

# 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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Dede Waters-Masters  
Pastoral Minister in charge of  
Liturgy and Senior Services  
dianawatersmasters@gmail.com  
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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

**Have you found the pearl of great price?**



**July 30th, 2023 17th 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

Today's Gospel concludes three weeks of readings from the 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Matthew's Gospel. Throughout these three weeks we have heard Jesus teaching crowds about the kingdom of heaven, and we have heard Jesus interpret some of his teachings for the disciples. In this week's Gospel, Jesus offers three more short parables.

The first two parables describe the great value of the kingdom of heaven. In the first parable, Jesus says that the kingdom of heaven is like a buried treasure that is worth possessing even if it means giving up everything else. In the second parable, Jesus proposes that the kingdom of heaven is like a pearl of great worth for which one will sell everything else to possess. These parables teach us that we are to place everything we value in the service of the pursuit of the Kingdom of God.

The third parable that Jesus proposes in today's Gospel is different from the first two, but it is reminiscent of the parable of the sower heard in last week's Gospel. The kingdom of heaven is compared to fishing with a wide net. After the fish have been collected, the good fish are kept and the bad fish are thrown away; so too, in the final judgment, will the wicked and the righteous be separated.

Today's Gospel concludes with a curious statement about the scribe who understands the kingdom of heaven. Here a metaphor is offered: this scribe is like the head of a household who "brings from his storeroom both the new and the old." The scribes referred to here are experts of Mosaic law. It is possible that Jesus is here instructing the early Christian community on how to proceed in the interpretation of Jewish law with respect to Jesus' "new" teaching. Jesus' teaching about the kingdom of heaven does not replace the Jewish tradition; it interprets it in a different light.

Loyola Press "Sunday Connection"

## We Believe

In the first, "The Parable of the Hidden Treasure," we are urged to recognize the gifts that are often discovered in unexpectedly ordinary places. In one of my spiritual group gatherings, we often come together and share our "God sightings," those surprising gifts bestowed upon us by our gracious God. This practice has cultivated gratitude and an appreciation of God at work in other people's lives as well as my own

Next is the "Parable of the Pearl Merchant." Here we find an emphasis on the importance discernment and prioritization. Similar to the merchant who searches for the priceless pearl, we, too, are challenged to figure out our focus as followers of Christ, opting for what truly matters and letting go of the less significant things along our journey. Exploring this parable has the potential to make the "balancing act" in which many of us dwell, a little more balanced.

Thirdly, "The Parable of the Nets" directs us towards inclusivity and urges us to refrain from making prejudiced judgments about others. In our diverse world, it is not our responsibility to categorize people as "good or "bad;" rather, our focus should be on living our lives authentically as dedicated followers of Christ. The saying, "Hate the sin, but love the sinner," is a real challenge in today's political climate. I personally struggle with this every day myself, but when I run across folks who treat others with reverential dignity as Children of God, I am often inspired to do better.

By reflecting on these parables and deriving meaning from them, we can all deepen our faith and strengthen our connection with God.

Dede Waters-Masters

## Mass Intentions

### St. Denis Church

Sat. July	29	5:30 pm	For those with mental illness
Sun. July	30	7:30 am	For the homeless
		9:30 am	Gary Patrindal (living)
		11:30 am	Judy Everly (+)
Mon. July	31	8:00 am	Gary Patrindal (living)
Tues. Aug.	1	8:00 am	For teachers
Wed. Aug.	2	8:00 am	For peacemakers
Thurs. Aug.	3	8:00 am	In thanksgiving
Fri. Aug.	4	8:00 am	For the care of our planet



### Our Lady of the Wayside Church

Sat. July	29	4:30 pm	For those with mental illness
Sun. July	30	9:30 am	For those with mental illness

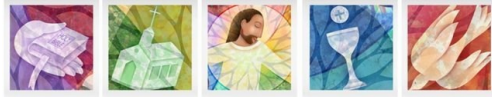
In your charity, please pray for...

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

Time to register your children for another year of Faith Formation! Just go to the parish website at [www.stdenisparish.org](http://www.stdenisparish.org) and click the Faith Formation tab. There you will find schedules and forms and all the information you need. Or contact Lucy Soltau at [lsoltau@stdenisparish.org](mailto:lsoltau@stdenisparish.org) for more details.



*Faith Formation*

### NEW THIS YEAR!!

#### BEGINNING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Our elementary grades PreK to 6<sup>th</sup> will meet Sunday mornings at 9:00am. 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. Meet other parents, talk about the Sunday scriptures, share ideas, facilitated by our catechists and others.

### 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

Wisdom comes from experience and reflection.  
What experiences have I had that have given me wisdom?  
Can I share that wisdom with others?

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](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 877 316-0260.

# Missionary Cooperation Plan



Kabale Diocese is one of the 19 dioceses in Uganda located in the southwestern corner of the country—about 280 miles from the capital city of Kampala. We serve a population of about 1.8 million people, and 800,000 are Roman Catholic. The vast majority of the people we serve are located in rural, underserved, and mostly remote areas of the country. Most critical among the challenges they face is healthcare. Leading causes of death in Uganda include neonatal disorders, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, lower respiratory infections, diarrheal diseases, congenital defects, heart disease, stroke, road injury, and malnutrition.

## Purpose of the appeal

The purpose of my request is to seek financial support toward the development of a hospital for the rural poor—Our Lady of Good Health Hospital Rushoroza. Through the gracious generosity of many, we have managed to complete the initial phase—outpatient department, minor operating room, medical/ surgical ward and small delivery/maternity unit. We are transitioning into the next phase for which we are seeking assistance, a phase that comprises of children's ward, dental, ophthalmology, radiology, medical laboratory units, and expansion on emergency room, operating room, maternity unit, and ambulance services. Our one and only ambulance is 16 years old and almost beyond repair.

We are also seeking assistance to support our long-term Kabale Diocese Orphaned and Vulnerable Children Program. Through our foster home care program, we provide out-reach support to orphaned children the vast majority of whom have lost both parents and are left all alone to fend for themselves. We provide them with shelter, school tuition, clothing, and healthcare. We are currently supporting 540 children out of well over 20,000 greatly in need of help.

Additionally, although we are eternally grateful for the gift of vocations, currently 78 major seminarians and 820 catechists, we face a mounting challenge of their training and formation costs—\$400/year for one seminarian, and 150 for one catechist in training.

Any measure of outreach help will be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely in the Lord,

Rev. Frederick K. Byaruhanga

Diocesan Representative

## 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](http://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

