

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



**September 17th, 2023 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Catechetical Sunday**

(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,

The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger and rich in kindness. Do we believe this statement? Hopefully we do. It is more than a statement though. It is the truth. This is what we believe and profess as Catholics. This is our faith.

Perhaps we have seen too many television shows or movies that depict an angry God. God detests sin, but not the sinner. There are many parables in the Gospel that depict a patient and loving God who longs for us to have a change of heart: The Prodigal Son, the Gardener and the Fig Tree and the Woman Caught in Adultery to name a few. God waits as long as it takes for us to come to our senses. We have up to our last breath to ask for forgiveness from God.

Unfortunately, we are the ones who are quick to condemn and harshly judge others, and even ourselves. Every once in awhile I'll say to a parishioners who cannot occasionally make it to mass do to taking care of a sick parent, "God understands," God understands our particular situation. Let us not forget what we profess as true. The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger and rich in kindness.

God bless, Fr. Paul

About the Gospel

Today's gospel stresses the importance of forgiveness and the idea that God's forgiveness should inspire us to forgive others. Jesus illustrates the hypocrisy of expecting mercy for ourselves while withholding it from others.

Forgiveness can actually render some significant personal benefits. Emotional well-being, closure, and a sense of peace are strong incentives to forgive. By letting go of anger, resentment, and grudges, we free ourselves from the heavy burden of negative emotions, allowing space for positivity and healing. Holding onto anger and resentment can contribute to increased stress and anxiety levels.

Forgiveness has been linked to improved mental health outcomes, including reduced symptoms of depression and anxiety. When we direct ourselves towards forgiveness, we open up the possibility of releasing emotional baggage, thereby promoting a healthier mindset..

Sometimes forgiveness can strengthen relationships and foster deeper connections. By letting go of past hurts, there can be space for healing and reconciliation. Putting ourselves in the shoes of the person who wronged us can lead to improved communication, conflict resolution skills, and a greater ability to see things from different perspectives.

Forgiveness can be a transformative experience that promotes personal growth and resilience that can help carry us through future challenges. Letting go of negativity can also improve our physical health by lowering our blood pressure, reducing our heart rates, and enhancing our immune systems.

While we do not condone hurtful actions of others, we seek to let go of the negative burdens that these actions bring whenever possible. It's important to establish healthy boundaries and prioritize our own well-being while forgiving. Forgiveness is a personal journey, a grace-filled process.

Dede Waters-Masters

Mass Intentions

St. Denis Church

Sat. Sept. 16	5:30 pm	Guido & Florence Budelli (+)
Sun. Sept. 17	7:30 am	Don & Gail Dugan (+)
	9:30 am	Don & Gail Dugan (+)
	11:30 am	Alice Ragan (+)
Mon. Sept. 18	8:00 am	God's kingdom to come
Tues. Sept. 19	8:00 am	God's will to be done
Wed. Sept. 20	8:00 am	for all our needs
Thurs. Sept. 21	8:00 am	for forgiveness
Fri. Sept. 22	8:00 am	for protection

Our Lady of the Wayside Church

Sat. Sept. 16	4:30 pm	Special Intentions of the OLW community
Sun. Sept. 17	9:30 am	Special Intentions of the OLW community

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 use this link for the registration form: <https://stdenisparish.org/religiousedreg> There you will find schedules and forms and all the information you need. Or contact Lucy Soltau at lsoltau@stdenisparish.org for more details.



Faith Formation

NEW THIS YEAR!!

BEGINNING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Our elementary grades PreK to 6th will meet Sunday mornings at 9:00am.

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.

REGISTER NOW at

<https://stdenisparish.org/religiousedreg>

Question Of The Week

If we're honest, we want to be forgiven for our sins, but don't really want to forgive others!

Who do I need to forgive? Who needs my mercy and compassion?

When was the last time I went to confession?

Knit and Pray



Monday, September 25

4:00pm

In the parish library

Join us!

Blessing our Catechists

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

We have some great catechists helping to form the faith of our young people!

Dede Waters-Masters leads the preschool/ kindergarten with the help of Zoe Hayward, Baird & Ethan Radford lead the first grade, Lisa Cooper has the second grade/First Communion preparation group, Yvonne Schmidt & Michelle Donatelli lead the third/fourth grade, Mark Leake will lead the fifth/sixth grade group, and Yolanda Cheung will help lead the Confirmation preparation.

Please join us at the 9:30am Mass to bless them for the new school year.

If you would like to be a catechist too, just contact Lucy at lsoltau@stdenisparish.org

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 dewm@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, 2023 to June 30th, 2024 (Goal)	TBD
July 1, 2023 to June, 2024 (Received so far)	\$31,372.00
July 2023 Sunday Offertory Collections	\$31,372.00
July 2023 Sunday Offertory Collections (Goal)	TBD

"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.

After school snacks for St. Francis Center

We are collecting snacks for St Francis Center school children to keep them nourished. Please drop any of the below items in the barrels at the back of church and we will get them to St Francis. If you would rather make a donation, write your check to St Denis and put on the memo line St Francis snack collection.

Granola bars

Nut bars or bags of nuts

Fruit leather or snacks

Microwave popcorn

Meat snack sticks

personal size bags of Gold fish, pretzels, graham crackers, cookies, cheese crackers or peanut butter crackers



Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Lay Mission Project



LAY
MISSION
PROJECT

**Not sure about
your role as a
Lay Catholic?**

Learn about your vital
mission in the Church
with the Lay Mission
Project. Visit
laymission.net



← OR SCAN HERE

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

