

St. Maximus the Confessor Orthodox Church

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

Bulletin for Sunday, November 7th, 2021

November 7th Sunday Synaxis of Unmercenary Healers

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

1:00 p.m. Myrrhbearers' Meeting

November 10th Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Class: I Peter

7:00 p.m. Vespers, Confession

November 11th Thursday

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:30 p.m. Vespers

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

November 12th Friday

6:00 a.m. Matins

6:00 p.m. *Vespers, Confession in Decatur*

November 13th Saturday

9:00 a.m. *Divine Liturgy, Decatur*

5:00 p.m. Vigil, Confession

November 14th Sunday Apostle Philip, St. Gregory Palamas

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

3:00 p.m. Parish Thanksgiving Meal

The multiform serpent, having seen how sluggish I am in profitable deeds, transformeth himself into a disposition for the vilest and foulest of things and showeth the sweetness of sin, which is his own evil activity and is contrary to the divine commandments. And thus through evil habits he prompteth me to take wrong for right.

After walking along every iniquitous and sinful path with zeal, and forsaking till the end the way of righteousness, oppressed I have now approached the gates of death, and I call: O my kind Jesus, having directed the path of our earthly lives back to the broadness of true repentance, save me and grant me correction, and vouchsafe me divine pardon before I die. *Monday Vespers, tone 3*

Announcements for November 7

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 All Saints of North America Orthodox Church in Albuquerque, NM, to help with the construction of their temple.

Temple Wine given for the health and salvation of Michelle Frederick for her birthday and nameday.

Classes this Week:

Sunday, Coffee Hour, Basics of Orthodoxy 101

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. I Peter

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

Our Parish Thanksgiving meal will be held next Sunday at 3:00.

The Nativity Fast begins November 15. Plan now.

A Few Points of Order in Church: Any infant or child held by an adult for Communion should be held on the adult's right side. Lay babies flat with head in crook of right arm. (This makes communing them much easier and safer for your right-handed priest.) Parents commune before children to set an example. It is preferable for families commune together. **All:** please hold your head tipped slightly back, mouth open, and keep still. The priest will put the Mysteries in your mouth; you do not need to chase the spoon with your mouth. **Parents:** children who start to scream or make significant noise, if they cannot be calmed within a few seconds, should be taken out to calm them. Those who are hard of hearing will thank you. **All:** Liturgy begins with "Blessed is the Kingdom" and ends with the Dismissal. We all should remain in church unless there is a compelling reason to exit. If we must go out, we should avoid conversation and say the Jesus Prayer until we are able to come back in. **Parents,** please be sure your children and teens are not going in and out during service. Observing these points of order does much to reduce distraction to ourselves and others during Divine Liturgy.

The Myrrhbearers, our burial ministry, will meet today at 1:00 p.m. Please see Brian Freas, Heather Huse, or Emmelia McAnear for more information. Look for their new brochure on the candle table.

St. Joseph of Optina said, "Strive to struggle against laziness and drive it away and force yourself to labor in prayer. Remember that you must unflinchingly force yourself in order to receive salvation."

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 \$4507.25 in tithes and offerings; this month we have given \$19,591.66 plus \$7659.06 electronically for a total of \$27,256.72 in October; our monthly budget is \$19,300; (the money received above budget goes to the building fund); Special offering for Building Fund, \$250; Candles cir. \$100, special offering for seminarians \$45. 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 48, Sunday Liturgy 149.

St. Macarius of Optina said, "You must treat incurable diseases with faith, fleeing to God and His saints; but when someone does not receive healing, then it is evident that he must carry this cross, sent for the salvation of his soul."

Please Pray for our catechumens Makenna Baldwin, Haley Smith, David and Melissa Sims and their children Carter, Molly, and Caroline, 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 Jelinek, Glen Farris, Rachel Simms. Pray for sick Eugene & Rachel Hollembeak, Adam Kaufman, and for all whose employment is threatened by shot mandates.

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 October: \$404,298.93

And if blood of Martyrs is to flow on the steps

We must first build the steps;

And if the Temple is to be cast down

We must first build the Temple. *T.S. Eliot*

From Saint Maximus 400 Chapters on Love

3.86 Food was created for nourishment and healing. Those who eat food for purposes other than these two are therefore to be condemned as self-indulgent, because they misuse the gifts God has given us for our use. In all things misuse is a sin.

3.87 Do not compare yourself with weaker men but rather apply yourself to fulfilling the commandment of love. For by comparing yourself with the weak you will fall into the pit of conceit, but by applying yourself to the commandment of love you will reach the height of humility.

3.88 It is one thing to fight against a passion-free thought so that it will not stimulate a passion; it is another to fight against an impassioned thought so that there will be no assent to it. Both these two forms of counter-attack prevent the thoughts themselves from persisting.

3.89 Resentment is linked with rancor. When the intellect forms the image of a brother's face with a feeling of resentment, it is clear that it harbors rancor against him. 'The way of the rancorous leads to death' (Prov. 12:28. LXX), because 'whoever harbors rancor is a transgressor' (Prov. 21:24. LXX).

Troparia and Kontakia for Sunday, November 7th

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.

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.

Kontakion of the Unmercenaries, 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.

"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*
