

# Holy Trinity Orthodox Church



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[www.holytrinitydanbury.org](http://www.holytrinitydanbury.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/htocdanbury/?fref=hovercard>

Diocesan Website: [www.acrod.org](http://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 Nativity. The Epistle Galatians 1:11-18. The Gospel is from Matthew 2:13-23. Virgin Martyr Anysia.

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

His Eminence, Metropolitan 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, December 30, 10 AM** – Divine Liturgy

**There is No Fasting and No Kneeling from December 25 to January 5.**

**Tuesday, January 1, 9 AM** – Divine Liturgy – Feast of St. Basil

**Wednesday, January 2, 7 PM** – Adult Catechism Class

**Thursday, January 3, 8:30 AM** – Akathist

**Thursday, January 3, 9:15 AM** – New Testament Class

**Friday, January 4, 9 AM** – Old Testament Class

**Friday, January 4, 1 PM to 5 PM** – Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen

**Saturday, January 5, 5 PM** – Vespers for Theophany – Strict Fast Day

**Sunday, January 6, 10 AM** – Divine Liturgy Feast of Theophany – Blessing of Water

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## Readers Schedule

12/30 – Harry Fong

## Coffee Hour

12/30 - OPEN

## Help Re-stock Our Kitchen—

decaf coffee, sturdy 10-inch paper plates, bowls

Please remember to sign up and subscribing on our parish web site

[www.holytrinitydanbury.org](http://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/holytrinitydanbury/?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 Address for:

Ken and Diana Borsari  
13 Hilltop Road  
Katonah, NY 10536

## Clothing Drive

**Clothing Drive – A BIG – HUGE – THANK YOU** to Ann Huott and the ENTIRE Huott Family for heading up and Clothing Drive. We collected over 200 bags of clothes. Please hold all donations for our next drive. Many thanks to Ann Huott and her family for continuing to run this very profitable fundraiser for our parish! \$420.07 was raised from the clothing drive!.

## | Dorothy Day

**Dorothy Day**--Our next date to serve will be this Friday, Jan. 4th from 1 pm--5:00 pm. Please let Susan Sulich know of you can work all or part of the afternoon.

## | New Year's Dinner Dance

**New Year's Dinner Dance**—Save the Date! On Saturday, Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> we will have our annual New Year's Dinner Dance. Put the date on your calendar and invite friends and family to come celebrate the New Year at this festive party with your parish family! More details to come.

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## 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: *Parenting Toward the Kingdom* by Dr. Philip Mamalakis

**Catechism Class** – Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. 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 starting a new Book. It is Introducing the Orthodox Church by Fr. Anthony Coniaris

**New Testament** – Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. currently were are reading and studying *The Acts of the Apostles*

**Old Testament Class** – Fridays at 9:00 a.m. We have begun Joshua.

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## OYMT Fundraisers

**OYMT Holiday Pie Sale**—the Orthodox Youth Mission Team will be selling unbaked apple pies just in time for all your holiday celebrations. Pies are \$12 and come with baking instructions. If you would like to pre-order or buy a pie, see one of the OYMT team members: Grace Radcliff, Nataly and Adrien Guerrero, AJ Villa, Jacob, Anthony and Martin Villa and Luke Faubel. There is still time to join OYMT for 2019. If interested, please see Fr. Luke or Susan Sulich.

## Mary Kay Fundraiser for

**OYMT**—Pani Bethany will again be offering Mary Kay to benefit the Orthodox Youth Mission Team. 35% of all proceeds will go to OYMT. The fundraiser will run through the holidays. Contact Pani Bethany for a shopping appointment if you are unable to attend the open house or place your order online at [www.marykay.com/bmihaly](http://www.marykay.com/bmihaly).

## Diocesan Parenting Workshop Series Launches

Our Diocese is pleased to announce a series of **Parenting Workshops** designed to help parents raise their children in the Faith. The title of the series is "Raising Believing Children" and will focus on the ways parents can help their children stay faithful to Christ and His Church in a world that is filled with doubt and most often works against their Faith. The Workshops are for parents of any age – you're never too old to be a son or daughter, and likewise you're never too old to be a parent! This series of Parenting Workshops will be hosted

by different Churches and Deaneries around our Diocese starting in March 2019. The first Workshop in the Series will be hosted by Sts. Peter and Paul Church in Rockaway, NJ on March 2, 2019. The first will feature His Eminence Metropolitan Gregory of Nyssa and Very Rev. Stephen Loposky as presenters and workshop facilitators. Each workshop will be broadcast live online and will be archived for later viewing as well, and will include both presentations and small group moderated discussions to allow participants to help each other in their lives as parents. This is an exciting

and important endeavor. His Eminence Metropolitan Gregory invites you to join him in support of parents as our Diocese launches this initiative to help them in their parental vocation.

For more information and to register for the first Workshop, or if you would like to host a Parenting Workshop, visit our Diocesan Website- [acrod.org](http://acrod.org) and look for the Diocesan Parenting Workshop Series logo.

## Upcoming Events

**Dorothy Day**—Friday, Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>  
1-5 p.m.

**Annual Meeting**—Sunday,  
Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> immediately  
following liturgy

**New Year's Dinner Dance**—  
Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup>

## New Parish Directory | Christmas Decorations

### New Parish

**Directory**—At long last, we have an updated parish directory available. Hard copies will be available in the church hall. If you want a digital copy, please email Susan Sulich at [ssulich@yahoo.com](mailto:ssulich@yahoo.com). Many thanks to Pani Bethany, Paul Sulich and Ana Melnic for all the help getting the new directory together.

You have probably noticed over the last few weeks the beautiful change within the church. Every year as part their stewardship towards our parish, **Stella and Bill Woodfield** prayerfully and with utmost care to the Christ Child decorate our church for Christmas. The transformation of parish is breathe taking every year. With the garland, the lights, poinsettias, the Christmas tree, there is always that little extra touch that Stella and Bill bring to make the church

that much more special. A special thank you also to **Paul Sulich and Orestes Mihaly** for cutting down and putting up this years' Christmas tree. In a few years, we will be able to cut our tree from the ones we planted here on our parish property. Many thanks to Stella and Bill Woodfield for once again giving their talent and time to beautifully decorate the church for Christmas. Also thanks to Orestes Mihaly and Paul Sulich for getting the Christmas tree.

### Birthdays

<b>December</b>	
Elaine Toaso	30
<b>January</b>	
Andres Villa	1
Adam Varney	2
Pablo Gabriel Villa	3
James Kavallines	10
Eric Evans	13
Nicholas Huott	18
Kate Kerpchar	27
Connie Somoskovec	30

Our Diocese is pleased to announce its second annual **Senior Retreat** which will take place at Camp Nazareth Retreat and Conference Center in Mercer, PA from May 13-16, 2019. The Retreat will feature keynote addresses by His Eminence Metropolitan Gregory who is inviting all our Diocesan Seniors, ages 55 and over, to join him for 3 days of fellowship, prayer, and rejuvenation. "How's Your 'Eyesight'? Keeping your Focus on God as a Senior" is the theme of the Retreat. The Retreat will help our Seniors navigate the many challenges they face including retirement, transition, health and family all while remaining focused on and committed to our Lord. It will include worship, fellowship, learning, fun, time for reflection and relaxation, and time spent with our Diocesan Hierarchy!

Online Registration will begin on February 1, 2019. Visit [acrod.org](http://acrod.org) for more information and to register for the Retreat. Participants will also be able to register by mail. Again, visit [acrod.org](http://acrod.org) for more information. You may also call (724-662-4840) or email ([campnazareth@acrod.org](mailto:campnazareth@acrod.org)) the Camp for more information.

Don't miss out on our second annual Senior Retreat!



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



**Camp Nazareth Family Camp**  
**2019 - Friday, May 31 – Sunday,**  
**June 2**

Our Diocese is pleased to announce its seventh annual Family Camp at Camp Nazareth this year in conjunction with Family Day. The event is exactly what it sounds like. Families "camping" together in the Camp cabins and participating in a weekend of services, games, discussions, activities and challenges that are all designed to help families deepen their relationship with God and with one another.

This year's theme – "*Being a Believing Family*". Come join His Eminence Metropolitan Gregory in the beautiful environment of Camp Nazareth. Come and learn what it means to be a believing family. "...Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household...and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God." (Acts 16:31-34). Believing in God as a Family is more and more difficult these days. There are however, examples of families that kept believing even when it was difficult. Come and learn about them and help your family believe and rejoice in God.

Don't miss out on this opportunity for you and your family. Space is limited to the first 10 families, so register soon. **Register online at [campnazareth.org](http://campnazareth.org).** Registration closes after Friday, May 24. Visit [campnazareth.org](http://campnazareth.org) for more information.

The Prologue from Ochrid: Lives of Saints

By St. Nikolai Velimirovich

**REFLECTION**

A story of the Divine Christ-child: When the holy family fled before Herod's sword to Egypt, robbers leapt out on the road with the intention of stealing something. The righteous Joseph was leading the donkey, on which were some belongings and on which the Most-holy Theotokos was riding with her Son at her breast. The robbers seized the donkey to lead it away. At that moment, one of the robbers approached the Mother of God to see what she was holding next to her breast. The robber, seeing the Christ-child, was astonished at His unusual beauty and said in his astonishment: "If God were to take upon Himself the flesh of man, He would not be more beautiful than this Child!" This robber then ordered his companions to take nothing from these travelers. Filled with gratitude toward this generous robber, the Most-holy Virgin said to him: "Know that this Child will repay you with a good reward because you protected Him today." Thirty-three years later, this same thief hung on the Cross for his crimes, crucified on the right side of Christ's Cross. His name was Dismas, and the name of the thief on the left side was Gestas. Beholding Christ the Lord innocently crucified, Dismas repented for all the evil of his life. While Gestas reviled the Lord, Dismas defended Him, saying: *This man hath done nothing amiss.* (Luke 23:41). Dismas, therefore, was the wise thief to whom our Lord said: *Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with Me in Paradise* (Luke 23:43). Thus the Lord granted Paradise to him who spared Him in childhood.



**We're on the Web!**

**[holytrinitydanbury.org](http://holytrinitydanbury.org)**