



Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

74 Joes Hill Road

Danbury, CT 06811

Rectory Phone (203) 748-0671

Cell Phone (203) 482-6223

E-mail address: PadreLuke@aol.com

Website: www.holytrinitydanbury.org

Father Luke Mihaly, Pastor

Diocesan Website: www.acrod.org

December 18, 2011

Liturgy is at 10 AM. Today is the Twenty-seventh Sunday after Pentecost. Tone Two. The Epistle is Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40. Gospel is Matthew 1:1-24. Martyr Sebastian Sunday before the Nativity.

Schedule of services and events for the week:

Monday, December 19, 7 PM – Spirituality Class

Tuesday, December 20, 8:30 AM – Hours

Thursday, December 22, 8:30 AM – Hours

Friday, December 23, 9 AM – Royal Hours

Saturday, December 24, 5 PM – Christmas Eve Holy Supper

Saturday, December 24, 6 PM – Children's Concert

Saturday, December 24, 7 PM – Christmas Eve services

Sunday, December 25, 10 AM – Liturgy- Christmas Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Monday, December 26, 9 AM – Liturgy

Epistle and Gospel Reading for the Week:

Monday, 2 Timothy 2:20-26; Mark 9:42-10:1 – Martyr Boniface

Tuesday, 2 Timothy 3:16-4:4; Mark 10:2-12 – Ignatius of Antioch

Wednesday, 2 Timothy 4:9-22; Mark 10:11-16 – Juliana and 630 Martyrs

Thursday, Titus 1:5-2:1; Mark 10:17-27 – Great Martyr Anastasia

Friday, Titus 1:15-2:10; Mark 10:23-32 – 10 Martyrs of Crete

Saturday, Hebrews 1:1-12; Luke 2:1-20 – Martyr Eugenia – Christmas Eve

Sunday, Galatians 4:4-7; Matthew 2:1-12 – Nativity of Christ - Christmas

The **Music on the Mount** series continues this afternoon **Sunday, December 18** with a concert at 3 PM. Tickets are \$45.00 each and include a wine and cheese reception. Prometheus will be playing some Slavic Christmas hymns and carols, and *also* features music by Shostakovich and the famous “Hero Quartet” by Beethoven.

Thank you to everyone who helped with our Christmas Craft & Bake Sale. That includes our Baking crew, Perogie Crew, Kielbasa Crew and Cookie Crew. Plus, a big thank you to all those who helped with the actual sale itself filling orders and cleaning up.

THE PARISH IS RUNNING A WINTER RAFFLE! FIRST PRIZE IS A \$1000.00 GIFT CERTIFICATE TO QUALITY GEM OF BETHEL. SECOND PRIZE IS A \$250.00 GIFT CERTIFICATE TO MARIO'S' PASTA GARDEN. THIRD PRIZE IS A \$100.00 GIFT CERTIFICATE TO ANTHONY'S HAIR SALON. TICKETS ARE \$2.00 EACH. BUY THREE BOOKS GET THE FOURTH ONE FOR FREE. THE DRAWING IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25 AT 11:30 AM.

On Tuesday, Dec. 27th we will have a movie day for the youth of the parish. At 10 a.m. the younger children will see the Nativity Story. Middle and high school students can arrive at 12:00. All the children will have lunch together and work on a service project for some of the homebound members of our parish and for Dorothy Day soup kitchen. Younger students can leave at 1:00 and then we will show The Christmas Story for the teens. Bring your friends! Any questions, see Stasia.

*The **Women's Knitting Group** is open to all whether you know how to knit or not. This group will give an opportunity for the members to bond together in a Christian atmosphere. If you are interested in coming together to learn how to knit and grow closer to your fellow parishioners please contact Suad Behrend at 203.304.1034 or Amy Arifin 914.434.1027.*

DOROTHY DAY SOUP KITCHEN: On Friday, November 4th, we served over 100 turkey dinners to guests at the Dorothy Day Hospitality House. Our next day to serve will be Friday January 6th (Theophany) from 1 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Volunteers can work from 1-3 or 3-5:30 or the entire afternoon. If you are interested in coming down and serving, please contact Susan Sulich at 203-746-6008/ssulich@yahoo.com.

New England Deanery annually hosts a Bowling and Pizza Party for the youth in our deanery during their Christmas vacation week. This year we have set the date of Thursday, December 29th and would like to invite the youth of your parish to join us for a day of Christian fellowship, making new friends as well as rekindling of friendships made at Camp Nazareth and ACRY events this past year. The day starts at 9:45 am at Nutmeg Bowl in Fairfield, CT, and includes 2 games of big pin bowling and shoe rental (bumpers included for the younger ones). From there, we will head over to St. John's Church (600 Silver Lane, Stratford) for a pizza lunch, games, and fellowship. The cost for bowling and lunch is \$11.00 - or just lunch for



\$2.00. If you have any questions or would like to RSVP with a head count, please feel free to contact either Debbie Samilenko at (samilenkod@gmail.com or 203.876.7660) or Fr. Michael Macura (frmichael@optonline.net or 203.386.8888) by December 22nd.

The Viridian Electric Power is starting to give back some real monetary benefits to our parish. We have received so far this year over \$400 in rebates from those of you who have signed up for Viridian. The more people we have the more money comes back to the church EVERY month. For each household that signs up, there is about \$2.00 that is giving to the parish. Presently we are receiving about \$46.00 per month. If you have not signed up already, forms are downstairs. Or you may go online to sign up by using our website www.viridian.com/holytrinity (make sure you click **everyday green** for the low rate).

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Prometheus Christmas Concert – Sunday, December 18, 3 PM
- Tuesday, December 27 - 12 noon Youth Movie Afternoon
- Deanery Christmas Break Bowling – Thursday, December 29
- Parish New Years Party – Saturday, January 21
- First ASP Training Session – Sunday, Jan. 22nd 5-7 p.m.
- Annual Parish Meeting- Sunday, January 29th
- Wild Game Dinner – Saturday, February 11

Because you asked, the parish council is having someone in back to provide change for those wishing to purchase candles. We will need help manning the candle table throughout the year. If you would like to help make change with a friendly face, please see one of the parish council members.

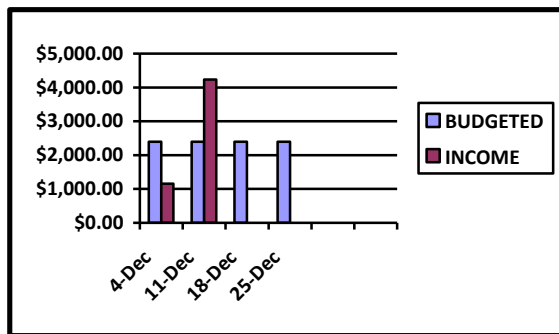
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH IS DESIGNATED FOR MORTGAGE REPAYMENT. IF EVERY PARISHIONER CONTRIBUTES \$50 EVERY MONTH (\$600/YEAR) TO THE MORTGAGE, WE WILL BE ABLE TO MEET OUR MONTHLY MORTGAGE PAYMENTS.

The Parish Council urges parishioners to do your best to help the parish financially. All of parish ministries are funded through your generosity and is essential in the success of the parish. At the semi-annual meeting, it was agree on for parishioners to use \$50.00 per week as a guideline for giving. If all adult members did so, we would be able to meet our monthly obligations. Of course, some are able to give more some less. In all cases, we thank you for your support for it is essential to the life of your parish. As part of the Parish Council's efforts to keep the parish informed, the monthly general financial income and expenses will be posted.

Total Receipts including collection from Sunday, December 4 was: \$1155.75
 Building Fund Checks: \$50.00 Weekly general collection checks: \$570.00
 Weekly general collection Cash: \$244.75 Mortgage: \$175.00
 Building Fund Cash: \$116.00

Total Receipts including collection from Sunday, December 11 was: \$4236.93
 Rental: \$1275.00 Weekly general collection checks: \$1335.00
 Weekly general collection cash: \$114.93 Mortgage: \$1150.00
 Building Fund Cash: \$122.00 Building Fund Checks: \$240.00

Figure 1 - Sunday Collections



As a reminder, the **first collection** after the sermon is for the **building fund**. The **second collection** taken after communion is the **general collection**. Please note that the Parish Council asks that parishioners use separate checks for different funds. As a reminder from our semi-annual meeting, we need to average \$2000.00 a week to cover expenses. If we have each adult give \$50.00 a week or \$200 a month we would be able to meet our responsibilities.

Cleaning Schedule

The parish council has hired a cleaning service for \$50.00 a cleaning to come in twice a month to clean the church and the church hall. If you are unable to clean the church during the time assigned for you, you are encouraged to make a donation to the church to help pay for the cleaning service.

Items needed for general church cleaning

- 1) Glass Cleaner 2) Clorox Spot Remover with Bleach 3) Murphy's Oil Soap for the wood floors and pews.

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

The dumpster is located at the far end of the parking lot. PLEASE sweep the floors in the basement after coffee hour. Please remember that those who volunteer for coffee hour are only expected to get something simple such as bagels. With everything increasing in prices, please do not feel that you have to feed the entire parish.

READERS SCHEDULE

12/18	Susan Paltauf
12/25	Nicholas Fong

Birthdays and Anniversaries

DECEMBER	
Marty Howley	26
Elaine Toaso	30

Scripture Reading for Sunday, December 11 - Prayer Before Reading Holy Scripture

O Master Who loves mankind, illuminate our hearts with the pure light of Your divine knowledge and open the eyes of our mind to understand the teachings of Your Gospel. Instill in us also the fear of Your blessed commandments, that we may overcome all carnal desires, entering upon a spiritual life and understanding and acting in all things according to Your holy will. For You are the enlightenment of our souls and bodies, O Christ God, and to You we give glory together with Your eternal Father and Your all-holy, gracious and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

The Reading is from the Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40

Brethren, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundation, whose builder and maker is God.

And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets - who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated - of whom the world was not worthy - wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

The Gospel Reading is from Matthew 1:1-25

The book of the Genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.

***PRAYER LIST
For the Living***

Thomas (Krafick)	Stephanie (Fong)	Matthew (Bracey)	Elaine (Toaso)
Pauline (Meath)	Paul (Stagen)	Eugene (Brown)	Patricia (Zeleniak)
Wylie (Meath)	Valerie (Stagen)	Joe (Derevjanik)	James (Rush)
Sally (Hubiak)	Marianna (Parsamyan)	Mary (Derevjanik)	Jerry (Kachevsky)
Helen (Popp)	Greg (Chilek)	Sophie (Tomasini)	Anthony (Noto)
Judi (Snodgrass)	Paul (Willis)	Richard (Stack)	Serge (Mihaly)
Sophia (Buterakos)	Ethel (Montauredes)	Joelle (Alsdorf)	Viktor (Kuziak)
Rebecca (Sahin)	Anne (Popp)	Kathy (Valentine)	Lou (Biondi)

Carol (Wilenchek)	Mary (Kovach)	Irm (Manton)	Tony (Centofanti)
Anna (Salony)	Jennie (Curran)	James (Sapione)	Jeanne (LaPorta)
Andrew (Valentine)	Lynn (Cavallo)	Father Thomas (Blaschak)	Jerry (Arangelovich)
Delia (Stefan)	Dorothy (Brown)	Bill (Kahn)	Louis (Apostol)
Josh (Horner)	Anastasios (Orfanos)	Dorine (DelPo)	Patrick (Meath)
Catherine (Quarberg)	Julia (Zimmerman)	Katherine (Kavallines)	Octi (Bundra)
Marian (Beschle)	Rev. Paul (Dorn)	Bob (Sully)	Thomas (Pellegrino)
Julia (Zimmerman)	Bill (Pellegrino)	Rebecca (McCarthy)	Ann (Rossi)
Judi (Snodgrass)	Barbara (Hollister)	John (Schigel)	Kathy (Koffs)
Samuel (Magri)	Stan	Sonia (Pellegrino)	Steven (Eigenrauch)
Steve (Schell)	Steven (Noto)	Eric (Stefanik)	Pani Helen (Shutack)
Christina (Somoskevich)	Coriolan (Bundra)	Sonya (Spear)	David (Hollister)
Annalisa (Paltauf)	Barbara (Polasky Wren)	Radu (Timoscsa)	Helen (Kazolas)
Nickolas (Noto)	Carmen (Sanchez)	Debra (Noto)	Donna (Kazolas)
Rose (Hubiak)	Stella (Woodfield)	Tatyana (Nanocchio)	Mike (Walsh)
John (Hubiak)	Barbara (Polasky Wren)	Cyril (Gutzman)	Sheila (Walsh)
Richard (Guilmartin)	Maria (Pauta)	Marika (Gutzman)	Olga (Saranotski)
James (Buterakos)	Jessica (Cochrane)	Trianna (Gutzman)	Charlotte (James)
Serge (Mihaly, Jr.)	Melissa (Kelly)	Elaine (Cookie Bily)	
Ricky (Porter)	Fr. Lawrence (Barriger)	Tom (Kasper)	Edna (Kasper)
Sharon	Joshua	Paul	Anastasia (Mihaly)
Fr. Ronald (Hazuda)	Carolyn (Paulin)	Jeff (Stagon)	Laurel
Katarina (Mihaly)	June (Paulin)	Sayaka	David (Bennet)
Mary	Jason	Katie	Rob (Paltauf)
Andrea (Paltauf)	Francisco (Villa)	Paola (Villa)	Tabata (Villa)
Natash (Villa)	Raymond (Brien)	Daria	Ken (Zaengle)
Bob (Popp)	Nicholas (Noto)	Bobby (Bennet)	Barbara
Grayson	Al (Lenoce)	Wanda	April
Richard (Stewart)	Tina	Rex (Doug) Sunderland	George (Popp)
Taylor (Freitas)	Tess (Grimaldi)	Linda (Ney)	Ray
Ann (Salony)	Peter (Gard)	Leia	Alex

For the Departed

Metropolitan Nicholas	June (Elrod)	Anna (Logressa)	Rose (Procacci)
Marilyn (Berardsley)	Cina (Daskalakis)	Phyllis (Duclos)	Michael (McKenna)
Frank (Finui)	John	Giovanni (Villa)	John (Kasper)
Serge (Kachevsky)	Mary (Pawchyk)	Helen (Rowland)	Karen (Elrod-Williams)
Deacon William (Friedel)	Thomas (Loucas)	Lucinda (Pauta)	
Shirley (Trainor)	Bishop Andrew		

Saints commemorated on December 18

Bishop Nikolai Velimirovch

The Prologue from Ohrid

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1. The Holy Martyr Sebastian and those with him

This glorious saint was born in Italy and brought up in the city of Milan. While still young, he dedicated himself to military service. Being educated, handsome and courageous, he received the favor of Emperor Diocletian, who appointed him captain of his imperial guard. Secretly he confessed the Christian Faith and prayed to the Living God. As an honorable, just and merciful man, Sebastian was greatly beloved by his soldiers. Whenever he could, he saved Christians from torture and death, and, when he was unable to do so, he exhorted them to die for Christ the Living God without turning back. Two brothers, Marcus and Marcellinus, who had been imprisoned for Christ and were already on the verge of denouncing Him and worshiping idols, were confirmed in the Faith by Sebastian, who strengthened them for martyrdom. As he spoke with them, encouraging them not to fear death for Christ, his face was illumined. Everyone saw his shining face, like that of an angel of God. Sebastian also confirmed his words by miracles: he healed Zoe, the jailer Nicostratus's wife, who had been mute for six years; he brought her, Nicostratus and his entire household to baptism; he healed the two ailing sons of Claudius the commander and brought him and his household to baptism; he healed Tranquillinus, the father of Marcus and Marcellinus, of gout and pains in his legs which had troubled him for eleven years, and brought him to baptism together with his entire household; he healed the Roman eparch Chromatius of the same illness and brought him and his son Tiburtius to baptism. The first of them to suffer was St. Zoe, whom they seized at the tomb of the Apostle Peter, where she was praying to God. After torturing her, they threw her into the Tiber River. They then seized Tiburtius, and the judge placed live coals before him, telling him to choose between life and death, that is, either to cast incense on the coals and to cense the idols or to stand barefoot on the hot coals. St. Tiburtius made the sign of the Cross, stood barefoot on the hot coals, and remained unharmed. After this, he was beheaded. Nicostratus was killed with a stake, Tranquillinus was drowned, and Marcus and Marcellinus were tortured and pierced with spears. Then Sebastian was brought before Emperor Diocletian. The emperor rebuked him for his betrayal, but Sebastian said: "I have always prayed to my Christ for your health and for the peace of the Roman Empire." The emperor ordered that he be stripped naked and shot through with arrows. The soldiers shot him through with arrows until the martyr was so completely covered with arrows that his body was not seen because of them. When all thought that he was dead, he appeared alive and completely healthy. Then the pagans killed him with staves. He suffered gloriously for Christ his Lord and took up his habitation in the Kingdom of Christ in the year 287 at the time of Diocletian the Emperor and Gaius the Bishop of Rome.