

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: 7:30am, 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 19th, 2021 4th 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,

On this 4th Sunday of Advent, it is as if we are in the ninth month of Mary's pregnancy. The Christ child is about to be born. The long-awaited Messiah is coming at any time. God will truly be with us. His real presence will dwell in our very midst. Do we not need God to be with us during these trying times? As much as we long for God to be with us, He longs all the more to be with His beloved people, us.

Although time may be relative, it has been far too long for God to be separated from us. The Fall of Adam and Eve caused our separation from God. In the fullness of time and in and through the birth of a child, we are united and bonded to God for all eternity. This is what the birth of baby Jesus does for all of humanity for all time. No longer will we be separated from God.

How can we not be filled with joy therefore? How can we not be hopeful? God makes His home in our very midst. It is permanent and it is everlasting. God will always be with us in and through His son Jesus.

God bless, Fr. Paul

We Believe

We could say that Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth was a true mission of charity. After learning of her older cousin's pregnancy from the Angel Gabriel, Mary responds in haste to go and offer assistance to this older woman, putting aside her own issues, the serious complications brought about by agreeing to do what God asked of her.

This event known as the Visitation, and one of the joyful mysteries of the rosary, introduces the friendship of two women, one a teenager and one the age of a grandmother, to the Nativity story and portrays both Mary and Elizabeth as women of kindness and action.

This biblical event found in this week's Gospel became especially noteworthy during the lifetime of St. Bonaventure who, in 1263, made it a feast within the Franciscan order. A century later Pope Urban VI officially recognized the Visitation as a minor feast day in 1389.

It wasn't until 1969 that the Visitation made it official on the Church calendar, on May 31st, sandwiched in between the Annunciation, March 25th and the birth of John the Baptist on June 24th.

Revisiting the Visitation story in the Gospel of Luke this 4th Sunday of Advent can point us in a positive direction as we approach the Christmas season. This very sentiment was embraced by Mother Theresa who felt that the Visitation was an example for all Christian life through its expression of faith, concern for one another, hope, and trust in God's plans.

Dede Waters-Masters

Mass Intentions

St. Denis Church

Sat. Dec. 18	5:30pm	Mother Mary's intentions	
Sun. Dec. 19	7:30 am	Mother Mary's intentions	
	9:30 am	Mother Mary's intentions	
	11:30 am	Mother Mary's intentions	
Mon. Dec. 20	8:00 am	For the care of the earth	
Tues. Dec. 21	8:00 am	In gratitude	
Wed. Dec. 22	8:00 am	Safety to travelers	
Thur. Dec. 23	8:00 am	Tonette Corpus (living)	
Fri. Dec. 24	4:00 pm	World Peace	
	6:00 pm	World Peace	
Sat. Dec. 25	7:30 am	World Peace	Sun. Dec. 26 7:30 am For families
	9:30 am	World Peace	9:30 am For families
	11:30 am	World Peace	11:30 am For families



Our Lady of the Wayside Church

Sat. Dec. 18	4:30 pm	Bill Kerwin (+)
Sun. Dec. 19	9:30 am	Mother Mary's intentions
Fri. Dec. 24	4:30 pm	World Peace
Sat. Dec. 25	9:30 am	World Peace
Sun. Dec. 26	9:30 am	For families

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, 1st Grade: SHEEP
Children should wear anything white and bring a toy sheep or other stuffed farm animal from home.

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

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

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

5th, 6th 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.

Question Of The Week

John recognized Jesus and jumped for joy in Elizabeth's womb!

Do I recognize Jesus when he comes to me?

Does it make me jump for joy?

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 this Tuesday, December 21st.



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

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

limitations. Thank You!



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, 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 December 15th, 2021

In response to California's 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

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 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. We thank you for your support!

