

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 Feast of Theophany. The Epistle Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7. The Gospel is from Matthew 3:13-17. The Baptism of our Lord.

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, January 6, 10 AM

– Divine Liturgy Feast of Theophany – Blessing of Water

Saturday, January 12, 6 PM

– New Years' Dinner Dance

Sunday, January 13, 10 AM

– Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, January 9, 7 PM

– Adult Catechism Class

Thursday, January 10, 8:30 AM

– Akathist

Thursday, January 10, 9:15 AM

– New Testament Class

Friday, January 11, 9 AM

– Old Testament Class

Saturday, January 12, 4 PM

– Vespers

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Readers Schedule

1/6 – Harry Fong
1/13 – Bob Faubel
1/20 – Sandi Fong
1/27 – Paul Sulich

Coffee Hour

1/6 – OPEN
1/13 – OPEN
1/20 – OPEN
1/27 – 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

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.

Annual Parish Meeting—

On Sunday, Jan. 20th immediately following liturgy we will have our annual parish meeting. We will be electing some new council members, approving the budget for the upcoming year and discussing other parish matters. Your attendance and contribution to this meeting are very important. Please make every effort to attend.

New Address for:

Ken and Diana Borsari
13 Hilltop Road
Katonah, NY 10536

Clothing Drive

Clothing Drive—The next clothing drive is on! Please bring your items in plastic garbage bags and leave behind the candle table. If you have questions about what can be donated, see the sheets in the coat area or ask Ann Huott. Thank you Huott family for continuing to run this very successful fundraiser for our parish.

New Year's Dinner Dance

New Year's Dinner Dance—Next Saturday, Jan. 12th we will have our annual New Year's Dinner Dance. There will be a catered dinner with dancing and music provided by D.J. Bill Lopez. The event is BYOB. Tickets are \$35 per person and each ticket holder is automatically entered into a raffle for a wonderful door prize. If you have not yet made your reservations please let Pani Bethany or Susan Sulich know today if you plan to attend. You can purchase tickets individually or reserve a table of 8 or 10.

Time to Make the Perogies

Time to Make the Perogies—After very successful Thanksgiving and Christmas Bakes sales our perogies freezers are depleted and it's time to start refilling them for our Easter Sale. Perogie sessions will start on Tuesday, Jan. 15th at 9:00 a.m. (following the Hours service at 8:30 a.m.) New and experienced pinchers, boilers and packagers are welcome! We will also try to schedule some evening sessions if there are people who would like to help but cannot come during the day.

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.

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. **Last week for 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. Last day for purchases to go toward the mission team will be Sunday, Jan. 13th.

Metropolitan Gregory to Visit | Donation Envelopes

Metropolitan Gregory to Visit—Save the date! Metropolitan Gregory will be visiting our parish the weekend of Feb. 2-3. He will bless the new rectory and we are looking forward to hosting him and spending time with his eminence. Please keep these dates open and stay tuned for an updated schedule.

Donation Envelopes—Envelopes for weekly donations for 2019 are in the back of the church. If you have had envelopes in the past, your name is on the box. If you would like envelopes (or if you would no longer like them) please let Susan Sulich know. We need to let our assistant treasurer know the number you are taking for accounting purposes. We are also looking into an online donation program which would enable parishioners to sign up for weekly or monthly donations and have them made automatically online. If you would be interested in donating in this way, please let us know.

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 and look for the Diocesan Parenting Workshop Series logo.

Birthdays

January	
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 for more information and to register for the Retreat. Participants will also be able to register by mail. Again, visit acrod.org for more information. You may also call (724-662-4840) or email (campnazareth@acrod.org) the Camp for more information.

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

Upcoming Events

New Year's Dinner Dance—Saturday, January 12th

Monthly St Nectarios Service—Thursday, January 17th at 7:00 p.m.

Annual Meeting—Sunday, Jan. 20th immediately following liturgy

Church School—Friday, Jan. 25th 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Metropolitan's Visit to bless the new rectory – February 2-3

Monthly Akathist to the Mother of God for Our Children—Thursday, Feb. 7th 8:30 a.m.

Monthly Bake Sale—Thursday, Feb. 7th 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Council Meeting—Sunday, Feb. 13th following liturgy

OYMT Training Session—Sunday, Feb. 13th 3:00-5:00 p.m.

New Parish Directory | Church School | Parish Trip to Slovakia

New Directory—It has come to our attention that there is some outdated/incorrect information in our new directory. Please take a moment to check your information and send any changes to Susan Sulich at ssulich@yahoo.com. We will have hard copies of the updated directory at the annual meeting. Our plan is to update the directory twice a year so please get all info in before the annual meeting.

Church School—We will continue our church school program with teaching by Fr. Luke and art by Miss Elena on the following dates:

Fri. Jan 25th
Sat. Feb. 9th
Fri. Feb. 15th
Sat. March 9th
Fri. March 29th
Sat. April 20th—Lazarus Sat.
Liturgy/Breakfast/Church and Family School Activities

The Friday classes take place from 5:30-7:30 p.m. and the Saturday classes are from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Attendance has been wonderful and we encourage families to continue to make this a priority.

Parish Trip to Slovakia—An itinerary has been set for our trip to Slovakia scheduled for August 18-30, 2019. We will start out in Prague, travel through Slovakia and have day trip into Hungary. Highlights of the trip include wooden churches, underground caves and other natural wonders, spas, castles and many other cultural and religious sites. A full itinerary and prices will be published shortly. Please let Fr. Luke or Susan Sulich know if you would like to attend. Spaces are limited and we are offering them to our parishioners first.

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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.** Registration closes after Friday, May 24. Visit campnazareth.org for more information.

Stay clean!

Have you ever taken a bath or a shower, and your parents told you to stay clean? You might have wanted to play outside and have fun, but you had to keep clean.

You know, when we are baptized, we are made clean from sin and from everything we could have done wrong. But God wants us to stay clean, too!

Saint Paul's letter today tells us, "For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to give up all sin and worldly passions, and to live sober, upright, and godly lives in this world." God gave us His grace when we were baptized, but He trained us to give up all the bad stuff too. He wants us to stay clean, just as we were when we were baptized!

Today is the great feast of Theophany, the day our Lord, Jesus Christ was baptized. He showed us the way, how we should be cleaned of all our sin. With baptism, God shows us His grace. The epistle today tells us that God saves us with His mercy, "through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit." God cleaned us with our baptism. Now it's our job to stay clean!

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIZER AND FORERUNNER

Have you ever played a guessing game, where you could hear somebody, but you couldn't see him or her? Maybe you were blindfolded, and then you had to guess who it was who spoke.

Tomorrow, we celebrate the feastday of Saint John the Baptist. He's called the Baptist, because he baptized Christ. But he's also called the Forerunner, because he came before Christ. He preached to people before Jesus did, because he wanted to get them ready for Jesus. Some people didn't get it though!

Some people just wanted to follow Saint John, not Jesus. Another saint of our Church, Saint Augustine, explained it like this, "John is the voice, but the Lord is the Word who was in the beginning. John is the voice that lasts for a time; from the beginning Christ is the Word who lives forever."

Sometimes people get mixed up about who is speaking though. They thought Saint John was the most important one. They thought Saint John was the one who was going to save them...not Jesus Christ!

Let's celebrate this great saint tomorrow, and remember how Saint John was the one speaking the voice, but He was telling people about the Word, and that is our Lord, Jesus Christ!

We celebrate St. John on Monday, January 7th (Jan 20, OC).

We're on the Web!

holytrinitydanbury.org