

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, August 25th, 2019



August 25th 10th Sunday after Pentecost

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

August 26th Monday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

August 27th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

August 28th Wednesday St. Moses the Black

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

August 29th Thursday Beheading of John the Baptist--Fast

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

4:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

August 30th Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

August 31st Saturday

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

September 1st 11th Sunday after Pentecost; Church New Year

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

St. Diodochus: 100 Chapters on Spiritual Knowledge & Discrimination
73. When a person is in a state of natural well-being, he sings the psalms with a full voice and prefers to pray out loud. But when he is energized by the Holy Spirit, with gladness and completely at peace he sings and prays in the heart alone. The first condition is accompanied by a delusory joy, the second by spiritual tears and, thereafter, by a delight that loves stillness. For the remembrance of God, keeping its fervor because the voice is restrained, enables the heart to have thoughts that bring tears and are peaceful. In this way, with tears we sow seeds of prayer in the earth of the heart, hoping to reap the harvest in joy (cf. Ps. 126:5). But when we are weighed down by deep despondency, we should for a while sing psalms out loud, raising our voice with joyful expectation until the thick mist is dissolved by the warmth of song.

Announcements for August 25th

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 candle 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).

Temple Oil given for the health and salvation of Daniel.

The Special Offering this week is for a new chalice.

No Classes this Week. They will resume in September.

Church School, it is hoped, will begin the second Sunday in September.

New Year: Next Sunday, September 1 marks the Church New Year. This is a good time to recalibrate spiritually and seek to make a beginning of good.

Visiting Nun: Sister Marina from the St. Elizabeth Convent in Minsk, Byelorussia, will be with us Wednesday, September 5 for Vespers and Thursday, September 6 for Liturgy to talk about the work of the monastery and monastic life.

The Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, September 22. Voting members are those who are Orthodox adults of 18 or older who have received Confession and Communion in the past year and have helped support the parish financially.

New Church Watch: Please be praying for God's will to be done in regards to the design and location of our new church. We shall be submitting a revised plan for the front yard to the Historical Landmark Committee this month after they rejected our first proposal earlier this year. The revised design seeks to address their expressed objections and concerns as well as to most effectively and aesthetically use the front yard. Should this proposal be rejected, we may have to plan for the back yard. Your prayers for God's will!

Building Fund Watch

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

Liturgy of St. Basil

Building fund balance: \$232,058. Goal: \$300,000 by end of year. We may need to raise \$500,000 before we start building per the current plan. With *everyone* pulling together, we can do this with God's help and provision.

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 \$3132.15 in tithes and offerings; so far this month, we have given \$7341.26; our monthly budget is \$15,112; (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). Candles \$143.50, Special Offering for IOCC 150.86; Building Fund \$76. Attendance last week: Vigil 59, Liturgy 160.

Please Pray for our catechumens Colby and Rebekah Meals and their children Caleb, Jacob, Joshua, Abigail, and Benjamin, Robert Peterson and Ashley Carpenter; for our inquirers the Dean family, Samat, Makenna, Luellen, David & Anita Charpie and their children, for Robert Osborne, Mark Robertson. Pray for the nun Susannah, for Joseph and Olga Fincher, who is seriously ill, Mother Susanna of Our Lady of Kazan Skete, Melanie Betz, Elizabeth Terry, Frieda Gluschenko (surgery), Antonia Colias (surgery), and Thomas Harper who is in South America.

From Saint Maximus 200 Chapters on Knowledge

2.27 If for our sakes the Logos of God 'died on the Cross in weakness' and was raised 'by the power of God' (2 Cor. 13:4), then in a spiritual sense He is always doing and suffering this on our account, becoming all things to all men so that He might save all men (cf. 1 Cor. 9:22). Thus, since the Corinthians were weak, while with them St Paul rightly 'decided to know nothing except Jesus Christ and Him crucified' (1 Cor. 2:2). But since the Ephesians were perfect, he wrote to them that God 'has raised us up in union with Christ Jesus and enthroned us with Him in the heavenly realm' (Eph. 2:6), thus affirming that the Logos of God adapts Himself according to each person's strength. In this way, He is crucified for those taking their first steps in the ascetic life, and He nails their impassioned energies to the cross with divine fear. He rises again and ascends into heaven for those who have put off the whole of their fallen selfhood, corrupted by the desires of deceitfulness (cf. Eph. 4:22); who have been entirely renewed through the Holy Spirit as man created in the image of God (cf. Eph. 4:24); and who draw near to the Father through His grace which is in them, and so are raised 'far above every principality, power, might and dominion, and above every name that is named not only in this age but also in the age to come' (Eph. 1:21). For all things, all names and dignities sequent to God, are likewise inferior to him who through grace dwells in God.

2.28 Before His visible advent in the flesh the Logos of God dwelt among the patriarchs and prophets in a spiritual manner, prefiguring the mysteries of His advent. After His incarnation He is present in a similar

way not only to those who are still beginners, nourishing them spiritually and leading them towards the maturity of divine perfection, but also to the perfect, secretly pre-delineating in them the features of His future advent as if in an icon.

Troparia and Kontakia for August 25th

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 1

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews / and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate body, / Thou didst rise on the third day, O Saviour, / granting life to the world. / The powers of heaven, therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of life: / Glory to the Resurrection, O Christ! / Glory to Thy Kingdom! / Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Lover of man.

St. Maximus, Troparion, tone 3

Apostles Bartholomew & Titus, Troparion, tone 3

O ye holy apostles, / intercede with the merciful God / that He grant unto our souls // forgiveness of our transgressions.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 1

Thou hast risen from the grave as God in glory / and Thou didst raise the world with Thee, / and human nature hymneth Thee as God, / and death hath vanished. / Adam exulteth, O Master, / and Eve, delivered from her bondage, now rejoiceth, crying: / Thou, O Christ, / art He who granteth to all the Resurrection!

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.

Apostle Bartholomew, Kontakion, tone 4

Thou hast appeared to the Church as a great sun, / O Bartholomew, apostle of the Lord, / illumining with the radiance of doctrines and with awesome wonders those who hymn thee.

Apostle Titus, Kontakion, tone 2

Revealed as a companion of Paul, / O ever-memorable Apostle Titus, / thou recounter of sacred mysteries, / with him thou didst preach to us the words of divine grace. / Wherefore, we cry out to thee: // Cease thou never to pray for us all!

“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*
