

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church



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www.holytrinitydanbury.org

<https://www.facebook.com/htocdanbury/?fref=hovercard>

Diocesan Website: www.acrod.org

Camp Nazareth:

<http://www.campnazareth.org>

Facebook:

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

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

You Tube:

<https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>

Recommended Orthodox Internet
Ministries

<http://myocn.net/>

<http://www.ancientfaith.com/>

Welcome to Holy Trinity Parish

Today is the Sunday of Forgiveness. The Epistle Romans 13:11-14:4. The Gospel is from Matthew 6:14-21. Leo the Great.

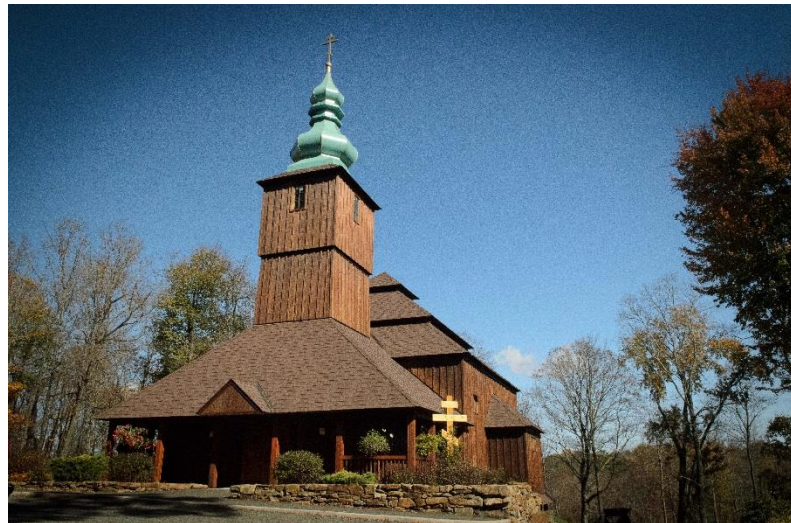
Holy Trinity is a diverse and welcoming parish of the Carpatho Russian Diocese, under the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

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, February 18, 10 AM –
Divine Liturgy – Sunday of Forgiveness – Rite of Forgiveness at the end of Liturgy

Monday, February 19, 8 AM –
Lenten Hours

Monday, February 19, 6 PM –
Canon of St. Andrew

Tuesday, February 20, 8:30 AM –
Lenten Hours

Tuesday, February 20, 9 AM –
Perogie session

Tuesday, February 20, 6 PM –
Canon of St. Andrew

Wednesday, February 21, 9 AM –
Lenten Hours

Wednesday, February 21, 6 PM –
Presanctified Liturgy followed by Lenten Meal

Wednesday, February 21, 7 PM –
Catechism Class

Thursday, February 22, 8:30 AM –
Akathist of Repentance

Thursday, February 22, 9 AM –
Prayer Group

Thursday, February 22, 6 PM –
Canon of St. Andrew

Friday, February 23, 9 AM –
Lenten Hours

Friday, February 23, 9:30 AM –
Old Testament Class

Friday, February 23, 6 PM –
Paraklis Service

Saturday, February 24, 10 AM to 12 noon –
Church School

Saturday, February 24, 5 PM –
Vespers

Sunday, February 25, 10 AM –
Liturgy – Sunday of Orthodoxy Procession with Icons

Church School	2
Envelopes	2
Fundraising Dinner	3
Upcoming events	3
House Blessings	3

Readers Schedule

2/18 – Paul Sulich
2/25 – Susan Paltauf

Coffee Hour

2/18 – Sulich
2/25 – Nicu

Help restock our Kitchen:

We kitchen and Large black garbage bags.

Please remember to sign up and subscribing on our parish web site

www.holytrinitydanbury.org

And to those with a Facebook accounts please like our Facebook page posts associated with the fundraising events here

<https://www.facebook.com/htocdanbury/?fref=hovercard> so the word gets out.

Coffee Hour - We need people to sign up for coffee hour. As a reminder, coffee hour need not be elaborate. Bagels or rolls and butter are fine or anything simple. Consider signing up with someone else to make it easier.

New Rectory

The **new rectory** is progressing rapidly. The foundation has been poured and the house set is scheduled for Monday, February 18th. Check out photos and updates on our website:

www.holytrinitydanbury.org.

Subscribe if you haven't already so you won't miss posts. At this point we need approximately \$60,000 above what we have raised so far to finish the project. We do have a line of credit available to bridge the gap but any additional donations that come in will reduce (or eliminate) the amount we need to borrow.

| Church School

Our next session of **church school** will be on Saturday, Feb. 24th from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Fr. Luke will continue teaching the children lessons from the Old Testament and there will be accompanying art projects from Elena Gordon. Please let Roz Mihaylo know if your children will attend so we can have enough art supplies for everyone.

Class dates for March:

Friday, March 16th from 5:30-7:30

Saturday March 31st (Lazarus Saturday) following liturgy

| Easter Bake Sale

Our **Easter Bake and Craft Sale** will take place on Saturday, March 24th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday, March 25th from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. We will be selling perogies, nut and fruit rolls, Pascha breads, kielbasa, tea cookies, stuffed cabbage, jams and more. Parishioners are urged to place pre-orders. We are also looking for artisans and craftspeople for the sale. Workers will be needed on the day of the sale in the kitchen and to help fill orders.

Adult Education Opportunities

We have a number of adult education classes going on currently:

Spirituality Class – Mondays at 7:00 p.m. Currently reading and discussing: *Spiritual Counsels (select passages from My Life in Christ)* by Fr. John or Kronstadt

Catechism Class – Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. (following Lenten meal after Pre-Sanctified) For those

studying to come into the Church and those in the Church who want to deepen their understanding and participation in the Faith. We are learning Divine Liturgy using Nicholas Cabasilas's book: *A Commentary on the Divine Liturgy*

Prayer Group – Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. Currently reading: *Churchianity vs. Christianity* by Metropolitan Anthony Bloom

Old Testament Class – Fridays at 9:00 a.m. We are about to begin Numbers.

Lent is a great time to try one or more of these classes!

Perogie and Baking Sessions

Our Easter Bake Sale will take place on Saturday, March 24th and we have been working steadily in the kitchen building up our perogie stock. Below is a schedule of perogies, cooking and baking dates (all sessions start at 9 a.m. unless otherwise specified):

Tuesday, Feb. 20th – Perogies

Tuesday Feb. 27th – Stuffed Cabbage

Tuesday Mar. 6th – Evening Session Cookies (6:30 pm)

Tuesday Mar 13th – Cookies

Tuesday Mar 20th – Make up day

Dorothy Day

Dorothy Day - Our next date to serve at Dorothy Day will be Friday, March 2nd from 1:00-5:00 p.m. We need helpers to set up and serve the meal.

Evening Cooking Session

Evening Cooking Session—On Tuesday, March 6th we will have an evening cooking session for our Easter Bake Sale starting at 6:30 p.m. All cooks/bakers are welcome to join—no experience necessary!

Save the Date

Save the Date—Our next Music on the Mount concert will be on Saturday May 5th. An ensemble from St. Tikhon's choir will be performing.

Birthdays

February	
Kristina Bundra	20
Nicholas Paproski	22

Upcoming Events

Sunday of Forgiveness - Sunday, February 18

Rectory House set – Monday, February 19

Church School –Saturday, February 24

Parish Council Meeting – Sunday, February 25

Dorothy Day – Friday, March 2nd 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Church School –Friday March 16th 5:30-7:30 p.m.

OYMT Meeting—Sunday March 18th 3:00-6:00 p.m. St. Barbara – Orange, CT

Lenten Cook-off—Sunday, March 18th (Coffee Hour)

Lazarus Saturday/Church School—Saturday, March 21st

Music on the Mount Concert with St. Tikhon's—Saturday, May 5th

Lenten Fast

As we begin Lent together, the following minimal fasting regulations are designated for our clergy and faithful:

- 1) Monday, February 19 (Clean Monday), the first day of the Fast, is a day of strict abstinence; likewise Great and Holy Friday, and Great and Holy Saturday, namely April 6 and 7 are days of strict abstinence. On these days, no meat or dairy products may be eaten.
- 2) All Wednesdays and Fridays during this entire Season are days of abstinence from meat.
- 3) Meat and meat products may not be eaten during all of Holy Week, namely April 2 through April 7.
- 4) For the evening Pre-sanctified Liturgy, a

minimum three-hours fast from all food and drink must be observed before the reception of Holy Communion. Normal fasting from midnight is still practiced before the Liturgies of St. John Chrysostom and St. Basil the Great.

These are the minimal requirements to observe during this Season. But for those of stronger body and more willing spirit, I wholeheartedly recommend the penitential practices of a sterner quality which the time-honored traditions and customs of our Holy Orthodox Church have handed down to us.

On weekdays (Monday to Friday inclusive) during the seven weeks of Lent, there

are restrictions both on the *number* of meals taken daily and on the *types of food* permitted; but when a meal is allowed, there is no fixed limitation on the *quantity* of food to be eaten.

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[This material is taken from the introduction to The Lenten Triodion. In modern practice, the above rules tend to be somewhat relaxed, and they have always been relaxed for children and the infirm. Fast as you are able, and consult Fr. Luke as needed. As you eat less physical food, it is important to increase your intake of spiritual food – prayer and reading scripture and the fathers of the Church.]

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"... a place of refuge full of love and joy."



Donations—Going forward we would like to institute a new policy regarding donations of items to the church. While we are very grateful that parishioners want to offer the church items that might be useful, we have a limited amount of space. As we try to reorganize the hall and maximize the storage space that we have available we ask you to go through our new Donations Coordinator, Elaine Toaso, if you wish to donate something to the church. Please speak to Elaine (elaine.toaso@gmail.com) before bringing any items in and she will be able to tell you (or find out from the parish council) if the items can be utilized. Thank you!

The Holy Spirit gives life!

By [Presvytera Alexandra Houck](#) in [The Children's Word](#)

Tomorrow is the very first day of Great Lent. We have a long way to go before Easter, and a lot to do before we get there! We want to prepare ourselves for that awesome feastday, and the Bible today tells us just how to do it.

By now, we all pretty much know the right thing to do as Christians, don't we? We know we should pray more, be kind to others more, help the hungry and the poor more, listen to God more by reading the Bible, fast more, and so on. But did you know that we should try to do all these things **IN SECRET**?

That's right! In today's Gospel, we hear about how we aren't supposed to tell everybody about it when we fast. So in Lent, we shouldn't say, "Oh, I'm so hungry! I haven't been eating the treats I usually eat." Instead, we should keep it a secret.

And that goes for other good things we do, too. If we donate money, nobody else should know about it. If we pray, we close the door to our room so nobody can see. Then, guess what! The Bible also tells us what will happen when we do this. "Your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly." God knows our secrets and He knows when we are doing good things. When He sees what we are doing, He will reward us!

LEARNING FROM OUR ELDERS: ST. POLYCARP OF SMYRNA

Have you ever asked a grandparent or another older person about what life was like 50 or even 75 years ago? Maybe you asked about a war long ago, or even about how he lived and played as a child. We can always learn interesting things from people who are much older than we are—they've seen things and done things we never have!

This week, we celebrate the nameday of a saint who learned from his elders too. Saint Polycarp was born about 70 years after Jesus was born. St. Polycarp learned from St. John, the Apostle and friend of Christ. And you know, St. John learned from our Lord Jesus Christ Himself! Polycarp learned to love God very much, even when he was little. Later on, he became a priest and then a bishop. He was very close to God, and people came to him because they knew God heard his strong prayers!

Polycarp died about 150 years after Christ's birth. The emperor at that time hated Christians, and he killed many faithful people. Polycarp stayed close to Christ though—and now he is still close to Him in heaven!

We still have some things that Polycarp wrote, and this is almost 1900 years later. So if you read them, you are listening to somebody who lived just after the time of Christ!

We celebrate St. Polycarp on Friday, Feb. 23rd (March 8, OC).