

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

Fr. Luke Mihaly

74 Joes Hill Road
Danbury, CT 06811
Rectory (203) 748-0671
Cell (203) 482-6223

PadreLuke@aol.com

www.holytrinitydanbury.org

Diocesan Website: www.acrod.org

Camp Nazareth:
<http://www.campnazareth.org>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/acroddiocese>

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Welcome to Holy Trinity Parish

Today is the Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost. The Epistle is Ephesians 2:14-20. The Gospel is from Luke 17:12-19. Great Martyr Barbara.

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

Sunday, December 4, 11:30 AM – Church School

Sunday, December 4, 12 noon – St. Nicholas Brunch

Sunday, December 4, 3 PM – OYMT Meeting

Monday, December 5, 7 PM – Spirituality Class

Tuesday, December 6, 9 AM – Liturgy St. Nicholas - NO FASTING

Tuesday, December 6, 10:30 AM - Prayer Group

Tuesday, December 6, 7 PM – Making Kielbasa

Wednesday, December 7, 7 PM – Adult Catechism Class

Thursday, December 8, 8:30 AM – Akathist

Friday, December 9, 9:30 AM – Old Testament Class

Friday, December 9, 12 noon – Set up for Bake Sale

Saturday, December 10, 10 AM – Christmas Bake Sale

Saturday, December 10, 3:30 PM – Video Class

December 10, 5 PM – Vespers

Sunday, December 11, 10 AM – Divine Liturgy
Sunday, December 11, 11:30 AM – Church School

Sunday, December 10, 3 PM – OYMT/Mary Kay Fundraiser

Sunday, December 10, 12 noon – Parish Council Meeting

Readers Schedule

12/4 – Bob Faubel
12/11 – Susan Paltauf
12/18 – Nick Fong
12/25 – Paul Toaso

Coffee Hour

12/4 – St. Nicholas Brunch
12/11 – OPEN
12/18 – OPEN
12/25 – Christmas Day

Help Re-stock Our Kitchen:

Paper towels and 10-inch paper plates.

Alcoholism and Addiction | Parish Family Day | Church School Starts

The **Akathist Service to the Icon of the Inexhaustible Cup** has proven to be a great help to all those who know someone or who themselves are struggling with alcoholism and addiction. We at Holy Trinity have quietly started serving the Akathist to the Icon of the Mother of God of the Inexhaustible Cup. If you are interested in attending the service please see Fr. Luke. This service is open to all parishioners. Look here for our next service.

Our next **Family Night** will be Wednesday Dec. 28th. With a visit to the Titans Hockey Game at the Danbury Ice Arena

Church School meets on Sundays. Elementary school students will meet immediately after Divine Liturgy. Fr. Luke will be talking to the parents of the high school students to work on a schedule to meet outside of Sunday.

Woodpecker Food

Woodpecker Food: Our woodpeckers are running out of food. Donations of suet cakes (regular size) would be greatly appreciated

Parish Christmas Card

Christmas card — Today is the last day to sign up for the Parish Christmas card. If you are not at liturgy and want to be on the card, please email Susan Sulich the way you would like your name or your family's name printed on our card. Voluntary donations towards the printing and postage are greatly appreciated.

Dorothy Day Collection

Dorothy Day Collection: We will be collecting men and women's socks, hats and gloves for Dorothy Day during Advent. These are items that are always in short supply during the winter months. A box will be placed in the vestibule of the church and we will bring all the items collected the soup kitchen when we serve in January.

Ladies Ornament Exchange | CrossRoads Scholarship | Prayer Group

Ladies Ornament Exchange: On Friday, December 16th starting at 6:30 p.m. there will be an Ornament Exchange at Susan Sulich's house (81 Rita Dr., New Fairfield, CT). Bring a wrapped Christmas ornament to exchange. R.S.V.P. to Susan ([203-746-6008](tel:203-746-6008)/ssulich@yahoo.com) by 12/12.

The Diocese and a donor are providing scholarships for tuition and travel for two diocesan 11th and 12th grade students to attend the CrossRoad Summer Institute held at Holy Cross/Hellenic College in Brookline, MA.

CONTACT: Fr. Miles at 814-467-7444 or Frmiles@gmail.com by December 22nd, 2016 to apply, or for more information regarding this opportunity.

Prayer Group—Our Women's Prayer Group is now meeting on Tuesday mornings, immediately following services. We are currently reading "Courage to Pray" by Metropolitan Anthony Bloom and George Lefebvre. In this class we are learning about prayer, personal and intercessory, and it is an opportunity to share some of the struggles and encouraging parts of our prayer lives.

St. Nicholas Brunch | Secret Santa

St. Nicholas Brunch—On Sunday, Dec. 4th we will have our St. Nicholas Brunch. We will have a pot luck coffee hour and enjoy a visit from St. Nicholas. Please sign up to bring a main dish, side dish or dessert.

Secret Santa—At our St. Nicholas Brunch we will have a Secret Santa. Everyone who wishes to participate will give their name to Stasia next Sunday, Nov. 20th and will draw one name of a person to buy a gift for (\$15 maximum). Gifts will be exchanged and Secret Santas revealed at the St. Nicholas brunch on Sunday Dec. 4th.

| Shop for a Cause

Shop for a Cause—on Sunday December 11th there will be a Mary Kay Holiday Event at Holy Trinity from 4:00-8:00 p.m. There will be gifts for everyone on your list as well as the latest holiday make up looks and skin care products. A portion of the proceeds will go to the Orthodox Youth Mission Team summer trip to Alaska with OCMC this summer.

Upcoming Events

St. Nicholas Day – Divine Liturgy 9 AM

“A Christmas Carol” – Saturday, December 17th

Choir Workshop — Sunday, January 22nd 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Christmas Bake Sale – Saturday, December 10th 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve – Compline Service – Saturday, December 24 - 7 PM

Orthodox Youth Mission Team Training Session — Sunday, January 22nd 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Council Meeting – Sunday December 11th following liturgy

Christ mas Day - Divine Liturgy 10 AM

Myrrh Streaming Icon Visit — Friday, January 27th

Orthodox Youth Mission Team Mary Kay Fundraiser – Sunday December 11th 4:00-8:00 p.m.

Titans Hockey Family Night Out – December 28

Annual Meeting — Sunday, January 29, 2017

Ladies Ornament Exchange – Friday, December 16th, 6:30 p.m.

Dorothy Day — Friday, January 6, 2017 1:00-5:00 p.m.

New Year’s Dance — Saturday, January 14th

Birthdays

December	
Luke Faubel	4
Michael Kerpchar	8
Trianna Gutzman	10
Chrissanth Gross	22
Marty Howley	26
Elaine Toaso	30

Knitting Group: Our knitting group will be meeting certain Sundays, immediately following coffee hour. All ages and experience levels welcome. If you would like to learn to knit, see Suad for a list of supplies to bring and if you have any questions.

Christmas Craft and Bake Sales | A Christmas Carol

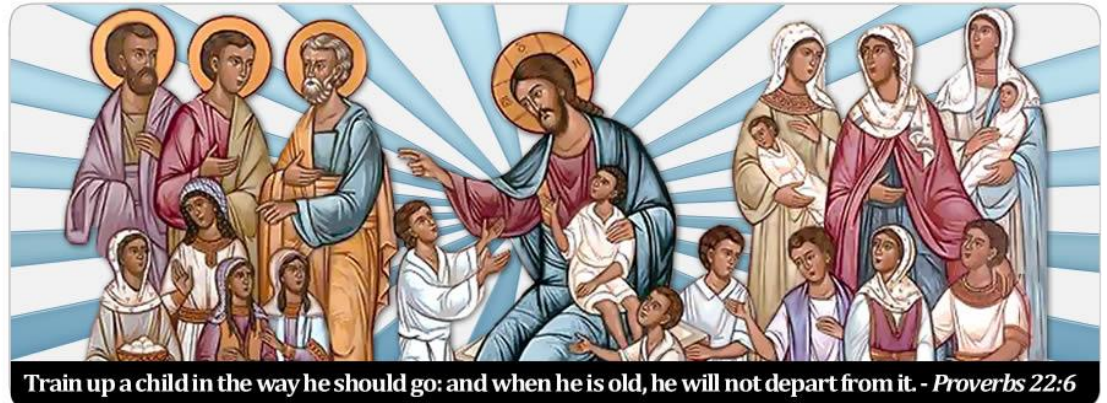
Christmas Bake and Craft Sale—Next Saturday, Dec. 10th, will be our Christmas Craft and Bake Sale from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. We will need helpers to set up and package cookies on Friday, Dec. 9th following our Old Testament Class (about noon) as well as help in the kitchen, filling orders and on the floor on Saturday. A sign up sheet will be going around today. Please give a few hours for this major winter fundraiser if you are can. Many thanks to all those who have been pinching, rolling, baking and cooking for the sale!

Church School Trip to See “A Christmas Carol”—On Saturday, December 17th we will be going to see “A Christmas Carol” starring our very own Ava Baroody as the Ghost of Christmas Past. Show time is 7 PM and the cost of tickets range from \$26 to \$18 for Adults to \$12 for kids under 12. Let Stasia or Fr. Luke know if you wish to attend and how many tickets you will need.

For the Children

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



THE POPULAR SAINT: SAINT NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER

Who doesn't love Saint Nicholas? This wonderful saint is the patron saint for many countries (including Greece and Russia), for cities, for travelers, and for fishermen and sailors. So many children are named after him, especially in Orthodox countries. How did he get to be so popular? Why do people love him so much?

The funny thing about Saint Nicholas is that we don't know too much about his life. He was a bishop, and he went to the first great meeting (the first Ecumenical Council) of the Christian Church. But still, we don't have anything today he might have written or said.

Most of us do know the story of the three poor young girls. Saint Nicholas helped them by giving them money so they could get married and have happy lives. Saint Nicholas had compassion on these children, and he asked God to help them. Even today, Saint Nicholas is a special saint for children. Your parents might pray to him for you, and you can pray to him too!

One prayer to Saint Nicholas says, “You were shown to be a feeder of the hungry, a great pilot for those on the seas, and a healer of the sick. You have proved to be a helper of all that cry to God, Alleluia.”

Saint Nicholas listens to all of us who pray to him!

We celebrate the feastday of Saint Nicholas on Tuesday, December 6th.

Children of Light

Have you ever done something wrong—something that you didn't want *anybody* to know about? When we do that kind of thing, we might try to cover it up. We try to hide it, so nobody ever knows. Let's say you break a dish or tear a book—you might try to hide it in a dark place where nobody can see it. But when we do something right, we want to show everybody! We bring it out into the light so everybody can see it. In the Epistles, we hear about light and darkness. “Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord.” Lots of times, we make mistakes. We say things we shouldn't. We do things we shouldn't. Let's always remember—we are children of light! We are children of our good and loving God. Sometimes we can catch ourselves before we do the wrong thing—before we say something mean to a classmate or to our brother or sister. You can think to yourself, “I am a child of light!” and then, our Lord will show us the right way.

We're on the Web!

holytrinitydanbury.org