

# 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



**December 12th, 2021 3rd Sunday of Advent**

(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,

This 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent is called **Gaudete Sunday, Rejoice Sunday**. We have much to rejoice about these days. Not only are we halfway through the Advent season, but we are also expecting and anticipating the birth of the Christ child, the newborn Savior of the world. In this darkened season of the year and in this darkened world, the light of hope and new possibilities are well on their way to us. The light of Christ will scatter the darkness in the world and the darkness in our hearts.

We are not meant to live with gloom. God wants our spirits to be lifted up and to be joyful. He knows what will cause us our hearts to be filled with immense joy. He knows what will cause us to rejoice in Him. It is the gift of His son Jesus. The Christ child has a way of changing our lives for the better. He loves us like no other. He sees only the good in us. The Christ child accepts and embraces all that we are. How can we not be excited at this time of the year and on this 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent? Rejoice always in the Lord.

God bless, Fr. Paul

## We Believe

This past week we celebrated the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. In honor of Mary, let us ponder and recognize her strength and faith as a model for each one of us.

Mary recognized her need for support and wanted to both give and receive it, which is why she went to visit her cousin Elizabeth who was in her 6<sup>th</sup> month of pregnancy.

She was strong enough to bring the right concerns, the right questions, the right witness, the right insight into our world, even if it meant questioning an angel.

We see Mary's strength and faith later on at Cana when she asks her Son to help with the wine at the marriage feast.

Mary showed her strength and fortitude by remaining with Jesus in his public life, at the cross, and with the Apostles following the Resurrection. Her continued presence is felt throughout the world.

“Mary is not simply “Mary, the Mother of God.” No, on the contrary. The Mother of God is the image of women everywhere. The Mother of God is Mary, independent woman; Mary, the unmarried mother; Mary, the homeless woman; Mary, the political refugee; Mary, the Third World woman; Mary, the mother of the condemned; Mary, the widow who outlives her child; Mary, the woman of our time who shares the divine plan of salvation; Mary, the bearer of Christ.”

—Introduction to *2020 Joan Chittister Calendar* (from *Women Strength: Modern Church, Modern Woman* by Joan Chittister).

As we enter the last days of Advent, let us follow Mary, being Christ-bearers ourselves.

Dede Waters-Masters

## Mass Intentions

### St. Denis Church

Sat. Dec. 11	5:30pm	Bill Cipriano (+)
Sun. Dec. 12	7:30 am	For vocations to ministry
	9:30 am	In gratitude for priests & religious retired
	11:30 am	For those searching for Christ
Mon. Dec. 13	8:00 am	For the blind
Tues. Dec. 14	8:00 am	For mystics & poets
Wed. Dec. 15	8:00 am	For those that we have lost due to Covid
Thu. Dec. 16	8:00 am	In thanksgiving
Fri. Dec. 17	8:00 am	Allen Guertin (+)



### Our Lady of the Wayside Church

Sat. Dec. 11	4:30 pm	Jack Sullivan (+)
Sun. Dec. 12	9:30 am	For those searching for Christ

In your charity, please pray for...

Mark Olson, Carol C., 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

### Christmas Eve Family Mass

Our **Annual Christmas Eve Family Mass** will be on **Friday, December 24 at 4:00pm at St. Denis**. Children of all ages are welcome to attend with their families and participate in special ways during the liturgy.

This year, we will be dramatizing the Gospel story! Listed below are the roles your children can play during this special Mass, with costume suggestions. Be creative! Talk with your children and see if they would like to participate. We will have **one rehearsal only for everyone involved on Thursday, December 23 at 10:00am in the church.**

**PreK, Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: SHEEP**  
Children should wear anything white and bring a toy sheep or other stuffed farm animal from home.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: ANGELS-** Children should wear white & we'll supply the halos. No wings, please!

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: SHEPHERDS-** Children should dress in brown or other dark color. Bathrobes work well & a towel can be used for a headdress.

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade: HOLY FAMILY-** We'll take volunteers for the parts of Mary and Joseph. Costumes will be provided.

**5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade: GREETERS & USHERS-** Come early to greet people as they arrive, help with seating, and pass out programs and treats.

**Confirmation Class: LECTORS-** Sign up during class to proclaim the readings.

*Please remember: not everyone is vaccinated yet, so face masks are still required.*

## Parish Christmas Giving Tree

Christmas Giving Tree is accepting \$25 gift cards and donations for St. Francis Center, Maple Street Shelter and Catholic Worker House. We also have adopted 17 families from Hoover preschool and these tags are on the tree in front of the altar at St. Denis Church. These should have a gift for each child as indicated on the tag and a \$250 gift card for the families. The gift cards and donations can be put in the collection basket (any cash should be put in an envelope designated Christmas Giving Tree) or in the mail slot at the parish office. There are also wrapped boxes in the back of both St. Denis & Our Lady of the Wayside churches. Thank you in advance for your kindness. Questions contact Pat Mach [patricia.mach@sbcglobal.net](mailto:patricia.mach@sbcglobal.net)

**Please return all gifts & donations by this Monday, December 13th.**



## 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!



## Question Of The Week

The people ask John, “what should we do?”  
And he tells them to do ordinary things the right way.  
What ordinary things do I need to do in a different, right way?

## Stewardship

July 1, 2021 to June 30th, 2022 (estimated Goal)	\$377,400.00
July 1, 2021 to November 30th, 2021	\$159,195.00
November 2021 Sunday Offertory Collections	\$34,294.00
November 2021 Sunday Offertory (Goal)	\$29,600.00

## 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 October 15th, 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 (securely over nose & mouth) 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.



## Christmas Mass Schedule

Please Join us for Mass!

### Our Lady of the Wayside

December 24th 4:30pm

December 25th 9:30am



### St. Denis

December 24th 4pm Family Mass, 6pm

December 25th 7:30am, 9:30am  
11:30am

## Poinsettias For Loved Ones

If you would like to dedicate a poinsettia to a loved one this Christmas, send the name & a \$10 donation through the collection basket, mail, or drop in the mail slot at the parish office. Please indicate if you want your remembrance at Our Lady of the Wayside Church or St. Denis.

*Please drop this information to us by  
Tuesday, December 21st.*



## Support Your Parish!

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!

