

# Holy Trinity Orthodox Church



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[www.holytrinitydanbury.org](http://www.holytrinitydanbury.org)

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

Diocesan Website: [www.acrod.org](http://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 last Judgement. The Epistle 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2. The Gospel is from Matthew 25:31-46. Hieromartyrs of Cherson.

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, March 7, 10 AM** – Divine Liturgy

**Monday, March 8, 7 PM** – Spirituality Class

**Tuesday, March 9, 9 AM** – Perogie Session

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

**Wednesday, March 10, 7 PM** – Adult Catechism Class

**Thursday, March 11, 9 AM** – New Testament Class

**Friday, March 12, 9 AM** – Old Testament Class

**Friday, March 12, 6 PM** – Daily Vespers

**Saturday, March 13, 8 AM** – Roll Baking

**Saturday, March 13, 5 PM** – Vespers

**Sunday, March 14, 10 AM** – Divine Liturgy

**Sunday, March 14, 11:30 AM** – Rite of Forgiveness

Please remember to sign up and subscribing on our parish web site [www.holytrinitydanbury.org](http://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.

**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](mailto:ani.melnic@gmail.com).

**Kielbasa Making**—We are hoping to get together on Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup> to make kielbasa and Italian sausage for our upcoming Bake Sale on Marcy 27<sup>th</sup>. If this date is not good, please let Fr. Luke know.

**Middle/High School Church School**—Fr. Luke will meet with the teens on Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-5:30 p.m. He 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.

### 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

Church School Updates—We are continuing to meet with our youth and offering a few different opportunities for church school. Our next full class for all children and teens will be on Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 12 Noon with Fr. Luke and Miss Elena. Fr. Luke will also be meeting with the middle and high school teens on Friday March 19<sup>th</sup> and Friday April 16<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-5:30 p.m. Classes will take place in person and on Zoom. Miss Elena is also working on something for our very youngest pre-school parishioners. Stay tuned for details!

### 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: *The Burning Bush*

**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, **Orthodox Worship: A Living Continuity with the Synagogue, the Temple, and the Early Church.**

**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](mailto:fr.stephen.loposky@gmail.com). Thank you!!

**Church Store**—We are currently in the process of re-stocking our church store and would like to hear from parishioners about what they would like to see us carry. Are you looking for cards, books, CD's gifts for children or adults, crosses, jewelry? We'd like to be able to fill some of those needs. If there are specific saints that you would like icons of or any other items or categories you would like to see in the church store please let Chrissanth, Sarah or Lisa know.

**New Altar Cloths for Pascha**—Suad Behrend is leading an effort to sew to new white altar cloths for us to have for Pascha. She plans to cut the necessary pieces and give to sewers to work on at home. If you are interested in working on this project, please contact Suad at [suadbehrend@yahoo.com](mailto:suadbehrend@yahoo.com).

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

| March                              |    |
|------------------------------------|----|
| Larisa Yarush                      | 6  |
| Ana Urgiles Melnic                 | 7  |
| Amy Davids                         | 8  |
| Mia Paltauf                        | 9  |
| Mary Gander                        | 10 |
| Aidan McVeigh                      | 12 |
| Anthony Villa                      | 16 |
| Ella Silvera                       | 16 |
| Vida Bundra                        | 24 |
| Peter Astras                       | 24 |
| Marika Gutzman (Names day)         | 25 |
| Leon & Lady Guerrero – Anniversary | 25 |
| Orestes Mihaly                     | 26 |
| Michael Browne                     | 30 |

## Upcoming Events

**Roll Baking** – Saturday, March 13

**Roll Baking** – Saturday, March 20

**Diocesan Lenten Retreat** – Saturday, April 3

**Forgiveness Sunday** - Sunday, March 14

**Feast of the Annunciation**—Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>

**Church School**—Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. to 12 Noon

**Mission Sunday**—Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup>

**Kielbasa Making**—Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m.

**Movie Night**—Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m.

**Beginning of Great Lent**—Monday, March 15<sup>th</sup>

**Easter Bake Sale**—Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

**Teen Class**—Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup> 4:30-5:30 p.m.

**Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen** – Friday, April 2

## 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.

## | Movie Night

**Movie Night**—We are planning a family movie night for Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. following Vespers. You are invited to bring food for your family or to share. Movie title to be announced. Suggestions are welcome!

## | Easter Bake Sale

**Easter Bake Sale**—We are asking that parishioners who wish to order items from our bake sale to please fill out an order form so that we make sure we have enough food made. Order forms are available in the hall. The two Easters are very far apart this year. Our bake sale will take place on Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> but we will accommodate orders for Pascha breads and other Easter foods for our parishioners in time for Pascha on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. We do, however, need to know what people want so please plan to order in advance. Thank you!

**Pay Down Our Mortgages**— The contents of our change jar and a private donation go to Pay Down our Mortgage. The change jar is in the hall so please remember to drop in your loose change when possible.

## Sunday of Meatfare of the Last Judgment

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

Commemorated on [March 7](#)

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



### Help Re-Stock our Kitchen-

--We are in need of black garbage bags, bowls and gallon size freezer bags.

**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.

**Roll Baking**--we are planning two roll baking sessions on March 13 and March 20th. If you are available to help out please contact Chrissanth Gross at [chrissanth@me.com](mailto:chrissanth@me.com) as she is scheduling workers to fill needed slots.

**Mission Sunday**—Next Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup> is Mission Sunday. Past and present members of the Orthodox Youth Mission Team will host coffee hour and share some information about missions. (if you are going to show power point or want to add anything here feel free!)

Today's Gospel reading is Matthew 25:31-46, the parable of the Last Judgment. It reminds us that while trusting in Christ's love and mercy, we must not forget His righteous judgment when He comes again in glory. If our hearts remain hardened and unrepentant, we should not expect the Lord to overlook our transgressions simply because He is a good and loving God. Although He does not desire the death of a sinner, He also expects us to turn from our wickedness and live (Ezek. 33:11). This same idea is expressed in the prayer read by the priest after the penitent has confessed his or her sins (Slavic practice).

The time for repentance and forgiveness is now, in the present life. At the Second Coming, Christ will appear as the righteous Judge, “Who will render to every man according to his deeds” (Rom. 2:6). Then the time for entreating God's mercy and forgiveness will have passed.

As Father Alexander Schmemmann reminds us in his book GREAT LENT (Ch. 1:4), sin is the absence of love, it is separation and isolation. When Christ comes to judge the world, His criterion for judgment will be love. Christian love entails seeing Christ in other people, our family, our friends, and everyone else we may encounter in our lives. We shall be judged on whether we have loved, or not loved, our neighbor. We show Christian love when we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit those who are sick or in prison. If we did such things for the least of Christ's brethren, then we also did them for Christ (Mt.25:40). If we did not do such things for the least of the brethren, neither did we do them for Christ (Mt.25:45).

Today is the last day for eating meat and meat products until Pascha, though eggs and dairy products are permitted every day during the coming week. This limited fasting prepares us gradually for the more intense fasting of Great Lent.

