

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/>

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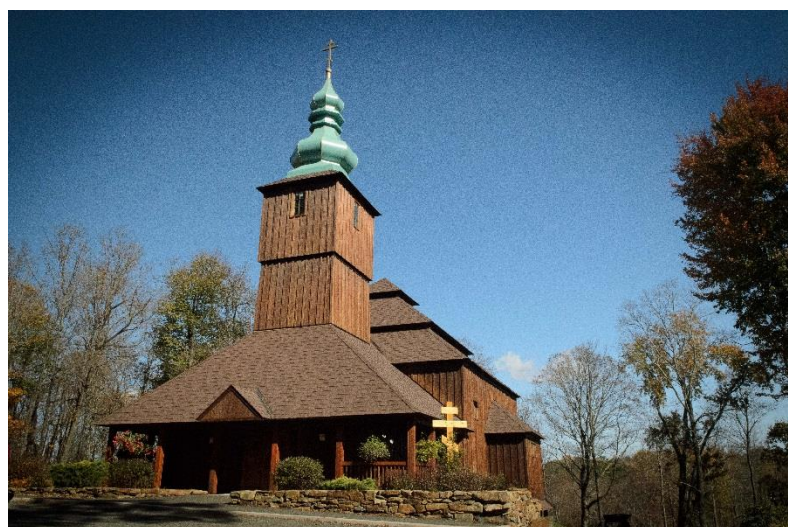
Welcome to Holy Trinity Parish

Today is the Thirty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost. The Epistle is from Colossians 3:4-11. The Gospel is from Matthew 22:35-46. Ephraim the Syrian.

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.

Schedule of Services and Events for this week

Sunday, January 28, 10 AM- Divine Liturgy

Sunday, January 28, 11:30 AM – Annual Parish Meeting
This is the third of three announcements for our **Annual Parish Meeting**, which is set for today, **Sunday, January 28** immediately following Divine Liturgy. Your presence is essential to the integral running and life of our parish. Please do your best to attend. Please see further in the bulletin for the slate of Parish Council Officers for 2024.

Monday, January 29, 7 PM – Spirituality Class

Tuesday, January 30, 9 AM – Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, January 30, 10:30 AM – Perogies Session

Wednesday, January 31, 7 PM – Adult Catechism

Thursday, February 1, 9 AM – New Testament Class

Thursday, February 1, 3 PM – Vespers for Meeting of the Lord in the Temple

Thursday, February 1, 4 pm to 6 PM – Monthly bake sale

Friday, February 2, 9 AM – Divine Liturgy Meeting of the Lord in the Temple

Saturday, February 3, 5 PM – Vespers

Sunday, February 4, 10 AM – Divine Liturgy followed by the Installation of new Parish Council officers

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/htoccdanbury/?fref=hovercard> so the word gets out.

Help Re-Stock Our Kitchen— We are currently in need of sturdy paper plates. We also now have a Keurig if anyone wishes to donate pods. Many thanks to all those who donate—it helps keep the costs down for our parish!

Annual Parish Meeting

This is the first of three announcements for our Annual Parish Meeting that is scheduled for Sunday, January 28th following Divine Liturgy. Please do your best to attend as your involvement is integral to the success of the parish.

This is the proposed 2024 Parish Council Slate of Officers:

- Harry Fong** – President
- Paul Sulich, Sr.** – V. President
- Anna Radcliff** - Treasurer
- Vida Bundra** - Assistant Treasurer
- Lisa Farrah** - Secretary
- Ana Urgiles** - Member at Large
- Donna Loomis** - Member at Large
- Jennie Fong** - Member at Large
- Carolyn Kaiser** – Member at large

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.

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!

Wild Game Dinner

Holy Trinity Annual Wild Game Dinner – Our Annual Wild Game Dinner is set for Saturday, March 2nd starting at 6 PM. BYOB Reservations highly recommended. Raffle prizes and assorted Game dishes.

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 Emilianio 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!

Annual Meeting—Our annual parish meeting will take place next **Sunday, Jan. 28th after Liturgy**. Please make every effort to attend this meeting. We need a quorum of parishioners in order to conduct the business of the parish and your say is very important!

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

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.

Men's Group Meeting – Saturday, February 17, 2 Pm to 4 PM

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.

Lent Begins - March 18

Pascha – May 5

Birthdays or Anniversaries

January	
Connie Somoskovec	30
Samuel Paproski	31
February	
Leon Guerrero	1
Charles & Virginia Hull - Anniversary	8
Emily Varney	13
Andrell (AJ) Villa	13
Rob & Andrea Paltauf - Anniversary	14
Sarah Anna Harrison	14
Tatyana Lucas Harrison	14
Rick & Lisa Farah - Anniversary	14
Kristina Bundra	20
Azariah Mihaly	20
Zachary Wolfe	23
Nicu Melnic	26

Envelopes are In—If you use envelopes to make your offering to the church you can pick up a box for 2024 in the church hall. Please be sure to record your name and the number on the box you're taking to ensure proper recording of your donations.

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, Feb. 4th
Sunday, Feb. 18th

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."



Matching Fund Update—

We are more than halfway to our goal of raising \$100,000 through our Matching Campaign! As a reminder, a generous benefactor has offered to match all donations up to \$50,000. So far, we have collected \$27,450, bringing our total to \$54,900. There are a little over two weeks to go until the campaign ends on **Feb. 6th**. Thank you to everybody who has so generously donated. We have made significant progress in increasing the fund to add new interior doors, a bell tower and iconography for our church. If you wish to make a contribution to the campaign, please fill out the form attached to the bulletin or pick one up in the hall.

GOAL: \$100,000



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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.