

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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Website: [www.stnicholasdanbury.org](http://www.stnicholasdanbury.org)

Served by: Father Stephen R. Russo, Pastor  
Father Anthony DeFronzo, Emeritus  
Cantors: Dr. Randy Weyant, Ms Ann Schlain

Trustees: Ms Anne Devine, Dr David Fanning

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

**Saturday, Nov 15 — Anticipation 22nd Sunday after Pentecost**

**4:00 PM** Divine Liturgy at Holy Trinity, New Britain  
Intention: For Vocations to Holy Orders

**Sunday, Nov. 16 — 23rd Sunday after Pentecost**

**9:00 AM** Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas, Danbury  
Intention: +Michael Dzamko by Anne Devine

**Friday, Nov 21 — Presentation of the Theotokos**

**7:00 PM** Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas, Danbury  
Intention: Health and Blessing of Randy Weyant by Julie Weyant

**Saturday, Nov 22 — St. Michael the Archangel, anticip for 23rd Sun**

**4:00 PM** Divine Liturgy at Holy Trinity, New Britain  
Intention: Parishioners of Holy Trinity

**Sunday, Nov. 23 — 24th Sunday after Pentecost**

**9:00 AM** Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas Danbury  
Intention: +Michael Zuzalock, by Marion Smith

**The Vigil Candles for November for +Margaret Weyant**

By her loving daughter, Carol Haddad

## Parish Meeting

As we move to the next chapter in the history of St. Nicholas Parish, I would like to hold a parish meeting after Liturgy on Friday, November 21st, to gather your ideas, suggestions, and energy to build up the body of Christ and spread the good news of the Gospel, and grow our parish. Please make every effort to attend. We will have pasta and some nourishment for all. A similar meeting will be set up for Holy Trinity in the near future

## The Giving Tree

Starting this week, the "Giving Tree" outreach program will begin. It will benefit Family and Children's Aid of Danbury (FCA). FCA provides support for families and children in a variety of ways. This year, your gifts will go to children in foster care between the ages of 2 and 17. In the back of the Church, there will be trees set up with tags for you to choose from. Each tag has a variety of options/wishes for each child. It is not necessary to purchase everything listed; you can select as you like. If you would like to support this program but are unable to get out and purchase a gift, you can donate and we will buy the gifts on your behalf. Please have your gifts wrapped and attach the tag so we know who they are for. Please place your wrapped gifts under the icon of St. Nicholas in front of the Church by Dec. 14th. If you have any questions, reach out to Diane D-Addario-Billimoria at 203-313-3200. A great big THANK-YOU to Diane for coordinating this special project for us! Please remember her and her family in your prayers.

## The Vocation Icon

Our parish invites individuals and families to **sign up to take home the Vocation Icon** for one week and pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life. In the Byzantine Catholic tradition, we rely on the fervent prayers of the faithful to nurture and sustain these sacred callings.

Please consider welcoming the icon into your home and offering daily prayers that the Lord will raise up servants for His holy Church. *"Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest"* (Matthew 9:38).

A sign-up sheet is available on the credence table. Thank you for joining in this important ministry of prayer.

Additionally, if you or anyone in your family is discerning a vocation and would like to discuss or obtain additional information and support, please don't hesitate to contact Fr. Stephen.

## Bingo Support in Danbury

Our next bingo will be Saturday, Dec. 13th. We need door prizes. If you would like to donate items that we can give away as door prizes, it would be greatly appreciated. Our Bingo is a major source of income for our parish, so please support us by donating. Also, we are always in need of help. If you can spare any time, it goes a long way to spread the workload.

## Craft Fair In Danbury

We will also be having a small holiday craft fair in the church annex on Dec. 13th. 9-3. If any parishioners are interested in setting up a table to sell their arts and crafts, please don't hesitate to contact Fr. Stephen or Stephanie Fanning.

## As Philip's Fast Begins Nov. 15th!

As we enter **Philip's Fast**, the Church invites us into a season of quiet preparation for the joyful feast of our Lord's Nativity. These forty days help us open our hearts more fully to the Lord who comes to dwell among us—*"Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight His paths"* (Mark 1:3).

Philip's Fast is a time to slow down, to breathe, and to make more room for Christ in our daily lives. Each person will keep the fast as they are able; what matters most is the desire to grow closer to God. As we read in the book of Psalms, *"The Lord is near to all who call upon Him"* (Psalm 145:18).

Here are a few gentle ways to embrace this season:

- **Deepen your prayer.**  
Add a brief prayer to your day, spend a few quiet moments reading the bible, or pray the Jesus Prayer. *"Be still, and know that I am God"* (Psalm 46:10).
- **Simplify with intention.**  
Fasting helps us let go of distractions and live with greater clarity. Whether through simpler meals, less noise, or intentional gratitude, choose what helps you focus on Christ. *"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also"* (Matthew 6:21).
- **Offer mercy and kindness.**  
Acts of charity allow Christ's love to shine through us. Reach out to someone in need, support parish outreach programs, or offer a word of encouragement. *"Whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did it for Me"* (Matthew 25:40).

May these days of preparation fill your homes with peace, your hearts with hope, and your lives with the quiet joy of Christ's coming. Let us walk this fast together in faith and love, trusting in the promise that *"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it"* (John 1:5).



## This Week: The Gospel of the Good Samaritan as we enter Philip's Fast

As we begin Philip's Fast, the Lord invites us to walk the road with the Good Samaritan. In this sacred season, Christ asks us not only to notice those who are wounded along the way, but to draw near with compassion, mercy, and generosity. May our fasting open our eyes, our prayer soften our hearts, and our almsgiving bind the wounds of those who need hope. Like the Good Samaritan, let us make room in our lives for love that costs something—and discover Christ waiting in the one who needs our care.

## As we prepare for Thanksgiving

Giving True Thanks on Thanksgiving!

As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving Day, on the 27th, let us remember that gratitude is at the heart of our Byzantine Catholic life. The very word **Eucharist** means *thanksgiving*, reminding us that all true gratitude begins and ends in God. Before we gather at our tables, may we pause to offer prayerful thanks for the blessings the Lord has poured into our lives—seen and unseen.

Let us also remember those who are lonely, suffering, or in need, and lift them up in prayer. As the Apostle Paul reminds us: *"In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you"* (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

May our gratitude overflow into acts of mercy, generosity, and love, so that our Thanksgiving becomes a reflection of the heavenly banquet to which Christ calls us.

**I would like to start a new tradition for our parish to celebrate a Thanksgiving liturgy, at St. Nicholas, on Wednesday evening before Thanksgiving at 7 PM to begin the celebration of this great American Feast. Try to make every effort to join us. Cider and refreshments will be served after.**

A blessed and grace-filled Thanksgiving to all!

## St. Nicholas' Visit to Danbury

St. Nicholas has contacted, Fr. Stephen and graciously offering to stay with us for a longer period to meet with the children and to allow us to have individual and family pictures taken with him. We will have a throne set up for our patron the afternoon of December 7th. Please encourage family and friends to join us and meet with St. Nicholas (AKA Santa!)

### **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)

