

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church



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www.holytrinitydanbury.org

Diocesan Website: www.acrod.org

Camp Nazareth:
<http://www.campnazareth.org>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/acroddiocese>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/acrodnews>

You Tube:

<https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>

Recommended Orthodox Internet
Ministries

<http://myocn.net/>

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

Welcome to Holy Trinity Parish

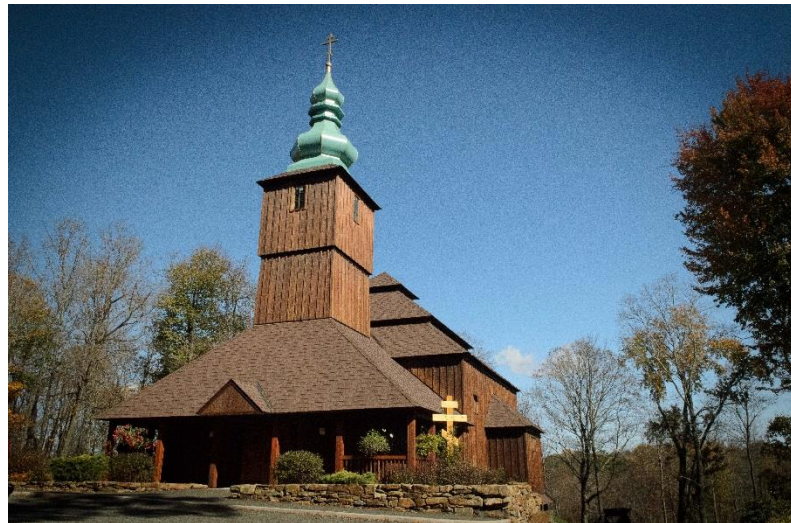
Today is St. Thomas Sunday. The Epistle is Acts 5:12-20. The Gospel is from John 20:19-31.

Holy Trinity is a diverse and welcoming parish of the Carpatho Russian Diocese, under the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

His Grace, Bishop 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

Christ is Risen!

Indeed He is Risen!

Today there is a Panachida for Lisa Farah's mother, Delores, and her grandmother, Helen. Also, we will remember Thomas Krafick a beloved parishioner of a parish who passed away this week.

We will also go to our parish cemetery of St. Platon's and bless graves today after coffee hour.

There are no services this week, as Fr. Luke is way in Florida from Monday to Wednesday for an OCMC Board of Trustee's meeting

and then in Pennsylvania at Camp Nazareth for the Priest Synod meeting from Thursday to Friday.

Saturday, April 29 we have our OYMT training session lead by Andy Lekos of OCMC starting at 8:30 AM.

Saturday, April 29, 5 PM - Vespers

Sunday, April 30, 10 AM - Divine Liturgy followed by an OYMT pancake breakfast fundraiser.

If there are any emergencies while Fr. Luke is away please call the rectory and Pani Bethany will contact a priest.

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Readers Schedule

4/23 – Harry Fong
4/30 – Paul Toaso
5/7 – Bob Faubel
5/14 – Susan Paltauf

Coffee Hour

4/23 – OPEN
4/30 – OYMT Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

Help restock our Kitchen:

10-inch paper plates and decaf coffee.

Help Support the Orthodox Youth Mission Team—

Next Sunday, April 30th the Orthodox Youth Mission team will host a Pancake Breakfast fundraiser for our upcoming trip through OCMC to Napaskiak, Alaska. We hope you will join us! This will be the culmination of a weekend long training session conducted by Mission Specialist Andy Lekos who will be coming to train us from the mission center in St. Augustine, Florida. Please feel free to talk ask any of our team members or Andy questions you may have about our mission work.

Alcoholism and Addiction | Church School

The **Akathist Service to the Icon of the Inexhaustible Cup** has proven to be a great help to all those who know someone or who themselves are struggling with alcoholism and addiction. We at Holy Trinity have quietly started serving the Akathist to the Icon of the Mother of God of the Inexhaustible Cup. If you are interested in attending the service please see Fr. Luke. This service is open to all parishioners. Look here for our next service.

Church School meets on Sundays.

Elementary school students will meet immediately after Divine Liturgy. Fr. Luke will be talking to the parents of the high school students to work on a schedule to meet outside of Sunday.

| Parish Dinner Out

Parish Dinner Out—We had a very enjoyable (and delicious!) parish dinner out at The Cue restaurant this past Thursday. Thank you to everyone who attended. If you have restaurant suggestions for future parish dinners, please let us know!

CAMP NAZARETH SUMMER CAMP 2017

Dates for the Summer Camping Program

Week 1 -- July 16 - 22, 2017

Johnstown, Pocono, Southern Tier, Youngstown and Chicago Deaneries

Week 2 -- July 23 - July 29, 2017

Pittsburgh, Mid-Atlantic, Tri-State and Washington D.C. Deaneries

Week 3 -- July 30 - August 5, 2017

New England, NY, NJ, Florida and Canada Deaneries

Online Registration Begins March 1

Online Registration **MUST** be complete **AND** payment must be submitted by **May 15** in order

to qualify for the **\$20 Early Bird Discount**. **Early Bird Discount per Child and one-time only, not per week.**

Registrations after June 14 will incur an additional \$20 late fee!!

Volunteer and Clergy Applications are due NO LATER THAN JUNE 1st!!!! How does this effect Clergy and Volunteers? **Clergy and Volunteers will be required to get fingerprinted** on their own and then provide Camp with proof of this **BEFORE** they arrive at Camp.

Interested in being on the Camp's Medical Staff (MD or RN), please contact Fr. Stephen at the Camp. The Nurse or Doctor on staff each week will receive a Stipend (\$400) and a campership

for one of their children or for someone whom they designate.

When you register online please note that you will still need to submit a paper copy of the Medical Examination Form (i.e. Camper Physical) which must be filled out and signed by a licensed medical professional (licensed physician or physician's assistant). This form will be emailed to you after you complete the online registration process.

Payment by check, money order, or credit card is accepted. Checks and Money Orders are to be made payable to *Camp Nazareth* and sent to *Camp Nazareth at 339 Pew Road, Mercer, PA 16137.*

Prayer Group

Prayer Group — Our prayer group class will resume meeting on Tuesday mornings immediately following the Hours service (class time: 9:00 a.m.) beginning on Tuesday, May 2nd. We will be starting a new book, *Three Prayers* by Olivier Clement. All are welcome!

| Diaper Drive

Diaper Drive — Thank you to everyone who so generously contributed diapers and wipes for our Diaper Drive to benefit the Women's Center of Greater Danbury. Jennie Fong said she has quite a stack to deliver to them!

| Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen

Dorothy Day--Our next date to serve at the soup kitchen is Friday, May 5th from 1:00-5:00 p.m. Please let Susan Sulich know if you are able to help out for all or part of the afternoon.

Clothing Drive Starts | Camp Nazareth Raffle/Family Day

Our next Clothing Drive is ON! Thank you, Ann and the entire Huott Family. Start saving all your extra clothes, shoes, pillows, etc. for our clothing drive. The last clothing drive we collected more than a tone of clothes and we received more than \$400.00

Tickets are now available for the Annual Camp Nazareth Family day Raffle. Stasia Thompson and Mariana Todosiev are in charge of selling tickets.

Family Day at Camp Nazareth is set for June 9 to June 11. Register Online at campnazareth.org. Email campnazareth@acrod.org or call 724-662-4840 for more information.

Upcoming Events

OYMT Weekend Training Session with OCMC—Sat. April 29-30th

OYMT Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser—Sunday April 30th following liturgy

Dorothy Day—Friday May 5th

Parish Council Meeting—Sunday May 7th following liturgy

Mother's Day Brunch—Sunday, May 14th

Parish BBQ Fundraiser for Camp Bus and Altar Boy/Young Women's Retreat—Pentecost, Sunday June 4th following liturgy

2017 Diocesan Altar boy Retreat - June 25-28, 2017.

OYMT OCMC trip to Alaska—Saturday July 7-Monday July 18th

Elder Cleopa of Sihastria

In 1957 Fr. Cleopa, an Orthodox monk, was riding on a train when he encountered some atheists who were making fun of him for his belief. One of the men said, "Look, Father, isn't it absurd to expect us to believe in something that can't be seen? You say that God exists, but has anyone ever seen Him? It is absolute foolishness for someone to believe in what he does not see!"

Fr. Cleopa responded, "So according to your statement that you cannot believe in something that isn't visible, wouldn't it then be foolish for me to believe that you have a

mind if I have not seen it? How can I believe that you have a mind if I have never seen it? What does it look like?" After the men admitted that they all had minds, Fr. Cleopa continued, "So we will go on and admit that everyone has a mind, right? We agree on this, even though we cannot see the mind. Let's move on. Have you ever seen life? Who has ever seen life? Would anyone say that a person is dead when he is obviously alive? Yet, can you see actual life?" "Well, no you can't," they admitted. "So wouldn't it be foolish for us to believe that people have life if we cannot see it?" "But, Father, life is something that is

manifested," they countered.

"Very good!" answered Fr. Cleopa. "Through its manifestations, we can believe that life exists even though we cannot see things that we call life. That is how it is with God!"

-adapted from Elder Cleopa of Sihastria

Birthdays

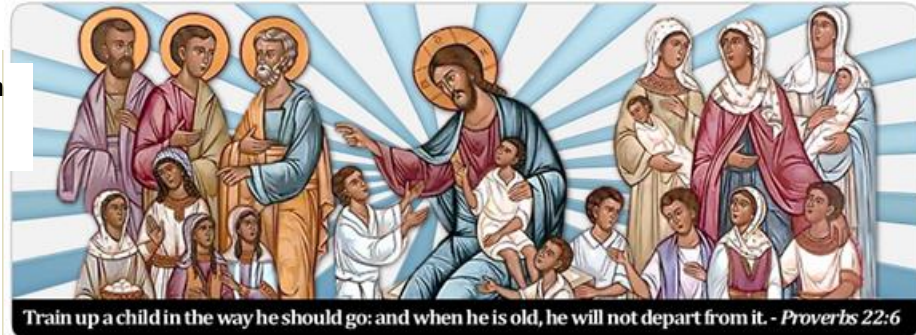
April	
Viorel Bundra	23
Natasha Gross	25
Harry Fong	26
Dan Kuzmich	28

Help Support our Orthodox Youth Mission Team—After 6 years of serving in West Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee through the Appalachian Service Project (ASP) the OYMT will be participating in an Orthodox Christian Mission Center short-term mission trip to Alaska. Youth and leaders from our parish (Ana and Grace Radcliff, Madeline Sulich, Susan Sulich and Fr. Luke) and 5 others will be serving Orthodox brothers and sisters in the small village of Napaskiak, running youth camp programs and helping with construction projects. This is the first time a high school team will be volunteering through OCMC. It is a wonderful and unprecedented opportunity for our youth and we are very excited to go and do Christ's work! As in the past, OYMT is selling stock for \$10 a share to fund our trip during coffee hour. You may have received a stock letter in the mail. You can bring to coffee hour, mail back or donate online at www.oymt.info. We ask that you please be as generous as you can in your support and pray for us as we prepare for our mission trip. Thank you!

For the Children

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



Have you ever felt so upset that you just couldn't calm down? Maybe you were worried about something or felt scared? How did you finally calm down and feel better?

Today the Gospel tells us about a time when Jesus' followers were upset. Jesus had just risen from the dead, and the disciples were scared because they thought they'd be attacked for following Christ! So, they locked the door. They were afraid.

The door was locked, but still our Lord came to them. "Peace be with you!" He told them. They were all so happy to see Him. He said again, "Peace be with you!" A whole week later, Jesus came to the disciples again. "Peace be with you!" He said.

Our Lord Jesus Christ calmed the disciples with His peace. They knew everything was good when they were with Him. You know, when we are upset or worried or scared, we can ask God to help us too. At church today, you will hear the priest say, "Peace be with you!" a few times, just as Christ told His followers. Your priest is praying that God's peace, His calm, His love will be with you.

When you have God's peace, you'll know what the disciples knew: Everything is good when you are with Christ!

THE SAINTLY PARENTS OF SAINT GEORGE: SAINTS GERONTIOS AND POLYCHRONIA

Can you think of something that made your parents say, "I'm proud of you!" or "Good job!"? A good grade? A goal in a game?

Today is the feastday of the great Saint George. You might know how he loved God so much that he refused to worship idols. You might know how he was killed by the emperor for that. But do you know who taught Saint George to love God so much?

Well, his mother and father did, and they are saints in our Church too! Saints Gerontios (Saint George's father) and Polychronia (his mother) worshiped our one true God, even though they knew they could get be punished for it. Gerontios had a high position in the Roman army, but he lost it all when he told the officials that he was a Christian. Sadly, Polychronia (along with young George) saw their father dragged away to be killed. But she told her son that if he loved God too, they would all meet again in heaven.

Saint George listened to his mother's good advice. When he was older, he was thrown into prison because of his faith in God. Polychronia went to visit him, and she helped him. She was proud of him. She must have told him, "Good job!" for staying so strong. Then, she was punished too.

These three saints (the parents and their son) must have been scared, but they looked to God for help. Now they are at peace together in heaven!

We celebrate the feast of Saints Gerontios and Polychronia tomorrow, April 24th.

We're on the Web!
holyltrinitydanbury.org