

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, September 22nd, 2019

September 22nd 14th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy,
11:45 a.m. Annual Meeting

September 23rd Monday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession
5:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

September 24th Tuesday St. Silouan of Athos

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
4:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

September 25th Wednesday St. Sergius of Radonezh

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

September 26th Thursday St. John the Theologian

6:00 a.m. Matins
9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

September 27th Friday

6:00 p.m. Vespers
7:00 p.m. Class: Basics 301 The Creed "One God"

September 28th Saturday

6:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

September 29th 15th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

St. Diodochus: 100 Chapters on Spiritual Knowledge & Discrimination

77. As we have said, from the instant we are baptized, grace is hidden in the depths of the intellect, concealing its presence even from the perception of the intellect itself. When someone begins, however, to love God with full resolve, then in a mysterious way, by means of intellectual perception, grace communicates something of its riches to his soul. Then, if he really wants to hold fast to this discovery, he joyfully starts longing to be rid of all his temporal goods, so as to acquire the field in which he has found the hidden treasure of life (cf. Matt. 13:44). This is because, when someone rids himself of all worldly riches, he discovers the place where the grace of God is hidden. For as the soul advances, divine grace more and more reveals itself to the intellect. During this process, (*cont. on page 3*)

Announcements for September 22

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 Wine given for the health and salvation of Kathy Burnham. **Temple Oil** given .

The Special Offering this week is for Fr. Seraphim Holland's prison ministry.

Classes this Week:

Friday, 7:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodox 301 The Creed: "One God"

The Annual Meeting will be held today. 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. See Fr. Justin if you have questions. The main business of the meeting is to hear reports from priest and officers, to pass a budget, and to discuss the status of our building project.

N.B. Vigil this coming Saturday will be served at 6:00 p.m. due to the Rehmet-Tudora wedding in Euless.

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 \$3495.86 in tithes and offerings; in September we have given \$7255.55 our monthly budget is \$15,112; (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). Candles \$102.50, Special Offering for Loreto House \$101, New Chalice \$50; Building Fund \$0. Attendance last week: Vigil 42, Liturgy 164. *Please note: we do not report funds given electronically until the end of the month; we typically receive about \$7000 each month that way.*

Please Pray for our new catechumen Luellen; our catechumens Colby and Rebekah Meals and their children Caleb, Jacob, Joshua,

Abigail, and Benjamin, Robert Peterson, Ashley Carpenter, Makenna Baldwin, for David, Anita, Sarah, Rachel, Sammuel, Aaron; for our inquirers the Dean family, Samat, 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, Elizabeth Terry, and Thomas Harper who is in South America; and Paul Charles Johnson in Serbia.

Commemoration Books and Slips: please try to put them in the basket Saturday night whenever possible.

Confessions after Matins: Please let the priest know ahead of time if you plan to come for confession after Matins, especially if there is more than one in your group.

Cleaning Crews: The lists for the cleaning crews have been rebalanced. Look for the new lists this week in your email.

Building Fund Watch

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

Liturgy of St. Basil

Building fund balance: \$232,238. 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.

From Saint Maximus 200 Chapters on Knowledge

2.41 Those who animal-like live solely according to the senses make the Logos flesh for themselves in a dangerous way: they misuse God's creation in order to indulge the passions. They do not understand the principle of that wisdom which is revealed to all; that we should know and praise God through His creation and that by means of the visible world we should understand whence we came, what we are, for what purpose we were made and where we are going. On the contrary, they travel through this present age in darkness, fumbling with both hands merely their ignorance of God.

2.45 Those who think of the Lord only as the creator of things which are generated and which decay mistake Him, as Mary Magdalene did, for the gardener. It is therefore for their own good that the Master avoids contact with such persons, saying, 'Do not touch Me' (John 20:17); for they are not yet capable of ascending with Him to the Father. He knows that those who are predisposed to think of Him in such mean terms will suffer harm if they draw near to Him.

2.56 He who asks to receive his daily bread (cf. Matt. 6:11) does not automatically receive it in its fullness as it is in itself: he receives it according to his own capacity as recipient. The Bread of Life (cf. John 6:35) gives Himself in His love to all who ask, but not in the

same way to all; for He gives Himself more fully to those who have performed great acts of righteousness, and in smaller measure to those who have not achieved so much. He gives Himself to each person according to that person's spiritual ability to receive Him.

(continued from front) however, the Lord allows the soul to be pestered increasingly by demons. This is to teach it to discriminate correctly between good and evil, and to make it more humble through the deep shame it feels during its purification because of the way in which it is defiled by demonic thoughts.

Troparia and Kontakia for September 22

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

Apostle Quadratus, Troparion, tone 3

O holy Apostle Quadratus, / intercede with the merciful God / that he grant unto our soul // forgiveness of our transgressions.

Hieromartyr Phocas, Troparion, tone 4

As a sharer of the ways and a successor / to the throne of the Apostles, O inspired of God, / thou foundest discipline / to be a means of ascent to divine vision. / Wherefore, having rightly divided the word of truth, / thou didst also contest for the Faith even unto blood, / O Hieromartyr Phocas. / Intercede with Christ our God // 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

"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*