# 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 (Vigil)

Sunday: 9:30 am

#### **Confession Times:**

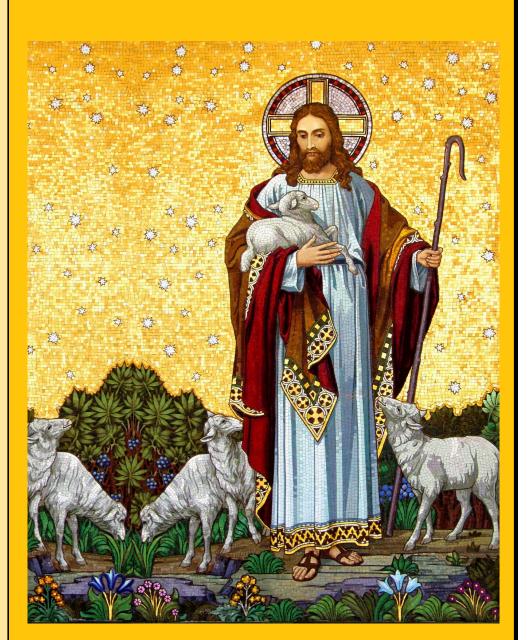
Saturday: 4:00 pm, Our Lady of

the Wayside

Saturday: 5:00 pm, St. Denis

Office Hours

M-F, 9:00 am-2:00 pm



April 30th, 2023 4th Sunday of Easter

## **Gospel Reading**

This fourth Sunday of the Easter season is sometimes called Good Shepherd Sunday because in each of the three lectionary cycles, the Gospel reading invites us to reflect on Jesus as the Good Shepherd. In each cycle the reading is from the tenth chapter of John's Gospel. This chapter sets the framework for Jesus' teaching about himself as the Good Shepherd.

Today's reading falls between the stories of Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the raising of Lazarus. Both of these stories were proclaimed in the Gospels found in this year's season of Lent. Following the controversy that ensued when Jesus healed the man born blind, Jesus directs his allegory about the sheep and the shepherd toward the Jewish religious leaders of his time, the Pharisees. Throughout John's Gospel the Pharisees fail to accept Jesus' ministry and teaching. They show themselves to be "robbers and thieves" because they try to lead the sheep without entering through the gate, Jesus. Through these metaphors, Jesus is telling his listeners that those who follow him and his way will find abundant life. He identifies himself both as the shepherd and the gate. The shepherds who are faithful to him are the ones whom the sheep (Jesus' disciples) should follow.

The relationship between the sheep and their shepherd is based on familiarity. Sheep recognize their shepherd and will not follow a stranger. At the end of the day, shepherds lead their sheep from pastures to a common gated area called a sheepfold. There, one shepherd protects all of the sheep until the next day when each shepherd returns to lead his own sheep to pasture. As shepherds move among the sheep, the sheep follow only their shepherd.

Loyola Press "Sunday Connection"

### We Believe

Many of us spend the first half of our lives trying to fulfill personal expectations and goals, striving in our chosen life's work, building careers and financial stability, and "being productive." As we approach our older years, we look at our accomplishments and often begin to seek more at a deeper level, or as Carl Jung said, "The privilege of a lifetime is to become who you truly are."

With that thought in mind, Jesus' image as the Good Shepherd provides a model for personal introspection as we mature. Fostering the attributes of a shepherd in our evolving search for meaning and holy authenticity can assist us in being and becoming the people who, deep down, we are meant to be.

A shepherd guides, cares, and really listens. Cultivating a tenderness of closeness, refusing to negatively stereotype problematic groups, and treating each person with respect and decency are challenges that our world presents to us daily and the means through which we can often find our better selves. If we accept Christ's challenge to "love one another as I have loved you," we will shepherd ourselves into finding healing and holiness for ourselves through those whom we purposefully encounter along the way to wholeness.

**Dede Waters Masters** 

### **Mass Intentions**

#### St. Denis Church

Sat. Apr. 29 5:30 pm Barbara D. Mahoney (+)

Sun. Apr. 30 7:30 am For vocations

9:30 am Peter Zelter (+)

11:30 am For the care of our planet

Mon. May. 1 8:00 am In thanksgiving

Tues. May. 2 8:00 am Barbara Mahoney (+)

Wed. May. 3 8:00 am Ted Smith (+) Thurs.May 4 8:00 am For our nation

Fri. May. 5 8:00 am For firefighters



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

Sat. Apr. 29 4:30 pm In thanksgiving to our

**Blessed Mother** 

Sun. Apr. 30 9:30 am For vocations

## In your charity, please pray for...

Marie Kenney, Susan Nappi, LG, GRM, Carol C., J.M., G.G., Janice Varvelle, Pier Iglesias, Rosa Sharif, John Hunter, Anselmo Briones, John Cummins, Sandy McGinley, Jack Walsh Names will be removed monthly unless you let the office know. Thank you.

### **Faith Formation News**

### FAITH FORMATION SESSIONS

All class sessions will finish for the year next Sunday, May 7.

We have enjoyed having your children with us, and hope they will join us for our Liturgy of the Word program during the 9:30am Masses all summer long!



## **THANK YOU, CATECHISTS!!**

Many thanks and blessings to Ethan Radford, Baird Radford, Lisa Cooper, Yvonne Schmidt, Michelle Donatelli, Mark Leake, Yolanda Cheung and Dede Waters-Masters for sharing your faith with the children of our parish! You are a blessing to us!

## FIRST COMMUNION CELEBRATIONS

Congratulations to Jasmine, Kavita, James, Harper and Mateo who will receive the Lord in the Eucharist for the first time today!

More celebrations next weekend!

## **Question Of The Week**

### **QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

I am part of a flock, and Jesus is my shepherd.

How willing am I to be guided by the shepherd and stay within the flock?

## Fr. Paul's 30th Year In The Priesthood!

The seniors celebrated Fr. Paul's 30 years as an ordained priest at the senior luncheon. Fr. Paul may God bless you on your 30 year anniversary in the priesthood!



## **Storm Damage To OLW**

Last months storm damaged Our Lady of the Wayside, when a large branch fell on the roof. Repairs on under way.



### **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 until the next bulletin due to space-limitations. Thank You!



## **Offertory Stewardship**

July 1, 2022 to June 30th, 2023 (Goal)	\$379,000.00
July 1, 2022 to March, 2023 (Received so far)	\$284,966.00
March 2023 Sunday Offertory Collections	\$32,510.00
March 2023 Sunday Offertory Collections (Goal)	\$29,152.00
Annual Appeal (Goal)	\$91,995.00
Annual Appeal (Received so far)	\$89,009.00

## **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 877 316-0260.

## **Meet & Greet Sister Christina!**

This Saturday, April 29, 2023, the St. Francis Auxiliary invites you to a

Wine and Cheese Party here in the St. Denis Garden beginning at 6pm. Please come and meet the amazing Sr. Christina and toast the Spring with us. Everyone is invited to come.



## **Confirmation Celebration**

Congratulations to Brady, Maddie, Riley, Ilaria, Joseph, Caitlin, Mia, Timothy, Giselle, Elle, Elijah, Ella and Olivia, who were Confirmed last Saturday! May the Holy Spirit continue to guide and inspire them.



# **Water Bottles Needed**

We are collecting new & gently used water bottles for CYO Campers in Occidental. Look for the barrels in the back of the church.



# **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 <u>stdenisparish.org</u> 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 <u>weshare@4lpi.com</u>. We thank you for your support!



