

# Holy Trinity Orthodox Church



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

<https://www.facebook.com/htocdanbury/?fref=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 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, Sunday before the Elevation of the Cross. The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians 9:2-12. The Gospel is from Matthew 18:23-35.

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, September 12, 10 AM - Divine Liturgy**

**Sunday, September 12, 11:45 AM – Special Parish Meeting**

**Monday, September 13, 6 PM- Vespers for the Feast of the Elevation of the Cross**

**Monday, September 13, 7 PM – Spirituality Class**

**Tuesday, September 14, 9 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Elevation of the Cross**

**Wednesday, September 15, 7 PM – Adult Catechism Class**

**Thursday, September 16, 9 AM – New Testament Class**

**Friday, September 17, 9 AM – Old Testament Class**

**Saturday, September 18, 3 PM – Vespers**

**Sunday, September 19, 10 AM – Divine Liturgy**

**Sunday, September 19, 12 noon – Parish Council Meeting**

### Special Parish Meeting Today

—As announced last week and via email, we will be having a very brief special parish meeting today immediately following liturgy to vote on financing for paving the church parking lot. Our bylaws require 51% participation for this meeting to be valid. There are blank absentee ballots in the back of the church. If you are unable to stay for the quick meeting, please take the time to fill one out and cast your vote.

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.

**Lenox Retreat Set for Nov. 5-7**—We have finalized details for our annual adult Lenox Retreat. We will be staying at our old inn—now the Church Street Inn. Reservations will be done a little differently this year. You will have a choice of several levels of rooms and will book directly with the inn. See the attached letter which contains details on how to reserve your room. We will announce the topic and retreat master when they are finalized. This retreat is offered for Orthodox and non-Orthodox alike. Please feel free to invite family and friends who you think would be interested in this enjoyable weekend. If you have questions or have any problem making your reservation please see Susan Sulich.

## Parish Men's Group

**Parish Men's Group** – The Men of the Parish next Meeting **Saturday, August 7 at 3 PM.**

We will be having an overnight **Men's Retreat at Camp Hi-Rock. Friday, October 22 to Saturday, October 23. Please let Fr. Luke know as we need to sign a contract with the camp ASAP.**

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.

## Adult Education Opportunities

We have several 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

**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.

## | Tag Sale Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Tag Sale Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>**—We will be having another parish tag sale on Saturday, Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Spots will be \$35. Feel free to invite friends and family to take a space as well.

## Choir News

**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).

reading and studying *St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians*

**Old Testament Class** – Fridays at 9:00 a.m. We have begun **The Book of Tobit.**

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).

**Toddler Class**—We have set two dates for fall sessions of our toddler class: Saturday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 12 Noon. If you are unable to attend, please let Fr. Luke know. We look forward to seeing all of our young parish family members and their parents!

**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.

## OYMT Update

**OYMT Updates**--Since we were unable to travel for a summer youth mission trip this year OYMT hosted a Home Mission Weekends in Danbury with our teens. Our youth helped serve at Dorothy Day and visited and served 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 will be getting together in the fall to continue our mission training and start planning for 2022. Stay tuned for dates and details!

## | Time to Make the Perogies

**Time to Make the Perogies**—After the sales at the Perogie Dash Road Race we sold all of our perogies except a few dozen prune. Fall sessions will start up on Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 a.m. following the weekly Akathist service which will now start at 8:30 a.m. New and veteran pinchers are welcome!

## | Golf Outing

**Golf Outing**—A BIG Thank you to Harry Fong for putting together our parish golf outing this past Friday.

## Upcoming Events

**Special Parish Meeting**— Sunday, Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> immediately following liturgy

Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. to 12 Noon

**Toddler Class**—Saturday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. to 12 Noon

**Men's Retreat at Camp Hi-Rock**—Friday, Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>— Saturday, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Lenox Retreat**—Friday Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>-Sunday Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>

**Dorothy Day** – October 8

**Tag Sale**—Saturday, Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>—9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Toddler Class**—Saturday,

## 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 #21212D, Bethel Health Care Center, 13 Park Lawn Dr, Bethel, CT 06801.

## | Directory Update

**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.

## Birthdays

| September                                |    |
|--|----|
| Suad Behrend                             | 10 |
| Valentina Bayer                          | 14 |
| Steven & Vera Shelley - Anniversary      | 14 |
| Miles Silvera                            | 14 |
| Natalie Carrier                          | 14 |
| Peggy & Frank Scalzo - Anniversary       | 18 |
| Josue Salcedo                            | 18 |
| Orestes & Monika Mihaly - Anniversary    | 21 |
| Nicholas Scalzo                          | 21 |
| Bethany Mihaly                           | 22 |
| Julia Huott                              | 23 |
| Paul Sulich, Sr.                         | 26 |
| Lorraine Fedyna                          | 28 |
| Alex & Elaine Sirak - Anniversary        | 28 |
| Jeff & Kristen Szymanowicz – Anniversary | 29 |
| Jim & Pat Zeleniak - Anniversary         | 29 |

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



**Help Re-Stock Our Kitchen—**

We are currently in need of decaf coffee, paper towels and gallon size freezer bags.

**Dorothy Day:** We have switched our Dorothy Day date to serve to the second Friday of each even month starting with October. Our next date to serve will be Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. If you are able to help for all or part of the afternoon, please let Susan Sulich know. Community service hours available for high school students who need them!

**Lenox Retreat—**We're working on it! We are in touch with our inn at Lenox (now the Church Street Inn) which has been newly renovated and hopeful that we will be able to resume our retreat this year. If you are interested, please save the date, Nov. 5-7<sup>th</sup>. We are hoping to finalize the plans and send out an email later this week.

**St. Romanos the Melodist: The Most High planted in the middle of Paradise The thrice blessed wood . . .**

"The Most High planted in the middle of Paradise The thrice blessed wood, the gift of life for us, In order that, in approaching it, Adam might find eternal and immortal life, But he did not strive earnestly to know this life, And he failed to attain it, and revealed death. However, the robber, seeing how the plant in Eden Had been beautifully transplanted in Golgotha, Recognized the life in it and said to himself: `This is what my father lost formerly In Paradise.'"

+ St. Romanos the Melodist, On the Adoration at the Cross

**St. Nikolai Velimirovich: What does it mean to take up your cross? . . .**

"What does it mean to take up your cross? I means the willing acceptance, at the hand of Providence, of every means of healing, bitter though it may be, that is offered. Do great catastrophies fall on you? Be obedient to God's will, as Noah was. Is sacrifice demanded of you? Give yourself into God's hands with the same faith as Abram had when he went to sacrifice his son. Is your property ruined? Do your children die suddenly? Suffer it all with patience, cleaving to God in your heart, as Job did. Do your friends forsake you, and you find yourself surrounded by enemies? Bear it all without grumbling, and with faith that God's help is at hand, as the apostles did."

+ St. Nikolai Velimirovich, *Homilies, Vol. 1*

**St. Nikolai Velimirovich: Many complain against technology. . . .**

Many complain against technology.

Many accuse modern technology for all the woes in the world.

Is technology really to blame, or those who create technology and use it?

Is a wooden cross to blame if somebody crucifies someone on it?

Is a hammer to blame if a neighbor breaks his neighbors' skull?

Technology does not feel good or evil.

The same pipes can be used for drinking water or the sewer.

Evil does not come from unfeeling, dead technology, but from the dead hearts of people.

+ St. Nikolai Velimirovich, From the *Complete Works of Bishop Nikolai* [in Serbian], Book 12, p. 23. Translated from the Serbian by Marija Miljkovic.