

# 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>

You Tube:

<https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>

Recommended Orthodox Internet Ministries

<http://myocn.net/>

<http://www.ancientfaith.com/>

## Welcome to Holy Trinity Parish

Today is Twenty-fifth  
Sunday after Pentecost.  
The Epistle is from  
Ephesians 4:1-6. The  
Gospel is from Luke 13:10-  
17. Alypius the Stylite.

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, November 26, 10 AM** – Divine Liturgy

**Sunday, November 26, 11:15 AM** – Panachida for Ana Melnic's family: grandmother, Mam Chanita; father, Luis Enrique; sister, Janet; and step-father, Manuel

**Sunday, November 26, 11:30 AM** – Church School with Leon

**Tuesday, November 28, 9 AM** - Perogie Session

**Wednesday, November 29, 6 PM** – Nativity Moleben

**Wednesday, November 29, 7 PM** – Adult Catechism Class

**Thursday, November 30, 9 AM** – New Testament Class

**Friday, December 1, 9 AM** – Old Testament Class

**Sunday, December 3, 10 AM** -- Divine Liturgy

**Sunday, December 3, 3 PM to 5 PM** - - OYMT get together

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 account please like our Facebook page posts associated with the fundraising events here <https://www.facebook.com/htoccdanbury/?fref=hovercard> so the word gets out.

### Help Re-stock Our Kitchen—

We are currently in need of disinfecting wipes for counters, decaf coffee, large paper plates and paper towels.

### Holiday Bake Sales—

Our holiday bake sales will be here before we know it. The Christmas sale will be on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>. Everyone’s help is greatly appreciated! We will also need help on the days of the sales so please save some space on your calendar if you’re able.

**Calling All Crafters:** We will be offering tables to artisan crafters for our upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas Bake sales. If you or someone you know makes handmade items and would like a space, please let Susan Sulich know. The tables are \$35. Both sales are one day but crafters are welcome to sell during the coffee hours on the days following the bakes sales as well.

**Perogie Session This Tuesday—**We are hoping to get the perogie crew together this Tuesday, Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> for one session to fill in what we need for the bake sale on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>. All helpers welcome!

### Dorothy Day

**Dorothy Day—**Our next date to serve at Dorothy Day is Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. We have seen a significant increase in the number of people the soup kitchen is serving. There are two ways to help, by serving at the soup kitchen--no experience needed—or by preparing large casseroles that we can use to feed the guests. If you’ve been thinking about getting involved in this ministry, now is a great time! You can serve for all or part of the afternoon. Service hours available for high school students. See Susan Sulich if you want to volunteer.

### Christmas Cards from the Church Store | OYMT Kick-Off

**Get Your Christmas Cards from the Church Store—** we have a large selection of beautiful Christmas cards available to purchase through our church store. See all designs on display. These cards are from Ancient Faith. You can benefit the church and get a bargain for yourself. Cards can be ordered from Lisa Farrah. You pay same price as I the catalog but no tax or shipping and the church benefits from your purchase! Order soon for best selection.

**OYMT Kick-Off—**For all new, returning and prospective members of the Orthodox Youth Mission Team, we will be getting together at St. John’s in Bridgeport to make Toffee Treats for a holiday fundraiser on Sunday, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> from 3-6 p.m. Anyone interested in attending please see Susan or Fr. Luke. We will plan to carpool from the church.

### Adult Education Opportunities

We have several adult education classes going on currently that are also online:

**Spirituality Class –** Mondays at 7:00 p.m. This week we are starting a new book: *For The Life of The World* by Fr. Alexander Schmemmann

**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 by Metropolitan Emiliano entitled: *Priest, Parish and Renewal*. **New Testament –** Thursdays at 9:00 a.m.

currently we are reading and studying *St. Paul’s First Epistle to the Thessalonians*

**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.

**Parish Christmas Card—** We will once again be sending out a parish Christmas card. If you would like to participate, Ana Melnic will be confirming how parishioners wish to be listed on the card. If possible, we ask for a \$20 donation to cover printing and postage. Please also update your contact information with Ana for our parish directory.

**Soup to Share—**Soup season is here! If you are making soup and you have some extra to spare consider putting it in a freezer container for “Soup to Share.” We will keep these in the freezer in the church hall so that if someone is planning to visit a parishioner and would like to bring a warming meal, they will be available. We also have containers at the church you can use. Please label container with name of soup and main ingredients. Thank you!

## Coffee Hour

**Coffee Hour**—Our coffee hour is a great opportunity to spend time together and share a meal. If there's an item or dish, you'd like to bring sign up on the sheet downstairs. No one needs to do the whole coffee hour! All offerings are welcome.

## OYMT Dates Set for 2024

**OYMT Dates Set for 2024**—We are happy to announce that the dates for next year's summer youth mission trip have been decided. Our trip will take place July 20-28<sup>th</sup> and we will again be working through the Appalachian Service Project. Youth who will be 13 by the time of the trip (in 8<sup>th</sup> grade this year) and up and adults who are interested in being leaders or assisting the team in other ways please let Fr. Luke or Susan Sulich know. We will be happy to share more in-depth information about the mission efforts and answer any questions you may have at the upcoming parent meeting or at another time that's convenient. We are looking to finalize our team by mid to late November.

## Men's Group Meeting

**The Men's Group will be meeting on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm.** We will sing the Akathist to St. Nicholas and talk about his life after wards over a light meal. Also, we will discuss some upcoming projects and activities.

## Upcoming Events

**Toddlers Class with Leon** – Sunday, November 25

**OYMT Kickoff Get Together**— Sun. Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> 2-5 p.m. at St. John's Mill Hill Ave., Bridgeport

**Dorothy Day**—Friday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> 1:30-4:30 p.m.

**Youth Retreat** – Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>

**Christmas Bale Sale** - Sat. Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> 10 am to 3 pm

**St. Nicholas Brunch** – Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>

**Men's Group Meeting and singing of the Akathist to St. Nicholas** - Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> 3 PM

**New Year's Dinner Dance**— Jan. 13, 2024

**Time to Sign Up for OYMT**—We are in the process of finalizing our youth mission team for 2024. OYMT will be going to Appalachia July 20-28<sup>th</sup> to participate in the Appalachian Service Project to help impoverished families make their homes "warmer, safer and drier." Teens who are in 8<sup>th</sup> grade this year are eligible to participate, as well as adults who wish to be leaders. To sign up please fill out the covenant found [here](#). A \$200 deposit is required for teens (no volunteer fee for adult leaders) and scholarships are available. If you have any questions, please contact Susan Sulich or Fr. Luke.

**From Sunday to Sunday: Living the Christian life in the world with prayer, discipline, and love**

OCA Diocese of New England **Advent Youth Event with Fr. John Hopko**

Come join us for prayer, fellowship, and education as we make our way through the Advent fast in preparation for the Nativity of our Lord. All you from 13-17 are invited.

Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> 4 pm to 7 pm. Holy Trinity Church, New Britain, CT. Vespers followed by a talk led by Fr. John Hopko and dinner. Please RSVP by QR code or email to [frmoseslocke@gmail.com](mailto:frmoseslocke@gmail.com)



## Birthdays or Anniversaries

November	
Tennessee Molineaux	13
Matthias Robert Paltauf	13
Daniel John Huott	13
Andrei Zubek	21
Sandi Fong Astras	23
Robert Young	27
Nicholas Gross	30
December	
Luke Faubel	4
Dominic Scalzo	6
Sarah Mannello	7
Michael Kerpchar	8
Trianna Gutzman	10
Frank Scalzo	13
Willi Jacob Gartner	16
Chrissanth Gross	22
Alex Sirak	22
John Cole Mihaly	27
Ralph & Donna Loomis - Anniversary	28
Elaine Toaso	30
Melissa Cooke	30
Michael Scalzo	31

**New Year's Dinner Dance: Save the Date**—We are planning our annual New Year's Dinner Dance for Sat., Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details to come.

### Guidelines for the Nativity Fast

#### Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

74 Joes Hill Rd  
Danbury, CT 06811

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



The Nativity Fast is one of the four Canonical Fasting Seasons in the Church year. This is a joyous fast in anticipation of the Nativity of Christ. Because it begins the day after the commemoration of the Apostle Philip (Nov. 14th), it is often referred to as the Apostle Philip fast. Although it is as long as Great Lent, it is not as severe. Throughout the entire duration of these forty days there is no accommodation for meat, dairy products and eggs. However, fish is allowed to be consumed every day except Wednesdays and Fridays, from November 15th until December 17th. Fish is also allowed on the feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos, which falls on November 21st, no matter what day of the week it falls on. From the 18th to the 24th of December, which is Christmas Eve, oil and wine are the only relief from a strict fast, except Wednesdays and Fridays on which we adhere to a strict fast. We should keep a fast of dry foods (xerophagy) also on the first day of the fast on November 15th, as well as on Christmas Eve, unless of course they fall on a Saturday or Sunday.

#### St. Nicholas Brunch—

We will celebrate St. Nicholas on Sunday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> with a potluck brunch in place of coffee hour. See the sign-up sheet in the hall to tell what you'd like to bring. This is a fast free meal. Also, we are hoping St. Nicholas will pay a visit to our parish and spend time with the children.

#### Secret Santa—Last week

we chose names for our "Secret Santa." This is a great chance to learn more about someone in the parish. Bring a small wrapped gift for the person whose name you drew to the St. Nicholas Brunch and reveal your identity then.

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#### ❖ Do Not Fast:

- ❖ if you are pregnant or nursing a newborn;
- ❖ during serious illness;
- ❖ without prayer;
- ❖ without alms-giving;
- ❖ according to your own will without guidance from your spiritual father.

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**Fasting from Foods and Passions:** We must always keep in mind that in our Church true fasting is not only about abstaining from certain foods, but also abstaining from the passions and sins. Saint Photios the Great says: "Fasting that is acceptable to God is that which combines the abstention of food with the aversion of chatter, envy, hatred and other sins. The one who fasts from food, but does not temper the passions, is like one who puts a splendid foundation to a house he has built, but allows snakes, scorpions and every poisonous reptile to live within." We thus aim for a spiritual fast during this period, to avoid sin and keep the will of God, being an embodiment of love and forgiveness and mercy, as well as striving to attain even greater virtue. In this way we will better understand and realize the words of Saint Basil the Great: "True fasting is to alienate ourselves from all evil, all sin, all impassioned thoughts, all unclean desires."

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