

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 Sunday of the Blindman. The Epistle is from Acts 16:16-34. The Gospel is from John 9:1-38. Hilarion the New.

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 a 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, June 6, 10 AM – Divine Liturgy

Sunday, June 6, 11:30 AM – Panachida for Mary Derevjanik

Monday, June 7, 7 PM – Spirituality Class

Tuesday, June 8, 9 AM – Akathist

Wednesday, June 9, 6 PM – Vespers for Ascension

Wednesday, June 9, 7 PM – Adult Catechism Class

Thursday, June 10, 9 AM – Divine Liturgy for Ascension

Friday, June 11, 9 AM – Old Testament class

Saturday, June 12, 3 PM – Men's Group Meeting

Saturday, June 12, 5 PM – Vespers

Sunday, June 13, 10 AM – Divine Liturgy

Gift from a Friend—We have received a very generous anonymous donation of \$5,000, a gift from a friend of Holy Trinity

parish. After a discussion at our most recent parish council meeting, it was decided to put the donation toward the building of a bell tower for the church—a long standing goal which this gift moves us significantly closer to achieving! We wish to express our sincere gratitude for this generous gift.

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.

Coffee Hour Sign Up—Now that we are able to get together again, please consider signing up to host coffee hour. See the new sheet in the hall. As a reminder, coffee hour is a time for fellowship—not a culinary competition! Simple fare is fine. Consider signing up with a friend to lighten the load.

Choir News—Have you ever thought about joining the choir? Now's the time! We are just starting up again with some new members. We are looking forward to going over music we know both plain chant and choral and also learning new music. We have rehearsals every Sunday morning at 8:30 a.m. in the choir loft. If you are interested in being a part of the choir, talk to Stephen Fong in person or by email: shteevbo@aol.com.

Cemetery Clean Up and Picnic—On Saturday, July 19th starting at 10 a.m. we will have a clean-up at our parish cemetery followed by a picnic. Please plan to bring rakes, tarps, clippers and other tools and picnic food. There is a grill at the cemetery that we can use.

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.

Our Next Meeting will be **Saturday, June 12 at 3 PM**

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!

Outdoor Vigil Candles

Outdoor Vigil Candles for the Cross—We have new 7-day vigil candles made for outdoors that are available to place in the glass vigil holder at the foot of the cross in the garden in front of the church. You can purchase one to be lit for a week at the candlestand. We will keep a list and candles will be placed in the order received.

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: *Orthodox Spirituality*

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 First Epistle to the Corinthians*

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.

What's New

OYMT Summer 2021 ASP Trip

OYMT Summer Mission Weekends 2021

—We are planning 2 OYMT home mission weekends for this summer that are open to all teens who will have finished 8th grade this year and up through high school/college. Here are the details:

- **Dates:** June 4- and July 16-1
- **Where:** Holy Trinity, Danbury, CT
- **What:** Mission and Devotional training, Safety and Tool Training, Living in Community, Service Projects for Parish, Seniors and Community,

Planning Future Mission Trips, Fun and Fellowship!

There are several new teens interested in joining our team and this will be a great opportunity for veteran teens to introduce youth mission work to them and for us all to prep for a trip next summer. We will also be reaching out to other Orthodox parishes in our area to get to know new people, socialize and introduce them to OYMT.

NEXT STEP: If you haven't already done so (leaders and teens) contact us by email or through a leader let us know that yes, you are interested and able

to participate in one or both of the above weekends ASAP. We would like to hear of your commitment by May 17th in order to prep for the first weekend. We will then send you a medical form/permission slip and additional details about the weekends.

We look forward to coming together again and pursuing our goal of putting our Faith to work through missions! If you have any questions, talk to Susan Sulich (ssulich@yahoo.com) or Fr. Luke.

Upcoming Events

Ascension—Thursday, June 10th

Men's Group Meeting – Saturday, June 12th at 3 PM

Cemetery Clean up and Picnic--Saturday, June 19th 10 a.m.

Pentecost/Father's Day— June 20th Mom's and Children hosting Coffee Hour

Graduate Sunday – Sunday, June 27

Semi-Annual Meeting— Sunday July 18th following liturgy

Perogie Dash Road Race— Saturday, August 21st

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#: 221D. The full address is: Mrs. Marilyn Zaengle – Room #122D, Bethel Health Care Center, 13 Park Lawn Dr, Bethel, CT 06801.

|Graduate Sunday

Graduate Sunday—We will be honoring our graduates this year on Sunday, June 27 at the end of Divine Liturgy and at Coffee Hour.

Birthdays

| June | |
|-------------------------------------------|----|
| Anne Marie Huott | 6 |
| Michael Baroody | 8 |
| Anastasia Mihaly Thompson | 9 |
| Cyril Mihaly | 9 |
| Konstantin & Tania Radcliff - Anniversary | 10 |
| Jeff Szymanowicz | 11 |
| Christina Chow | 12 |
| Fr. Nicholas Mihaly | 13 |
| Eleanor Szymanowicz | 14 |
| Robert & Carolyn Faubel - Anniversary | 16 |
| Jack & Maria Bouffard - Anniversary | 16 |
| Jose & Katie Helu - Anniversary | 17 |
| Logan & Anastasia Thompson - Anniversary | 18 |
| Bob Popp | 19 |
| Filip Bundra | 20 |
| Freddy & Carmen Villa - Anniversary | 20 |
| Katherine Chow | 20 |
| Adrian Guerrero | 24 |
| Monika Mihaly | 28 |
| Luke & Rosalyn Mihaylo - Anniversary | 30 |

Help Re-Stock our Kitchen—We are in need of kitchen counter cleaner, garbage bags and napkins.

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



Rectory Mortgage Paydown--

As discussed in our Annual Meeting in January, we are making paying down our rectory mortgage a priority. To date for 2021, from donations made to paydown the mortgage and our coin jar, we have made additional principal payments on the Rectory Mortgage of \$18,529.19. These additional current year payments and budgeted annual January payments have resulted in significant savings to the Church on loan interest of \$14,612 and reduced the remaining payment term on this mortgage by 9 years and 7 months.

The additional principal payments in the early years of the Rectory Mortgage term offset the periods where the most significant amount of interest is incurred. The projected total term interest on this mortgage is \$22,689.54. With the additional principal payments made through June 2021 and the budgeted annual future January additional payments, the Church has saved approximately 64% of interest expense that would have been incurred over the term of the loan.

If you have any questions on the Rectory Mortgage and the savings that have been noted, Sarah Mannello will be able to walk you through the schedule. We will also be discussing the Rectory Mortgage pay down at our Semi-Annual Parish Meeting in July.

Reading

The Lord Jesus was coming from the Temple on the Sabbath, when, while walking in the way, He saw the blind man mentioned in today's Gospel. This man had been born thus from his mother's womb, that is, he had been born without eyes (see Saint John Chrysostom, Homily LVI on Matthew; Saint Irenaeus, Against Heresies, Book V:15; and the second Exorcism of Saint Basil the Great). When the disciples saw this, they asked their Teacher, "Who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?" They asked this because when the Lord had healed the paralytic at the Sheep's Pool, He had told him, "Sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee" (John 5:14); so they wondered, if sickness was caused by sin, what sin could have been the cause of his being born without eyes. But the Lord answered that this was for the glory of God. Then the God-man spat on the ground and made clay with the spittle. He anointed the eyes of the blind man and said to him, "Go, wash in the Pool of Siloam." Siloam (which means "sent") was a well-known spring in Jerusalem used by the inhabitants for its waters, which flowed to the eastern side of the city and collected in a large pool called "the Pool of Siloam."

Therefore, the Saviour sent the blind man to this pool that he might wash his eyes, which had been anointed with the clay-not that the pool's water had such power, but that the faith and obedience of the one sent might be made manifest, and that the miracle might become more remarkable and known to all, and leave no room for doubt. Thus, the blind man believed in Jesus' words, obeyed His command, went and washed himself, and returned, no longer blind, but having eyes and seeing. This was the greatest miracle that our Lord had yet worked; as the man healed of his blindness himself testified, "Since time began, never was it heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind," although the Lord had already healed the blind eyes of many. Because he now had eyes, some even doubted that he was the same person (John 9:8-9); and it was still lively in their remembrance when Christ came to the tomb of Lazarus, for they said, "Could not this man, who opened the eyes of the blind man, have caused that even this man should not have died?" Saint John Chrysostom gives a thorough and brilliant exposition of our Lord's meeting with the woman of Samaria, the healing of the paralytic, and the miracle of the blind man in his commentaries on the Gospel of Saint John.

