

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>

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 the Sunday after Theophany. The Epistle Acts 19:1-8. The Gospel is from John 1:29-34. Synaxis of John the Baptist.

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

January 7, 10 AM – Divine Liturgy

Sunday, January 14, 10 AM - Divine Liturgy

Monday, January 8, 7 PM – Spirituality Class

Wednesday, January 10, 7 PM – Catechism Class

Thursday, January 11, 8:30 AM – Akathist

Thursday, January 11, 9:30 AM – Prayer Group

Friday, January 12, 9 AM – Old Testament Class

Friday, January 12, 7 PM – Parish Council Meeting

Saturday, January 13, 6 PM - Winter Dance

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Readers Schedule

1/7 – Christopher Mihaly
1/14 – Suzanne Molineaux
1/21 – Sandi Fong
1/28 – Bob Faubel

Coffee Hour

1/7 – Suad & Roger
1/14 – Young
1/21 – OPEN
1/28 - OPEN

Help restock our Kitchen: decaf coffee.

Please remember to sign up and subscribing on our parish web site www.holytrinitydanbury.org

And to those with a Facebook accounts please like our Facebook page posts associated with the fundraising events here <https://www.facebook.com/htocdanbury/?fref=hovercard> so the word gets out.

Coffee Hour - We need people to sign up for coffee hour. As a reminder, coffee hour need not be elaborate. Bagels or rolls and butter are fine or anything simple. Consider signing up with someone else to make it easier.

Mary Kay Open House to Benefit OYMT—the holiday Mary Kay sale to benefit OYMT will continue today during coffee hour. Please check out the great variety of beautifully wrapped gifts for everyone on your list. Your generous support is greatly appreciated!

Alcoholism and Addiction

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.

Great progress is being made in the building of the **new rectory**. We have passed the permitting stage and the old rental property will be demolished within the next couple of weeks. The new rectory is already in production with Westchester Modular and could be set on the property as early as the end of December. Only \$50,000 remains to be raised to complete the rectory. If donations come in to cover the final amount we will not need to use the line of credit to finish the project. Stay tuned for updates and if you haven't already done so, subscribe to our website: www.holytrinitydanbury.org to see construction photos and updates..

New Year's Dinner Dance

New Year's Dinner Dance—Plans are underway for our annual New Year's Dinner Dance. It will take place on Saturday, January 13th and tickets will be \$35 per person which will include dinner (BYOB) and music and entertainment by our favorite DJ, Bill Lopez. Invite your friends and plan to come and enjoy the evening. To reserve tickets or a table of 8 or 10, see Pani Bethany or Susan Sulich. It would be very helpful if we could get final reservations today so that we can let the caterer know the correct numbers for dinner. If you need more time let Pani Bethany or Susan know.

OYMT 2018

Orthodox Youth Mission Team 2018— If you have not given Susan Sulich your paperwork and deposit please bring to the meeting. We have the largest group ever going from our parish and we welcome all our new team members. It is not too late to sign up. The trip is scheduled for July 7-16th and training sessions will begin in January. If you have questions about OYMT see Fr. Luke or Susan Sulich.

Envelopes

Envelopes—If you use envelopes for your pledge/collection please pick them up in the church hall. All those who had envelopes last year should have a box with your name on it. If anyone else would like envelopes we have extras. Just let Luke or Roz Mihaylo know what number is on your box.

Advent Collection for Dorothy Day

Advent Collection for Dorothy Day—Thank you to everyone who donated hats, gloves and socks for our Advent collection to Dorothy Day. We were able to bring them when we served on Friday and in this frigid weather they were greatly appreciated. If anyone new is interested in serving at Dorothy Day or if you cannot serve but would like to help by making a meal to be served let Susan Sulich know.

Prayer Group

Prayer Group--Our prayer group class meets on Thursday mornings at 9:00 a.m. This week we will be starting a new book: Churchianity vs. Christianity by Met. Anthony Bloom. All our welcome!

Perogie Sessions Starting

Perogie Sessions Starting Back Up— We will begin our perogies sessions a week from Tuesday on Jan. 16th at 9:00 a.m. (immediately following the Hours Service). New pinchers always welcome, no prior experience necessary!!

Trip to Slovakia

—We are working to put together a parish trip to Slovakia for August 2018. We have been in contact with Fr. Ilya Gotlinsky who did an excellent job planning and making arrangements for our trip to Greece and Macedonia. Please let Fr. Luke know as soon as possible if you plan to go on the trip.

Support OYMT |

Help Support the Orthodox Youth Mission Team—OYMT has made soup mix and hot cocoa jars that are beautifully packaged and ready for holiday gift giving. Jars are for sale in the hall. The cost is \$8. Please help our youth fund their ASP trip this summer. Thank you for your ongoing support!

Birthdays

January	
James Kavallines	10
Eric Evans	13
Nicholas Huott	18
Kate Kerpchar	27
Connie Somoskovec	30

Upcoming Events

- New Year's Dinner Dance—** Saturday, January 13th
- OYMT Training Session—** Sunday, Jan. 21st 3:00-5:00 (Adult leaders 5:00-6:00)
- Monthly St. Nectarios Service—**Thursday, Jan. 18th 7:00 p.m.
- Game Dinner—**Saturday, Feb. 3rd
- Annual Parish Meeting—** Sunday, Jan. 21st following liturgy

House Blessings

Fr. Luke will be 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!!

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



Donations—Going forward we would like to institute a new policy regarding donations of items to the church. While we are very grateful that parishioners want to offer the church items that might be useful, we have a limited amount of space. As we try to reorganize the hall and maximize the storage space that we have available we ask you to go through our new Donations Coordinator, Elaine Toaso, if you wish to donate something to the church. Please speak to Elaine (elaine.toaso@gmail.com) before bringing any items in and she will be able to tell you (or find out from the parish council) if the items can be utilized. Thank you!

The Holy Spirit gives life!

By [Presvytera Alexandra Houck](#) in [The Children's Word](#)

Jan 04, 2018

Did you ever get a toy for a present...but you didn't have batteries for it? What happened? It didn't work, did it? Your toy needed something to give it power to go, to really work.

In today's epistle reading, we find out what makes the Church go. We find what gives the Church strength, what gives it life. That power is the Holy Spirit!

In the reading, we hear how Saint Paul visited some followers of John the Baptist. He asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they answered, "No, we have never even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." These believers knew about baptism. They followed Saint John the Baptist. They knew about Jesus Christ. But they hadn't even heard of the Holy Spirit.

Saint Paul baptized them. Then the Holy Spirit came on them.

In our Church, we still need the Holy Spirit too. We can build a church building, but we need the Holy Spirit to give us life. We can have the Bible, but we need the Holy Spirit to use it. We can read the Creed, but we need the Holy Spirit to help us to have faith. We need the Holy Spirit to give us power to go, to really work...like the batteries in your toys!

SAINT THEOPHAN: THE RECLUSE

You've heard of the scary Brown Recluse spider, haven't you? It's a poisonous spider that likes to be left alone. Nobody likes those, but recluses can be good, too! This week we'll celebrate the feastday of Saint Theophan the Recluse. He's named after Theophany, the feastday we celebrated yesterday.

St. Theophan was a Russian saint who spent the last 20 years of his life all by himself, not talking or visiting almost anybody!

But what did St. Theophan do when he was all by himself? Mostly, he prayed! He wrote books too, so that he could help people who needed advice. St. Theophan taught many people how to do what St. Paul told us to do. St. Paul told us to "pray without stopping." St. Theophan wrote about how we can do that!

What do YOU do when you are all by yourself? Watch TV? Play on the computer? We read about the saints so that we can be like them. Can you try to be like St. Theophan sometimes, too? When you are alone, take some time to pray, to ask God to help you, your family, your friends, and even your enemies!

We celebrate St. Theophan on Wednesday, January 10th (Jan. 23 OC).

We're on the Web!

holytrinitydanbury.org