

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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Pastoral Minister in charge of
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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
By appointment, St. Denis

Office Hours
M-F, 9:00 am—2:00 pm



**Mustard seed faith....
....small but has potential!**

July 23rd, 2023 16th 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

Gospel Reading

In today's Gospel, Jesus offers three parables to describe the Kingdom of Heaven. He also explains why he speaks to the crowds in parables and interprets the parable of the sower for the disciples. This reading is a continuation of Jesus' discourse that we began reading last Sunday.

All three parables use commonplace experiences to describe aspects of the Kingdom of Heaven. The first parable is longer and more detailed than the next two, and it alerts us to the two-fold reality of the Kingdom of Heaven. The beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven can be found in this world. The fruition of the Kingdom of Heaven, however, will not be realized until the final judgment. In the meantime, as Jesus' explanation to the disciples cautions, any effort to judge the progress of the Kingdom of Heaven is premature. Only God, in the final judgment, will distinguish the fruit of the Kingdom of Heaven and offer its reward.

The second and third parables call to our attention the abundance that will result from the small beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven. Just as a mustard seed—the smallest of all seeds—will become a large bush, so too God will bring his Kingdom to full bloom. As a small amount of yeast will leaven the entire batch of bread, so too God will bring about the expansion of his Kingdom. In each case the image is of the superabundance that God brings out of even the smallest of signs of the Kingdom.

Contained within these parables are words of caution as well as words of consolation. In the parable of the sower we are warned against judging others. To judge and uproot the “weeds” prematurely will harm the wheat; final judgment rests with God. In the parables of the mustard seed and the yeast, we are consoled by the message that God can work wonders and produce abundance from even the smallest beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven.

Loyola Press “Sunday Connection”

We Believe

In my garden at home I have three raised beds. One of these boxes is located right outside my bedroom's sliding glass door. I enjoy looking at it every morning when I wake up. About seven years ago, a tiny unidentified shoot appeared in the center of this bed. As it continued to steadily grow, my gardener Oscar asked me what I wanted to do about it. I told him I'd like to see what this invader would do, so we decided to let the unidentified plant “do its thing,” and left it to continue to grow.

Fast forward to today, this “invader” has become a majestic tree. Its branches span a good 7 feet and its height is over 10 feet! It would be a major production to remove it! This fall it gave us a spectacular display of yellow and orange leaves, and in these warmer months, its full green foliage gives beautiful filtered light to all my flowers and herbs growing beneath it. It has made its presence known!

Jesus' Parable of the Mustard Seed somehow reminds me of this tree, a small unlikely seed growing into a huge tree, in which birds find rest and comfort. The parable's minuscule mustard seed really is dependent on the nurturing effects of light, water, and nutrients. While Jesus emphasizes the smallness of the mustard seed, he also describes its potential to grow strong and large—and to give. Reflecting on our own evolving faith, placing our trust in our loving God, we can acknowledge our own growth and strive to reach our potential as faith-filled followers of Christ.

Dede Waters-Masters

Mass Intentions

St. Denis Church

Sat. July	22	5:30 pm	Catherine de Gery (+)
Sun. July	23	7:30 am	Rosa Sharif (+)
		9:30 am	Victims of war
		11:30 am	End to human trafficking
Mon. July	24	8:00 am	National unity
Tues. July	25	8:00 am	Eamon Carville (+)
Wed. July	26	8:00 am	For grandparents
Thurs. July	27	8:00 am	For peacemakers
Fri. July	28	8:00 am	In Thanksgiving



Our Lady of the Wayside Church

Sat. July	22	4:30 pm	Victims of war
Sun. July	23	9:30 am	Victims of war

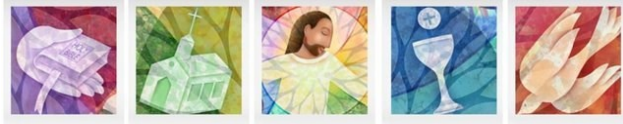
In your charity, please pray for...

Marie Kenney, Susan Nappi, LG, GRM, Carol C., J.M., G.G., Janice Varvelle, Pier Iglesias, 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

The calendar and registration form for the 2023-2024 school year is now on the parish website at www.stdenisparish.org. Just click on the Faith Formation tab for all the schedules and forms. Looking forward to a new year of sharing faith!!



Faith Formation

NEW THIS YEAR!!

Our elementary grades PreK to 6th will meet Sunday mornings at 9:00am beginning September 24. The Confirmation group, grades 7, 8 and above, will meet on selected Sundays beginning with Mass at 11:30am. PARENTS! Please join us for an informal gathering each Sunday at 9:00am, before Mass.

Please check the complete calendar and schedules for each grade on our parish website www.stdenisparish.org or contact Lucy Soltau at lsoltau@stdenisparish.org with questions.

LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

During the 9:30am Sunday Mass all summer long, we invite the children into the garden at St. Denis to listen to and talk about the Sunday readings. It's very casual, and no registration is required. Just join us in the garden!

Question Of The Week

Yeast is a living thing, that hides in the flour but "grows" into bread!

What has God hidden in me that needs the chance to grow?

Catechists (Teachers) Needed!!

We are always looking for new folks to join us in sharing the faith with our children.

If you have time, energy and faith, we have training, materials and resources!

Please consider sharing your faith with the next generation of Catholics.

Contact Lucy at lsoltau@stdenisparish.org for more information.



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 June, 2023 (Received so far)	\$380,088.00
June 2023 Sunday Offertory Collections	\$27,731.00
June 2023 Sunday Offertory Collections (Goal)	\$29,152.00
Annual Appeal (Goal)	\$91,995.00
Annual Appeal (Reached)	\$91,995.00

"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.

CYO Family Camp

Register Now!

3 Day Camp August 6-8, 2023

4 Day Camp August 10-13, 2023

Disconnect & be with your family in the redwoods of Occidental. Build tighter bonds through discovering nature & enjoying activities.

Swimming, Archery, Night Hike & Stargazing, Campfires, Canoeing, Arts & Crafts, Games

Go to tinyurl.com/cyofamilycamp23 for more information



Knit & Pray

Knit & Pray meets this Monday, July 24th, in the St. Denis hall.

All are welcome!



Senior Luncheon

There is a Senior Luncheon & Communion Service at St. Denis Wednesday, August 2nd at noon in the parish hall patio.

All seniors & friends are invited.



Support Your Parish!

Financially supporting your parish helps us 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 Egiving. Simply use the QR Codes, or go to our website stdenisparish.org to find the links to set up your donation. If you need assistance call WeShare 877 316-0260. We thank you for your support!

St. Denis QR Code



OLW QR Code

