

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
By appointment, St. Denis

Office Hours
M-F, 9:00 am—2:00 pm



September 24th, 2023 25th 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

Pastor's Corner

Dear Beloved Parishioners,

As hard as it may be to accept, God's ways are not our ways. If we are honest with ourselves, our ways may not always be fair or just. At times we tend to be stingy not only with our money, but also with our mercy and forgiveness. We only give what we believe someone deserves. Whenever I go out to dinner with my friends, I like to see how much they tip. Do they give 20% or 10%. Believe it or not, I always give 20%. This is quite remarkable given how stingy I am.

When our God gives, he gives in abundance. Were there not 12 wicker baskets full of food after multiplying the fish and loaves to feed five thousand people. The Psalms mentions that God is rich in mercy and full of compassion towards his people. In today's gospel passage, our God gives quite generously to the laborers, especially those he hires late in the day. The real meaning of hiring the laborers throughout the day is that God's mercy and forgiveness is given equally to all. Even to those who repent their sins late in their lives, up to their very last breath.

By the grace of God go I. Most of us live a faith filled life. Most of us live the teachings of Jesus, and stay on the straight and narrow path. Some though lose their footing by falling into temptation and sin. It does not take much to make the wrong choice and decision that leads us away from God. A little lie here or a little greed there. Unchecked, little sins add up. Before we know it, we have lost our way. Sometimes it takes nearly a life time for some people to come to their senses. When they do, should they not receive God's forgiveness and mercy as we have?

God bless, Fr. Paul

About the Gospel

In Matthew 20:1-16, the "Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard," Jesus tells a story about a landowner who hires workers at different times during the day, but pays each worker the same wage, disregarding the number of hours they worked. The reaction of the workers who have put in a full day is justified by our usual standards, but Jesus is trying to get us to expand our judgments.

This parable illustrates God's generosity, who, like the landowner, is not bound by "the rules," a potent reminder that God's gifts are freely given to everybody and cannot be "earned." God's timing may not be our timing.

Today's gospel challenges our notions of fairness and justice. In God's view, everyone is deserving of God's love and blessings. This parable reminds us to avoid comparing ourselves to others. Our own relationship with God should our focus. When others receive God's blessings, it is not up to us to judge if they "deserve" them.

Finally, just as the different workers responded spontaneously to the owner's varied requests to work, so, too, are we challenged to answer God's call, no matter where or when, even when our time may be short.

Overall, the parable of the Workers in the Vineyard gives us the opportunity to reflect on our own attitudes. By examining more deeply our ideas about fairness, equality, and service, we can move towards cultivating a mindset of holy generosity that is more in tune with God's.

Dede Waters-Masters

Mass Intentions

St. Denis Church

Sat. Sept. 23 5:30 pm Religious Ed. families & teachers
Sun. Sept. 24 7:30 am Franklin Bautista (+)
9:30 am Religious Ed. families & teachers
11:30 am Cherill Bassett (+)
Mon. Sept. 25 8:00 am Isabel Garcia (+)
Tues. Sept. 26 8:00 am For those that heal the sick
Wed. Sept. 27 8:00 am For prisoners
Thurs. Sept. 28 8:00 am For the sick
Fri. Sept. 29 8:00 am National unity

Our Lady of the Wayside Church

Sat. Sept. 23 4:30 pm The Rose Family (+)
Sun. Sept. 24 9:30 am For the parishioners of
Our Lady of the Wayside

In your charity, please pray for...

Frans Mertens, 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.

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>

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION BEGINS TODAY

For those in 7th and 8th grade, or above, our group begins today at the 11:30am Mass, followed by lunch and class til 2:00pm. Bring your Bible! For more information, contact Lucy at lsoltau@stdenisparish.org

FIRST COMMUNION PARENTS MEETING

Next Sunday, October 1 at 10:30am in the church (between Masses)

We'll be talking about preparing the children for First Reconciliation. Please pick up your folders & materials for home.

Question Of The Week

God doesn't care how long it takes for us to realize we need God in our lives.

What has happened in my life recently that makes me aware of my need for God?

How can I turn to God more often?

Senior Lunch & Communion Service

Join fellow seniors this Wednesday, September 27th at noon for Communion Service and Lunch in the parish hall patio.



Knit & Pray

Knit & Pray meets this Monday, September 25th at 4:00pm in the parish library.

Join us!



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, 2023 to June 30th, 2024 (Goal)	TBD
July 1, 2023 to June, 2024 (Received so far)	\$58,084.00
August 2023 Sunday Offertory Collections	\$26,712.00
August 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

