

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 of Zacchaeus. The Epistle 1 Timothy 4:9-15. The Gospel is from Luke 19:1-10. Virgin Martyr Agnes.

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

Sunday, January 21, 10 AM –
Divine Liturgy

Sunday, January 21, 11:30 AM –
Annual Parish Meeting

Sunday, January 21, 3 PM –
First OYMT Meeting

Monday, January 22, 7 PM –
Spirituality Class

Tuesday, January 23, 8:30 AM –
Service of the Third Hour

Tuesday, January 23, 9 AM –
Perogie Sessions

Wednesday, January 24, 7 PM –
Catechism Class

Thursday, January 25, 8:30 AM –
Liturgy Health

Thursday, January 25, 9:30 AM –
Prayer Group

Friday, January 26, 9 AM –
Old Testament Class

Friday, January 26, 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM –
Church School

Saturday, January 27, 5 PM –
Vespers

Sunday, January 28, 10 AM –
Divine Liturgy

The **Parish Annual Meeting** is set for **Sunday, January 21** immediately following Divine Liturgy. Your attendance is necessary in having a quorum.

Church School	2
Icon of Inexhaustible Cup	2
Annual Parish Meeting	2
Wild Game Dinner	2
Envelopes	2
Upcoming events	3
House Blessings	3

Readers Schedule

1/21 – Sandi Fong
1/28 – Bob Faubel
2/4 – Christopher Mihaly

Coffee Hour

1/21 – Bundra
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.

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.

New Rectory

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..

Annual Parish Meeting

Annual Parish Meeting—Next Sunday, Jan. 21st is our annual parish meeting. The meeting will take place after liturgy. Your participation in the running of the parish is essential so please plan to give some time to attend.

OYMT 2018

OYMT 2018—Next Sunday, Jan. 21st we will be the first mandatory training session for the Orthodox Youth Mission Team 2018. The meeting will take place here at Holy Trinity from 3-5 p.m. (adult leaders will meet from 5-6). We have a large team this year and look forward to welcoming many new members.

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.

Game Dinner

Game Dinner—Our annual game dinner is set for Saturday, Feb. 3rd. Reservations have already started coming in. Please sign up to let us know what dish you plan to make. Help will be needed in the kitchen, serving and helping with raffles. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$20 for children 13-18. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

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

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!

Upcoming Events

Annual Parish Meeting—
Sunday, Jan. 21st following liturgy

Swearing in of new parish council at the end of liturgy—
-Sunday, January 28th

Game Dinner—Saturday, Feb. 3rd

OYMT Training Session—
Sunday, Jan. 21st 3:00-5:00
(Adult leaders 5:00-6:00)

Council Meeting—Sunday,
January 28th immediately following coffee hour

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!!

Birthdays

January	
Nicholas Huott	18
Kate Kerpchar	27
Connie Somoskovec	30
February	
Leon Guerrero	1
Jerry Kachevsky	5
Pani Carol Beck Paproski	8
Emily Varney	13
Andrell (AJ) Villa	13
Rob & Andrea Paltauf Anniversary	14
Kristina Bundra	20
Nicholas Paproski	22

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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](#)

Have you ever had an unexpected visitor at your house? Maybe somebody called your parents and said, "I'm coming over!" All of a sudden, everybody is running around. We have to clean the house! We have to find something to serve for dinner! We have to change out of our sloppy clothes and into something nice!

In today's Gospel, we hear about a man named Zacchaeus who saw that Jesus was coming to his town. There were so many people, and Zacchaeus was so short, that he climbed up a tree so he could see Jesus! But the Lord saw Zacchaeus up in the tree, and He told him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down! I must stay at your house today!" Imagine! Jesus surprised him, "I must stay at your house today!"

Today, and every day, let's always remember to be ready for our Lord. God always wants us to be close to Him, just like He wanted to be close to Zacchaeus. We have to be ready to invite Him to be with us. That means we talk to God in prayer. That means we learn about Him in the Bible. That means we help other people, who are God's children too. That means we visit with Him at Church. When we're always ready to receive Christ, He won't seem like that unexpected visitor! We'll be waiting for Him!

SAINT GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN: A holy friendship

Making friends. How do you do it? Well, usually, friends have to have something in common with each other. Maybe you both like playing soccer, or dancing, or video games, or even pizza. Or maybe you live next door and you play together every day after school. Friends share something in common.

This week, we celebrate the memory of a saint who had a very deep and holy friendship with St. Basil. We have heard about St. Basil and his brother, St. Gregory of Nyssa. But tomorrow we remember Saint Basil's great friend, Saint Gregory (who is called "the Theologian"). Both St. Basil and this St. Gregory were bishops. They were about the same age. They met each other in Athens, Greece, and they became friends.

But what did these friends have in common? We can learn about their friendship from St. Gregory's own words. (He wrote them almost 1700 years ago!) St. Gregory said, "Our great pursuit, the great name we wanted, was to be Christians, to be called Christians." And that is what these two great saints had in common (not soccer or pizza!) They helped each other become greater Christians, to know more about God and to love Him even more.

St. Basil and St. Gregory show us a great thing about friendship! When we make friends, we can try to have deep and holy friendships too, close to God!

We celebrate his nameday on Thursday, January 25th (Feb. 7 OC).

We're on the Web!

holytrinitydanbury.org