

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

Welcome to Holy Trinity Parish

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Today is the Sunday before Theophany. The Epistle is 2 Timothy 4:5-8. The Gospel is from Mark 1:1-8. Prophet Malachi.

Holy Trinity is a diverse and welcoming parish of the Carpatho Russian Diocese, under the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

His Grace, Bishop Gregory of Nyssa, is our diocesan ruling hierarch.

Divine Liturgy is offered Sunday at 10 am. As reminder only those Orthodox Christians who are properly prepared are invited to receive Holy Communion.

Everyone is invited downstairs following Divine Liturgy for Coffee Hour and Fellowship.



Come down and meet Fr. Luke and the parishioners.

Our parish offers many opportunities to pray, to study and learn more about Jesus Christ and His Holy Orthodox Church.

If you have any questions about the Orthodox Church, our Faith, or our

parish please feel free to contact Fr. Luke. He is more than happy to meet with you and talk.

Schedule of Services and Events for this week

Monday, January 4, 6 PM – Prayer Group

Monday, January 4, 7 PM - Spirituality Class

Tuesday, January 5, 8:30 AM – Royal Hours

Tuesday, January 5, 7 PM – Vigil for Theophany

Wednesday, January 6, 9 AM – Liturgy for Theophany

Thursday, January 7, 8:30 AM – Akathist to St. John the Baptist

Friday, January 8, 9:30 AM – Old Testament Class

Sunday, January 10, 10 AM – Pro-Liturgy

The Eve of Theophany, January 5 is a strict fast day.

This is the first of three announcements for the Annual meeting which is set for Sunday, January 24.

Parish Council Officers are as follows:

Susan Sulich - President
Harry Fong – Vice President
Monika Mihaly – Treasurer

Lorraine Fedyna – Secretary
Open – Assistant Treasurer
Nicholas Fong, Luke Faubel and Christopher Mihaly – Member at Large

Readers Schedule

1/3 – Stasia Mihaly
1/10 – Susan Paltauf
1/17 – Harry Fong
1/24 – Susan Sulich
1/31 – Sandi Fong

Coffee Hour

1/3 – Open
1/10 – Pro-Liturgy
1/17 –Catered for 1st Liturgy
1/24 - OPEN

Help Re-stock Our Kitchen:

We are in need of the following items: Decaf Coffee, 10-inch plates, 5-inch plates (cake size) and napkins.

Offering Envelopes | Fr. Nicholas' 1st Liturgy

Weekly Offering

Envelopes: Pick up your weekly offering envelopes for 2016 in the hall.

Fr. Nick Mihaly First Liturgy—Nick Mihaly will serve his first liturgy here on Sunday, January 17th. Following the liturgy, we will have a luncheon to celebrate his ordination. (I don't know if you want

people to R.S.V.P. or we just take a best guess estimate for the count.) Also, we will be giving Nick a set of Vestments as a gift from the parish. Please see Harry Fong if you would like to contribute to this gift.

Catechism Class | New Year's Dance

Our ongoing **catechism class** which meets on Wednesday at 7 PM. Is taking this week off for Theophany We are using the text: *The Living God* by Oliver Clement. We resume class again on January 13.

Our New Year's Dinner Dance is set for Saturday, January 16th starting at 6 p.m. (snow date Jan. 17th at 4:00 p.m.). Tickets are \$35 per person and include dancing with DJ Bill Lopez and a catered dinner. BYOB. Please R.S.V.P. to Bethany or

Susan Sulich by January 10th.

House Blessings

Fr. Luke will be scheduling house blessings. Do not be afraid to call Father to schedule a time. Please keep your calendar open and flexible. Please have the following prepared:

- 1) Have a table or family icon corner set up with a white cloth, candle and a bowl for Holy Water.
- 2) Turn off televisions, radios, and stereos
- 3) Take the telephone off the receiver
- 4) Gather the family together
- 5) Do bring any items you want blessed and names of people for Father to remember at liturgy

like toys, which may cause Father to trip or fall.

2) A table should be prepared where an icon, a candle, a small bowl, holy water and a list of first

names of everyone you want Father to pray for during the service for their health. If you do not have Holy Water, please let Father know and he will bring a bottle of for you to keep.

3) If you have any small items, like crosses or icons, that you want blessed, place them on the table and let Father know.

4) Turn off all radios and TVs. Take the phone off the hook during the short blessing service. Cell phones should be turned off. Just remember to place the phone back on the hook and turn on

your cell phone at the end of the service.

5) Close all doors to rooms you do not want Father to enter -- open all doors and turn the lights on in the home, otherwise.

6) A family member should lead Father around the home during the blessing. Children may do this, girls or boys.

7) If you have a pet, they may also receive a blessing, but please keep them under control to prevent them from jumping on Father or getting under his feet.

8) I look forward to sharing this special blessing with you and your family. Many Years!!

PREPARING YOUR HOME FOR THE BLESSING:

1) Your home does NOT have to be spotless, but should be free of clutter on the floor,

Council Positions Open

We are currently seeking someone to fill the position for our Parish Council of Assistant Treasurer.

Council meets once a month. For job description for Assistant Treasurer, see Vida Bundra or Monika Mihaly.

| Clothing Drive

We are now collecting for our 4th clothing drive.

Penny Social

We have decided to postpone the Penny Social to April 3. Please continue to save items for this fundraiser and a new date will be announced. Our 1st Penny Social was a success mainly because of the quantity and quality of the donations. We will accept any item with a tag or in its original packaging. We are also looking for gently used collector's items including (but not limited to!) china, glassware, jewelry and home décor.

If you would like to help with this Penny Social or have any questions, please contact Kristen Szymanowicz at kszymano@gmail.com or 203.529.3144.

| ACRY Advent Mission Project

The **2015 Advent Mission Project** goal is to support an initiative to build a Habitat for Humanity Home in memory of +Protopresbyter Michael Rosco this coming summer in Mandeville, LA (where Fr. Michael assisted with similar projects in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina). The goal is to raise \$75,000 which will cover the construction costs and building team's expenses, and to find 32 individuals willing to serve on one of four construction teams.

Birthdays

| January | |
|---------------------|----|
| Pablo Gabriel Villa | 3 |
| James Kavallines | 10 |
| Nicholas Huott | 18 |
| Kate Kerpchar | 27 |
| Connie Somoskovec | 30 |

Upcoming Events

Theophany – Wednesday, January 6,

Deacon Nicholas Mihaly priestly ordination - Sunday, January 10 in Johnstown, PA

Fr. Nicholas Mihaly, First liturgy and Celebration – Sunday, January 17

New Year's Dinner Dance - Saturday, January 16th - We are happy to announce that Singer/DJ Bill Lopez will be returning for this event. (Snow date: Sunday, January 17th)

St. Nectarios Service – Thursday, January 21

Annual Parish Meeting – Sunday, January 24

Orthodox Youth Mission Team Meeting - Sunday, January 24

Wild Game Dinner – Saturday, March 5

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“... a place of refuge full of love and joy.”



We're on the Web!
holytrinitydanbury.org

St. Nikodemos of the Holy Mountain: The grace of the Holy Spirit which is given mystically to every Christian . . .

“The grace of the Holy Spirit which is given mystically to every Christian when he is baptized acts and is manifested in proportion to our obedience to the commandments of the Lord. That is, if a Christian obeys the commandments of the Lord more, grace acts with him more, while if he obeys them less, [...]

St. Anthony the Great: Men are often called intelligent wrongly. Intelligent men are not those who . . .

“Men are often called intelligent wrongly. Intelligent men are not those who are erudite in the sayings and books of the wise men of old, but those who have an intelligent soul and can discriminate between good and evil. They avoid what is sinful and harms the soul; and with deep gratitude to God they resolutely adhere by dint of practice to what is good and benefits the soul. These men alone should truly be called intelligent.”

+ St. Anthony the Great, “On the Character of Men and on the Virtuous Life: One Hundred and Seventy Texts,” Text 1, *The Philokalia: The Complete Text (Vol. 1)*

St. Maximos the Confessor: The person who loves God cannot help loving every man as himself . . .

“The person who loves God cannot help loving every man as himself, even though he is grieved by the passions of those who are not yet purified. But when they amend their lives, his delight is indescribable and knows no bounds.”

+ St. Maximos the Confessor, Four Hundred Texts on Love 1.13, [The Philokalia: The Complete Text \(Vol. 2\)](#)

Perogie Sessions to start January 19th

Perogie Sessions—We will start up our Perogie sessions again on Tuesday Jan. 19th. Since our Easter and Western Easter are so far apart this year, we will be having two bake sales on March 19th and April 16th.