

# 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>

YouTube:

<https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>

Recommended Orthodox Internet Ministries

<http://myocn.net/>

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

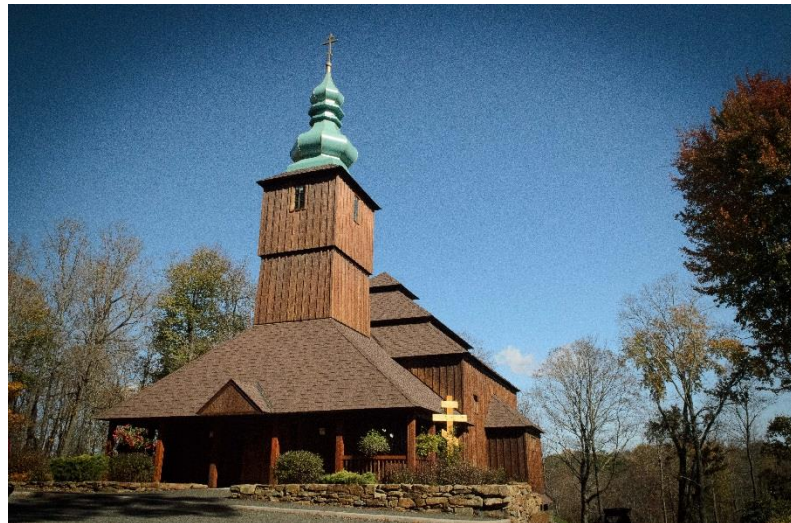
## Welcome to Holy Trinity Parish

Today is the Sunday before Theophany. The Epistle is from Galatians 1:1-11. The Gospel is from Matthew 2:13-23. Joseph the betrothed, James Brother of the Lord, Melania the Roman.

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 hierarchy.

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, December 31,**  
**10 AM – Divine Liturgy**

**Sunday, December 31,**  
**12:30 PM – Vespers for**  
**St. Basil and**  
**Circumcision of our**  
**Lord**

**Mondy, January 1, 9**  
**AM – Divine Liturgy for**  
**St. Basil and**  
**Circumcision of our**  
**Lord**

**Tuesday, January 2, 9**  
**AM - Akathist**

**Wednesday, January 3, 7**  
**PM – Adult Catechism**

**Thursday, January 4, 9 AM**  
**– New Testament Class**

**Friday, January 5, 9 AM –**  
**Old Testament Class**

**Friday, January 5, 6 PM –**  
**Vigil for Theophany and**  
**Great Blessing of Water**

**Saturday, January 6, 9 AM**  
**– Theophany**

**Saturday, January 6, 3 PM**  
**– Vespers**

**Sunday, January 7, 10**  
**AM – Divine Liturgy**

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/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.

## | New Year's Dinner Dance

**New Year's Dinner Dance**—We will be having our New Year's Dinner Dance on Saturday, Jan. 13<sup>th</sup> from 6-11 p.m. at the church hall. Our favorite DJ Bill Lopez will be with us to play and sing all your favorites. Cost is \$40 per person which includes catered dinner, dancing and free door prize raffle entry. BYOB. Please reserve individual seats or tables of 8 by texting Pani Bethany at 203-482-6224 or emailing Susan Sulich at [ssulich@yahoo.com](mailto:ssulich@yahoo.com). See and share attached flyer!

## 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.

**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.

## 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

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

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

**Parish Council Meeting** – Sunday, January 21

**Annual Parish Meeting** – Sunday, January 28

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

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

**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.

## Birthdays or Anniversaries

December	
John Cole Mihaly	27
Ralph & Donna Loomis - Anniversary	28
Elaine Toaso	30
Melissa Cooke	30
Margarita Schnitter	30
Michael Scalzo	31
January	
Andres Villa	1
Adam Varney	2
Pablo Gabriel Villa	3
Mary Dugal	10
Cooper Beau Mihaly	11
Eric Evans	13
Jesse Carrier & Mara Miller - Anniversary	13
Jack Carrier	15
Peggy Scalzo	18
Nicholas Huott	18
Aidan Davids	18
Ralph Loomis	21
Connie Somoskovec	30
Samuel Paproski	31

**Holy Trinity Orthodox Church**

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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. 6<sup>th</sup>) 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.





# *New Year's Dinner-Dance*

Saturday, January 13, 2024

Cocktail hour begins at 6:00 pm

Catered dinner and dancing begins at 7:00 pm

Cost is only \$40/person

Includes Appetizers, Dinner & Dessert

Live Entertainment by the incomparable Bill Lopez

BYOB~Set ups provided

Holy Trinity Church Hall

74 Joes Hill Road, Danbury, CT

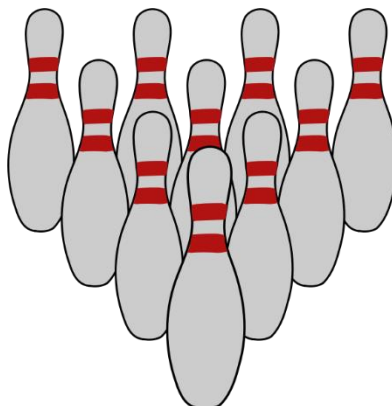
RSVP to Bethany 203-482-6224

Or Susan [ssulich@yahoo.com](mailto:ssulich@yahoo.com)

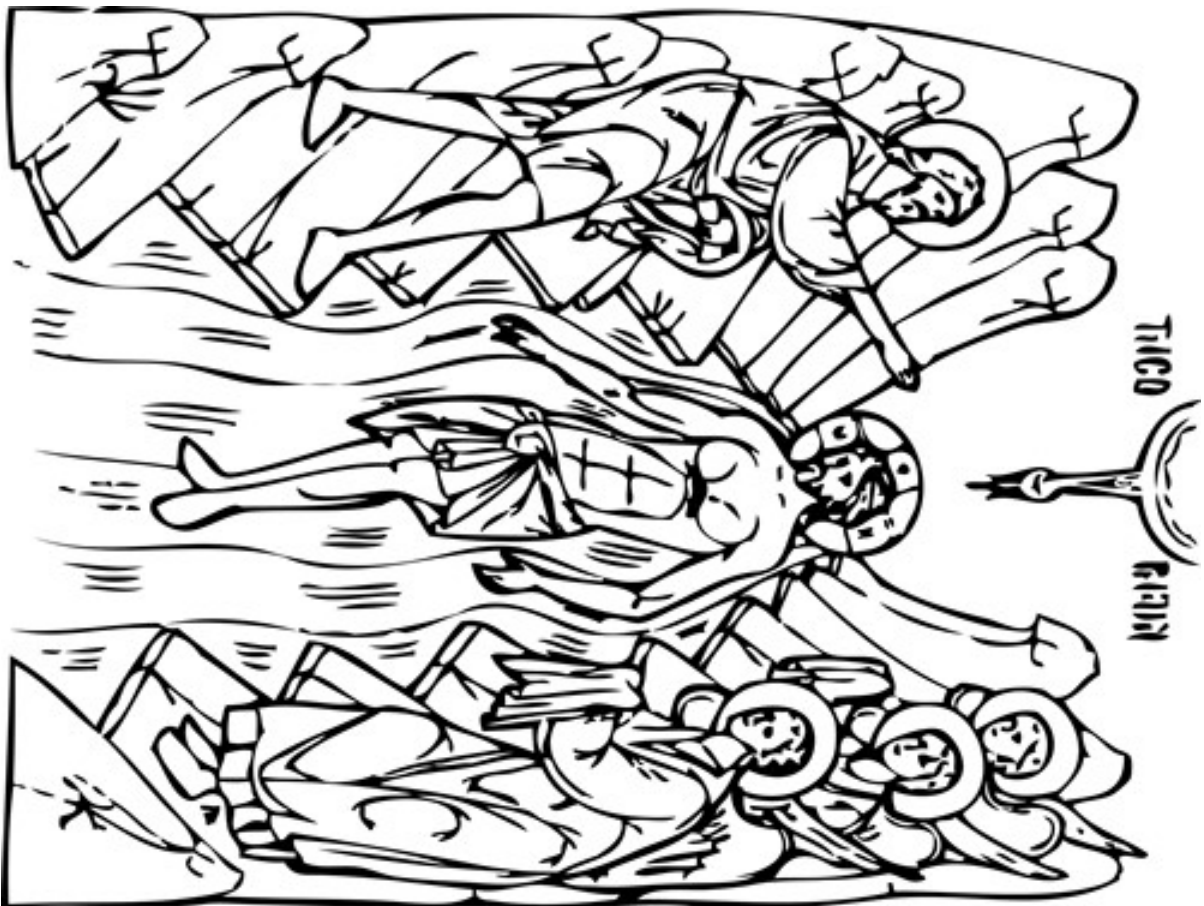
Enjoy another get together  
with other Orthodox youth!  
**FORCC** invites our young people to  
**DUCKPIN BOWLING**  
**SUNDAY FEB 18, 2024**  
**2-4 pm**  
**Devon Duckpin Bowl**  
**551 Naugatuck Ave**  
**Milford (Devon)**  
**FREE BOWLING\* & ICE CREAM SOCIAL**  
**FUN FROM 2 THRU TEENS**  
**PLEASE CONTACT:**

**EVE NUCIFORA (203)675-1575) EVECKN@GMAIL.COM**  
**FOR MORE INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS\*\*\***  
**CUT-OFF IS SUNDAY, FEB 11, 2024**

**\*THERE WILL BE A \$2 CHARGE FOR SHOE RENTAL**  
**\*\*PLEASE TELL US IF YOU CARE TO DONATE REFRESHMENTS**  
**\*\*\*CAPACITY IS 60, PARENTS INCLUDED**  
**VINTAGE ARCADE GAMES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE (QUARTER\$)**



Christ is baptized!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2023 Alexandra Houck.  
Email is [orthodoxchildrensword \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:orthodoxchildrensword@gmail.com). Find it each week at [myocn.net](http://myocn.net).

# The Children's Word

"Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them, for to such is the Kingdom of Heaven." Mark 10:14

Sunday, January 1, 2023

Volume 11, Issue 1

A Ministry of the  
Orthodox Christian Network



## Our Lord was once a boy!

**Have you ever done some school-work, and your parents were really impressed? Maybe you brought home a perfect score on a spelling or a math test. Maybe you showed something you made in art. Maybe you read a story you wrote. Your mother or father probably said, "Great job!"**

Today our Gospel reading tells us about how Jesus's mother, Mary, and Joseph were once really impressed with the young Jesus. Do you know the story of when Jesus was just 12 years old, and Mary and Joseph couldn't find Him for several days? They even went back to search for Him.



Finally, the Gospel tells us, "After three days, they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when they saw him they were astonished."

They were astonished, amazed, and impressed. What was this 12 year old doing, understanding the teachers in the temple? This story of Jesus as a young boy tells us something special. Jesus Christ was God, even when He was young. He could teach the teachers because He was God! He was a baby and then a boy with real human needs and thoughts. But at the same time, He was God too!

# WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jungle?

Z	B	W	K	V	U	X	D	W	A	Q	Q	N	S	N
Q	V	S	E	P	P	Q	M	S	B	Q	K	E	C	A
C	T	H	H	U	A	G	T	D	P	V	K	N	W	D
V	N	Y	E	D	O	B	P	H	A	F	B	U	Z	
K	O	E	X	Z	N	C	N	D	I	P	S	T	U	N
E	Y	N	M	I	M	J	B	X	K	E	T	E	A	O
Q	O	L	S	X	J	I	D	V	G	I	B	M	S	H
J	S	H	Y	A	D	T	S	A	E	F	J	P	L	R
T	E	A	E	P	L	H	N	E	E	O	M	L	A	G
D	Q	U	I	R	P	A	M	L	S	N	A	E	T	J
P	H	J	I	N	H	U	U	E	I	N	R	C	I	R
O	V	V	L	P	T	Q	P	T	I	S	Y	D	P	K
R	N	S	R	U	B	H	E	S	R	N	A	O	S	E
A	U	O	H	S	C	E	Q	O	U	J	D	B	O	W
C	A	P	P	A	D	O	C	I	A	W	F	F	H	D

# WHAT’S IN THE ICON?

In the Bible, we don’t hear much about Jesus as a child!



In today’s story, He was 12. But the next thing we hear is when He was baptized at 30. We celebrate His baptism on Saturday!



# SAINT BASIL

## HOW DO WE LOVE YOU?

**One day, you’ll probably read a well-known poem in English class that says, “How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.” It’s a love poem from one poet to her husband.**

But one of the saints everybody loves very much is Saint Basil! How do we love him? Let us count the ways!



Saint Basil did everything!

If you go to a school for theology, where people learn about God, you’ll see how people love Saint Basil for all the things he wrote. He wrote many, many things that show what we still believe as Christians today.

If you meet a monk or a nun, he or she will tell you how Saint Basil made great rules for monasteries. Monks and nuns still follow these rules today.

But we love Saint Basil for another great reason too! He loved the poor and the sick. He especially loved the children who didn’t have parents to take care of them. He started a great soup kitchen for hungry people. He built orphanages and a huge hospital. On his nameday today, kids in Greece will visit different houses and get presents from “Agios Vasilios,” Saint Basil. That’s one way they remember how Saint Basil loved (and still loves) kids!

**We celebrate St. Basil today, Sunday Jan. 1st (OC: Jan. 14th).**