

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 Palm Sunday. The Epistle is from Philippians 4:4-9. The Gospel is from John 12:1-18.

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 25, 10 AM
- Palms Sunday Liturgy and blessing of Palms and Pussy Willows.

Monday, April 26, 9 AM –
Bridegroom Matins

Monday, April 26, 6 PM –
Presanctified Liturgy

Tuesday, April 27, 9 AM –
Bridegroom Matins

Tuesday, April 27, 6 PM –
Presanctified Liturgy

Wednesday, April 28, 9 AM
– Bridegroom Matins

Wednesday, April 28, 12 noon – Presanctified Liturgy

Wednesday, April 28, 6 PM
– Holy Unction Service

Thursday, April 29, 9 AM –
Vespertal Liturgy – Institution of the Eucharist

Thursday, April 29, 7 PM –
Matins and the Reading of the 12 Passion Gospels

Friday, April 30, 9 AM –
Royal Hours

Friday, April 30, 7 PM –
Great & Holy Friday Vespers

with Procession and Guarding the Tomb

Saturday, May 1, 9 AM –
Vespertal Liturgy

Saturday, May 1, 11 PM –
Nocturne, Paschal Matins, Paschal Divine Liturgy followed by blessing of the Baskets and Agape Meal

Sunday, May, 12 noon –
Paschal Vespers followed by blessing of Baskets and continuation of the Paschal Agape meal

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.

Guarding the Tomb— There are still a number of slots left for guarding the tomb. The sign up sheet is at the candlestand. Please sign up if you can.

Treasurer Position—As a reminder, at our Annual Meeting we noted that Monika Mihaly has served beyond her term as treasurer and that if no one stepped forward to take over this position by our Semi-Annual Meeting we would be looking to hire an outside accountant to take over this very important role for our parish. If you have the talent and the time (regular weekly commitment required) for this position, please contact Susan Sulich or Monika Mihaly. Monika and Orestes will be happy to train someone and have set up the bookkeeping in a way that is easily passed on.

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.

| 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!

| Red Eggs

Red Eggs—We will be needing red eggs to give out for Pascha. If you are able to dye a dozen or two please let Susan Sulich know.

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).

Church Store—We are currently in the process of restocking 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.

First Toddler Class—On Saturday we had our first toddler class with Miss Elena and it went very well! Thank you to all the parents and grandparents who brought our youngest parish members together for fun and socialization. Our church school teacher, Elena Gordon, has experience and wonderful ideas 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 and get to know each other while their children are having fun in class. We look forward to sharing this time of fun and fellowship with you and your child and hoping to offer this class on a monthly basis. Stay tuned for the date of the next class.

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

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, 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.

Upcoming Events

Marika Gutzman-Quinn

Vissak Wedding – Saturday, May 15th at 10 AM

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.

|New Paschal Altar Cloths

Blessing of New White Altar Cloth – A BIG THANK YOU to Suad Behrend and Helen Galskoy who worked tirelessly sewing new beautiful White Altar cloths to have for Pascha. The new altar covers will be blessed after Liturgy on Palm Sunday. God bless Suad and Helen for all their hard work for our parish and the Christ's Holy Church.

Birthdays

April	
Viorel Bundra	23
Natasha Gross	25
Harry Fong	26
Elena Gordon	27
Logan Thompson	29
May	
Luca Szymanowicz	5
Robert Faubel	5
Nicholas Fong	6
Gavin Davids	10
Peter & Sandi Astras	11
Kaitleen Villa	12
Jenny Fong	14
Kevin Gutzman	20
Adrienne Fedyna	25
Paul & Susan Sulich - Anniversary	28
Nick & Jenny Fong - Anniversary	28
Michael & Kathryn Kerpchar - Anniversary	29
Joe Derevjanik	31
Ken Borsari	31

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.

Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday)

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church
74 Joes Hill Rd
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Palm Sunday

"... 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.

A Big Thank You to everyone who came out after Lazarus Saturday Liturgy and helped make Palm Crosses, Luminaries and clean up the parish grounds in preparation for Pascha.

Palm Sunday is the celebration of the triumphant entrance of Christ into the royal city of Jerusalem. He rode on a colt for which He Himself had sent, and He permitted the people to hail Him publicly as a king. A large crowd met Him in a manner befitting royalty, waving palm branches and placing their garments in His path. They greeted Him with these words: "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel! (John 12:13).

This day together with the raising of Lazarus are signs pointing beyond themselves to the mighty deeds and events which consummate Christ's earthly ministry. The time of fulfillment was at hand. Christ's raising of Lazarus points to the destruction of death and the joy of resurrection which will be accessible to all through His own death and resurrection. His entrance into Jerusalem is a fulfillment of the messianic prophecies about the king who will enter his holy city to establish a final kingdom. "Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of an ass" (Zech 9:9).

Finally, the events of these triumphant two days are but the passage to Holy Week: the "hour" of suffering and death for which Christ came. Thus the triumph in an earthly sense is extremely short-lived. Jesus enters openly into the midst of His enemies, publicly saying and doing those things which mostly enrage them. The people themselves will soon reject Him. They misread His brief earthly triumph as a sign of something else: His emergence as a political messiah who will lead them to the glories of an earthly kingdom.

Our Pledge

The liturgy of the Church is more than meditation or praise concerning past events. It communicates to us the eternal presence and power of the events being celebrated and makes us participants in those events. Thus the services of Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday bring us to our own moment of life and death and entrance into the Kingdom of God: a Kingdom not of this world, a Kingdom accessible in the Church through repentance and baptism.

On Palm Sunday palm and willow branches are blessed in the Church. We take them in order to raise them up and greet the King and Ruler of our life: Jesus Christ. We take them in order to reaffirm our baptismal pledges. As the One who raised Lazarus and entered Jerusalem to go to His voluntary Passion stands in our midst, we are faced with the same question addressed to us at baptism: "Do you accept Christ?" We give our answer by daring to take the branch and raise it up: "I accept Him as King and God!"

Thus, on the eve of Christ's Passion, in the celebration of the joyful cycle of the triumphant days of Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday, we reunite ourselves to Christ, affirm His Lordship over the totality of our life, and express our readiness to follow Him to His Kingdom:

... that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that if possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead (Philippians 3:10-11).

Very Rev. Paul Lazor

