

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 17th, 2021

January 17th Sunday St. Anthony the Great

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

2:00 p.m. Vespers

January 18th Monday SS Athanasius & Cyril of Alexandria

5:00 p.m. Vespers

January 19th Tuesday St. Mark of Ephesus

6:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

3:00 p.m. Vespers

January 20th Wednesday

6:00 a.m. Matins

7:00 p.m. Vigil

January 21st Thursday St. Maximus the Confessor

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

January 22nd Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins

6:00 p.m. Vespers

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

January 23rd Saturday

7:30 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vigil

January 24th Sunday St. Xenia

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

Jean-Claude Larchet, the Fathers on Pride

Pride drives man to pit himself against his neighbor, and before affirming his superiority in relation to him, to assert what distinguishes him and what he believes makes him fundamentally different from his neighbor. The archetype of this attitude is presented to us in the Gospel by example of the Pharisee who says: "I am not like other men. . . or even like this tax collector." Through pride, man feels the need to compare himself and establish hierarchies before concluding that he is superior, absolutely or relatively in some area or other—even in all the areas he can imagine. For this, he is led in particular to judge his neighbor unfavorably and to criticize almost systematically his way of thinking and living. *vol. I, p. 245.*

Announcements for January 17

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 & in memory of Kyle Chester Robertson and Nina Tokaryeva;

Temple Oil offered in memory of William Rodgers and for the health and salvation of DW.

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, but it does help the priest to know you plan to attend a Liturgy. 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 St. Elizabeth Monastery & Orphanage, Minsk, Belarus. A nun from the monastery will be at St. Seraphim Cathedral in February, and we'd like to have a gift for them to help support their good work.

St Maximus: Our patronal feast is this 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 \$3162.56 in tithes and offerings; in January, we have given \$7731.56; candles \$118.50; special offering for seminarians \$210; building fund \$20; 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. It helps the priest if you let him know ahead of time that you are planning to come, but not required.

Many Thanks to those of you who participated in the generous gift made in the name of the parish to Fr. Justin and Matushka on the occasion of the 20-year anniversary of his ordination. Thank you for your love and generosity.

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 Howell, 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

2.48 When a man's intellect is constantly with God, his desire grows beyond all measure into an intense longing for God and his incensiveness is completely transformed into divine love. For by continual participation in the divine radiance his intellect becomes totally filled with light; and when it has reintegrated its passible aspect, it redirects this aspect towards God, as we have said, filling it with an incomprehensible and intense longing for Him and with unceasing love, thus drawing it entirely away from worldly things to the divine.

2.49 If a man is not envious or angry, and does not bear a grudge against someone who has offended him, that does not necessarily mean that he loves him. For, while still lacking love, he may be capable of not repaying evil with evil, in accordance with the commandment (cf. Rom. 12:17), and yet by no means be capable of rendering good for evil without forcing himself. To be spontaneously disposed to 'do good to those who you hate you' (Matt. 5:44) belongs to perfect spiritual love alone.

2.50 If a man does not love someone, it does not necessarily mean that he hates him; and conversely, if he does not hate him, it does not necessarily mean that he loves him, since he can be neutral towards him, that is, neither love him nor hate him. For the disposition to love is created only in the five ways listed in the ninth

text of this Century, one commendable, one of an intermediate kind, and three reprehensible.

Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, January 17

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 7

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. / To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. / For the myrrh-bearers Thou didst change their lamentation into joy. / And Thou didst command Thine Apostles, O Christ God, / to proclaim that Thou art risen, / granting unto the world great mercy.

St. Anthony, Troparion, tone 4

Emulating the ways of the zealous Elijah, / and following the Baptist with forthright steps, O father Anthony, / thou wast a dweller in the desert, / and hast made the whole world steadfast by thy supplications.
// Wherefore entreat Christ God, that our souls be saved.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 7

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, / for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. / Hell is bound, while the prophets rejoice and cry: / the Savior hath come to those in faith. / Enter, ye faithful, into the Resurrection.

St. Anthony, Kontakion, tone 2

Having cast off the tumults of life, / thou didst live a life of stillness to the end, / emulating the Baptist in every way, O all venerable one. // Wherefore, we honor thee with him, O Anthony, first among the fathers.

From The Life of Anthony

“Rectitude of soul consists in it having its spiritual part in its natural state as created. But, on the other hand, when it swerves and turns away from its natural state, that is called vice of the soul.”

“Wherefore, children, let us hold fast our discipline {*ascesis*}, and let us not be careless. For in it, the Lord is our fellow-worker...”

St. Anthony the Great

“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*
