

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>

You Tube: <https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>

Recommended Orthodox Internet
Ministries
<http://myocn.net/>

<http://www.ancientfaith.com/>

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Welcome to Holy Trinity Parish

Today is Sunday of the Paralytic. The Epistle is from Acts 9:32-42. The Gospel is from John 5:1-15. Cyril and Methodius. Mother's Day.

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, May 11, 10 AM
– Divine Liturgy –
Mother's Day - Panachida
for departed Mothers

Sunday, May 11, 11:30 AM
– Mother's Day
Brunch

Monday, May 12, 7 PM
– Spirituality Class

Tuesday, May 13, 9 AM
– Akathist

Wednesday, May 14, 9 AM
– Liturgy Mid-
Pentecost

Wednesday, May 14, 7 PM
– Adult Catechism
Class

Thursday, May 15, 9 AM
– New Testament
Class

Friday, May 16, 9 AM
– Old Testament

Saturday, May 17, 5 PM
– Vespers

Saturday, May 17, 6 PM
– Alaska Movie

Sunday, May 18, 10 AM
– Divine Liturgy

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

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

Parish Café – The Holy Trinity Parish Café is an opportunity to spend time with members of your parish family and share an activity together. This month we will be doing an easy hike on Saturday, May 31st. Meet at the café (church hall!) at 8:45 a.m. for coffee and a homemade sweet treat from our kitchen and then we’ll leave for our hike at 9:00 a.m. We’d like to hear from you about what else you’d like to see at the café in the way of activities, games, new things to learn about or any other ideas. Share your ideas with Lauren Mihaylo, Susan Sulich or Fr. Luke.

Dorothy Day

Dorothy Day Update— Thank you to all the people who showed up to help serve at Dorothy Day this past Friday. It was great to have so many parishioners show interest and learn the process of preparing and serving. The indoor dining went well, and we kept ahead of the crowds all day serving over 140 hot meals and bag lunches. Our next date to serve will be Friday, June 13th from 1:30-4:45 p.m. If you wish to serve on that date, please let Susan Sulich know.

Church School Updates

Church School Updates—Starting this Sunday, Feb. 2nd, we will be having church school every other Sunday. In addition to the wonderful lessons taught by Leon we will be adding two additional teachers helping with the educational activities: Elissa and Stasia. Church school activities are for all children age 10 and under. Church school students will be first to venerate the cross so they can head downstairs right after Liturgy.

Movie Night to Benefit OYMT

Movie Night to Benefit OYMT—On Saturday, May 17th at 6 p.m. we will have an area-exclusive showing of the movie, Sacred Alaska to benefit this year’s Orthodox Youth Mission Team trip to Appalachia. This award-winning documentary offers an intimate look into Native Alaskan culture and spirituality, showcasing the profound influence of Orthodoxy. In 2017 the Orthodox Youth Mission Team served in Alaska and many of the places we visited and people we met appear in the film. All are invited! We will have popcorn and other food available. Suggested donation: \$5 per person.

Adult Education Opportunities

We have several adult education classes going on currently that are also online:

Spirituality Class – Mondays at 7:00 p.m. This week we are starting a new book: *Thinking Orthodox* by Dr. Eugenia Constantinou

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. New Book by Fr. Lawrence Barriger entitled: *Insights into the Orthodox Faith*.

New Testament – Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. currently we are reading

and studying *St. Paul’s Epistle to the Hebrews*

Old Testament Class – Fridays at 9:00 a.m. We are in **Proverbs**.

All classes will take place in the church hall. We will also make them available via Zoom for those who cannot attend in person. (live, same credentials).

Church Store—We have many new items in our Church Store. Check out our selection of books for summer reading, beautiful icons, jewelry, and religious items. We have many children’s offerings and items perfect for gift giving. Your purchase also benefits the parish. If there are any items you would like to see in our store, please let Lisa Farrah or Sarah Mannello know.

Soup to Share—Soup season is here! If you are making soup and you have some extra to spare, consider putting it in a freezer container for “Soup to Share.” We will keep these in the freezer in the church hall so that if someone is planning to visit a parishioner and would like to bring a warming meal, they will be available. We also have containers at the church you can use. Please label container with name of soup and main ingredients. Thank you!

One More Perogie Session—In order to meet the needs of our summer road race and monthly bakes sales we will be having one more perogie session on Tue., May 20th starting about 9:15 a.m. All are welcome!

Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour—Our coffee hour is a great opportunity to spend time together and share a meal. It's potluck so If there's an item or dish, you'd like to bring please feel free to do so. No one needs to do the whole coffee hour! All offerings are welcome.

| Parish Picnic at the Cemetery

Parish Picnic at the Cemetery—On Sunday, May 25th immediately following Liturgy we will head to St. Platon's Cemetery in lieu of our usual coffee hour. Fr. Luke will bless the graves and we will have a parish family picnic on the grounds of the cemetery to celebrate the Resurrection with our departed loved ones. Grilled meats will be provided. Parishioners are asked to sign up to bring sides, desserts and beverages. See sign-up sheet in the church hall and speak to Ana Melnic for more details.

| Clothing Drive Income

Clothing Drive Income—Drum roll please...the final donation for our clothing drive earned the parish \$609.00! Many, many thanks to Ann Huott and her entire family for running this fundraiser for so long and the several thousand dollars it brought in over the years for our church!

Birthdays or Anniversaries

May	
Peter & Sandi Astras - Anniversary	11
Kaitleen Villa	12
Timofei Budyonny	13
Jennie Fong	14
Marika & Quinn Vissak - Anniversary	15
Sam Sophia Kreymer	16
Natalja Schnittler	18
Kevin Gutzman	20
Adrienne Fedyna Dembeck	25
Jason Varney	27
Maximus Elijah Mihaly	27
Paul & Susan Sulich - Anniversary	28
Nick & Jennie Fong - Anniversary	28
Michael & Kathryn Kerpchar - Anniversary	29
Ken Borsari	31

Upcoming Events

Scholarship Application

Deadline—May 15th

Movie Showing of "Sacred Alaska" to Benefit

OYMT—Saturday, May 17th at 6 p.m. in the church hall

Perogie Session—Tue, May 20th 9:15 a.m.

Parish Picnic at St.

Platon's—Sunday, May 25th following Divine Liturgy

Parish Café Hike—Sat, May 31st 8:45 a.m. Church Hall

Monthly Bake Sale—Thursday, June 5th 4-6 p.m.

OYMT Training

—Sunday, June 1st, 2- 4 p.m. Holy Trinity Danbury

Dorothy Day—Friday, June 13th 1:30-4:45 p.m.

Father's Day—Sun. June 15th

Educational Scholarships

Available— Applications are available for our scholarship fund. This fund was established by generous donors to perpetuate the values and beliefs of the Orthodox Christian Faith by financially supporting the education of active parishioners. Scholarships are available to active members of our parish for any type of post-secondary education or training. The scholarship is to

be awarded to members of Holy Trinity Orthodox Church based on several criteria:

- Available to any student/parishioner furthering his or her education
- Must be a full and active member of Holy Trinity Orthodox Church
- Involved in philanthropic activities

- Recipient must accept the scholarship in person.

Scholarship will be paid directly to the financial institution. Contact Fr. Luke for an application.

Deadline for submitting applications is May 15th.

If you do not see your or anyone of your family's birthday or anniversary in the list, please let Fr. Luke know

Holy Trinity Orthodox
Church
74 Joes Hill Rd
Danbury, CT 06811

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



**Please Help Restock Our
Kitchen**—We are in need of
paper towels and decaf coffee.
Thank you!

Parish Hike—On Saturday, May
31st as part of our ongoing Parish
Café we will get together for an
easy hike. We will meet at the
church hall at 8:45 a.m. and leave
for the hike at 9:00 a.m. All are
welcome!

In the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.

How tragic today's story of the life of Christ is. A man had been paralysed for years. He had lain at a short distance from healing, but he himself had no strength to merge into the waters of ablation. And no one - no one in the course of all these years - had had compassion on him.

The ones rushed to be the first in order to be healed. Others who were attached to them by love, by friendship, helped them to be healed. But no one cast a glance at this man, who for years had longed for healing and was not in himself able to find strength to become whole.

If only one person had been there, if only one heart had responded with compassion, this man might have been whole years and years earlier. As no one, not one person, had compassion on him, all that was left to him - and I say *all that was left to him* with a sense of horror - was the direct intervention of God.

We are surrounded by people who are in need. It is not only people who are physically paralysed who need help. There are so many people who are paralysed in themselves, and need to meet someone who would help them. Paralysed in themselves are those who are terrified of life, because life has been an object of terror for them since they were born: insensitive parents, heartless, brutal surroundings. How many are those who hoped, when they were still small, that there would be something for them in life. But no. There wasn't. There was no compassion. There was no friendliness. There was *nothing*. And when they tried to receive comfort and support, they did not receive it. Whenever they thought they could do something they were told, 'Don't try. Don't you understand that you are incapable of this?' And they felt lower and lower.

How many were unable to fulfil their lives because they were physically ill, and not sufficiently strong... But did they find someone to give them a supporting hand? Did they find anyone who felt so deeply for them and about them that they went out of their way to help? And how many those who are terrified of life, lived in circumstances of fear, of violence, of brutality... But all this could not have taken them if there had been someone who have stood by them and not abandoned them.

So we are surrounded, all of us, by people who are in the situation of this paralytic man. If we think of ourselves we will see that many of us *are* paralysed, incapable of fulfilling all their aspirations; incapable of being what they longed for, incapable of serving others the way their heart speaks; incapable of doing anything they longed for because fear, brokenness has come into them.

And all of us, *all of us* were responsible for each of them. We are responsible, mutually, for one another; because when we look right and left at the people who stand by us, what do we know about them? Do we know how broken they are? How much pain there is in their hearts? How much agony there has been in their lives? How many broken hopes, how much fear and rejection and contempt that has made them contemptuous of themselves and unable even to respect themselves - not to speak of having the courage of making a move towards wholeness, that wholeness of which the Gospel speaks in this passage and in so many other places?

Let us reflect on this. Let us look at each other and ask ourselves, 'How much frailty is there in him or her? How much pain has accumulated in his or her heart? How much fear of life - but life expressed by my neighbour, the people whom I should be able to count for life - has come in to my existence?

Let us look at one another with understanding, with attention. Christ is there. He can heal; yes. But we will be answerable for each other, because there are so many ways in which we should be the eyes of Christ who sees the needs, the ears of Christ who hears the cry, the hands of Christ who supports and heals or makes it possible for the person to be healed.

Let us look at this parable of the paralytic with new eyes; not thinking of this poor man two thousand years ago who was so lucky that Christ happened to be near him and in the end did what every neighbour should have done. Let us look at each other and have compassion, active compassion; insight; love if we can. And then this parable will not have been spoken or this event will not have been related to us in vain. Amen.

CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!

OYMT PRESENTS

MOVIE NIGHT

★ SACRED ALASKA ★



This award-winning documentary offers an intimate look into **Native Alaskan culture and spirituality**, showcasing the profound influence of Orthodoxy.

In 2015 the Orthodox Youth Mission Team **served in Alaska** and many of the places we visited and people we met **appear in the film**.

This screening is a fundraiser for the Orthodox Youth Mission Team's summer mission trip to Appalachia.

★ **Popcorn and Refreshments available** ★

17 MAY 2025 | START 06:00 PM UNTIL END

Suggested donation \$5.00

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church,
74 Joes Hill Rd., Danbury, CT

Reserve a seat : info@holytrinitydanbury.org | +(203) 297 0948

Olympiad 2025 Greek

RAIN
on
SHINE

Festival

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
4070 Park Ave., Bridgeport, CT

MAY 30th, 31st, & JUNE 1st

Friday & Saturday-12pm to 10pm
Sunday-12pm to 9pm

Shop Our White
Elephant & Huge
Agora/Marketplace
Indoor Dining / Outdoor
Food Pavilion

Authentic Greek
Food & Pastries
Raffle Grand Prize
is \$6,000
Games & Rides!



FREE PARKING FREE ADMISSION

203.374.5561 holytrinitybridgeport.org

“See? You are well.”



The Children's Word

“Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them, for to such is the Kingdom of Heaven.” Mark 10:14

Sunday, May 11, 2025

Volume 13, Issue 19

“Jesus Christ heals you”

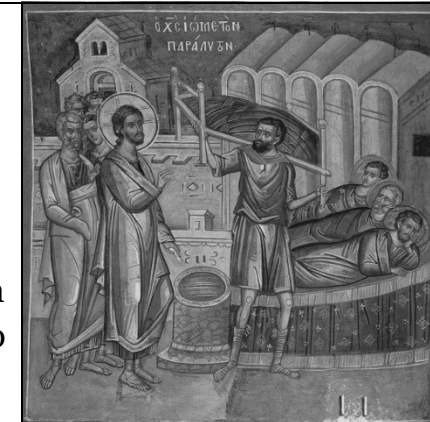
Do you have a favorite saint?

Maybe you pray to one saint more than any other. Maybe it's your own patron saint or any other one. You might ask this saint for help.

Today, we hear about two different stories. In the Gospel reading, we hear about a man who was paralyzed—he couldn't walk. Our Lord, Jesus Christ, saw this man and took care of him. He healed him and let him walk again.

But before the Gospel reading, we hear a story about another man who couldn't walk. This story happened after Jesus had died and had risen and had left the world for heaven! But still, one of Jesus' followers, St. Peter, took care of this man. Peter told him, “Jesus Christ heals you. Rise and carry your bed.” You know, it wasn't Peter who had the power; it was Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ heals you!

When we pray to saints, let's always remember that it's God who works through them. God gives them the power to work miracles. God gives the saint the power to help us, even after they have left this world. God has given us so many wonderful saints, who listen to our prayers. But remember, just like Saint Peter did, saints always give credit to God.



In the Gospel reading, we hear about the paralyzed man Jesus

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

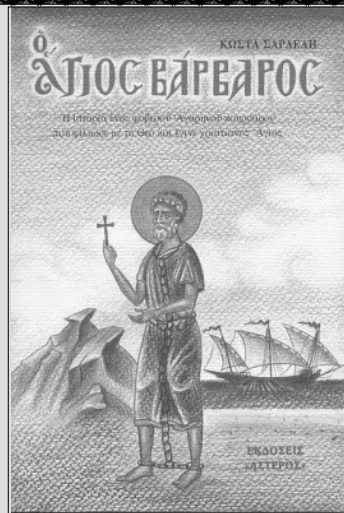
- Barbaros
- Change
- Forgive
- Healing
- Help
- Miracle
- Paralytic
- Peace
- Pirate
- Repent
- Saints

R	Z	N	T	Y	Y	P	E	C	A	E	P	X	H	D
N	E	G	S	Z	H	A	E	H	T	K	S	E	O	M
W	Y	P	K	L	K	R	T	G	C	H	A	K	S	A
P	U	C	E	I	L	A	V	U	N	L	L	T	E	Y
S	L	K	T	N	W	L	C	Y	I	A	S	W	B	B
E	W	S	F	O	T	Y	J	N	I	O	H	Y	S	S
O	W	D	Y	D	O	T	G	E	T	S	E	C	D	M
P	I	R	A	T	E	I	L	M	O	H	H	Q	S	Z
Q	E	M	I	A	S	C	I	R	B	Y	E	E	W	B
Z	V	P	N	H	A	S	A	J	T	G	A	L	R	D
S	I	J	O	R	Y	B	S	A	I	N	T	S	P	E
Q	G	X	I	K	R	W	G	Q	V	W	P	X	P	R
P	R	M	H	A	G	J	C	U	P	G	U	A	C	Q
C	O	E	B	B	B	H	D	W	B	L	U	T	F	K
S	F	X	D	U	O	G	K	Y	B	H	L	J	M	Q

WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

This isn't really an icon, but in the picture, you can see Saint Barbaros in his chains.

Do you see the ship in the background?



THE PIRATE WHO BECAME A SAINT

SAINT BARBAROS

Sometimes kids like to pretend to be pirates, but real pirates are pretty scary. You wouldn't want to meet one!

This week, we remember a pirate who became a saint! This saint was part of a fierce band of pirates who did their awful "work" around the Greek islands, Italy, and northern Africa. Finally, after many years of robbing, the people had had enough and they fought the pirates. This soon-to-be-Saint Barbaros was the only one who escaped. After that, he lived by himself for a while, and he still did awful things.

Once, he was going to destroy a little church called St. George, but when we went there, something else happened. The people were having Divine Liturgy, and this old pirate finally knew that he couldn't keep doing these wrong things. He fell at the feet of the priest and confessed what he did wrong. Soon, he became a monk and he spent the rest of his life praying and changing his ways. He became a very holy man.

At his grave, many miracles have happened. Our Church calls him Saint Barbaros, "the myrrh-gusher" because sweet-smelling myrrh perfume comes from it! With these miracles, God shows that He forgave Barbaros and that now he is on God's side!



We celebrate Saint Barbaros on Thursday, May 15th (OC: May 28th).