

# 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 Sunday of Pentecost. The Epistle is from Acts 2:1-11. The Gospel is from John 7:37-52, 8:12.

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 20, 10 AM**  
– Divine Liturgy

**Sunday, June 20, 11:30 AM**  
– Kneeling Prayers, Father's Day

NO Fasting this week

**Monday, June 21, 9 AM** –  
Divine Liturgy – Holy Spirit Day

**Monday, June 21, 7 PM** –  
Spirituality Class

**Tuesday, June 22, 9 AM** –  
Akathist

**Wednesday, June 23, 7 PM**  
- Adult Catechism Class

**Thursday, June 24, 9 AM** –  
New Testament Class

**Friday, June 25, 9 AM** –  
Old Testament class

**Saturday, June 26, 10 AM to 12 noon** –  
Toddler Class

**Saturday, June 26, 4 PM** –  
Vespers

**Sunday, June 27, 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](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/htoccdanbury/?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](mailto:shteevbo@aol.com).

**Semi-Annual Meeting**—We will hold our Semi-Annual Meeting on Sunday, July 18<sup>th</sup> immediately following liturgy. We will keep the meeting brief! Please try your best to attend or give your proxy to another parish member or parish council member. We will have several important items to discuss and your input is very important.

## 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.

We will be having a **Men's Retreat** in the upcoming months at **Camp Hi-Rock**.

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 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.

**Toddler Class**—We are planning to continue our toddler class over the summer class. The next date will be Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. We also hope to meet on July 24 and August 7. 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.

**Perogie Dash Road Race 2021**—We will once again resume our Perogie Dash Road Race to benefit Healing Hearts of Western Regional Hospice. The date is set for Saturday, August 21<sup>st</sup>. We will need many helpers to set up and work on race day. Right now, we are looking for sponsors for the event. Please consider asking a business that you patronize or work for to be a sponsor for this event. Sponsorship forms available in the hall.

## OYMT Home Missions Weekend

**OYMT Home Mission Weekends**—As we are not traveling to Appalachia this year to participate in ASP, we have decided to have some Home Mission Weekends with our teens. The first one took place last weekend. Our youth helped serve at Dorothy Day and visited some of our parishioners in their homes and at Bethel Health Care. Teens stayed overnight at the Church and enjoyed a bonfire and some fun and fellowship as well. We are tentatively planning a second Home Mission Weekend Friday July 16-Saturday July 17. We look forward to coming together again and pursuing our goal of putting our Faith to work through missions! If you would like to attend or have any questions, talk to Susan Sulich ([ssulich@yahoo.com](mailto:ssulich@yahoo.com)) or Fr. Luke.

## Covid Restrictions Lifted

**Covid Restrictions Lifted**—We continue to follow the guidelines for the state of Connecticut. As of May 19, 2021, there are no restrictions on the number of people allowed in the church building and people who are fully vaccinated no longer need to wear masks indoors or outside.

## Bake Sale Inventory

**Bake Sale Inventory**—We are trying to keep a more accurate record of the production and sale of our bake sale items. If you wish to purchase any stuffed cabbage, perogies, kielbasa, rolls or other items that we make, please see Roz Mihaylo, Helen Galskoy or Susan Sulich so they can record what you are purchasing. Bake sale items are available to parishioners between sales. If there is something you'd like we are happy to try to supply you with it.

## Birthdays

June	
Filip Bundra	20
Freddy & Carmen Villa - Anniversary	20
Katherine Chow	20
Adrian Guerrero	24
Monika Mihaly	28
Luke & Rosalyn Mihaylo - Anniversary	30

## Cemetery Clean Up and Parish Picnic

—What a beautiful day we had yesterday at our parish cemetery, St. Platon's. With the help of many hands we made great progress clearing the weeds and vines off the back fence and putting down a layer of mulch to keep the weeds and down and create a neat border for the back of our cemetery. We also trimmed low branches and picked up sticks and brush. We then enjoyed a delicious picnic and finally, celebrated a Panachida Service for Soul Saturday for all our loved ones and especially those buried in our cemetery. Thank you to everyone who helped with the work and the food and those who came to enjoy time together at the picnic. We hope to do it again in the future.

**Directory Update**—It's time for our semi-annual update of the parish directory. If your contact information (phone number, email, address, etc.) has changed, please email those changes to Ana Melnic ([ani.melnic@gmail.com](mailto:ani.melnic@gmail.com)). If you are new to the parish and wish to be included in our directory which parishioners use to get in touch with one another, please send the above information to Ana as well. We will publish an updated directory after the Semi-Annual Meeting.

## Upcoming Events

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

**Toddler Class**—Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m.

**Graduate Sunday** – Sunday, June 27

**Parish Council Meeting**—Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup> following Coffee Hour

**Semi-Annual Meeting**—Sunday July 18<sup>th</sup> following liturgy

**Toddler Class**—Saturday, July 24

**Dorothy Day**—Friday, August 6<sup>th</sup> 1:30-4:30 p.m.

**Toddler Class**—Saturday, August 7

**Perogie Dash Road Race**—Saturday, August 21<sup>st</sup>

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

## Clothing Drive

**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. If you have not already done so, please send Susan Sulich ([ssulich@yahoo.com](mailto:ssulich@yahoo.com)) details about your family member who is graduating (where they are graduating from, what's next, etc.)



# Holy Pentecost

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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.

In the Church’s annual liturgical cycle, Pentecost is “the last and great day.” It is the celebration by the Church of the coming of the Holy Spirit as the end—the achievement and fulfillment—of the entire history of salvation. For the same reason, however, it is also the celebration of the beginning: it is the “birthday” of the Church as the presence among us of the Holy Spirit, of the new life in Christ, of grace, knowledge, adoption to God and holiness.

This double meaning and double joy is revealed to us, first of all, in the very name of the feast. Pentecost in Greek means fifty, and in the sacred biblical symbolism of numbers, the number fifty symbolizes both the fulness of time and that which is beyond time: the Kingdom of God itself. It symbolizes the fulness of time by its first component: 49, which is the fulness of seven (7 x 7): the number of time. And, it symbolizes that which is beyond time by its second component: 49 + 1, this one being the new day, the “day without evening” of God’s eternal Kingdom. With the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Christ’s disciples, the time of salvation, the Divine work of redemption has been completed, the fulness revealed, all gifts bestowed: it belongs to us now to “appropriate” these gifts, to be that which we have become in Christ: participants and citizens of His Kingdom.

The joy of Easter has been completed and we again have to wait for the dawn of the Eternal Day. Yet, knowing our weakness, humbling ourselves by kneeling, we also know the joy and the power of the Holy Spirit who has come. We know that God is with us, that in Him is our victory.

Thus is completed the feast of Pentecost and we enter “the ordinary time” of the year. Yet, every Sunday now will be called “after Pentecost”—and this means that it is from the power and light of these fifty days that we shall receive our own power, the Divine help in our daily struggle. At Pentecost we decorate our churches with flowers and green branches—for the Church “never grows old, but is always young.” It is an evergreen, ever-living Tree of grace and life, of joy and comfort. For the Holy Spirit—“the Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life—comes and abides in us, and cleanses us from all impurity,” and fills our life with meaning, love, faith and hope.

