

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church



Fr. Luke Mihaly

74 Joes Hill Road
Danbury, CT 06811
Rectory (203) 748-0671
Cell (203) 482-6223

PadreLuke@aol.com

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/>

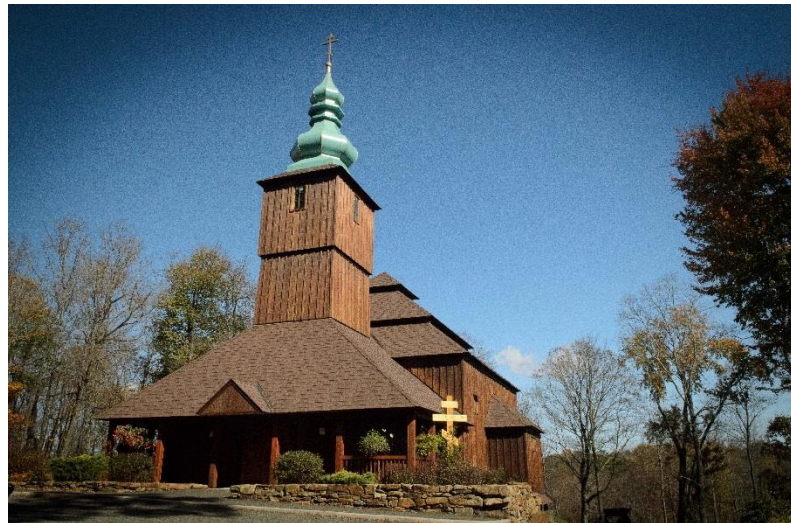
Welcome to Holy Trinity Parish

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost and the Sunday before the Cross Elevation. The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians 16:13-24 and Galatians 6:11-18. The Gospel is from Matthew 21:33-42 and John 3:13-17. Theodora.

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 11, 10 AM – Divine Liturgy

Sunday, September 11, 11:15 AM – Panachida for the Child Sophia and the departed from the attacks on 911.

Monday, September 12, 7 PM – Spirituality Class

Tuesday, September 13, 8:30 AM – Akathist

Tuesday, September 13, 9:15 AM – Perogie Session

Tuesday, September 13, 6 PM – Vesper for the Elevation of the Cross

Wednesday, September 14, 9 AM – Liturgy for the Elevation of the Cross

Wednesday, September 14, 7 PM – Adult Catechism Class

Thursday, September 15, 9 AM – New Testament Class

Friday, September 16, 9 AM – Old Testament Class

Saturday, September 10, 5 PM -Vespers

Saturday, September 17, 7 PM - Caberoke

Sunday, September 18, 10 AM – Divine Liturgy

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.

Annual Lenox Retreat—We are making plans for our St. Nectarios Retreat in Lenox, MA which will take place Nov. 4th-Nov. 6th. We will be staying at the same inn as last year now called The Whitlock (formerly Church Street Inn). Room reservations will be made directly with the inn as we did last year. Please reserve by Oct. 4th. Reservations made after Oct 4th will not receive our discounted group rate. The retreat master will be Fr. Bogdan Bucur, Associate Professor of Patristics at St. Vladimir's Theological Seminary. This is always a very enjoyable weekend and we look forward to sharing it with parishioners and guests from outside the parish. See the attached letter for more details including room rates and reservations instructions. If you have any questions, please contact Susan Sulich (ssulich@yahoo.com).

PLEASE NOTE: Day Guests who wish to attend the retreat presentation only are welcome. Retreat fee is \$50.

Dorothy Day

Dorothy Day—Our next date to serve will be **Friday, October 14th from 1:30 p.m. to 4: 30 p.m.** Community service hours available for high school students. If you are unable to serve but would like to help feed the hungry in our community another option is to prepare a meal for us to serve. We use 3 large silver trays for each meal. See Susan Sulich to volunteer.

| Cards for Marilyn and Bob

Cards for Marilyn and Bob—Marilyn Zaengle and Bob Popp are both at Bethel Health Care and would very much enjoy hearing from parishioners. The address for the center is: Bethel Health Care, 13 Parklawn Dr., Bethel, CT 06801. Marilyn's room number is 121D and Bob's room number is 227W

| Trinity Troubadours Return

Trinity Troubadours Return to Support OYMT—After a 2-year hiatus the Trinity Troubadours will once again be back at Holy Trinity on Sat. Sept. 17th for "Caberoke." Please join us for a cabaret night featuring karaoke from some of your favorite performers. Audience participation greatly welcomed! The fun and frivolity starts at 7 p.m. at Holy Trinity church hall. Tickets are \$25 which includes dinner and the show. BYOB. See attached flyer. Come for a fun evening and support the Orthodox Youth Mission Team.

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 soon be starting a new book: *Unseen Warfare*

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, **Symeon the New Theologian – The Discourses.**

New Testament – Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. currently we are reading and studying *St. Paul's Epistle to the Galatians*

Old Testament Class – Fridays at 9:00 a.m. We have begun **Psalms.**

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 have many new items in our Church Store. Check out our selection of books for summer reading, beautiful icons, jewelry, and religious items. We have many children's offerings and items perfect for gift giving. Your purchase also benefits the parish. If there are any items you would like to see in our store, please let Lisa Farrah or Sarah Mannello know.

Processional Cross and Fans – The parish council has moved to go ahead with the purchase of new hand carved wooden processional Cross and Fans. The cost is \$4000.00 and we are looking for donations to help offset the cost. If you would like to contribute to the purchase of the cross please note processional cross in the memo line of your check.

Parish Vegetable Garden

Parish Vegetable Garden—You may have noticed by the Cross at the top of the driveway a vegetable garden is developing! OYMT helped start the construction of a fence and parishioners have planted some vegetables in the beds. God willing, the garden will provide fresh produce for the parish to share. Everyone is invited to participate planting, weeding and watering the garden whenever you have a little time. There is also more work to be done on the fence to keep the animals from eating our harvest. The children will also be doing some garden projects. It's a great addition for our parish family!

| Trek for Orthodox Christian Mission Center

Join the Trek for Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC)—Each year OCMC sponsors a "Trek for Missions," where participants can run, walk, bike or swim to raise funds for missions. We are joining up with St. Alexis parish in Clinton, CT to form a team. There are several ways you can participate:

1. Visit our page: [St. Alexis/Holy Trinity CT Trek Team](#) and sign up to be a team member. You will be able to set a mileage goal and invite friends and

family to support you.

2. Make a donation to our team. Visit the above link and click on the donation button. An anonymous donor has agreed to match all of our team's donations up to \$5,000.00 so your contribution is worth double!

3. Log the miles you run, walk, bike or swim from August 8-Sept 18th and report them to Susan Sulich so they can get added to our team total.

If you have questions and would like to get involved, talk to Susan.

Upcoming Events

OYMT Leaders Wrap Up Meeting at Beth Rzyk's—Sunday, Sept. 11th 2:00 p.m.

Cabaroke with the Trinity Troubadours—Saturday, Sept. 17th 7:00 p.m.

Roll Baking—Saturday, Sept. 24th

OYMT Thank You Coffee Hour—Sunday Oct 2nd following liturgy

Monthly Bake Sale—Thursday, Oct. 6th 4-6 p.m.

Dorothy Day—Friday, Oct. 14th 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Sobor—Sunday, Oct. 16th – Wednesday, Oct. 19th

Roll Baking—Saturday, Oct 22nd

Annual Parish Lenox Retreat – Friday, November 4 – Sunday, November 6

Thanksgiving Bake Sale—Saturday, Nov. 19th 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Christmas Bake Sale—Saturday, Dec. 10th 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Birthdays

September	
Luke Mihaylo	8
Christopher & Brenna Mihaly - Anniversary	9
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

Book Review

Oct 2nd Big in Heaven by Father Stephen N Siniari

Follow Father Naum, an Orthodox priest of an inner-city immigrant parish, daily. A collection of short stories with each story about different parishioners. Sometimes poignant, sometimes funny, sometimes heartbreaking. A great read that Orthodox Christians can relate to!

Available to order from our Church Store \$18.00

| Perogie Sessions Starting Up

Perogie Sessions Starting Up—It's time to make the perogies! We will begin sessions again on Tuesday, September 6th at about 9:15 a.m. following our Akathist service at 8:30 a.m. New perogie makers welcome!

| OYMT Thank You Coffee Hour

OYMT Thank You Coffee Hour Oct 2nd—The Orthodox Youth Mission Team is looking forward to sharing our experiences from our summer youth mission trip to West Virginia through the Appalachian Service Project. We will be hosting coffee hour on Sunday, Oct 2nd and preparing some delicious dishes for you to enjoy to express our gratitude to all of our supporters. Please put the date on your calendar and plan to attend!

The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

Commemorated on [September 14](#)

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church
74 Joes Hill Rd
Danbury, CT 06811

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



Help Re-Stock Our Kitchen—We are in need of kitchen size garbage bags, 30-gallon black trash bags and decaf coffee.

(Continued from The Universal Exaltation) Another event connected to the Cross of the Lord is remembered also on this day: its return to Jerusalem from Persia after a fourteen year captivity. During the reign of the Byzantine Emperor Phokas (602-610) the Persian king Khosrōēs II attacked Constantinople defeated the Greek army, plundered Jerusalem, capturing both the Life-giving Cross of the Lord and the Holy Patriarch Zachariah (609-633).

The Cross remained in Persia for fourteen years, and only under Emperor Herakleios (610-641), who defeated Khosrōēs and concluded peace with his successor and son Syroes, was the Lord's Cross returned to the Christians.

With great solemnity the Life-giving Cross was transferred to Jerusalem. Emperor Herakleios, wearing a crown and his royal purple garments carried the Cross of Christ. The Emperor was accompanied by Patriarch Zachariah. At the gates by which they ascended Golgotha, the Emperor stopped suddenly and was unable to proceed. The holy Patriarch explained to the Emperor that an Angel of the Lord was blocking his way. Herakleios was told to remove his royal trappings and to walk barefoot, since He Who bore the Cross for the salvation of the world had made His way to Golgotha in all humility. Then Herakleios donned plain clothes, and without further hindrance, carried the Cross of Christ into the church.

The pagan Roman Emperors tried to obliterate the holy places where our Lord Jesus Christ suffered and rose from the dead, so that they would be forgotten. Emperor Hadrian (117-138) ordered that Golgotha and the Lord's Sepulchre be buried, and that a temple in honor of the pagan "goddess" Venus and a statue of Jupiter be placed there.

Pagans gathered at this place and offered sacrifice to idols. Eventually after 300 years, by Divine Providence, the Christian holy places, the Sepulchre of the Lord, and the Life-giving Cross, were discovered and opened for veneration. This took place under Emperor Constantine the Great (306-337) after his victory over Maxentius (in 312), who ruled the Western part of the Roman Empire, and over Licinius, the ruler of its Eastern part. In the year 323 Constantine became the sole ruler of the vast Roman Empire.

In 313 Saint Constantine issued the Edict of Milan, by which Christianity was legalized and persecutions against Christians in the Western half of the Empire were stopped. Although Licinius had signed the Edict of Milan in order to oblige Constantine, he continued his cruel persecutions against Christians. Only after his conclusive defeat did the Edict of Milan extend also to the Eastern part of the Empire. The Holy Equal of the Apostles Emperor Constantine, triumphing over his enemies in three wars, with God's assistance, had seen the Sign of the Cross in the heavens. Written beneath were the words: "By this you shall conquer."

Ardently desiring to find the Cross upon which our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified, Saint Constantine sent his mother, the pious Empress Helen (May 21), to Jerusalem, providing her with a letter to Saint Makarios, the Patriarch of Jerusalem. Saint Helen journeyed to the holy places connected with the earthly life of the Savior, building more than 80 churches, at Bethlehem the birthplace of Christ, and on the Mount of Olives where the Lord ascended to Heaven, and at Gethsemane where the Savior prayed before His sufferings, and where the Mother of God was buried after her Dormition.

Although the holy Empress Helen was no longer young, she set about completing the task with enthusiasm. In her search for the Life-giving Cross, she questioned both Christians and Jews, but for a long time her search remained unsuccessful. Finally, she was directed to a certain elderly Jew named Jude who stated that the Cross was buried beneath the temple of Venus. They demolished the pagan temple and, after praying, they began to excavate the ground. Soon the Lord's Tomb was uncovered. Not far from it were three crosses, and a board with the inscription ordered by Pilate, and four nails which had pierced the Lord's Body (March 6).

In order to discover on which of the three crosses the Savior had been crucified, Patriarch Makarios alternately touched the crosses to a corpse. When the Cross of the Lord touched the dead man, he was restored to life. After witnessing the raising of the dead man, everyone was convinced that the Life-giving Cross had been found.

Christians came in a huge crowds to venerate the Holy Cross, beseeching Saint Makarios to lift the Cross, so that those far off could see it. Then the Patriarch and other spiritual leaders lifted the Holy Cross, and the people prostrated themselves before the Honorable Wood, saying "Lord have mercy." This solemn event occurred in the year 326.

During the discovery of the Life-giving Cross another miracle took place: a woman who was close to death was healed by the shadow of the Holy Cross. The elderly Jude (October 28) and other Jews believed in Christ and were baptized. Jude was given the name Kyriakos, and later he was consecrated as the Bishop of Jerusalem. He suffered a martyr's death for Christ during the reign of Emperor Julian the Apostate (361-363).

Saint Helen took part of the Life-giving Wood and nails with her to Constantinople. Saint Constantine ordered a majestic and spacious church to built at Jerusalem in honor of the Resurrection of Christ, including under its roof the Life-giving Tomb of the Lord and Golgotha. The church was built in ten years. Saint Helen did not survive until the dedication of the church, she reposed in the year 327. The church was consecrated on September 13, 335. On the following day, September 14, the festal celebration of the Exaltation of the Honorable and Life-giving Cross was established.

(Continue next column to the left.)