



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/>

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Services/Events | 1 |
| Adult Ed | 2 |
| Church Store | 2 |
| Envelopes | 2 |
| Dorothy Day | 2 |
| Church School | 2 |
| Coffee Hour | 3 |
| Birthdays/Anniversaries | 3 |
| OYMT Sign-up | 3 |
| Clothing Drive Ending | 3 |
| Upcoming Events | 3 |
| Monthly Bake Sale | 3 |
| Faith and Family Night | 4 |
| House Blessings | 4 |

Welcome to Holy Trinity Parish

Today is the Zacchaeus Sunday and The Feast of the Presentation of Christ into the Temple. The Epistle is from Hebrews 7:7-17, 1 Timothy 4:9-15. The Gospel is from Luke 2:22-40, Luke 19:1-10.

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, February 2, 10 AM – Divine Liturgy and the Blessing of Candles

Sunday, February 2, 11:15 AM – Church School dismisses first

We will be taking a collection for the Fire Victims in California today.

Sunday, February 2, 2 PM – 4 PM – OYMT Meeting

Monday, February 3, 7 PM – Spirituality Class

Tuesday, February 4, 8:30 AM - Akathist

Tuesday, February 4, 9:15 AM – Perogie Session

Thursday, February 6, 9AM – New Testament Class

Friday, February 7, 9 AM – Old Testament Class

Friday, February 7, 11 AM – Wild Game and Ethnic Dinner Set up

Saturday, February 8, 3 PM – Vespers

Saturday, February 8, 6 PM – Wild Game and Ethnic Dinner

Sunday, February 9, 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 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.

Parish Café - Holy Trinity will be hosting a monthly café. Parishioners are invited to drop by for coffee, a homemade sweet treat from our kitchen and conversation with Fr. Luke and other members of the parish. We'd like to hear from you about what else you'd like to see at the café in the way of activities, games, new things to learn about or any other ideas. We also want to know what day and time would work best for you. Look for a suggestion box in the hall or share your ideas with Lauren Mihaylo, Susan Sulich or Fr. Luke.

Dorothy Day

Dorothy Day Update—The Dorothy Day soup kitchen has decided to allow indoor dining once again. Since Covid meals have only been given out at the door. Now guests will have the option of taking their meals and eating inside the old shelter. This will require two additional people to serve on our Fridays. If you are interested, please talk to Susan Sulich. Our next date to serve is Fri., Feb. 14th from 1:30 -4:45 p.m.

Church School Updates

Church School Updates—Starting this Sunday, Feb. 2nd, we will be having church school every other Sunday. In addition to the wonderful lessons taught by Leon we will be adding two additional teachers helping with the educational activities: Elissa and Stasia. Church school activities are for all children age 10 and under. Church school students will be first to venerate the cross so they can head downstairs right after Liturgy.

Envelopes are In

Envelopes are In—If you use envelopes to make your weekly donations you can pick them up in the church hall. Please note the number and your name on the pad next to the envelopes so our assistant treasurer will be able to track your donations. Donations can also be made monthly, annually or via PayPal on our website.

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: *The Theology of Illness* by Jean-Claudet Larchet

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. New Book by Fr. Lawrence Barriger entitled: *Insights into the Orthodox Faith*.

New Testament – Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. currently we are reading

and studying *St. Paul's Epistle to the Hebrews*

Old Testament Class – Fridays at 9:00 a.m. We are in *The Book of Job*.

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!

OYMT Training #2

OYMT Training #2— On Sunday, Feb. 2nd we will have the second training session for OYMT 2025 at Holy Trinity from 2-4 p.m. This will be our stock sale meeting. All youth members are asked to bring pre-printed address labels to use for stock fundraiser letters.

| Re-Stock Our Kitchen

Help Re-Stock Our Kitchen—We need decaf coffee, bottled water, gallon size food storage bags, large and sturdy dinner size paper plates. Thank you!

| Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour—Our coffee hour is a great opportunity to spend time together and share a meal. It's potluck so if there's an item or dish, you'd like to bring please feel free to do so. No one needs to do the whole coffee hour! All offerings are welcome.

Upcoming Events

Church School Dates— Feb. 2nd and 16th

Wild Game Dinner – Saturday, February 8

Beginning of Great Lent – Monday, March 3

OYMT Training #2— Sun. Feb. 2nd 2-4 p.m. at Holy Trinity

Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen—Fri., Feb. 14th 1:30-4:45 p.m.

OYMT Training #3— Sun. March 16th 2-4 p.m. Holy Trinity Danbury

Monthly Bake Sale—This Thursday, Feb. 6th from 4-6 p.m.

Faith and Family Night – Saturday, February 15

Game Dinner Help Needed

Our annual Wild Game and Ethnic Food dinner will take place on Sat. February 8th starting at 6 p.m. There are lots of ways to participate! We need the following:

- Cooks—see sign-up sheet in the hall or talk to Fr. Luke about what you can make.
- Donate items— There are several items needed to be purchased for the dinner. Donated items reduce our cost. See sign-up sheet in the hall.
- Raffles—we are looking for raffle items and raffle

baskets for the game dinner. Gift certificates, baskets of cheer, children's baskets, cook's baskets, hunter baskets—these are just a few ideas. It's family friendly event so whatever you come up with someone will love!

- Help at the event—set up will take place on Friday, February 7th at 11 a.m. We will also need people at the game dinner to help cook, serve, clean up and sell raffles.
- Donate supplies to help defray costs of the game dinner. See the sign-up sheet in the hall.

Monthly Bake Sale— This Thursday, Feb. 6th from 4-6 p.m. we will have our monthly bake sale. Spread the word to family and friends! If you would like to help at the sale, please see Helen Galskoy.

Birthdays or Anniversaries

| February | |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| Charles & Virginia Hull – Anniversary | 8 |
| Alexandra Volpe | 12 |
| Emily Varney Silvera | 13 |
| Andrell (AJ) Villa | 13 |
| Rob & Andrea Paltauf - Anniversary | 14 |
| Rick & Lisa Farah - Anniversary | 14 |
| Alexis Gutzman | 17 |
| Kristina Bundra | 20 |
| Azariah Mihaly | 20 |
| Nicu Melnic | 26 |

If you do not see your or anyone of your family's birthday or anniversary in the list, please let Fr. Luke know so it can be included.

Wild Game Dinner—Our annual Wild Game Dinner will soon be here. Your help is needed in several ways:

- Set up Friday, Feb. 7th 11 a.m.
- Cooking a dish for the dinner—see Fr. Luke for meats and menu
- Serving in the kitchen— Sat., Feb. 8th 4-7 p.m.
- Clean up
- Donate supplies to help defray costs of the game dinner. See the sign-up sheet in the hall.

We will also need raffle baskets that will appeal to all ages and interests! If you are able to make one see Susan Sulich.

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



We are thrilled to invite you to be part of a **historic Orthodox Christian gathering** at **"Faith and Family Night"** on **Saturday, February 15, 2025!** This unique event will unite Orthodox Christians from across New England and the Tri-State area, offering college students a memorable opportunity to celebrate the unity of our faith in a public and dynamic setting.

We have extended invitations to over **150 Orthodox churches and OCF chapters** throughout the region and are excited to welcome your chapter to this inspiring evening of faith and fellowship.

Event Highlights:

- **Pre-Game Seminar:** His Grace Bishop JOHN Abdalah (AOCANA) and guest speaker Rev. Peter Orfanakos (GOArch) will lead a seminar on the theme *"All You Need Is Love."*
- **Game & Fellowship:** The evening features a thrilling hockey matchup between the Bridgeport Islanders and the Providence Bruins at **Total Mortgage Arena in Bridgeport, CT.**
- **Tickets:** With each \$27 ticket (plus fees), purchased using the QR code in flyer, attendees will receive:
 - Center ice seating
 - An Islanders hat
 - Early stadium access
 - A post-game photo on the ice
 - Entry into a prize drawing (*for tickets purchased by January 31st*)
 - **Bonus for Groups:** Groups of 50+ will receive a special gift basket from the Islanders!
 - **Net proceeds support IOCC's hurricane relief efforts**

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.