

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 Sunday after Theophany. The Epistle is Ephesians 4:7-13. The Gospel is from Matthew 4:12-17. George Chozebite

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

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| Sunday, January 8, 10 AM – Divine Liturgy of St. Basil | Friday, January 13, 9:30 AM – Old Testament Class |
| Sunday, January 8, 11:30 AM – Church School | Saturday, January 14, 6 PM – New Year's Dance |
| Sunday, January 8, 11:30 AM – Panachida for Victor Pristupa, Larisa Yarush' father who passed away this week in Kharkov, Ukraine. | Sunday, January 15, 10 AM – Divine Liturgy |
| Monday, January 9, 7 PM – Spirituality Class | Sunday, January 8, 11:30 AM – Church School |
| Tuesday, January 10, 8:30 AM – Hours | Sunday, January 15, 11:30 AM – Pancake Breakfast |
| Tuesday, January 10, 9:30 AM – Prayer Group | |

Readers Schedule

1/8 – Susan Paltauf
1/15 – Susan Sulich
1/22 – Paul Sulich
1/29 – Harry Fong

Coffee Hour

1/8 – Larisa Yarush
1/15 – Pancake Breakfast
1/22 – Carlos Morfa
1/29 – Suzanne Molineaux

Help Re-stock Our Kitchen:
Decaf coffee.

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.

Our next **Family Night** will be sometime this January. Watch here for upcoming details.

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

| 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.

| Dorothy Day

This past Friday we served nearly 100 meals at Dorothy Day soup kitchen. What's more, we were able to give out all of the coats we collected and many of the hats, gloves and socks. It was a cold day and they were greatly appreciated. Thank you to everyone who so generously donated to help clothe our brothers and sisters.

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.

Proposed Slate of Officers for 2017:

President – **Susan Sulich**
Vice President – **Harry Fong**
Treasurer – **Monika Mihaly**
Assistant Treasurer – **Luke Mihaylo**
Secretary – **Nicholas Fong**
Members at Large:
Lorraine Fedyna
Luke Faubel
Diana Borsari

New Year's Dance

New Year's Dinner Dance—On Saturday, January 14th we will be having a dinner dance at the church hall. There will be a catered dinner and DJ Bill Lopez will lead the dance floor. Tickets are \$35 (BYOB) and each ticket is entered in a door prize raffle. Reserve your seats (or a table) with Pani Bethany or Susan Sulich (ssulich@yahoo.com).

Bring friends and plan to come celebrate the New Year with your parish family. We need to get a head count for the caterer this week. Please let Pani Bethany or Susan Sulich know if you are planning on attending. The raffle prize will be a 2 nights stay at the Village Inn in Lenox, MA—every ticket is automatically entered in the drawing. See attached flyer for more details.

| Envelopes Available

Envelopes Available—If you had envelopes last year or you requested them, envelopes for weekly offerings are in the hall labeled by name. If you did not request envelopes but would like a set, see Susan Sulich

Birthdays

January	
James Kavallines	10
Eric Evans	13
Nicholas Huott	18
Kate Kerpchar	27
Connie Somoskovec	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

- Choir Christmas Caroling:** Sunday, January 8th following coffee hour
- Choir Workshop** — Sunday, January 22nd 1:00-4:00 p.m.
- Annual Meeting** — Sunday, January 29, 2017
- New Year's Dance** — Saturday, January 14th
- Orthodox Youth Mission Team Training Session** — Sunday, January 22nd 5:00-7:00 p.m.
- Stewardship Sunday**— Sunday, January 29th
- Council Meeting**—Tuesday, January 17th at 7:00 p.m.
- Myrrh Streaming Icon Visit** —Friday, January 27th

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

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

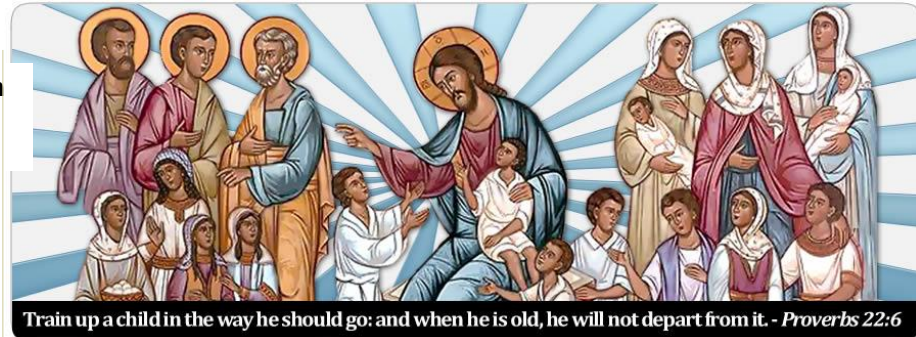
We are having a collection on Sunday Jan. 22nd for Zoe for Life which is a Pan Orthodox Outreach of Orthodox Christians which has three goals: to help women during crisis pregnancies; assist Orthodox Christians seeking to adopt; provide education and resources.

PREPARING YOUR HOME FOR THE BLESSING:

For the Children

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church
74 Joes Hill Rd
Danbury, CT 06811

“... 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

Have you ever given one of your presents away? Maybe you didn't like it in the first place, or maybe you thought a friend or a family member would like it even more than you did.

In the epistle today, we hear what Saint Paul says about giving away our gifts. Should we do it? Of course! That is exactly why God gave these gifts to us. The gifts Saint Paul is talking about are our spiritual gifts. We know that God let some people be “apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers.”

Those gifts—teaching or preaching, helping others in some way or another—aren't for us! God wants us to give those gifts away, so that we can “build up the body of Christ.” That means that we can use our gifts to help others and to help the Christian church grow.

Our beloved Saint John Chrysostom once said that very thing! When we get one gift and another person gets another gift, we can't be jealous and we can't think we're better than somebody else. God wants us to give these spiritual gifts away—to help others! Can you think of something you are good at, and can you think of a way you can give that gift away?

THE LITTLE BROTHER: SAINT PETER OF SEBASTE

What would you do if your older brother or sister grew up to be really famous? Would you be jealous? Would you wish you could be that way too?

Saint Peter (of Sebaste, in the country of Armenia today), was the youngest brother in a big and holy family. His older brother was Saint Basil the Great. (You know him!) Saint Peter has lots of holy saints in his family, but for some reason, we don't hear too much about Peter. But that isn't because he didn't do anything important!

Just as we learned in the epistle today, when God gives us a spiritual gift, we can use it to help build up the church of Christ. And that is just what Saint Peter did. He helped his older brothers with their writing—and we still read Saint Basil's and his brother Gregory's writing today. Saint Peter helped his mother and his big sister start a convent for holy women—and lots of people grew closer to God because of his work. And later, Saint Peter became a bishop, and he helped the people know the right way to worship God. Sometimes helping is just as big a deal as doing it all yourself. And that's how we remember Saint Peter of Sebaste!

We celebrate the nameday of Saint Peter tomorrow, January 9th.

We're on the Web!
holytrinitydanbury.org