

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

**Friday, December 31st,
Holy Obligation Mary
Mother of God Mass will
be at St. Denis at 5pm**



December 26th, 2021 The Holy Family of Jesus

January 2nd, 2022 The Epiphany of the Lord

(650) 854-5976
www.stdenisparish.org

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

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

Pastor's Corner

Dear Beloved Parishioners

At the beginning of every mass, after the priest says, "Top of the morning to you" he says these wonderful words, "The peace of the Lord be with you." Christ desires that we have peace in our lives. He wants us to possess peace. We are to live in peace. Peace can be defined as freedom from war. It is also defined as tranquility. Only Christ can give us true peace. It is his precious gift to us.

Given what has happened in our world these past several years, it seems as though we need Christ's peace all the more in our lives. The world, our lives have been turned upside down. We have been battling tirelessly the pandemic and natural disasters. Despite the chaos in our lives, I have witnessed the strength and resolve of the human spirit. It cannot be defeated for long. It rises up in triumph over and any and all difficulties. I believe this is so because of our faith in the Christ child.

Once again, we renew and deepen our faith in the newborn Savior of the world. The Christ child reminds us that with Him in our lives all things are possible. There is a sense of joy and wonderment whenever we are in the presence of a newborn infant. It stirs in us the abiding feeling that everything is going to be alright. God is with us. The newborn Christ child is God's way of simply being with us for all time. In receiving the Christ child, we receive and have forever His peace. At the end of mass, the priest says, "The Lord be with you," and so He is as well as His peace. May your hearts be filled with Christ's peace, and the joy and love Christmas brings to all of us. All will be well because God's Son is in our very midst for all time.

God bless,

Fr. Paul

We Believe

The other day I overheard someone saying they were "doing Christmas" for a friend their child brought home for the holidays. She went on to say what presents she had purchased for the houseguest under the tree. For her, "doing Christmas" for someone was synonymous with their receiving gifts.

One of the things I am most grateful for from my parents was all our Christmases, 54 of them for me, celebrated with a de-emphasis on gifts and a focus on family and the food traditions that we shared together. Our most memorable presents were the presence we gave to one another.

Back then we didn't talk politics or fancy vacations, but there seemed to be a lot of reminiscing, especially about those relatives who had gone before us. I was thinking about that the other day when I found myself asking the question, "In the future, when I am gone, will my kids recall, talk about, or laugh over our current Christmas celebrations?" In spite of Covid, polarization, and global warming, I hope so.

With that question in mind, I would like to share something I have learned in navigating my blended family during the holidays, with or without Covid.

Don't focus your hopes on one perfect event, one meal, or one day. Christmas happens all through the season, so celebrate whole-heartedly whenever you can, even if it's a shared cup of coffee. For the sake of the family, try to be cordial and as forgiving as you can during these family events.

In spite of the troubled times in which we live, let's do our best to reach out to others and go deeper within ourselves to find Emmanuel, the God with us.

Dede Waters-Masters

Mass Intentions

St. Denis Church

Sun. Dec. 26	7:30 am	For families
	9:30 am	For families
	11:30 am	For families
Mon. Dec. 27– Dec. 31	8:00 am	Communion Services
Fri. Dec. 31	5:00 pm	World Peace (Holy Day of Obligation Solemnity of Mary)
Sat. Jan. 1	5:30 pm	Peace on Earth
Sun. Jan. 2	7:30 am	Peace on Earth
	9:30 am	Peace on Earth
	11:30 am	Peace on Earth
Mon. Jan. 3	8:00 am	For those searching for Christ
Tues. Jan. 4	8:00 am	In thanksgiving
Wed. Jan. 5	8:00 am	For those we have lost due to Covid
Thurs. Jan 6	8:00 am	For college students
Fri. Jan 7	8:00 am	For educators



Our Lady of the Wayside Church

Sun. Dec. 26	9:30 am	For families
Sat. Jan. 1	4:30 pm	Peace on Earth
Sun. Jan. 2	9:30 am	Peace on Earth

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

NO FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

There are no Faith Formation classes on December 26 and January 2.

All classes will resume on January 9.



Faith Formation

Question Of The Week

The season's stories are all about seeking and finding the Holy.

What holiness have I found in the celebrations of the season?

Where should I look to find it?

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and Happy New Year!

Fr. Paul, Gina, Dede, Lucy, & Manuel.

Staff of Our Lady of the Wayside & St. Denis.



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 & San Mateo County restrictions, due to the new Covid-19 strain parishioners, guests, & musicians are required to wear a mask (securely over nose & mouth) when 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 for the safety of your fellow parishioners. 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.



Pope Francis's Synod Coming in the New Year!

Pope Francis invites the whole Church to participate in a process to prepare for the upcoming Synod of Bishops on Synodality. This unprecedented opportunity will facilitate discussion and reflection to help shape the Church's understanding of herself and her mission of evangelization and forming disciples.

The Archdiocese of San Francisco will kick-off the local synodal process in January by asking every Catholic, active or not, to participate in the Disciple Maker Index survey. This survey will be available on line and there will be hard copies in the church.

The process will continue in February and March with listening sessions offered throughout the Archdiocese and on-line. The Disciple Maker Index survey is a nationally recognized survey administered at parishes around the United States and Canada since 2013 by The Catholic Leadership Institute. The results from this survey will provide feedback from which content for the listening sessions will be developed.

More details will be available through the Archdiocesan website www.sfarch.org/synod beginning in January. Watch this space!



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!

