

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church



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www.holytrinitydanbury.org

<https://www.facebook.com/htocdanbury/?ref=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 Zacchaeus
Sunday. The Epistle 1
Timothy 4:9-15. The
Gospel is from Luke 19:1-
10. Repose of Cyril
Apostle to the Slavs.

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, February 14, 10
AM** – Divine Liturgy

**Monday, February 15, 7
PM** – Spirituality Class

**Tuesday, February 16, 9
AM** – Perogie Session

**Wednesday, February 10, 6
PM** – Daily Vespers

**Wednesday, February 17, 7
PM** – Adult Catechism Class

**Thursday, February 18, 9
AM** – New Testament Class

Friday, February 19, 9 AM
– Old Testament Class

**Friday, February 19, 4 PM
to 5 PM** – Church School
Zoom for Middle/High
School Students

Friday, February 19, 6 PM
– Daily Vespers

**Saturday, February
20, 5 PM** – Vespers

**Sunday, February 21, 10
AM** - Divine Liturgy

**Sunday, February 21,
12:30 PM** – Parish Council
meeting

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.

Game Dinner Supplies—we are looking for parishioners to donate some of the supplies such as 2-liter bottles of soda, water, disposable table cloths, etc. that we need for the Game Dinner on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Please see the sign-up sheet in the hall if you are able to contribute any items. Please bring the items you have purchased to church by next Sunday, the 21st. Thank you!

Directory Update—we are in the process of doing our semi-annual directory update. If your contact information (phone number, email address, mailing address) have changed and you did not make changes on the directory at the Annual meeting, please email them to Ana Melnic at ani.melnic@gmail.com.

Parish Men's Group

Parish Men's Group – The Men of the Parish will be reading the Book Orthodoxy and the Religions of the Future by Fr. Seraphim Rose.

More information to come. If you are interested in attending and/or would like more information on the Parish Men's Group, please contact Fr. Luke.

Perogies Sessions

Perogies Sessions—It's time to make the perogies again for our upcoming monthly and Easter bake sales. We will be starting sessions this Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. and will continue (weather-permitting) until we make our quotas. Note: This Tuesday, we will have liturgy for the Feast of the Presentation of our Lord at 8 AM. Perogie session will start after liturgy. As a reminder, if the weather is bad, we follow the Danbury school schedule—if delayed, we delay; if cancelled we cancel. New pinchers always welcome!

Church School

Middle/High School Church School—Fr. Luke will meet with the kids this Friday, February 19 from 4 PM to 5 PM with our older youth this past Friday. We will be looking to continue this time for our middle and high school students. Fr. Luke has asked all youth in this age group to let him know of any movies, series or books that they are interested in so they can be shared and discussed in class.

Adult Education Opportunities

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

Spirituality Class – Mondays at 7:00 p.m. This week we will be starting a new book: *Confession and*

Repentance by Saint Nectarios
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'll be starting a new book soon, *Acquiring the Mind of Christ*.

New Testament – Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. currently we are reading and studying *St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans*

Old Testament Class – Fridays at 9:00 a.m. We have begun *2 Chronicles*.

Classes will resume in the church hall this week. We will also continue to make them available via Zoom (live, same credentials).

DIOCESAN "HOMEROOM" MINISTRY

Calling all youth ages 5-18...If you signed up for the new Diocesan "Homeroom" Ministry, don't forget to PARTICIPATE online each week by posting comments, pictures and videos. Parents, if you signed your child up for the "Homerooms", help them to participate. We have 65 youth from 27 parishes across the Diocese signed up for the "Homerooms", but not all are participating yet. If you need any help logging on, downloading the app, or posting, or have any questions, please email fr.stephen.loposky@gmail.com. Thank you!!

COVID-19 Reminders

State of CT is religious, spiritual, or worship gatherings, if held indoors, are limited to no more than 50 percent of the building's capacity or a maximum of 100 people, whichever is lower, and such services, if held outdoors, are limited to the number of people that can be accommodated safely, provided that all persons present wear masks, unless speaking from designated safe locations, and that a distance of 6 feet is maintained between all persons or groups not from the same household.

- If you feel sick or a running a fever, please stay home until you feel better

- No one is being pressured to come to the church if you are in a high-risk population or simply don't feel comfortable.
- Connecticut since June 17 allows for private meetings of up to 25 people. We will hold all our adult classes now at the parish with social distancing along with having classes on Zoom.
- Everyone is asked to wear a mask during services and to sing quietly
- Please use hand sanitizer

| Dorothy Day

Dorothy Day—Our next date to serve to serve at Dorothy Day will be Friday, April 2nd from 2:00-4:30 p.m. As a reminder, we are packaging and handing out bag lunches to the hungry in the community and also preparing lunches and breakfasts that are brought to area hotels where shelter guests are currently being housed and senior housing. If you would like to help, please contact Lisa Farrah or Susan Sulich.

Birthdays

February	
Rob & Andrea Paltauf - Anniversary	14
Rick & Lisa Farah - Anniversary	14
Kristina Bundra	20
Zachary Wolfe	23
Nicu Melnic	26

Pay Down Our Mortgages—

This week we made a payment to the principal of the rectory mortgage of almost \$3,000. That money represents the amount that was saved from reducing the mortgage rate this year (which was decided would go back to the paying down the principle), the contents of our change jar and a private donation. The change jar is in the hall so please remember to drop in your loose change when possible. Sarah Mannello will explain at our annual meeting on the 24th how regularly payments to principal can reduce the length of our loan and save the church over \$8,000.

Upcoming Events

Parish Council Meeting— Sunday, Feb. 21st, following coffee hour

Forgiveness Sunday - Sunday, March 14

Game Dinner—Saturday, Feb. 27th (stay tuned for Covid-safe details!)

Easter Bake Sale—Saturday, March 27th 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Game Dinner Feb. 27th

Game Dinner Feb. 27th—Plans are underway for our annual game set for Sat. Feb. 27th. Modified due to COVID, we will have two seatings: 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. with a limit of 30 people per seating. If you and your family want to attend, please sign up for a table of 2, 4, 6, or 8 today at coffee hour. This week the flyer for the dinner will be sent out and opened to others so we want to make sure parishioners have first choice. Also, we will need extra help with serving this year, as well as people to cook game or ethnic dishes, clean up and contribute raffles items/baskets. Please sign up at coffee hour for whatever way you can help. This is our parish's major fundraiser for the winter. Thank you!

| Clothing Drive

Clothing Drive— We just received our latest check for \$357.50 for the clothing drive! We are continuing to accept more donations. Many thanks to Ann Huott and her family for their ongoing work on this project which has brought in over \$3,000 for our parish! For the last pick up they had 200 bags. Please bring in clothes, shoes, linens and other soft items in plastic garbage bags to the church. If you are uncertain what items are eligible, see the list at the candlestand or contact Ann.

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



Help Re-Stock Our Kitchen:

We are in need of paper towels, sturdy plates, bottled water and kitchen size garbage bags. Any donations are greatly appreciated!

Envelopes—Envelopes for weekly donations are in. If you would like to use envelopes to make your weekly offerings please see Susan Sulich at coffee hour. As a reminder, one-time or recurring donations can also be made online via our PayPal found on our website—use the “Donate” button or through your own bank.

Sunday of Zacchaeus

Commemorated on [February 14](#)

The paschal season of the Church is preceded by the season of Great Lent, which is also preceded by its own liturgical preparation. The first sign of the approach of Great Lent comes five Sundays before its beginning. On this Sunday, the Gospel reading is about Zacchaeus the tax-collector. It tells how Christ brought salvation to the sinful man, and how his life was changed simply because he “sought to see who Jesus was” (Luke 19:3). The desire and effort to see Jesus begins the entire movement through Lent towards Pascha. It is the first movement of salvation.

Our Lenten journey begins with a recognition of our own sinfulness, just as Zacchaeus recognized his. He promised to make restitution by giving half of his wealth to the poor, and by paying to those he had falsely accused four times as much as they had lost. In this, he went beyond the requirements of the Law (Ex. 22:3-12).

The example of Zacchaeus teaches us that we should turn away from our sins, and atone for them. The real proof of our sorrow and repentance is not just a verbal apology, but when we correct ourselves and try to make amends for the consequences of our evil actions.

We are also assured of God’s mercy and compassion by Christ’s words to Zacchaeus, “Today salvation is come to this house” (Luke 19:9). After the Great Doxology at Sunday Matins (when the Tone of the week is Tone 1, 3, 5, 7) we sing the Dismissal Hymn of the Resurrection “Today salvation has come to the world,” which echoes the Lord’s words to Zacchaeus.

Zacchaeus was short, so he climbed a tree in order to see the Lord. All of us have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23). We are also short in our spiritual stature, therefore we must climb the ladder of the virtues. In other words, we must prepare for spiritual effort and growth.

