

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 the Sunday of St. John Climacus. The Epistle Hebrews 6:13-20. The Gospel is from Mark 9:17-31. Antipas of Pergamum.

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, April 11, 10 AM
- Divine Liturgy

Monday, April 12, 7 PM
- Spirituality Class

Tuesday, April 13, 9 AM
- Akathist

Wednesday, April 14, 6 PM
- Presanctified Liturgy

Wednesday, April 14, 7 PM
- Lenten Meal/Adult Catechism Class

Thursday, April 15, 9 AM
- New Testament Class

Thursday, April 15, 6 PM
- Canon of St. Andrew and the Reading of the Life of St. Mary of Egypt

Friday, April 16, 9 AM
- Old Testament Class

Saturday, April 17, 10 AM - 12 noon
- Toddlers Church School

Saturday, April 17, 11AM -12:15 PM
- Youth Retreat 7th to 12th

grade students at Assumption Greek Orthodox with Steve Christoforou in person

Saturday, April 17, 5 PM
- Vespers

Sunday, April 18, 10 AM
- Divine Liturgy

Sunday, April 18, 11:30 AM
- Lenten Cook -off for Coffee Hour

Sunday, April 18, 12 noon
- 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/htoccdanbury/?fref=hovercard> so the word gets out.

Lazarus Saturday—Plan to join your parish family on Saturday, April 24th for liturgy for Lazarus Saturday at 9:00 a.m. followed by a family breakfast and activities. We will prepare palms and pussy willows for blessing on Palm Sunday, make palm crosses, luminaries for Holy Saturday and Easter Eggs. We will also need help cleaning up the grounds around the church in preparation for Pascha.

First Toddler Class this Saturday—Saturday, April 17th from 10 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. we will have our first toddler class with Miss Elena. We are looking forward to getting our youngest parish members together for fun and socialization. Our church school teacher, Elena Gordon, has experience and wonderful ideas for a class for very young children that will appeal to all the senses, introduce them to some basic Bible stories and allow them to interact with each other in an age appropriate setting. There is also a possibility for the parents to meet with Fr. Luke while their children are having fun in class. We look forward to sharing this time of fun and fellowship with you and your child! Baba's are welcome to bring toddlers if parents are unable to attend!

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.

Church School this Saturday

Teen Church School This Friday—Fr. Luke will meet with the middle and high school students this Friday from 4:30-5:30 p.m. Feel free to send Fr. Luke any movies, videos or books that you would like to discuss in the class.

Toddler Toys

Wanted: Toddler Toys-- If your family has some young children's items that you would not use, and glad to lose, our church school will gladly take off your hands for our youngest class.

The items we are looking for are:

- Sensory table or bins
- Child size table and chairs
- Play vehicles that children can ride or push
- Toddler and young children's toys

Thank you very much!

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 **Ezra**.

All classes will take place in the church hall. We will also make them available via Zoom for those who cannot attend in person. (live, same credentials).

Young Children Church School--We are looking to set up an opportunity for our youngest parish members to get together for fun and socialization. Our church school teacher, Elena Gordon, has experience and wonderful ideas for a class for very young children that will appeal to all the senses, introduce them to some basic Bible stories and allow them to interact with each other in an age appropriate setting. **Right now, Saturday, April 17 10 a.m. is our first class.** There is also a possibility for the parents to meet with Fr. Luke while their children are having fun in class. We look forward to sharing this time of fun and fellowship with you and your child!

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.

OYMT Summer 2021 ASP Trip

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We have been approached by some of our teens about the possibility of going on an ASP trip this year now that many people are getting vaccinated and COVID restrictions are lifting. ASP does have space for us if we want to do a trip. They have put many COVID protocols in place, such as:

- Requiring a negative COVID test 4 days prior to trip for those not vaccinated
- Allowing extra rooms in their centers for social distancing
- Focusing on outdoor projects as much as possible

please let Susan Sulich or Fr. Luke know asap. We will have a meeting with all parents and teens to go over all the details of training, travel and the trip before asking for commitments. Any questions, please contact Susan at ssulich@yahoo.com.

- Requiring vaccines for volunteer adults over 65 and those at high risk as well as the families we will serve

In addition, our own team would develop safety procedures as well. The two weeks we are considering are July 3rd or July 10th. If you are interested in having your teens participate,

Upcoming Events

Young Children Church

School – Saturday, April 17, 10 AM

Lenten Cook Off Next

Sunday—Sunday, April 18th Coffee Hour

Making Time for Silence: Presentation by Steve Christoforou of Be the Bee—

Saturday, April 17th 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church

Lazarus Saturday—Saturday, April 24th Liturgy 9 a.m. followed by Family Breakfast and Activities

Save the Date! Parish Tag Sale—May 22nd

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.

|Cards for Marilyn

Cards for Marilyn—Marilyn Zaengle is still at Bethel Healthcare. She is very appreciative of all the cards that she received from parishioners. She has a new room number#: 122D. The full address is: Mrs. Marilyn Zaengle – Room #122D, Bethel Health Care Center, 13 Park Lawn Dr, Bethel, CT 06801.

| Pascha Breads

Pascha Breads—We will be making Pascha breads over the next two weeks for our parishioners for Easter. If you want a Pascha bread, please let Pani Bethany or Susan know.

Birthdays

April	
Freddy Villa	9
Sadie Xenia Mihaly	9
Brianna Scalzo	10
Katarina Mihaly	11
Christopher Mihaly	11
Melissa (Sulich) McVeigh	11
Grace Radcliff	14
Adriano Morfa	14
Carmen Villa	15
Ignatius Michael Thompson	15
Ava Baroody	16
Melanie Sulich	17
Rosalyn Mihaylo	18
Nectaros Moses Mihaly	20
Viorel Bundra	23
Natasha Gross	25
Harry Fong	26
Elena Gordon	27
Logan Thompson	29

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.

THE VENERABLE JOHN CLIMACUS

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church
74 Joes Hill Rd
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"... 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.

Lenten Cook-Off—

On Sunday, April 18th we will have our annual Lenten Cook-Off for coffee hour. Please bring a favorite Lenten main dish, side dish or dessert to share along with a copy of the recipe. Prize will be awarded for the most popular dish!

Parishioner Easter Orders -

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. We will accommodate orders for Pascha breads and other Easter foods for our parishioners in time for Pascha on May 2nd. We do, however, need to know what people want so please plan to order in advance. Thank you!

John Climacus is the author of *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*. John came to Mount Sinai as a sixteen-year-old youth and remained there, first as a novice, later as a recluse, and finally as abbot of Sinai until his eightieth year, when he reposed, in about the year 649 A.D. His biographer, the monk Daniel, says about him: "His body ascended the heights of Sinai, while his soul ascended the heights of heaven." He remained under obedience to his spiritual father, Martyrius, for nineteen years. Anastasius of Sinai, seeing the young John, prophesied that he would become the abbot of Sinai. After the death of his spiritual father, John withdrew into a cave, where he lived a life of strict asceticism for twenty years. His disciple, Moses, fell asleep one day under the shade of a large stone. John, at prayer in his cell, saw that his disciple was in danger and prayed to God for him. Later, when Moses returned, he fell on his knees and gave thanks to his spiritual father for saving him from certain death. He related that in a dream he had heard John calling him, and that he had jumped up at the moment the stone had fallen.

Had he not jumped, the stone would have crushed him. At the insistence of the brotherhood, John agreed to become abbot, and he directed the salvation of the souls of men with zeal and love. Certain people reproached John for talking too much. Not at all angered by this, John nevertheless remained silent for an entire year. He did not utter a word until the brothers implored him to speak, and to continue teaching them his God-given wisdom. On one occasion, when six-hundred pilgrims came to the Monastery of Sinai, everyone saw an agile youth in Jewish attire serving at table, giving orders to other servants and assigning duties. Suddenly, this young man disappeared. When everyone noticed this and began to ask questions, John said to them: "Do not seek him, for that was Moses the Prophet serving in his own place." During his silence in the cave, John wrote many worthwhile books, of which the most glorious is *The Ladder*. This book is still read by many, even today. In this book, John describes the method of raising the soul to God, comparing it to the climbing of a ladder. Before his death, John designated George, his brother in the flesh, as abbot. George grieved much because of his separation from John. Then John said to him that, if he were found worthy to be near God in the other world, he would pray to Him that George would be taken to heaven that same year. And so it came to pass. After ten months George fell asleep and settled among the citizens of heaven as his great brother, John, had done.