true Love as love's teacher. 'Though I have the gift of prophecy', says St Paul, 'and know all mysteries and all knowledge . . . and have no love, it profits me nothing' (1 Cor. 13:2-3). He who possesses love

possesses God Himself, for 'God is love' (1 John 4:8). To Him be glory throughout the ages. Amen.

Troparia and Kontakia for February 10th

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. Haralambos, Troparion tone 4

In his sufferings, O Lord, / Thy Martyr Haralombos received an imperishable crown from Thee, our God. / For possessed of Thy might, / he cast down the tormentors and crushed the feeble audacity of the demons. // By his supplications save Thou our souls.

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 6

The thrice-radiant Light which abode in thy soul / showed thee to be a chosen vessel / revealing divine things to the ends of the earth, / O blessed Maximus, who givest utterance to concepts hard to grasp, / and manifestly proclaimest unto all // the transcendent and unoriginate Trinity.

St. Haralmbos, Kontakion, tone 8

Perfected by the grace of the priesthood, O glorious one, / thou didst splendidly adorn the Church with thy divine suffering, / which thou didst manfully accept rejoicing for Christ's sake, / O Haralambos, thou honored beacon of the whole world, // illuminating the ends of the earth, in that thou art invincible.

"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*
