

December 15th, 2019 | Third Sunday of Advent | (789)

# Saint Denis Parish

85 Main Street / Ashburnham, Massachusetts 01430

## LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday — 4:30pm

Sunday — 8:00 & 10:30am

## DAILY MASSES

Mon. — Wed. 9:00am

## RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:30 — 4:00pm  
or by appointment

## PRIEST ADMINISTRATOR

Fr. Guillermo "Memo" Ochoa  
[Fatherochoa@gmail.com](mailto:Fatherochoa@gmail.com)

## DEACON

Deacon Richard DesJardins  
978-343-6367

## SECRETARY/OFFICE

Andrew W. Gage  
[StDenis@comcast.net](mailto:StDenis@comcast.net)  
978-827-5806

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Administrator  
Kimberly Brown  
978-827-4892  
[StDenisRE@comcast.net](mailto:StDenisRE@comcast.net)

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday — Thursday  
10:00 — 3:00pm  
[StDenis@comcast.net](mailto:StDenis@comcast.net)  
978-827-5806

## ST. VINCENT de PAUL

978-790-1923

## BAPTISMS

Deacon Richard DesJardins  
978-343-6367

## NOTIFY THE RECTORY

Visitation of the sick & elderly  
Weddings, Pastoral Care,  
Funerals, etc.

## ST DENIS CEMETERY

Kelton Rd. Ashburnham  
978-827-5806  
[https://  
saintdenisashburnham.org/  
cemetery](https://saintdenisashburnham.org/cemetery)

*Joy*  
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



[www.SaintDenisAshburnham.com](http://www.SaintDenisAshburnham.com)



Join Flock Notes: Text "StDenis85" to 84576  
Join Formed <https://formed.org> Use Code 6DF8JG

**FORMED**  
THE CATHOLIC FAITH.  
ON DEMAND.



## Mass Intentions

Sat	12/14	4:30 pm	<b>Laura-Lee Michel</b> <i>By Mark Michel</i>
Sun	12/15	8:00 am	
		10:30 am	<b>William, Daniel, Stella Gage</b> <i>By Family</i>
Mon	12/16	9:00 am	
Tues	12/17	9:00 am	
Wed	12/18	9:00 am	
Sat	12/21	4:30 pm	<b>Alice Leblanc</b> <i>By Roland and Edith Leblanc</i>
Sun	12/22	8:00 am	<b>Dorothy Bresnahan</b> <i>By Peter &amp; Andrea Tamas</i>
		10:30 am	<b>Deceased Benefactors of</b> <b>St Denis Parish</b>

## Breakfast w/ Santa Dec. 15th 9 am - 1 pm

Come join us in the hall for breakfast!

We will be serving:

eggs, sausage, pancakes, etc.

Santa will be there for the kids with photo opportunities and gifts for them.

Thanks to the Knights of Columbus!

Proceeds benefit the Sacristy in Church



## LESSONS AND CAROLS Come one, Come all

Sunday, December 22 at 3 PM, Community Church  
An Ecumenical Service of 8 readings of Advent and Christmas combining carols, organ, and guitar.

Treat yourself to this beautiful preparation for Christmas. All are welcome.

## Help or future Priesthood!

Look in the Church entrance for the **Seminarians-Giving-Tree-Tags** which help support our seminarians throughout their academic year. Many of our seminarians are international students making great sacrifices in their lives and they need our support. Also, you can write an encouraging card as well telling him of your prayers cheering him up.

Thank you for supporting priestly vocations!

<http://www.worcestervocations.com>



Twice a year, once during Lent and once during Advent, Father will wear a different vestment and people routinely call them "pink."

The color, in fact, is called "rose." It's a subtle difference, but it has a more subdued shade than pink. Liturgists will tell you it signifies rejoicing, and signals a spirit of joyful hope during Lent and now, during Advent.



"The dark color of violet in Advent," "harmonizes well with the diminishing sunlight late in the year." It also points to royalty, and Christ as our King.

But what about rose?

"Rose," "is a softening of violet. It is violet approaching white. In this sense, it anticipates the pure white of the Birth and Resurrection of Christ."

**The fact is: rose bears witness to what is to come.**

Rose: a color that is named for a delicate and sweet-scented blossom of hope, a symbol of eternal love—the kind of love that would bring into the world, in the most humble of places, and the most unlikely of times, the Son of God.

The reading from Isaiah this Sunday speaks of a flowering in the desert:

*"The desert and the parched land will exult;  
the steppe will rejoice and bloom.  
They will bloom with abundant flowers,  
and rejoice with joyful song."*

The gospel, too, points to a kind of flowering in the desert—a flowering of prophetic hope in John the Baptist, the forerunner.

**For us today, the color rose is a sign of life in a place that is parched**—the desert of human existence, our human existence, the very place Christ came to redeem.

These vestments echo that – and you also see it on the altar, where the Advent wreath has one rose-colored candle bringing more light as we draw closer to Christmas, closer to Christ.

**Here and now, the solemnity of Advent gives way to joy.**

Light breaks through. Everything in this sacred space suddenly bears the color and the promise of new life.

This is what we cling to, and hope for, in the final days of Advent.

The words of a great 15th century carol say it better than I can—reminding us that the color we wear today points to a promise about to be fulfilled.

*Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung.*

*This Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,  
Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere...*



# Special Highlights | Upcoming Events | RE Schedule | Offertory Update

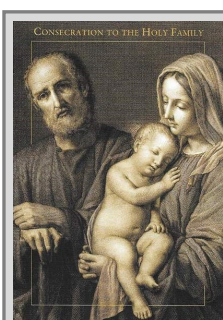
## Good News Bad News

We're going to tell you the bad news first, then may good news leave us with a happy ending.

After submitting a grant application, the Raskob Foundation for Catholic Activities, Inc. received numerous requests. St Denis parish application was not among those funded. Due to limited resources, they are not in the position to support so many high numbers of worthy causes.

The good news, the Capital Campaign is doing well; therefore, we are going to be able to fix the Church roof as well as other parish building structural/basic needs thanks to your participation in the Legacy of Hope campaign.

A special thanks to St Denis Building Committee that put their soul and heart on the grant application as well as continue looking after the cemetery and church buildings in general.



## Consecration to the Holy Family December 28th—29th

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring this event at all Masses this weekend. We will say the prayer and hand out prayer cards at Mass. Please join us praying for the family!



*Thank You*

Thank you to all who have been involved in the **Christmas Fair**. Thanks to all who planned, worked so hard to set up, donated their time or their soups, chili and

baked Goods. As always it was a great community event. We raised \$1,472.10 for the church and had a great time!

We pray for the eternal rest of:

- **Dorothy A. Bresnahan**
- **Doris "Dottie" Destadio**
- **Virginia H. McCarthy**

whose Funeral Masses was celebrated at St. Denis Church. Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen. May their soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



## Keep Christ in Christmas!

*The Knights of Columbus will be handing out Christmas Ornaments Dec 14th and 15th after the Masses to remind us to keep Christ in Christmas. Let us celebrate our savior's Birth!*



<b>Sat 12/14</b>	<b>3:30 pm</b>	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b>	
	<b>4:15 pm</b>	<b>Divine Mercy Chaplet</b>	
	<b>4:30 pm</b>	<b>Saturday Mass</b>	
<b>Sun 12/15</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Sunday Mass</b>	
	<b>9:1:00 pm</b>	<b>Breakfast w/Santa</b>	
	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Sunday Mass</b>	
<b>Mon 12/16</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Daily Mass</b>	
<b>Tues 12/17</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Daily Mass</b>	
	<b>12:00 pm</b>	<b>Staff Meeting</b>	
<b>Wed 12/18</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Daily Mass</b>	
	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Ladies Spiritual Enrichment Group</b>	
<b>Thur 12/19</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Kerygma Prayer/Bible Study</b>	
<b>Fri 12/20</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Marriage Matters</b>	
<b>Sat 12/21</b>	<b>3:30 pm</b>	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b>	
	<b>4:15 pm</b>	<b>Divine Mercy Chaplet</b>	
	<b>4:30 pm</b>	<b>Saturday Mass</b>	
<b>Sun 12/22</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Sunday Mass</b>	
	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Sunday Mass</b>	
	<b>11:30 am</b>	<b>Christmas Pageant</b>	



**Gift Envelopes** remain on the windows of the church.

Please consider helping those in need. These gift tags will allow those in need to allow families the dignity of purchasing groceries and using gift cards to choose their own gifts rather than relying on others. Thank you! You have given us the privilege of providing confidential assistance to many, families.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sun	12/15	6:00 pm	Grade 10 Classes
Mon	12/16	3:00 pm	CCD Grades 3-5
		6:30 pm	CCD Grades 6-8
Tues	12/17	3:00 pm	CGS Classes
		3:00 pm	CCD Grades K - 2

## Let us honor God with our first fruits rather than the leftovers

12/8/19	Sunday Offertory	\$	2,515.00
	Parish Needs	\$	90.00
	Cemetery	\$	9.00
	Fuel & Maint	\$	10.00
	Christmas Flowers	\$	225.00
12/8/19	Online Giving	\$	375.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,224.00</b>
Diocese Colletcion:			
	Retirement Fund	\$	254.00

**Thank you for your generous support of the parish. Your weekly financial support enables Saint Denis to provide for the needs of our parish.**