

Saint Denis /Our Lady Of The Wayside Churches

*Brought together by Christ, we, the parish of St. Denis
and Our Lady of the Wayside*

respond to his call to live our Catholic faith.

Parish Staff

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Mass Times

St. Denis Church
Saturday: 5:30pm (Vigil)
Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am
Monday-Friday: 8:00 am

Our Lady of the Wayside Church
Saturday: 4:30 pm (Vigil)
Sunday: 9:30 am

Confession Times
Saturday: 4:00 pm, Our Lady of the
Wayside
Saturday: 5:00 pm, St. Denis

Office Hours
M-F, 9:00 am—2:00 pm



February 24th, 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(650) 854-5976
www.stdenisparish.org

St. Denis Church (Parish Office)
2250 Avy Avenue • Menlo Park

Our Lady of the Wayside Church
930 Portola Road • Portola Valley

Pastor's Corner

Dear Beloved Parishioners,

The only time I was ever sent to the principal's office was when I was in fourth grade. This kid and I got into a tussle. I do not remember what the tussle was about, but I definitely remember that I did not start it. Believe it or not, I am a lover not a fighter. I do not start fights just end them. As the principal is asking us some questions about what happened, I begin to cry profusely. I could not stop crying and shaking. It was probably because I was so scared. I thought that I was going to be in big trouble.

The principal is basically judge, juror and executioner. The principal could see that these tears of mine were tears of innocence. He could obviously see that I was the innocent one. He told me that I could go back to class. When I left his office, I was amazed that he did not yell at us nor did he make us feel bad. All that I remember from being in the hot seat was that the principal was so incredibly kind, compassionate and merciful to me.

That is how our God is as well. Today's Responsorial Psalm reminds us of this absolute truth about God. It mentions that our God pardons all of our iniquities and redeems us. Merciful and gracious is the Lord, slow to anger and does not deal with us according to our sins. No matter what we do, even if we are sent to the principal's office, God forgives us and loves us unconditionally. This does not mean that we can do whatever we want. Being human, we are bound to sin. With confidence in God's compassion, we can return to him and ask for forgiveness and he will forgive us. He is not going to banish us nor are we going to be exiled. God, by his very nature, is a gatherer. What is scattered by sin is gathered by God. May you always believe in your heart that our God is kind and merciful.

God bless,
Fr. Paul

We Believe

Discovering the Reservoir

Today's "Discourse on the Plain" Jesus sums up the world view we are called to follow. "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." Jesus tells us that we are the receptors of divine grace and blessing. As believers we are asked to acknowledge and accept those precious gifts for ourselves and to give them freely without payback to others.

Culturally we are a contractual people. We do for others and they, in turn, do for us. Equity, equality, democracy, and leadership are values meant for the deserving. We are taught to measure and then repay kindness and mercy by the same measure we receive it.

Jesus calls us to a different viewpoint when He challenges us to measure our love to others by his Father's boundless standards. The first step to this challenge is to awaken up our own awareness, gratitude, and ability to graciously *receive* what is graciously given. Only in the belief that God unconditionally loves each one of us in our uniqueness, can we find the reservoir of love and caring Jesus asks us to bestow on others in His name. The upcoming season of Lent gives us all an opportunity to examine how we receive God's unconditional love and how we give it to others. Here is a short prayer from Joyce Rupp's "Giving and Receiving" to get us in the right frame of mind:

Gracious Giver, so much has been bestowed upon me. I lack for little and yearn for so much. Continue to teach me to appreciate what has come to me as blessing and gift. Keep on urging and challenging me to share what I have. Help me to give generously and freely of my bounty. I offer you my thanks for all that has been granted to me. Amen.

Dede Waters-Masters

Mass Intentions

St. Denis

Sat.	Feb. 23	5:30 pm	for world peace
Sun.	Feb. 24	7 :30 am	for world peace
		9:30 am	Rosa Sharif (living)
		11:30 am	for world peace
Mon.	Feb. 25	8:00 am	for all parishioners
Tue.	Feb. 26	8:00 am	communion service
Wed.	Feb. 27	8:00 am	for our "enemies"
Thurs.	Feb. 28	8:00 am	in gratitude for blessings
Fri.	March 1	8:00 am	for those who are persecuted

Our Lady Of The Wayside

Sat.	Feb. 23	4:30 pm	Betty Bowers (+)
Sun.	Feb. 24	9:30 am	for world peace

In your charity, please pray for...

Maria da Ponte, Sarah Lucas, Holly Hermansen, Pier Iglesias, Rosa Sharif, Barbara Ham, John Hunter, Janice Varell, Peter Fulchiron

Faith Formation News

CONFIRMATION CLASS MEETS TONIGHT

Our regular class will meet tonight Sunday, February 24 beginning with Mass at 5:30pm

Bring your journals, which should be complete thru section 5. Also, if you have your Saint report, service report or sponsor form completed, you can turn these in at any time. Our Confirmation celebration will be Saturday, May 25 at 10:00am with Bishop Robert Christian.

FR. PAUL'S FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES

Fr. Paul will be offering optional classes for those children preparing to celebrate First Communion in the spring. Classes will be on Mondays at 3:30pm in the parish library.

His NEXT class is Monday, February 25



MARDI GRAS!! PANCAKE BREAKFAST!!

We're celebrating Mardi Gras and getting ready for Lent with a family workshop and pancake breakfast on Sunday, March 3 after the 9:30am Mass in St. Denis parish hall.

Come and eat and take home lots of projects to help you family observe the Lenten season that prepares us the Easter celebrations. Everyone is welcome!

RICE BOWLS & LITTLE BLACK BOOKS

Rice Bowls and Little Black Books will be available near the bulletins next week for your Lenten reflections. More details to come.

St. Anthony's 5th Saturday Team

The Outreach Committee is looking to put a team together to help out at St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room in Redwood City for 2019.

We are needed on the 5th Saturdays which include March 30, June 29, August 31 and November 30.

The hours could vary, but they would like someone there between 9:00 for prep work, set-up and service to 1:00 for clean-up and grocery distribution. Lunches are served every day but Sunday from 11:00 to 1:00 and no one is turned away.

The Dining Room first opened its' doors in September 1974 to serve the low-income elderly with a week-end meal. Since then it has expanded to provide hot, nourishing meals Monday to Saturday year-round to all who come seeking a meal and safe place to eat. They also provide groceries to take home.

For more information about St. Anthony's

www.paduadiningroom.com

For more information about joining the team contact Barbara Mason babs412@yahoo.com or call at 650-854-2526.

Friendly Reminders

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Deadline for bulletin inserts is (The Tuesday Before Noon,) before the weekend of publication. All mass announcements are to be scripted and okayed by Dede prior to masses. Contact her at dede@pacbell.net

NOTE: Announcement may not appear until the next

Bulletin due to space

limitations.

Thank You!



Stewardship

July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 (Estimated goal)	\$468,000.00
July 1, 2018 to January, 2019	\$260,820.00
Monthly Goal- January 2019	\$36,000.00
January 2019 Sunday Offertory Collections	\$43,041.00

Donation Corner

ONLINE GIVING WITH WESHARE

Whether you are new to online giving, or would like to make an update to your existing donations, follow the link below to give.

<https://stdenisparish.churchgiving.com/ws/opportunities>

<https://olwparish.churchgiving.com/ws/opportunities>

Are You Interested In Helping The Homeless?

Temple Beth Jacob in Redwood City will host local families who are struggling to get back on their feet the week of March 3rd working with the Home and Hope organization.

Opportunities are available to help prepare and serve dinner, and/or help with post dinner and childcare.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Bonnie Alesna 650-223-4241, or at b_alesna@yahoo.com.



Sponsored by the St. Denis Parish Outreach Committee.

Our Lady Of The Wayside Spirit

A huge thank you to the 54 folks who came out to the St Catherine Italian Dinner fundraiser! We collected over \$2000 and enjoyed a wonderful, warm evening together! Thank you to all those who helped us in so many ways. God bless you all for your generosity to this worthy cause!

Our next Italian Dinner fund raiser is Saturday, March 9 at 6:30pm at St. Denis. Please plan on joining us!



Upcoming Events

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| Sunday, February 24 | Confirmation class meets, beginning with Mass at 5:30pm |
| Monday, February 25 | Fr. Paul's first communion class meets at 3:30pm |
| Sunday, March 3 | Mardi Gras pancake breakfast and Lenten workshop at 10:30am |
| Wednesday, March 6 | Ash Wednesday Masses at St. Denis at 8:00am and noon, with lunch and at Our Lady of the Wayside at 5:00pm |
| Saturday, March 9 | Italian fund raising dinner at St. Denis at 6:30pm |
| Sunday, March 10 | Confirmation class meets, beginning with Mass at 5:30pm |
| Monday, March 11 | Fr. Paul's first communion class meets at 3:30pm |
| Tuesday, March 26 | Lent Retreat Day at St. Denis |