

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission, Denton

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Bulletin for Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

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**November 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday tone 3 Synaxis of Unmercenary Healers**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Church School

2:00 p.m. Vespers

**November 4<sup>th</sup> Monday**

6:00 a.m. Matins

6:00 p.m. Vespers

**November 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday**

6:00 a.m. Matins

3:00 p.m. Vespers

**November 6<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

6:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Vespers

**November 7<sup>th</sup> Thursday**

6:00 a.m. Matins

3:00 p.m. Vespers

**November 8<sup>th</sup> Friday**

6:00 a.m. Matins

6:00 p.m. Vespers

**November 9<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

**November 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday tone 4**

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Church School

2:30 p.m. Vespers

3:00 p.m. Parish Thanksgiving Meal

St. Diodochus: 100 Chapters on Spiritual Knowledge & Discrimination

85. The reason why we have both good and wicked thoughts together is not, as some suppose, because the Holy Spirit and the devil dwell together in our intellect, but because we have not yet consciously experienced the goodness of the Lord. As I have said before, grace at first conceals its presence in those who have been baptized, waiting to see which way the soul inclines; but when the whole man has turned towards the Lord, it then reveals to the heart its presence there with a feeling which words cannot express, once again waiting to see which way the soul inclines. At the same time, however, it allows the arrows of the devil, to wound the soul at the most inward point of its sensitivity, so as to make the soul search out God with warmer resolve and more humble disposition. If, then, a (*cont. on p. 3*)

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

## Announcements for November 3

**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 Daniel Kaufman, Mary L., and Claire. **Temple Oil** given for the health and salvation of Gregg, Basil, Terence.

**The Special Offering** this week is for a new hall at Holy Apostles, Tulsa.

### No Classes this Week

**Fr. Justin** will be at Holy Archangels monastery this week to celebrate their feast day.

**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.

*There are no giving figures for last week yet: our monthly budget is \$16,084; (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). Candles \$84 Special Offering for St. Gabriel Mission \$130. 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, Mark Jones, and for David, Anita, Sarah, Rachel, Sammuell, Aaron; the Dean family, and Robert Osborne. Pray for Joseph and Olga Fincher, who is seriously ill, for Eugene & Rachel

Hollemeak, for Elizabeth Terry, and Thomas Harper who is in South America.

**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

2.83 According to the text, 'But we have the intellect [mind] of Christ' (1 Cor. 2:16), the saints are said to receive Christ's intellect. But this does not come to us through the loss of our own intellectual power; nor does it come to us as a supplementary part added to our intellect; nor does it pass essentially and hypostatically into our intellect. Rather, it illumines the power of our intellect with its own quality and conforms the activity of our intellect to its own. In my opinion the person who has Christ's intellect is he whose intellection accords with that of Christ and who apprehends Christ through all things.

2.84 According to the text, 'We are the body of Christ and each of us is one of its members' (cf. 1 Cor. 12:27), we are said to be the body of Christ. We do not become this body through the loss of our own bodies; nor again because Christ's body passes into us hypostatically or is divided into members; but rather because we conform to the likeness of the Lord's flesh by shaking off the corruption of sin. For just as Christ in His manhood was sinless by nature both in flesh and in soul, so we too who believe in Him, and have clothed ourselves in Him through the Spirit, can be without sin in Him if we so choose.

*(from front page)* man begins to make progress in keeping the commandments and calls ceaselessly upon the Lord Jesus, the fire of God's grace spreads even to the heart's more outward organs of perception, consciously burning up the tares in the field of the soul. As a result, the demonic attacks cannot now penetrate to the depths of the soul, but can prick only that part of it which is subject to passion. When the ascetic has finally acquired all the virtues - and in particular the total shedding of possessions - then grace illumines his whole being with a deeper awareness; warming him with great love of God. From now on the the breath of the Holy Spirit, arousing in the heart the winds of peace, extinguishes them

while they are still in mid-air. Nevertheless, at times God allows the demons to attack even one who has reached this measure of perfection, and leaves his intellect without light, so that his free will shall not be completely constrained by the bonds of grace. The purpose of this is not only to lead us to overcome sin through ascetic effort but also to help us advance still further in spiritual experience. For what is considered perfection in a pupil is far from perfect when compared with the richness of God, who instructs us in a love which would still seek to surpass itself, even if we were able to climb to the top of Jacob's ladder by our own efforts.

### **Troparia and Kontakia for November 3**

#### **Resurrectional Troparion, Tone 3**

Let those in Heaven rejoice, / let those on Earth be glad; / for the Lord hath wrought a mighty act with His arm./ He hath trampled down death by death; / He hath become the first-born of the dead.  
/ He hath delivered us from the womb of hell, / and hath granted the world / great mercy.

#### **St. Maximus, Troparion, tone 3**

#### **Unmercenary Healers, Troparion, tone 8**

O holy unmercenary physicians and wonderworkers, / visit our infirmities. // Freely have ye received; freely give unto us.

#### **Resurrectional Kontakion, Tone 3**

Today Thou didst rise from the grave, O compassionate One, / and didst lead us away from the gates of death. / Today Adam exulteth, and Eve rejoiceth. / Together with the prophets and patriarchs // they unceasingly hymn the Divine might of Thine authority.

#### **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.

#### **Unmercenary Healers, Kontakion, tone 2**

Having received the grace of healings, / ye extend health to those in need, / O all-glorious physicians and wonderworkers. / By your visitation cast down the audacity of the enemy, // healing the world through your miracles.

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“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*

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