

# 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

**Rev. Paul O'Dell**  
**Pastor**

wpodell@aol.com  
(415) 686-9951

**Gina Morales**  
**Operations Manager**

gmorales@stdenisparish.org  
(650) 854-5976 press 1

**Lucy Soltau**  
**Director of Faith Formation**

lsoltau@stdenisparish.org  
(650) 854-5976 press 3

**Dede Waters-Masters**  
**Pastoral Minister in charge of  
Liturgy and Senior Services**

dedewm@pacbell.net  
(650) 854-5976 press 4

## Mass Times:

### **St. Denis Church**

Saturday: 5:30pm (Vigil)

Sunday: 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am

Monday-Friday: 8:00am

### **Our Lady of the Wayside Church**

Saturday: 4:30 pm

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

**The Parish Office will be  
closed Monday September  
6th in observance of  
Labor Day.**

*“Ephphatha!” - that is “Be opened.” Mark 7:34-35*



**September 5th, 2021 23rd 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 beginning of a new school year reminds me of the time when my mom took me shopping to buy some new clothes at JCPenney. I wanted Levi's jeans. Back then they were very popular, and all the cool kids wore them. Instead, my mom bought me jeans made by JCPenney. As soon as I got home, I cut off the JCPenney label from my jeans. I was too embarrassed to have the JCPenney label on my new jeans. I didn't want the other kids to make fun of me. In those days, wearing the right label meant everything. It seems as though things have not changed since my high school days.

Do we not judge and even criticize people who do not wear the right label. Today's Second Reading from James reminds us to see people through eyes of faith. This can be a great challenge for us at times. We become easily enamored with people who wear fancy and expensive labels. What is happening in Afghanistan, Haiti and Northern California puts life and hopefully our perspective in order. Tens of thousands of men, women and children are suffering at this moment. They are barely hanging on. Their future is uncertain. For so many, all they have are the clothes on their backs, and a small bag containing their belongings.

Through eyes of faith, may we see people as our brothers and sisters in Christ. May we realize that they are no less important than ourselves, and that we are no better than them. We are all equal in God's eyes regardless of what we wear, have or do not have. God loves and treats us equally. As people of faith, we are called to do the same. May we do the same.

God bless, Fr. Paul

## We Believe

Of the four gospels, Mark portrays Jesus as one who is critical of rigidity and legalism. Breaking purity and dietary codes, opening the boundaries between Jews and Gentiles, male from female, and rich from poor are all features of this gospel, which was written closest to the time of Jesus' life, about 65-70AD. It is notable that in Mark's gospel Jesus interacts with those living on the margins of society: the leper, the paralytic, the blind, the widow, tax collectors, and noted sinners.

In today's gospel reading Jesus meets a deaf and mute gentile brought to him by his friends for healing. This miracle, unique to the gospel of Mark, reveals a Jesus who is compassionate and non-conforming to the social and religious taboos of his time. At this point in his ministry, Jesus is not interested in notoriety for healings. He has already used miracles to attest to God's goodness, his credibility and authority, and his essential message of caring for others. Jesus cures the man in a private setting away from the crowds and he asks that the miracle is not divulged to the masses.

What can we learn from today's gospel? While we live in the shadow of Covid, perhaps the value of human touch becomes more apparent. Jesus incorporated touch into the man's healing as a sign of his personal caring. Where can we show our personal caring to others? Perhaps, in light of today's gospel, we can ask Christ to open our ears and grace our speech so that we, too, can affirm the goodness of God.

Dede Waters-Masters

## Mass Intentions

### St. Denis Church

Sat. Sept.	4	5:30pm	Patrizia Buzzecoli (+)
Sun. Sept.	5	7:30 am	All refugees
		9:30 am	Joseph Merkert (+)
		11:30 am	Mary Ginocchio (+)
Mon. Sept.	6	8:00 am	All laborers
Tues. Sept.	7	8:00 am	For our Jewish sisters & brothers
Wed. Sept.	8	8:00 am	Our blessed Mother Mary
Thu. Sept.	9	8:00 am	In gratitude
Fri. Sept.	10	8:00 am	Mary Margaret Koch (+)



### Our Lady of the Wayside Church

Sat. Sept.	4	4:30 pm	Helen Whalen (+)
Sun. Sept.	5	9:30 am	All refugees

In your charity, please pray...

T.J. Pryor, J.M., G.G., Janice Varvelle, Holly Hermansen, Pier Iglesias, Rosa Sharif, John Hunter, Anselmo Briones, Grace Kohan, John Cummins, Sandy McGinley **Names will be removed monthly unless you let the office know. Thank you.**

## Faith Formation News

### FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE FOR 2021-2022

The Faith Formation schedule for the next school year, and updated registration form are now on the parish website at [www.stdenisparish.org](http://www.stdenisparish.org) We are planning for in-person classes on Sunday mornings beginning September 26. However, if you would like to teach your children at home, we can provide materials and parent guides for you. Either way, please register now! Contact Lucy Soltau at [lsoltau@stdenisparish.org](mailto:lsoltau@stdenisparish.org) for more information.

### CATECHETICAL SUNDAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

### FAITH FORMATION INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

### YES! ALL AT THE SAME TIME ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Meet the catechists, get important information about our programs this year, and eat pancakes! What could be better than that! Join us in the garden after the 9:30am Mass.

We have some wonderful volunteers, ready to share the faith, and we could always use a few more. Contact Lucy at [lsoltau@stdenisparish.org](mailto:lsoltau@stdenisparish.org) for more info!

### CONFIRMATION PARENT/TEEN GATHERING

Sunday, September 12 at 5:30pm at St. Denis.

Parents and teens in 7<sup>th</sup> grade or older who would like to prepare to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation are invited to join us for Mass at 5:30pm, dinner at 6:15pm and an information meeting at 7:00pm. Come for the whole evening or just part.

For more information, contact Lucy Soltau at [lsoltau@stdenisparish.org](mailto:lsoltau@stdenisparish.org)

## Question Of The Week

Ephphatha! Be Opened!!

Am I open to hearing the truth?

Am I open to those who need me?

Am I open?

## Outreach Committee

All are welcome to join the Outreach Committee to discuss up coming events for the fall. Our meeting is September 18th, at 9:30am in the St. Denis garden next to the hall.



## Bulletin Deadline

### BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Deadline for bulletin articles is Tuesday before noon, before the weekend of publication. All announcements during Mass are to be scripted and approved by Dede prior to Masses. Contact her at [dedewm@pacbell.net](mailto:dedewm@pacbell.net)

NOTE: Announcement may not appear until the next bulletin due to space

limitations. Thank You!



## Stewardship

2021-22 estimated goal TBA

Annual Appeal 2021 Goal \$98,096

\$98,096.00

Annual Appeal 2021 Actual

\$98,096.00

## Donation Corner

### “Save Time and Donate Online!”

Online Giving is available for parishioners with WeShare, an easy and convenient way to save time and support the church. Donating is simple, safe, and completely secure. If you would like to enroll in Online Giving, please visit our website [stdenisparish.org](http://stdenisparish.org), and follow the links. If you have any questions or concerns about the program or would like help setting up your account, please call WeShare at 800 950-9952.

## Covid Update As of August 3rd, 2021

In response to California's lifting of most Covid-19 restrictions, San Mateo County & the S.F. Archdiocese has announced mandated updates to safety protocols. Many safety precautions will remain in place. Including parishioners, guests, & musicians to wear a mask when indoors, including Mass indoors. If you are seated outside you do not need to wear a mask. Social distancing is reduced to three feet between households. Doors and windows will remain open for ventilation. Hand sanitizers are available. The Sign of Peace is to be exchanged by waving or bowing to those near them. If you are sick we ask that you stay home. Sunday 9:30am mass & weekday masses will continue to be livestreamed, & then on our website. We thank you as we continue to keep each other safe.



## A Message From The Pope

Getting vaccinated is a simple yet profound way to care for one another, especially the most vulnerable.

I pray to God that each of us can make his or her own small gesture of love – Pope Francis

## Mercy Center Retreats

Mercy Center is open and offers spiritual direction formation, retreats, and personal development programs. Please visit the website below to view in-person and online programs and retreats. The retreat center offerings will help you to make meaning of life and deepen your spiritual experiences with meditation, art, music, and prayer. <https://mercy-center.org/>

## Supporting Your Parish During These Difficult Times

Please continue to financially support your parish so that we can continue to provide the ministries that everyone relies on. You may mail your donations to the parish office, or you may give online through WeShare. Go to the parish website [stdenisparish.org](http://stdenisparish.org) to find the links to set up your donation or you may call WeShare at 800 950-9952, press 3, then press 2 or email [weshare@4lpi.com](mailto:weshare@4lpi.com). We thank you for your support!

