

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

<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 Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost. The Epistle Ephesians 2:14-22. The Gospel is from Luke 18:18-27. Prophet Nahum.

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

His Eminence, Metropolitan 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.

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Schedule of Services and Events for this week

Sunday, December 1, 10 AM – Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, December 3, 9 AM – Perogie session

Tuesday, December 3, 7:30 PM – Les Miserable Show in Waterbury

Wednesday, December 27, 7 PM - Adult Catechism

Friday, December 6, 9 AM – Divine Liturgy Feast of St. Nicholas

Friday, December 6, 10:15 AM – Old Testament Class

Friday, December 6, 1 PM to 5 PM – Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen

Friday, December 6, 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM – Church School

Saturday, December 7, 11 AM – Baptism of Gabriel Shelley

Saturday, December 7, 5 PM – Vespers

Sunday, December 8, 10 AM – Divine Liturgy

Sunday, December 8, 11:30 AM – Panachida

40th Day for Martin Howley and Serge Mihaly, Jr.

Sunday, December 8, 11:30 AM – St. Nicholas Brunch

Readers Schedule

12/1 – Susan Paltauf

Coffee Hour

12/1 – Radcliff

12/8 – St. Nicholas Brunch

Re-Stock Our Kitchen:

Paper towels, gallon freezer bags, napkins.

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.

Parish Christmas Card—

Please check/add your name to the parish Christmas card. Donations toward the cost of printing and postage appreciated (suggested amount \$20).

Church School

Church School—We have had a very good response to our church school sessions and so will continue to offer classes one Friday evening and one Saturday morning each month. Friday classes are from 5:30-7:30 p.m. and Saturday classes are from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted. The schedule for the remainder of the year is as follows:

Fri. Dec. 6th

Sat. Dec. TBD

Council Positions Open

Council Positions

Open—we have several council members whose terms are up in January. We will be looking for a new President, Vice President and Treasurer. Please consider giving your time and talent to one of the positions. Talk to Susan Sulich, Harry Fong or Monika Mihaly to learn more about what's entailed.

St. Nicholas Brunch

St. Nicholas Brunch—On Sunday, December 8th we will have our St. Nicholas Brunch. This is a fast free day. Please see the sign-up sheet in the hall to share what you will bring. We will also reveal our Secret Santa's on that day and exchange gifts. And—hopefully St. Nicholas himself will pay a visit to our parish children!

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: ***Suffering and the Nature of Healing*** by Daniel B. Hinshaw, M.D.

Catechism Class – Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. 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 starting a new Book. It is ***The Creed***. This discussion of the Nicene Creed—the foundation of our Faith—

begins with a review of Christianity, the Church and Tradition. It offers a definition and an explanation of the Creed.

New Testament – Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. currently were are reading and studying ***The Acts of the Apostles***

Old Testament Class – Fridays at 9:00 a.m. We have begun ***1 Samuel***.

CHANGE our Bottom Line

CHANGE our Bottom Line—Please consider donating your spare change toward lowering our mortgage debt. A container is located in the church hall to collect the change and it will be cashed in to contribute to extra mortgage payments.

New Year's Dance

New Year's Dance—Save the Date! We will be having our New Year's Dinner Dance on Sat. Jan. 11th featuring our favorite DJ, Bill Lopez. Stay tuned for more details!

Dorothy Day

Dorothy Day—Our next date to serve at Dorothy Day will be Friday, Dec. 6th from 1:00-5:00 p.m. Please let Susan Sulich know if you can help for any part of the afternoon.

Parish Lending Library
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 — You may have noticed that in the vestibule of the church we have set up a lending library in the first section of the bookcase. There are books there on a variety of topics of interest from the Church Fathers to parenting to the Liturgy and more. There are also a few titles in Spanish. Feel free to check out one or more titles. Just fill out the lending library book with title, name and date.

Mary Kay Holiday Open House for OYMT
Mary Kay Holiday Open House for OYMT--On Sunday Dec. 8th from 3-7 pm there will be a Mary Kay Holiday Gift Open House at the Rectory. Pani Bethany will donate 30% of the proceeds to the Orthodox Youth Mission Team. Get beautiful gifts in all price ranges for everyone on your list or treat yourself--and help our youth too!

Birthdays	
December	
Luke Faubel	4
Sarah Mannello	7
Michael Kerpchar	8
Trianna Gutzman	10
Chrissanth Gross	22
Alex Sirak	22
Elaine Toaso	30

Upcoming Events

Parish Outing to see Les Miserable at Waterbury's Palace Theater—Tuesday, Dec 3rd 7:30 p.m.

Dorothy Day—Friday, Dec 6th 1:00- 5:00 p.m.

Church School—Friday, Dec. 6th 5:30-7:30 p.m.

40th Day Service for Martin Howley and Serge Mihaly—Sunday, Dec. 8th following liturgy.

St. Nicholas Brunch – Sunday, Dec. 8th

OYMT Holiday Fundraiser—Sun. Dec. 8th 3-6 p.m.

Mary Kay Open House to Benefit OYMT—Sun. Dec. 8th 3:00 p.m.

Kielbasa Making—Thursday, Dec. 12th at 5 p.m.

Christmas Bake Sale—Saturday, Dec. 14th 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Lukas Todosiev's Baptism – Sunday, December 15 at 1 PM

Monthly St. Nectarios Service—Thursday, Dec. 19th 7:00 p.m.

Dorothy Day—Fri. Jan. 3rd 1:00-5:00 p.m.

New Year's Dance—Sat. Jan. 11th 6:00 p.m.

OYMT Training Session—Sun. Jan. 12th 3:00-5:00 p.m. St. Barbara, Orange, CT

We wish to inform you that our Diocese will once again offer scholarships for High School Juniors and Seniors to take part in the Pan-Orthodox Cross Road Program that takes place each summer in Boston and Chicago. CrossRoad is a ten-day academic summer institute that prepares high school juniors and seniors to make big life decisions and invites them to connect with the Orthodox Christian theological and spiritual tradition. Participants from all over the country come together to experience daily worship, take theology classes from some of the best professors in the country, visit local parishes, serve their neighbor, tour the city, and even spend a day at the beach. Historically, CrossRoad has been hosted solely on the campus of Hellenic College Holy Cross. This summer, there will be a third session offered on the campus of North Park University in Chicago, IL.

The sessions are as follows:
 Session 1: June 13-June 23 (Boston-Hellenic College/Holy Cross)
 Session 2: June 30-July 10 (Boston-Hellenic College/Holy Cross)
 Session 3: July 20-July 30 (Chicago - North Park University)

Scholarships covering the registration and tuition fee will be available to our Diocesan students who apply and are accepted to any one of the three sessions. Diocesan Students interested in attending are asked to apply to the program before the February 1, 2020 Deadline. Upon acceptance, students are kindly asked to contact Fr. Stephen Laposky, Diocesan Director of Youth at campnazareth@acrod.org or 724-662-4840.

Holiday Craft and Bake Sales | Dorothy Day

Christmas Bake and Craft Sales – Our holiday bake sales are coming up. The Christmas sale will be on Saturday, Dec. 14th. We will need help cooking, manning the kitchen and selling our perogies, rolls, stuffed cabbage, kielbasa and cookies.

Calling All Crafters—we are looking for artisans of high-quality, hand-crafted items for our sales. Tables are \$35. See Susan Sulich to reserve.

Upcoming Dorothy Day dates:

Friday, Dec. 6th

Friday, Jan. 3rd

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

| Secret Santa

Secret Santa—We will have the drawing of names for our Secret Santa on Sunday, Nov. 24th during coffee hour. Secret Santa gifts are to be small (\$15 or less) and will be exchange at the St. Nicholas Brunch on Sunday, Dec. 8th.

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



Quotes by St. John Chrysostom

Do you fast? Then feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, visit the sick, do not forget the imprisoned, have pity on the tortured, comfort those who grieve and who weep, be merciful, humble, kind, calm, patient, sympathetic, forgiving, reverent, truthful and pious, so that God might accept your fasting and might plentifully grant you the fruits of repentance.

The rich man is not one who is in possession of much, but one who gives much.

The Eucharist is a fire that inflames us, that, like lions breathing fire, we may retire from the altar being made terrible to the devil.

We must not mind insulting men, if by respecting them we offend God.



Guidelines for the Nativity Fast - The Nativity Fast is one of the four Canonical Fasting Seasons in the Church year. This is a joyous fast in anticipation of the Nativity of Christ. Because it begins the day after the commemoration of the Apostle Philip (Nov. 14th), it is often referred to as the Apostle Philip fast. Although it is as long as Great Lent, it is not as severe. Throughout the entire duration of these forty days there is no accommodation for meat, dairy products and eggs. However, fish is allowed to be consumed every day except Wednesdays and Fridays, from November 15th until December 17th. Fish is also allowed on the feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos, which falls on November 21st, no matter what day of the week it falls on. From the 18th to the 24th of December, which is Christmas Eve, oil and wine are the only relief from a strict fast, except Wednesdays and Fridays on which we adhere to a strict fast. We should keep a fast of dry foods (xerophagy) also on the first day of the fast on November 15th, as well as on Christmas Eve, unless of course they fall on a Saturday or Sunday.

Do Not Fast:

- if you are pregnant or nursing a newborn;
- during serious illness;
- without prayer;
- without alms-giving;
- according to your own will without guidance from your spiritual father.

Fasting from Foods and Passions We must always keep in mind that in our Church true fasting is not only about abstaining from certain foods, but also abstaining from the passions and sins. Saint Photios the Great says: "Fasting that is acceptable to God is that which combines the abstention of food with the aversion of chatter, envy, hatred and other sins. The one who fasts from food, but does not temper the passions, is like one who puts a splendid foundation to a house he has built, but allows snakes, scorpions and every poisonous reptile to live within." We thus aim for a spiritual fast during this period, to avoid sin and keep the will of God, being an embodiment of love and forgiveness and mercy, as well as striving to attain even greater virtue. In this way we will better understand and realize the words of Saint Basil the Great: "True fasting is to alienate ourselves from all evil, all sin, all impassioned thoughts, all unclean desires."

His Eminence, Metropolitan Gregory's

NATIVITY FAST PRAYER CHALLENGE 2019

To Be Prayed Every Evening of the Nativity Fast

O Christ our God, at Your Holy Birth, the choirs of angels proclaimed peace to the shepherds in the fields. *(Luke 2:14)* After Your Glorious Resurrection, You came to Your disciples saying "Peace be with you!" *(John 20:19)* May Your Holy Peace be present in our hearts, in our homes, in Your Church, and in the entire world. Cleanse us of all impurity, O Lord, so that we may be filled with Your peace which surpasses all understanding, and which will guard our hearts and minds. *(Philippians 4:7)* Sanctify us completely, O God of Peace, so that our whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at Your coming. *(1 Thessalonians 5:23)* For You are the King of Peace and the Savior of our Souls, and to You we give glory forever. **Amen.**