

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 St. Mary of Egypt. The Epistle Paul to the Hebrews 2:11-18. The Gospel is from Luke 1:24-38. Feast of the Annunciation.

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.

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Sunday, March 25, 10 AM – Divine Liturgy – Feast of the Annunciation

Sunday, March 25, 11:30 AM – Panachida for John Sulich on the fourth Anniversary of his falling asleep.

Sunday, March 25, 11:30 AM to 1 PM – Easter Craft and Bake Sale

Sunday, March 25 12:30 PM- Parish Council meeting

Monday, March 26, 7 PM - Spirituality Class

Wednesday, March 28, 6 PM – Presanctified Liturgy followed by meal

Wednesday, March 28, 7 PM –Adult Catechism Class

Thursday, March 29, 9:30 AM – Prayer Group

Friday, March 30, 9:30 AM - Old Testament Class

Saturday, March 31, 9 AM – 3 PM – Divine Liturgy for Lazarus Saturday

Saturday, March 31, 10 AM – Church School and preparation for Pascha – Making Palm Crosses, coloring Eggs and making Luminaries

Saturday, March 31, 10 AM to 12 noon – Church grounds clean up

Saturday, March 31, 1:30 PM – Chrismation of Ana Urgiles Quinancela

Saturday, March 31, 5 PM – Vespers

Sunday, April 1, 10 AM – Divine Liturgy PALM SUNDAY

Readers Schedule

3/25 – Luke Mihaylo
4/1 – Paul Sulich

Coffee Hour

3/25 – OPEN
4/1 – Palm Sunday
4/8 – PASCHA

Help Re-Stock our Kitchen:

10-inch sturdy paper plates and bowls.

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/htcdanbury/?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.

Food Safety Courses—We will be looking to update our food safety certifications to meet new Health Department regulations. If you are interested in taking a half day food handler safety class please let Susan Sulich know.

New Rectory

The **new rectory** is progressing rapidly. The foundation has been poured and the house set is scheduled for Monday, February 18th. Check out photos and updates on our website: www.holytrinitydanbury.org. Subscribe if you haven't already so you won't miss posts. At this point we need approximately \$75,000 above what we have raised so far to finish the project. We do have a line of credit available to bridge the gap but any additional donations that come in will reduce (or eliminate) the amount we need to borrow.

Church School

Church School—Our next church school session will take place on Saturday, March 31st Lazarus Saturday, following liturgy. Church school children are encouraged to participate in the sacraments of confession (if they are of age) and communion on that day and we will have a breakfast for everyone after liturgy followed by the making of palm crosses, luminaries for Pascha midnight service, dying eggs and other activities for youth and families.

Cooking and Baking Sessions

Cooking and Baking Sessions—Thank you to everyone who helped make perogies, cookies, stuffed cabbage, nut and fruit rolls, kielbasa and Pascha breads for our Easter Bake Sale. We had a large number of pre-orders and are looking forward to a good sale.

Adult Education Opportunities

We have a number of adult education classes going on currently:

Spirituality Class – Mondays at 7:00 p.m. Currently reading and discussing: *Spiritual Counsels (select passages from My Life in Christ)* by Fr. John or Kronstadt

Catechism Class – Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. (following Lenten meal after Pre-Sanctified) For those

studying to come into the Church and those in the Church who want to deepen their understanding and participation in the Faith. We are learning Divine Liturgy using Nicholas Cabasilas's book: *A Commentary on the Divine Liturgy*

Prayer Group – Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. Currently reading: *Churchianity vs. Christianity* by Metropolitan Anthony Bloom

Old Testament Class – Fridays at 9:00 a.m. We are about to begin Numbers.

Lent is a great time to try one or more of these classes!

Pascha Breads

Pascha Breads- If you would like a Pascha bread for Easter please write down how many you want and give to Pani Bethany or Susan Sulich. We will make one batch during Holy Week.

Diocesan Seniors' Retreat | Pussy Willows

Our Diocese is pleased to offer its first annual **Seniors' Retreat this year from April 23-25 at Camp Nazareth in Mercer, PA.** You can review the attached registration form and flyer, and other information. You can also find these documents on the Diocesan website (www.acrod.org). Online Registration begins March 1, 2018. There will be the option to register via mail as well. All registrations are due by April 18, 2018.

Please keep an eye out for **Pussy Willows** on the side of the road or in your back yard. We can use some for Palm Sunday coming up this Sunday.

Save the Date

Save the Date—Our next Music on the Mount concert will be on Saturday May 5th. An ensemble from St. Tikhon's choir will be performing.

Parish Grounds Clean Up

Parish Grounds Clean Up—On Saturday, March 31st we will have a parish grounds clean up after Lazarus Saturday liturgy and breakfast—assuming the snow is off the ground by then! We would like to make sure the walkway around the church is free of sticks and debris in

preparation for our Pascha midnight progression and general cleanup of the property is done. Please bring rakes, leaf blowers and clippers.

Upcoming Events

Easter Craft & Bake Sale – Sunday, March 25

Council Meeting – Sunday, March 25th

Lazarus Saturday/Church School—Saturday, March 31st

Parish Grounds Clean Up—Saturday March, 31st following Lazarus Saturday liturgy and breakfast

Monthly St. Nectarios Service—Thursday, April 19th 7:00 p.m.

Diocesan Seniors Retreat – Monday, April 23-Wednesday, April 25

Dorothy Day – May 4th

Music on the Mount Concert with St. Tikhon's—Saturday, May 5th

OYMT Tool and Safety Training and Adult Leader Dinner—Saturday, April 21st starting at Noon

Lenten Fast

The following minimal fasting regulations are designated for our clergy and faithful for Great Lent:

1) Great and Holy Friday, and Great and Holy Saturday, namely April 6 and 7 are days of strict abstinence. On these days, no meat or dairy products may be eaten.

2) All Wednesdays and Fridays during this entire Season are days of abstinence from meat.

3) Meat and meat products may not be eaten during all of Holy Week, namely April 2 through April 7.

4) For the evening Pre-sanctified Liturgy, a minimum three-hours fast

from all food and drink must be observed before the reception of Holy Communion. Normal fasting from midnight is still practiced before the Liturgies of St. John Chrysostom and St. Basil the Great.

These are the minimal requirements to observe during this Season. But for those of stronger body and more willing spirit, I wholeheartedly recommend the penitential practices of a sterner quality which the time-honored traditions and customs of our Holy Orthodox Church have handed down to us.

On weekdays (Monday to Friday inclusive) during the seven weeks of Lent, there

are restrictions both on the *number* of meals taken daily and on the *types of food* permitted; but when a meal is allowed, there is no fixed limitation on the *quantity* of food to be eaten.

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[This material is taken from the introduction to The Lenten Triodion. In modern practice, the above rules tend to be somewhat relaxed, and they have always been relaxed for children and the infirm. Fast as you are able, and consult Fr. Luke as needed. As you eat less physical food, it is important to increase your intake of spiritual food – prayer and reading scripture and the fathers of the Church.]

Birthdays

Birthdays	
March	
Marika Gutzman (Namesday)	25
Orestes Mihaly	26
Michael Browne	30
April	
Adriano Morfa	4
Adam Rosenfield	5
Markus Paltauf	8
Christopher Mihaly	11
Melissa McVeigh	11
Grace Radcliff	14
Adriano Morfa	14
Melanie Sulich	17
Rosalyn Mihaylo	18
Viorel Bundra	23
Natasha Gross	25
Harry Fong	26
Sarah Bracey	30

YOUNG ADULT SPRING

RETREAT - Our Keynote Speakers will be His Grace, Bishop Gregory of Nyssa of the American Carpatho-Russian Diocese and Steven Christoforou, Director, Dept of Youth & Young Adult Ministries (Y2AM), Greek Orthodox Archdiocese.

When: 7:00 pm, **Fri, May 4** - 12:00 noon, **Sun, May 6**. **Where:** **Camp Nazareth Retreat and Conference Center**. The weekend event will be filled with learning, fun, fellowship, worship, and time for reflection and rejuvenation! To register please contact Fr. Stephen Loposky (724.662.4840 // fr.stephen.loposky@gmail.com).

Registration Fee: \$75.

Note: Financial-need Scholarships may be available through your home parish or diocese. If you need assistance

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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!

God's Kingdom By **Presvytera Alexandra Houck** in **The Children's Word**

Have you ever played knights? Maybe you had a sword fight with a friend, and you battled each other to see who would win. Fighting for the kingdom is the best part of playing knights!

In today's Gospel reading, we hear about a different kind of kingdom. This kingdom is the one that God has made for us. It's the kingdom of heaven! Our Lord Jesus Christ will rule over this kingdom. And the Gospel says that "in His kingdom, there will be no end." God's kingdom will last forever!

Some people thought that the savior would start a new kingdom with big armies, lots of tough fighting, and beautiful buildings. They thought this kind of kingdom would be great. They thought they'd love to have a king who was really in charge.

But remember, our Lord Jesus Christ is called the Prince of Peace. He has already fought so that we can have a peaceful kingdom. In His kingdom, there won't be any fighting or bad things. This kingdom is a peaceful kingdom.

Our Lord, the Prince of Peace, knows that real fighting isn't fun. He wants us to have peace in heaven forever!

ARCHANGEL GABRIEL: THE LEADER OF THE ANGELS

Today, we celebrate the wonderful feastday of the Annunciation. That's the day, you remember, when an angel visited Mary and told her that she would be the Theotokos, the Mother of God! Nine months later is Christmas, the birthday of our Lord.

That angel was the Archangel Gabriel, and we celebrate his feastday this week, too. Many people have called Gabriel the leader of the angels, because he had such an important job to do—to announce the good news to young Mary.

But what else did Gabriel do? Well, Gabriel is the angel who explains mysteries. He tells about things that are hard to understand. (Remember, it was hard for Mary to understand how she could have a baby.) Gabriel also told Zachariah that his wife, Elizabeth, was going to have a child... baby St. John the Baptist. Some theologians say that it was Gabriel who told Mary's parents that they were going to have a baby too—the baby Mary. Some say that Gabriel announced the good news of our Lord's birth to the shepherds too. You can also find Archangel Gabriel in the Bible, a long time before Jesus was born.

So you see—The archangel Gabriel is full of good news! Let's remember him this week!

We celebrate the Arch. Gabriel tomorrow, March 26th (April 8th, OC).