

Saint Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church
13 Pembroke Road, Danbury, CT 06811

Holy Trinity Byzantine Catholic Church
121 Beaver St. New Britain, CT 06051
Week of November 2nd, 2025

Parish Rectory: (203) 743-1106
Church Hall: (203) 628-7997

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Served by: Father Stephen R. Russo, Pastor
Father Anthony Defronzo Emeritus
Dr. Randy Weyant, Cantor

Ms. Anne Devine, Dr. David Fanning, Trustees

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

- Saturday, Nov 8 — St. Michael the Archangel, anticip for 22nd Sun**
4:00 PM Divine Liturgy at Holy Trinity New Britain
Intention: Parishioners of Holy Trinity
- Sunday, Nov. 9 — 22nd Sunday after Pentecost**
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas Danbury
Intention: All homebound loved ones, by Sharon Siwik
- Saturday, Nov 15 — Anticipation 23rd Sunday after Pentecost**
4:00 PM Divine Liturgy at Holy Trinity New Britain
Intention: For Vocations to Holy Orders, by Fr. Tony and Fr. Stephen
- Sunday, Nov. 16 — 23rd Sunday after Pentecost**
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas Danbury
Intention: +Michael Dzemko, by Ms. Anne Devine

The Vigil Candle for November In Danbury for +Margaret Weyant
By her loving daughter Carol Haddad

Thank you, Fr. Ron!

Our Most Reverend Bishop Kurt Burnette officially granted Fr. Ron Hatton a leave of absence to pursue a personal dream of studying in Japan. We thank Fr. Ron for his willingness to come to Danbury 11 years ago when our church was nothing but burned remains. His willingness to serve enabled us to bring St. Nicholas back to the shining gold-domed jewel it is today. Thank you, Fr. Ron, for all you have done for us. You will always remain in our prayers. May God continue to bless you and grant you peace, health, and happiness.

The Next Chapter For St. Nicholas

On October 21st, Bishop Kurt officially appointed me, Pastor of St. Nicholas in Danbury and Administrator of Holy Trinity in New Britain and St. Nicholas in Meriden, following more than 20 years of service as your deacon. I thank Almighty God for His mercy, and for the trust placed in me by our bishop and by you, the faithful. Together, we will continue the work that began in Connecticut over a century ago — the work of building up the Body of Christ and spreading the Gospel!

The Church is more than walls and traditions; it is the living presence of Christ among His people. Each of us has been given gifts of the Holy Spirit to strengthen that body and to bring light to others. As Saint Paul reminds us:

“We are God’s co-workers; you are God’s field, God’s building.” 1 Cor. 3:9

In the years ahead, nourished by our heritage, our traditions, and most especially by our faith, may we labor together with joy, rooted in prayer, nourished by the Holy Eucharist, and guided by the Holy Spirit. Let our words and actions proclaim that Christ IS risen and truly present in our midst.

May the Lord bless our parish family with unity, love, and missionary zeal. With the intercession of the Theotokos and all the saints, may we continue to be a community where hearts are lifted to heaven and lives are transformed by grace.

Remembering Bld Bishop Theodore Romzha Martyr for the Faith

Born in 1911 in the village of Velykyi Bychkiv, in western Ukraine. Gifted with deep faith and a bright mind, he studied in Rome and was ordained a priest in 1936 for the Greek Catholic Eparchy of Mukachevo.

At only 33 years old, Father Theodore was chosen as bishop of Mukachevo in 1944 — during one of the most difficult times in the Church’s history. When the Soviet regime sought to suppress the Byzantine Catholic Church and force it under communist control, Bishop Romzha refused to deny communion with Rome or betray his people’s faith.

He continued to minister to his flock, traveling by horse and wagon to remote villages, confirming the faithful, celebrating the Divine Liturgy, and strengthening priests and laity with courage and hope. His motto was:

“Let us remain faithful to Christ, even unto death.”

In 1947, Bishop Romzha was severely beaten in an ambush by Soviet agents and later poisoned. While recovering in the hospital he was murdered by poisoning. He was only 35 years old. Pope St. John Paul II **beatified him on June 27, 2001**, proclaiming him a **martyr for the unity of the Church**. His feast day is Oct 31st. Blessed Romzha stands as a shining example of steadfast faith, pastoral love, and courage in the face of persecution. A first-class Relic of Bishop Romzha was encased in our Altar during the consecration of the new Church building on 2015.

“Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.” — **Revelation 2:10**

Outreach

As followers of Christ, we are called to see His face in the poor and those in need among us. Together, we need to strengthen our outreach and acts of mercy in the coming months. If you have ideas or would like to help us serve more effectively, please share your suggestions with me. Together, let us build up the Body of Christ through our actions.

“Whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for Me.” Matthew 25:40

Giving Tree: In December, we will once again have our “Giving Tree” to share our blessings with those who may be less fortunate. More information will be coming soon

Project Gabriel: Just as the Archangel Gabriel announced the mystery of new life in Christ, we wish to share that same hope with families welcoming their most fragile blessings into the world. Project Gabriel will support premature infants and their parents as they bring their little ones home from the hospital, offering prayer and practical help. In the coming weeks, a presentation will be given to help our parish family learn how they can participate in this life-affirming mission.

Emmaus Table: “When He was at the table with them, He took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened.” — Luke 24:30–31. This is the theme of our food collection for the local food pantry. Please bring non-perishable food items to help feed those in need. The “Emmaus Table” expresses that Christ is made known in the breaking of bread, both sacramentally and through service. A great reminder as we share our blessings to feed the hungry

Philip’s Fast Is Coming Soon!

The **Philip’s Fast** begins on **November 15**, the day after the feast of the Holy Apostle Philip, and continues until the **Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord (December 25)**.

This period of forty days is our **Byzantine preparation for Christmas** — a season of **prayer, fasting, and almsgiving** that opens our hearts to the mystery of the Incarnation. Just as Great Lent prepares us for Pascha, Philip’s Fast prepares us for Bethlehem, helping us to make room in our hearts for Christ the Savior.

We are invited to deepen our life of faith through simplicity, mercy, and renewed devotion. The Fast is not meant to be a burden, but a **joyful journey of spiritual renewal**, turning our focus away from the noise of the world toward the quiet light of the manger.

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His paths.” — **Mark 1:3**

Let us begin this holy season with faith and love, supporting one another in prayer and good works, so that our celebration of the Lord’s Nativity may be filled with peace and grace.

St. Nicholas Celebration!

Put the date on your calendar. Its not too early to start preparing for our celebration in honor of the church Patron. St. Nicholas!. His feast day falls on a Saturday this year. We will celebrate with a St. Nicholas Luncheon on **Sunday, December 7th**, after our 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy in Danbury. Please start by bringing items we can include in our raffle. Your donations are greatly appreciated! A sign-up sheet will be placed on the credence table next week.



St. Nicholas Mosaic

Our mosaic of St. Nicholas for the Danbury church arrived this week from Serbia. It was hand made by Mr. Milan Pilipovic and is spectacular! Because it is late in the season it will be installed in the spring. A shine is being planned for the hill looking up toward the church. This will be a welcoming beacon and a symbol of our faith community modeled on the example from this great saint and protector of the faith. Will be on display on St. Nicholas church in Danbury for all to see. If you would like to donate to the construction of the sign please see Fr. Stephen.

Support the Bishop’s Appeal for the Eparchy of Passaic

Each year, the Bishop’s Appeal invites us to join together as one Church family to strengthen our parishes, support our clergy, and extend Christ’s love to those in need and to help us grow the community of faithful. Your generous gift—no matter the size—helps sustain vital ministries such as our youth camps, Mission-related outreach and global aid, Eastern Christian formation to name a few. Please prayerfully consider making a contribution to this year’s Bishop’s Appeal. Once our goal is met a portion of the donations come directly back to our parish. You should have received the donation packet in the mail. If you have not please contact Fr. Stephen. Together, we can build up the Body of Christ in our Eparchy.

November Birthdays

Catherine Guzi	November 1
Jay Streaman	November 6
Michelle Maroni	November 7
Simeon Kearns	November 11
Catherine Fulgum	November 19
Randy Weyant	November 21
Melissa Hrabcsak	November 22
Beth Rivera	November 23
Jeremy Weyant	November 25
Christine Stephenson	November 26
Paul Caruso	November 26

May God grant all of you many blessed years!

(If anyone is missing or incorrect, please see Fr. Stephen)