

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church



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www.holytrinitydanbury.org

<https://www.facebook.com/htocdanbury/?fref=hovercard>

Diocesan Website: 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 the Thirty-second

Sunday after Pentecost.

The Epistle is from

Ephesians 6:10-17. The

Gospel is from Luke 18:35-

43. Leave-taking of

Theophany. St. Nina of

Georgia. Martyrs Slain at

Sinai and Raithu

Monasteries.

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, January 14, 10 AM – Divine Liturgy

Sunday, January 14, 11:15 AM - Panachida for Diana Borsari's sister, Donna, who passed away yesterday

Monday, January 15, 7 PM – Spirituality Class

Tuesday, January 16, 8:30 AM – Akathist

Tuesday, January 16, 9 AM – Perogie Session

Wednesday, January 17, 7 PM – Adult Catechism

Friday, January 19, 9 AM – Old Testament Class

Saturday, January 20, 2 PM to 4 PM – Men's Coffee

Saturday, January 20, 4 PM – 6 PM – Youth Monthly meeting

Saturday, January 20, 6 PM – Vespers

Sunday, January 21, 10 AM – Divine Liturgy followed by Church School for the Toddlers

Sunday, January 21, 12:30 PM – Parish Council

Sunday, January 21, 3 PM to 5 PM – OYMT meeting

Please remember to sign up and subscribing on our parish web site 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/htocdanbury/?fref=hovercard> so the word gets out.

Help Restock Our Kitchen—We are currently in need of paper towels and napkins. Thank you!

Dorothy Day

Dorothy Day—Our next date to serve at Dorothy Day is Friday, February 9th 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.

Teens/Youth Meeting

Teens and Youth of the parish will be meeting Saturday, January 20th from 4 Pm to 6 Pm. We have planned to watch the movie, *Man of God* about St. Nectarios and we also will have time for some game.

Monthly Bake Sale

Monthly Bake Sale—We will have a monthly bake sale at the church hall on Thursday, Feb. 1st from 4-6 p.m. Spread the word to family and friends!

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 Second 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.

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 First Training Session Jan. 21st— We are looking forward to starting our training for our July youth mission trip to Appalachia. Our first training session will take place here at Holy Trinity on Sunday, Jan. 21st from 3-5 p.m. Parents are asked to attend for the first 20 minutes. During this session we will delve into what mission means in the Orthodox church and who is called to do it. It will also be a chance for team members to meet and start to get to know one another. This year we have teams from PA, GA and VT joining us and some of them will join our training via zoom. Team members are asked to fill out ASP registration so that we have health and emergency contact info prior to the meeting.

2024 Church Calendars

2024 Church Calendars - Thank you to the Jowdy-Kane funeral Home which sponsored our parish 2024 liturgical calendars. The new 2024 calendars are available in the vestibule. These calendars have the saints of the day, the daily scripture readings and whether it is a fasting day or not. Take one home with you!

Upcoming Events

Men's Group – Coffee get together - Saturday, January 20 – 2 PM to 4 PM

Teen/Youth Get together for Movie and Games – Saturday, January 20 – 4 PM to 6 PM

OYMT Training Session #1— Sunday, Jan. 21st 3-5 p.m. at Holy Trinity Danbury

Parish Council Meeting – Sunday, January 21

Church School Jan. 21st

Annual Parish Meeting – Sunday, January 28

Monthly Bake Sale— Thurs., Feb. 1st 4-6 p.m.

Church School Feb. 4th

Dorothy Day—Friday, Feb. 8th 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Church School Feb. 18th

Duckpin Bowling Youth Outing – Saturday, February 18th, 2 PM – 4 PM - Devon Duckpin Bowl, 551 Naugatuck Ave, Devon, CT

Game Dinner—Sat. March 2nd 6:00 p.m.

Birthdays or Anniversaries

January	
Mary Dugal	10
Cooper Beau Mihaly	11
Eric Evans	13
Jesse Carrier & Mara Miller - Anniversary	13
Miroslav Labuda	14
Jack Carrier	15
Peggy Scalzo	18
Nicholas Huott	18
Aidan Davids	18
Ralph Loomis	21
Connie Somoskovec	30
Samuel Paproski	31

Church School with Leon—Due to the snowstorm church school classes will start up again on Sunday, Jan. 21st immediately following Liturgy. Classes will take place every other Sunday. The schedule for the remainder of Jan. and Feb is as follows:

Sunday, Jan. 21st
 Sunday, Feb. 4th
 Sunday, Feb. 18th

Men's Coffee Group Meeting – Saturday, January 20, 2 PM to 4 PM Thank to Gavin for bringing the French Press and getting us the coffee grinder and the scale. Great start! Now we are getting together so we can learn how to use them. Saturday, January 20 or from like 2 PM to 4 PM. Once we figure this out, we can look to have a monthly coffee open house at the church for people to gather.

Perogie Tuesdays— We are back to making perogies on Tuesday mornings following the Akathist service (about 9 a.m.) All are welcome--no experience needed!

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



Be A Part of Holy Trinity's Matching Fund Campaign

In this season of giving, we at Holy Trinity have received a great blessing! We have the opportunity to raise \$100,000 for our parish thanks to a generous benefactor who has offered to match dollar for dollar the funds we raise up to \$50,000. The funds raised will go into our building fund and allow us to proceed with plans for beautification of our church such as the bell tower, vestibule doors and iconography.

This matching fundraiser will take place from St. Nicholas Day (Dec. 6th) through Feb. 6, 2024. Through the grace of God and working together we can multiply the gifts God has given us for the benefit of our church. Below is a pledge form to fill out with the amount you can give if you wish to participate. Remember, no donation is too small—every dollar you give will add two dollars to our fund. See Attached form.

As of 12/9/2023, we already have \$9,000.00 in matching funds for a total of \$18,000.00! Thank you everyone so far who has responded to our campaign!

Fr. Luke is scheduling house blessings. Do not be afraid to call Father to schedule a time. Please keep your calendar open and flexible. Please have the following prepared:

- 1) Have a table or family icon corner set up with a white cloth, candle and a bowl for Holy Water.
- 2) Turn off televisions, radios, and stereos
- 3) Take the telephone off the receiver
- 4) Gather the family together
- 5) Do bring any items you want blessed and names of people for Father to remember at liturgy

PREPARING YOUR HOME FOR THE BLESSING:

- 1) Your home does NOT have to be spotless, but should be free of clutter on the floor, like toys, which may cause Father to trip or fall.
- 2) A table should be prepared where an icon, a candle, a small bowl, holy water and a list of first names of everyone you want Father to pray for during the service for their health. If you do not have Holy Water, please let Father know and he will bring a bottle of for you to keep.
- 3) If you have any small items, like crosses or icons, that you want blessed, place them on the table and let Father know.
- 4) Turn off all radios and TVs. Take the phone off the hook during the short blessing service. Cell phones should be turned off. Just remember to place the phone back on the hook and turn on your cell phone at the end of the service.
- 5) Close all doors to rooms you do not want Father to enter -- open all doors and turn the lights on in the home, otherwise.
- 6) A family member should lead Father around the home during the blessing. Children may do this, girls or boys.
- 7) If you have a pet, they may also receive a blessing, but please keep them under control to prevent them from jumping on Father or getting under his feet.
- 8) I look forward to sharing this special blessing with you and your family. Many Years!!

No one is obligated to have their homes blessed, but it is a wonderful opportunity for the church to come into your home, for me to visit with you and your family. It would be a shame to lose this tradition as it is a great opportunity for priest and parishioners to bond and connect in your homes.

Also note, that you can have your home blessed at any time of the year as can water, if needed. It is traditional to do both around Theophany.