

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Church

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Priest Justin Frederick (940) 293-3032 cell

Warden: Adam Skelton; Treasurer: Meghan Jones; Council Members: David Charpie,
Brian Freas, Jonathan Strand

Bulletin for Sunday, September 19th, 2021

September 19th Sunday

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

12:00 p.m. Annual Meeting

September 20th Monday

6:30 a.m. Midnight Office, Matins

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

September 21st Tuesday Leavetaking of the Cross

6:30 a.m. Midnight Office, Matins

3:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

September 22nd Wednesday

6:30 a.m. Midnight Office, Matins

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

September 23rd Thursday Nativity of St. John the Baptist

7:30 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:30 p.m. Vespers

7:30 p.m. Class: Basics of Orthodoxy

September 24th Friday St. Silouan the Athonite

6:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

September 25th Saturday St. Sergius of Radonezh

7:30 a.m. Matins

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

September 26th Sunday St. John the Theologian

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

3:00 p.m. *Wedding, St. John's, Reception St. Maximus*

I wanted to wash away with tears the handwriting of my sins, O Lord,
and to make the rest of my life pleasing to Thee, but the enemy draweth
me and battlenth with my soul. Save me, lest I utterly perish, O Lord..

Sunday Vespers, tone 4

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

Announcements for September 19

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.

The Special Offering today will be for the Decatur Mission.

Temple Oil offered for the health and salvation of Zoe Frederick.

The Teen Class will not meet today.

The Sunday Basics class will not meet today.

Classes this Week:

Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Basics of Orthodoxy 301 Creed

Class Coming in October: We plan to study the two Epistles of St. Peter this fall, starting the second week of October.

Our Twenty-Year Anniversary will be celebrated with Bishop Gerasim Sunday, October 3, with a hierarchical Divine Liturgy here and a banquet at the Great White Barn of the Wells family in Decatur. The meal will be catered. Please let Fr. Justin know if you plan to attend.

St. Ambrose of Optina said, "Abundance and plenty spoil people. From fat, as they say, even animals go mad."

St. Nikon of Optina said, "How good it is to be in church to hear the holy prayers, the chanting, and the psalms! What depths are concealed in the psalms and other sacred prayers! Of course, the reader cannot grasp everything, but if just one thought makes an impression, that is good."

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 is also a box for alms at the candle table.

Last week, we gave \$3464 in tithes and offerings; In September, we have given \$4344.51; our monthly budget is \$17,560; (the money received above budget goes to the building fund); Building Fund, \$2000; Special Offering for Decatur Mission, \$194; Candles \$40. May God bless you for your faithful giving! *Please note: we do not report funds given electronically until the end of the month.* Attendance: Saturday Vigil 50, Sunday Liturgy 136, Elevation of the Cross Vigil/Liturgy, Thursday Liturgy 51.

The Annual Meeting will be held today at noon after Divine Liturgy. Everyone is welcome to attend. Voting members are Orthodox adults of age 18 and up who are members here, have partaken of the Sacraments of Confession and Holy Communion in the past year, and help support the parish financially by their tithes and offerings. The main business this year will be to approve an annual budget, elect a parish council and a delegate to next year's All-American Council in Baltimore (July 18-22), and to update the parish on the progress of our building project.

Please Pray for our catechumens Makenna Baldwin, Haley Smith, David and Melissa Sims and their children Carter, Molly, and Caroline, Reid Jones, Ethan Peterson, Vincent Howell, Lance Rawlinson, Delsie Bussell, Amanda Putnam, Haydon Grosch, and Ben Pimpler and for our inquirers Ryan McDowell, Douglas Burr, Janelle Schnulle, Johnny. Pray for Eugene & Rachel Hollembek, and for all in need. Thank God for Adam Kaufman's successful surgery!

Building Fund Watch

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

Liturgy of St. Basil

Building fund balance at end of August: \$385,793.56

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

3.68 If a man has cut off the passions and so has freed his thoughts from passion, it does not necessarily mean that his thoughts are already orientated towards the divine. It may be that he feels no passionate attraction either for human or for divine things. This occurs in the case of those simply living the life of ascetic practice without yet having been granted spiritual knowledge. Such men keep the passions at bay either by fear of punishment or by hope of the kingdom.

3.69 We walk by faith, not by sight' (2 Cor. 5:7) and we gain spiritual knowledge through symbols, indistinctly as in a mirror (cf. 1 Cor. 13:12). Thus we must devote much time to this kind of knowledge, so that by long study and constant application we may achieve a persistent state of contemplation.

3.70 If we cut off the causes of the passions for only a short while, and occupy ourselves with spiritual contemplation without making it our sole and constant concern, we easily revert to the passions of the flesh, gaining nothing from our labor but theoretical knowledge coupled with conceit. The result is a gradual darkening of this knowledge itself and a complete turning of the intellect towards material things.

Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, September 19th

Resurrectional Troparion, tone 4

Having learned the radiant proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, /the women disciples of the Lord cast off the ancestral curse, /and, boasting, told the Apostles: /Death hath been despoiled, Christ God is risen, /granting the world great mercy.

Elevation of the Cross, Troparion tone 1

O Lord, save Thy people / and bless Thine inheritance. / Grant victory to Orthodox Christians / over the enemy; / and by Thy Cross / preserve Thine estate.

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.

Martyrs Trophimus, Sabbatius, Dorymedo, Troparion, tone 8

God who is praised in Trinity hath glorified a trinity of martyrs: / Trophimus, Sabbatius, and Dorymedon. / For, believing in Him, they cast down the enemy. \ By their supplications, O Christ our God, have mercy on us.

Resurrectional Kontakion, tone 4

My Saviour and Deliverer as God/ hath raised out of the grave the earth-born from their bonds / and He hath shattered the gates of hell / and as Master / He hath risen on the third day.

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.

Martyrs Trophimus, Sabbatius, Dorymedo, Kontakion, tone 8

As the foundation of the athletes and confirmation of piety / the Church doth honor and glorify thy luminous suffering, / O right wise and glorious Trophimus, ever-hymned and bless'd athlete. /With those who suffered with thee ask cleansing for those who hymn thee, in that thou art invincible.

Elevation of the Cross, Kontakion tone 4

As Thou wast voluntarily crucified for our sake, / so grant mercy, O Christ God, to those who are called by Thy name; / make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power, / granting them victories over the enemy, / by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace.

“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*
