

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

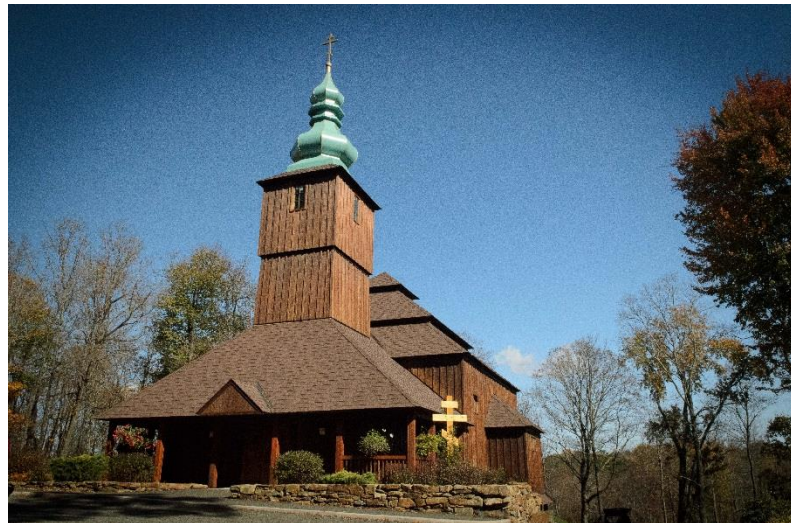
Today is the Sunday of the Cross. The Epistle Paul to the Hebrews 4:14-5:6. The Gospel is from Mark 8:32-9:1. Sophronius of Jerusalem.

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, March 11, 10 AM –

Divine Liturgy served by Fr. Sergei Bouteneff

Sunday, March 11, 12 noon –

Mission Presentation by Joel Pleban and his Short term Mission trip to Kenya.

Monday, March 12, 7 PM -

Spirituality Class

Tuesday, March 13, 9 AM –

Stuffed Cabbage making

Tuesday, March 13, 6:30 PM –

Cookie Baking Session

Wednesday, March 14, 6 PM –

Presanctified Liturgy followed by meal

Thursday, March 15, 9:30 AM –

Prayer Group

Friday, March 16, 9:30 AM -

Old Testament Class

Friday, March 16, 5:30 PM to

7:30 PM– Church School

Saturday, March 17, 8 AM –

Roll Baking

Saturday, March 17, 5 PM –

Vespers

Sunday, March 25, 10 AM –

Divine Liturgy – Feast of the Annunciation

Thank you to Fr. Sergei Bouteneff for filling in for Fr. Luke during his surgery and recuperation.

Fr. Luke will be back to a somewhat modified schedule.

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Readers Schedule

3/11 – Bob Faubel
3/18 – Susan Paltauf
3/25 – Luke Mihaylo
4/1 – Paul Sulich

Coffee Hour

3/11 – Missions Brunch
3/18 – Lenten Cook-off

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/htcdanbury/?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.

Evening Cooking Session—

Thank you to everyone who came and helped us bake cookies on Tuesday. We had such a good turnout we were able to make both Russian Tea Cakes and Kolachi Cookies! We will definitely be planning additional evening sessions in the future.

Food Safety Courses—We will be looking to update our food safety certifications to meet new Health Department regulations. If you are interested in taking a half day food handler safety class please let Susan Sulich know.

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 \$75,000 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 Friday, March 16th from 5:30-7:30. 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 Mar 13th - Stuffed Cabbage

Saturday March 17th - Roll Baking

Tuesday Mar 20th—Kielbasa
Friday, Mar 23rd – Set up

Roll Baking—On Saturday March 17th we will be making the nut, poppy, prune and fruit rolls for our Easter Bake Sale. Helpers will be needed roll, fill, and bake and wrap the rolls.

Suggested shifts are:

- 7:30-11:00 a.m.
- 11:00-2:30 p.m.
- 2:30-6:00 p.m.

Please let Carolyn Kaiser (mckaiser@optonline.net) know if you are able to help. No experience needed!

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.

Kielbasa Making

Kielbasa Making—we will be making kielbasa on Tuesday, March 20th at 6:30 p.m.

Birthdays

March

Mia Paltauf

9

Aidan McVeigh

12

Vida Bunda

24

Marika Gutzman
(Namesday)

25

Orestes Mihaly

26

Michael Browne

30

Upcoming Events

Visit from Short Term Missionary Joel Pleban--
Sunday, March 11th

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

Roll Baking – Saturday, March 17

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

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

Kielbasa Making – Tuesday, March 20th

Easter Craft & Bake Sale – Saturday, March 24 and Sunday, March 25

Council Meeting – Sunday, March 25th

Lazarus Saturday/Church School—Saturday, March 31st

Diocesan Seniors Retreat – Monday, April 23-Wednesday, April 25

Dorothy Day – May 4th

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

Short Term Missionary Joel Pleban to Visit—On Sunday March 11th, Joel Pleban who went on a short term OCMC mission trip to Kenya this past November will be visiting our parish to share his experiences. Joel is a member of our deanery parish, St. John the Baptist on Broadbridge Avenue in Stratford, CT. Joel will speak during coffee hour. There will be an opportunity to support the Manuel's who are hoping to begin their long term mission work in Guatemala.

Lenten Fast

The following minimal fasting regulations are designated for our clergy and faithful for Great Lent:

1) 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.]

Our Diocese is pleased to offer its first annual **Seniors' Retreat this year from April 23-25 at Camp Nazareth in Mercer, PA.** You can review the attached registration form and flyer, and other information. You can also find these documents on the Diocesan website (www.acrod.org). Online Registration begins March 1, 2018. There will be the option to register via mail as well. All registrations are due by April 18, 2018.

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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!

Christ understands!

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

Have you ever wished a grown-up could understand you better? Maybe you wish your parents or your teachers could see things your way. Then, maybe they could understand how some things are hard for you, or how you might feel.

Today we celebrate the third Sunday of Lent, the Sunday of the Holy Cross. We remember how our Lord God became a person, so that He could save us! God became a man.

Sometimes we might wish grown-ups could understand us, but did you know that our Lord God really does understand us? God became human. He knows what it is like when we get tempted to do something. He knows what it is like when something hurts or when we are sad. He knows how it is hard to make choices sometimes. Christ understands!

In today's epistle, we read, "We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin." Our Lord, Jesus Christ is God, but He also knows how we feel. He understands us. He feels sorry when things are hard for us. Let's turn to Him, whenever we need help. Christ understands!

ST. CHRISTINA OF PERSIA: AN UNKNOWN SAINT

Sometimes, we can find tons of books about a saint. Think about Saint Constantine. He was an emperor who lived hundreds of years ago. We still know lots about him, what he did for the Church, and what his mother, Saint Helen, did too. We hear stories about other saints, about their lives, and about miracles they've helped with.

But there are thousands and thousands of other saints we don't know much about at all. We might not know their names. We might not know where they lived. We might not know when they lived. We might not know what they did during their lives. And chances are, we won't really know what they looked like.

This week we will remember Saint Christina. Really, the only thing we know about her is that she lived in Persia (today it is Iran). And we know that she was whipped again and again because she was a Christian. She died for her faith.

Here we are, 1700 years later. We still remember her because she did the noblest thing she could do! She kept her faith in our God. And that is what God asks each one of us to do. He wants us to be loyal to Him, just like Saint Christina was!

We celebrate St. Christina on Tuesday, Feb. 13th (Feb 26, OC).