

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, October 27th, 2019

October 27th Sunday tone 2 Martyr Nestor

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

2:00 p.m. Vespers

October 28th Monday St. Job of Pochaev

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

October 29th Tuesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

October 30th Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins, Confession

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

October 31st Thursday

6:00 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vespers

6:00 p.m. All Saints Party

November 1st Friday

6:00 p.m. Vespers

7:00 p.m. Class: Basics 301 The Creed "The Son"

November 2nd Saturday

9:30 a.m. Russian Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

November 3rd Sunday tone 3 Synaxis of Unmercenary Healers

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

2:00 p.m. Vespers

St. Diodochus: 100 Chapters on Spiritual Knowledge & Discrimination

84. The Lord says in the Gospel that a strong man cannot be expelled from a house unless someone stronger than himself disarms him, binds him and casts him out (cf. Matt. 12:29). How, then, can such an intruder, cast out in this shameful way, return and dwell together with the true master who now lives freely in his own house? A king, after defeating a rebel who has tried to usurp his throne, does not dream of allowing him to share his palace. Rather, he slays him immediately, or binds him and hands him over to his soldiers for prolonged torture and a miserable death.

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

Announcements for October 27

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). *Reminder: besides not willfully breaking the fasts on Wednesday and Friday the week before, fasting includes abstaining completely from all food and drink from midnight until reception of Holy Communion. Children 8 and older should be fasting as well as adults. This is the Church's discipline. Those who will not follow it are not blessed to commune. Those who cannot fast should speak with their confessor. Yes, that includes coffee.*

Temple Wine given for the health and salvation of Robert Rehmet. **Temple Oil** given for the health and salvation of William.

The Special Offering this week is for St. Gabriel Mission, Azle.

A New Mission Council will be installed today at the end of Divine Liturgy.

Our All Saints Party with a potluck meal will be this Thursday evening at 6:00 after Vespers. Children should dress as a saint or biblical character and bring some short clues as to their identity.

Classes this Week:

Friday, 7:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodox 301 The Creed, Article Two: "In One Lord Jesus Christ."

Church School for children turning 13 during the school year through high school starts today after Liturgy.

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 \$3206.87 in tithes and offerings; this month we have given \$8445.38 our monthly budget is \$16,084; (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). Candles \$67.50 Special Offering for Seminarian \$169, Building Fund \$150, New Chalice \$20. Attendance last week: Vigil 57, Liturgy 127. *Please note: we do not report funds given electronically until the end of the month.*

Please Pray for our catechumens Colby and Rebekah Meals and their children Caleb, Jacob, Joshua, Abigail, and Benjamin, Robert Peterson, Ashley Carpenter, Makenna Baldwin, Luellen Bassano, Mark Robertson, and for David, Anita, Sarah, Rachel, Sammuel, Aaron; for our inquirers Mark Jones, the Dean family, and Robert Osborne. Pray for Joseph and Olga Fincher, who is seriously ill, for Eugene Hollembeak back at home, for Elizabeth Terry, and Thomas Harper who is in South America, and Paul Charles Johnson in Serbia.

Building Update: Our architect, Andrew Gould, will be visiting the weekend of November 10 to attend the presentation of our revised design to the Historical Landmark Committee on November 11. He will give a presentation about his design for us and be available to take questions.

Building Fund Watch

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

Liturgy of St. Basil

Building fund balance: \$234,135. 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

2.77 So long as the soul advances 'from strength to strength' (Ps. 84:7) and 'from glory to glory' (2 Cor. 3:18), that is, so long as it advances from one degree of virtue to a greater degree and from one level of spiritual knowledge to a higher level, it remains a 'sojourner', one who has no permanent home, as in the saying, 'My soul has long been a sojourner' (Ps. 120:6. LXX). For great is the distance and many are the levels of knowledge through which the soul must pass before it reaches 'the place of the miraculous tabernacle, the house of God itself, with the voice of exultation and thanksgiving, and the sound of feasting' (Ps. 42:4. LXX). It advances continually from one hymn of praise to another, from one level of divine contemplation to another, full of joy and thankfulness for what it has already seen. For all those who have received the Spirit of grace into their hearts celebrate in this festive manner, crying 'Abba, Father' (Gal. 4:6).

2.78 'The place of the miraculous tabernacle' is a dispassionate and untroubled state of virtue in which the Logos of God adorns the soul like a tabernacle with the varied beauties of the virtues. 'The house of God' is spiritual knowledge compounded of many different forms of contemplation when God dwells in a soul, filling it from the bowl of wisdom. 'Exultation' is the soul's leap of joy at the riches of the virtues. 'Thanksgiving' is gratitude for the bountiful outpouring of wisdom. 'The sound of feasting' is the unceasing

mystical hymn of glory, which exultation and thanksgiving combine to form.

Troparia and Kontakia for October 27

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 2

When Thou, didst descend to death, O Life Immortal / Thou didst slay Hell with the lightning-flash of Thy Divinity, / and, when from the nether regions Thou didst raise the dead, / all the powers of Heaven cried out: / ‘O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!’

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.

Martyr Nestor, tone 4

In his sufferings, O Lord, / Thy Martyr Nestor 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 2

Thou didst rise from the grave, all –powerful Saviour; / and Hades, seeing the wonder, was affrighted; / and the dead arose; and creation, beholding, rejoiceth with Thee; / and with Thee Adam also is glad; / and the world, O my Saviour, hymneth Thee forever.

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.

Martyr Nestor, Kontakion, tone 2

Having fought the good fight, thou hast now inherited immortal glory / for thou becamest an excellent warrior of the Master / through the supplications of the martyr Demetrios. // Wherefore, cease not to pray for us all, O wise Nestor.

“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*
