

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Mission

2026 W. Oak Street • Denton, TX 76201

(940) 565-6753 • www.stmaximus.org

Priest Justin Frederick (940) 293-3032 cell

Bulletin for Sunday, January 10th, 2021

January 10th Sunday After Theophany; SS Gregory & Theophan

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour

January 11th Monday

6:00 a.m. Matins

3:00 p.m. Vespers

January 12th Tuesday St. Sava of Serbia; Martyr Tatiana

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

4:00 p.m. Vespers

January 13th Wednesday

7:00 p.m. Vespers

January 14th Thursday Leavetaking. St. Nina

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

3:00 p.m. Vespers

January 15th Friday

6:00 p.m. Vespers

7:00 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy

January 16th Saturday

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vigil

January 17th Sunday St. Anthony the Great

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour

Jean-Claude Larchet, the Fathers on Pride

As we have shown, man was created to exalt himself towards God and finally to be united to Him in the fullness of love and knowledge. Man was destined to accomplish this elevation of himself towards God *in God* by actualizing the likeness to God on the basis of the virtues that had been placed as seeds in his nature, and by progressively appropriating the grace given by the Spirit. Through the synergy of his own efforts and divine grace—in other words, in collaboration or cooperation with God—was man destined to be exalted. This self-exaltation should have been accomplished in union with his fellow man and was supposed to integrate the entire cosmos in a way so as *(continued on page 3)*

Announcements for January 10

To Our Visitors: Welcome! Please join us after the service for coffee, food, and fellowship. If you would, fill out a visitor's card for us and leave it in the basket on the candle table by the door.

Temple Wine offered for the health and salvation Constantine, **Temple Oil** offered in memory of William Rodgers and for the health and salvation of Amber Pankau.

Attendance at Services: our attendance remains somewhat limited. Please email or text the priest if you desire to come to Liturgy on Sunday. As there is always room at Vespers, Matins, Vigils, and Liturgies during the week, feel free to attend those services without special notice. Please pray faithfully at home: read Vespers Saturday evening, and the Hours and the Typica Sunday morning if you are not attending church that day, joining thereby with your brethren in spirit.

The Special Offering today will be for our seminarians.

Many Years to the newly-illuminated Mark Jones and Mark Robertson and their sponsors, Paul Johnson and Sabbas Freas!

St Maximus: Our patronal feast this year falls Thursday, January 21. We'll keep the feast with a special Vigil Wednesday night at 7:00 and Divine Liturgy Thursday morning at 9:00 with food to follow.

20th Anniversary: July 28, 2021 will mark 20 years since the founding of St. Maximus and the first service.

Classes this Week

Friday, 7:00 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy

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 \$4559 in tithes and offerings; candles \$95.50; special offering for St Elizabeth, Minsk \$61; building fund \$3045; our monthly budget is \$17,560; (the money received above budget goes to the building fund). May God bless you for your faithful giving! *Please note: we do not report funds given electronically until the end of the month.*

Confession will be heard after Matins, Vespers, and Vigil during the week or by appointment.

Please Pray for our catechumens preparing for Holy Illumination: Elizabeth Dakak, and the Morris children and for our new catechumens Peter Dimitrov & Haley Smith, our catechumens Makenna Baldwin, Robert Boguski, Branson Clements, and for our inquirers the Dean family, Drew (Andrew), Haydon Grosch, Ethan Peterson, Lance Rawlinson, Vincent, and Carter Sims. Pray for Thomas Harper who is in South America, and for Eugene & Rachel Hollembeak, and for all in need.

Building Fund Watch

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

Liturgy of St. Basil

Building fund balance: \$294,510.

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

2.45 Trials are sent to some so as to take away past sins, to others so as to eradicate sins now being committed, and to yet others so as to forestall sins which may be committed in the future. These are distinct from the trials that arise in order to test men in the way that Job was tested.

2.46 The sensible man, taking into account the remedial effect of the divine prescriptions, gladly bears the sufferings which they bring upon him, since he is aware that they have no cause other than his own sin. But when the fool, ignorant of the supreme wisdom of God's providence, sins and is corrected, he regards either God or men as responsible for the hardships he suffers.

2.47 Certain things stop the movement of the passions and do not allow them to grow; others subdue them and make them diminish. For instance, where desire is concerned, fasting, labor and vigils do not allow it to grow, while withdrawal, contemplation, prayer and intense longing for God subdue it and make it disappear. The same is true with regard to anger. Forbearance, freedom from rancor, gentleness, for example, all arrest it and prevent it from growing, while love, acts of charity, kindness and compassion make it diminish.

(cont. from front) to unite it in him to God. But man perverted this natural tendency by exalting himself, deifying himself, and wishing to become "like a god" according to the Serpent's promise, by himself and without God—by his own strength and without grace. Establishing himself and exalting himself *without God*, he established and exalted himself *against God*. On the other hand, instead of establishing and exalting himself towards God in communion with his fellow man, man did this against his neighbor, thus dividing the one human nature.

Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, January 10

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 6

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb / and the guards became as dead men, / Mary stood by Thy grave, / seeking Thine immaculate body, / Thou didst despoil hell, not being tempted by it, / Thou didst go to meet the Virgin granting life, / O Lord, who didst rise from the dead, / glory to Thee.

Theophany, Troparion, tone 1

When Thou, O Lord wast baptized in the Jordan / the worship of the Trinity was made manifest. / For the voice of the Father bare witness to Thee, / naming Thee His beloved Son. / And the Spirit, in the form of dove, / confirmed the certainty of that word. / O Christ our God, who hast manifested Thyself and enlightened the world // 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.

St. Theophan, Troparion, tone 8

O guide of Orthodoxy, teacher of piety and purity, / ascetic of Vyshensk, divinely wise and holy hierarch Theophan: / By thy writings thou didst explain the Word of God, / and hast shown the way to salvation unto all the faithful. // Entreat Christ God that our souls be saved.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 6

With His life-originating palm, from the valleys of gloom / the Life-giver Christ God hath raised all the dead. / He hath bestowed resurrection on the human dough, / for He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, and Life, and God of all.

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.

St. Theophan, Kontakion, tone 4

O holy hierarch Theophan, / namesake of the Theophany: / by thy teachings thou didst enlighten many of the people. / And standing now with the angels before the throne of the Holy Trinity, // pray thou unceasingly on behalf of us all.

Theophany, Kontakion, tone 4

Today Thou hast appeared to the universe / and Thy Light, O Lord, hath shone on us, / who with understanding praise Thee: / Thou hast come and revealed Thyself, // O Light unapproachable!

“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*
