

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/>

Services/Events	1
Adult Ed	2
Church Store	2
Dorothy Day	2
Perogie Session	2
Church School	2
Parish Café and Hike	2
Coffee Hour	3
Parish Picnic	3
Clothing Drive Income	3
Birthdays/Anniversaries	3
Graduate Sunday	3
Upcoming Events	3
Parish hike	4
Samaritan Woman Sunday	4

Welcome to Holy Trinity Parish

Today is Sunday of the Samaritan Woman. The Epistle is from Acts 11:19-26, 29-30. The Gospel is from John 4:5-42.

Theodotus of Ancyra.

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 18, 10 AM
– Divine Liturgy

Monday, May 19, 7 PM
– Spirituality Class

Tuesday, May 20, 8:30 AM – Akathist

Tuesday, May 20, 9:15 AM – Perogie Session

Wednesday, May 21, 7 PM – Adult Catechism Class

Friday, May 23, 9 AM – Old Testament

Saturday, May 24, 11 AM – Alban Davids' baptism

Sunday, May 25, 10 AM – Divine Liturgy

Sunday, May 25, 12 noon – Coffee Hour/Parish Picnic at St. Platon's Cemetery

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.

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	
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

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

Upcoming Events

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

Graduate Sunday—Sun.,
June 22nd following Liturgy

OYMT Final Training and BBQ—Tues., June 24th 6-8 p.m.

OYMT Appalachia Service Project Mission Trip to Harlan, KY—Sat., June 28th-Sun. July 6th

Graduate Sunday—We will be honoring all the graduates of the parish on Sunday, June 22nd at the end of Liturgy. If you or someone in your family is graduating from a school (any level) or has completed additional post-secondary education or a training or certificate program please send the following info to the church email:

info@holytrinitydanbury.org:

- Name of graduate
- School/Program they are graduating from

- Any special awards, achievements or activities
- Future plans (i.e., college, etc.)

We look forward to celebrating these accomplishments!

Metropolitan Anthony Surozh - Sermon on the Samaritan woman - 8 May 1988

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"... 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

The Holy Gospel has not given us the name of the Samaritan woman. But the Tradition of the Church remembers, and calls her in Greek - Photini, in Russian - Svetlana, in the Celtic languages - Fiona, in Western languages - Claire. And all these names speak to us of one thing - of light.

Having met the Lord Jesus Christ she has become a light shining in the world, a light that enlightens those who meet her. Every Saint is offered us as an example; but we cannot always emulate the concrete ways in which a Saint lived, we cannot always repeat their way from earth to heaven. But we can learn from each of them two things. The one is that by the grace of God we can achieve what seems humanly impossible; that is, to become a person in the image and likeness of God, to be - in this world of darkness and tragedy which is in the power of lies - a word of truth, a sign of hope, the certainty that God can conquer if we only allow Him access to our souls. Because if the Kingdom of God is not established within us, if God is not enthroned in our minds and hearts, a fire that destroys everything unworthy of ourselves and of Him, we cannot spread God's light around.

And the second thing which the Saints can teach us is to understand the message which their names convey to us. And today's Samaritan woman speaks of light. Christ has said that He is the Light of the world, the light that enlightens all men; and we are called to give shelter within our souls, minds and hearts - indeed, within our whole self - to this light; so that the word spoken by Christ, "Let your light so shine before all men, that seeing your good deeds they may give glory to your Father who is in heaven", may be fulfilled and accomplished in and through us.

It is only through seeing our deeds, through seeing how we live that people can believe that the light is God's light; it is not in our words, unless they are words of truth and of power like those of the Apostles, or of Christ Himself indeed. And let us reflect, each of us, on the meaning of our name and on the way in which we can become what we are called.

The Samaritan woman came to the well without any spiritual purpose; she came, as she came daily, to fetch water - and she met Christ. Each of us may meet our God at any turn in our life, when we are about our most homely tasks, if our hearts are turned in the right direction, if we are prepared to receive a message, to listen; indeed - to ask questions! Because the Samaritan woman asked a question of Christ, and what she heard transcended her question in such a way that she recognised in Him a prophet, and later - the Christ, the Saviour of the world.

But the light must not be pushed under a bushel. Having discovered that the Light had come into the world, that the word of divine truth was resounding now amidst men, that God was among us, she left behind all concerns and ran to share the joy, the wonder of what she had discovered with others. She brought her fellow-citizens to Christ. She told them first why she believed; and when perhaps curiosity, or the convincing power of her words, and the change that had occurred in her brought them to Christ, they saw for themselves and said to her, It is no longer because of what you say that we believe - we have seen, we have heard.

And this is what the Samaritan woman teaches all of us: be open at every moment of life, while we are busy with the simplest things, to receive the divine word, to be illumined by the divine light, to be cleansed by His purity, to receive it in the depths of our souls, receive it with all our life, so that people seeing what we have become may believe that the light has come into the world.

Let us pray to the Samaritan woman to teach us, to guide us, to bring us to Christ in the way in which she came, and to serve Him in the way in which she served Him, being the salvation of all who were around her. And may the blessing of God be upon you, the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost, now and forever and world without end! Amen.