

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

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

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/acrodnews>

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<https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>



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Welcome to Holy Trinity Parish

Today is the Sunday before Nativity. The Epistle is Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40. The Gospel is from Matthew 1:1-25. Martyr Sebastian.

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 18, 11:30 AM – Church School

Sunday, December 18, 12:30 PM – Baptism of Violet, daughter of Katherine Kavallines

Sunday, December 18, 1:30 PM – Choir Rehearsal

Monday, December 19, 7 PM – Spirituality Class

Tuesday, December 20, 8:30 AM – Hours

Tuesday, December 20, 9:30 AM - Prayer Group

Wednesday, December 21, 12 noon – Akathist of the Inexhaustible Cup

Friday, December 23, 9 AM – Royal Hours

Saturday, December 24, 9 AM – Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Saturday, December 24, 5 PM – Holy Supper/Strict Fast

December 24, 7 PM – Complines and Christmas Carols

Sunday, December 25, 10 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Nativity of our Lord

Monday, December 26, 9 AM – Divine Liturgy – Synaxis

Tuesday, December 27, 9 AM – Liturgy – Feast of St. Stephen

Wednesday, December 28, 7 PM – Titans Hockey Game at the Danbury Ice Arena

Readers Schedule

12/18 – Nick Fong
12/25 – Paul Toaso
1/1 – Bob Faubel

Coffee Hour

12/18 – OPEN
12/25 – Christmas Day
1/1 – Open House at Sulich's

Help Re-stock Our Kitchen:

Paper towels and 10-inch paper plates.

Alcoholism and Addiction | Parish Family Day | Church School

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. Wednesday, December 21, 12 noon.

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

| 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.

Weeping Icon Visit

The Kardiotissa Weeping Icon of Taylor, Pennsylvania will be visiting our parish on Friday, January 27. A service to the Mother of God will be served at 7 PM. No media coverage or video in church please. Fr. Mark Leasure will accompany the icon and give a presentation after the service.

CrossRoads Scholarship

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

Prayer Group—Our 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.

| Annual Meeting Announcement

Annual Meeting Announcement—Our annual meeting will take place on Sunday, January 29th following liturgy. We have a number of important items to discuss, including moving forward with our new Rectory/Office/Class room project. Your attendance is vital. If you can't be there, arrange to give your proxy vote to another member of the parish.

OYMT Fundraiser

OYMT Holiday Fundraisers—The Orthodox Youth Mission Team is still selling soup jar mixes for \$8 to raise funds for our summer mission trip through OCMC to Alaska. Also, the Mary Kay Fundraiser for the team is still going on. Finish your last minute holiday shopping downstairs in the hall!

| New Year's Dance

New Year's Dance— Save the Date: Saturday, January 14th we will be having our annual New Year's Dinner Dance. We have booked our favorite DJ from last year, Bill Lopez. Plan to get a table with your parish family and bring friends to celebrate the New Year together. For more info see Pani Bethany or Susan Sulich.

Birthdays

December	
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.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, December 21, 12 noon - Akathist to the Inexhaustible Cup

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

Christ mas Day - Divine Liturgy 10 AM

Titans Hockey Family Night Out – December 28

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

Choir Christmas Caroling: Sunday, January 8th following coffee hour

New Year's Dance — Saturday, January 14th

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

Orthodox Youth Mission Team Training Session —

Sunday, January 22nd 4:00-6:00 p.m.

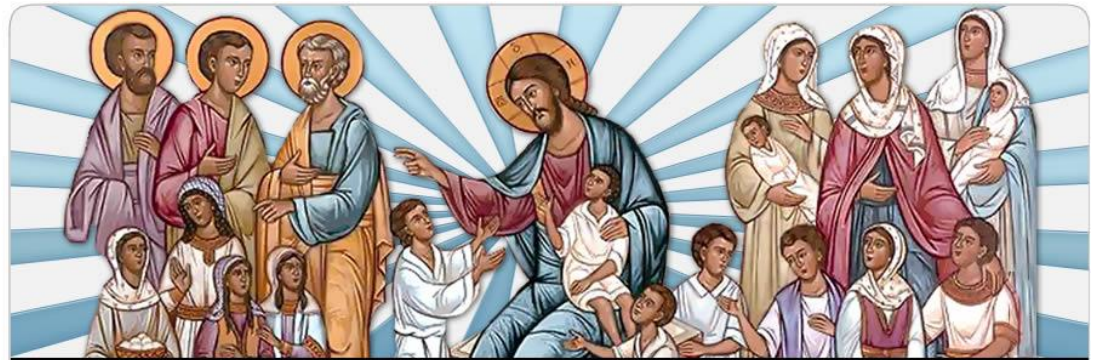
Myrrh Streaming Icon Visit — Friday, January 27th

Annual Meeting — Sunday, January 29, 2017

For the Children

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



Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. - Proverbs 22:6

Sometimes you might hear somebody say, “He was born to do that.” A great runner might be “born to run,” or people might say a great scientist might be “born to” find a cure for some disease. If somebody is really good at something, people might say that God made him for that whole reason.

Today is the Sunday before Christmas, the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. In the Gospel reading today, we hear the long story of where Jesus came from—it tells who Joseph was, who Joseph’s father was, who his father was, and so on. You might remember how Joseph had a dream before the baby, Jesus, was born. In the dream, an angel of God told Joseph where Jesus came from. He told him that the baby was from God! The angel told Joseph, “Call his name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” (The name “Jesus” means “He saves.”)

Jesus was born to save His people from their sins! As Christians, we always know why Jesus came to us. It wasn’t just to make blind people see again. It wasn’t just to make people who couldn’t walk, to walk again. It wasn’t just to tell stories about how to be good people. Jesus came to save us. He was born as a baby to grow up and “save His people from their sins.” Let’s thank God for Jesus, and what He was born to do!

SAINT IGNATIUS: “THE GOD-BEARER”

Can you think back to your very first memory? Doctors say that for most people, their earliest memories are when they were around three years old. So when you are all grown up, you probably won’t remember anything before then!

On Tuesday, we celebrate the nameday of a saint who probably had the best first memory any person could hope for. When Ignatius was a little child, he met our Lord, Jesus Christ, when He was preaching to the people. This memory stuck with Ignatius, and he grew up to love the Lord all his life.

When Ignatius was older, he learned from Saint John (Jesus’s disciple), and he learned from other early saints too. Ignatius became a bishop in the city of Antioch. When he was bishop, Ignatius met the emperor Trajan, who really hated Christians and wanted them gone. The emperor tried to force Ignatius to pray before the false idols and to worship them. Ignatius remembered his Lord, and he knew he could never give up his love for Him!

The emperor sent Ignatius to be attacked by wild lions. Ignatius was hurt so much there, and he was even killed. But finally, Ignatius got to see the face of Jesus Christ again, this time in heaven!

We celebrate the feastday of Saint Ignatius on Tuesday, December 20th.

We’re on the Web!
holytrinitydanbury.org