

# 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  
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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



**January 7th, 2024 The Epiphany of the Lord**

(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

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . ." The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a savior. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.

## About the Gospel

The familiar story of the three wise men found in Matthew's gospel reminds us to be seekers of truth, willing to go out of our safe and familiar zones in our search to find the holy. The Magi were open to new revelations and they responded to finding Jesus by giving their best offerings, the gift of their actual visit and the gifts they brought along with them.

We are told that the Magi openly worshipped Jesus when they met this poor unlikely family. Their unbiased approach models respect and humility. The three kings were not Jews—but God led these foreigners to the Messiah, and they readily responded to this divine invitation. The child they found was not surrounded in the splendor customary bestowed on a king, but still he was recognized as God's gift to the world. This is a strong reminder to us to be open to revelation and to accept all people regardless of their background or status.

The star in this gospel account reminds us to pay attention to the signs and wonders God provides back then and now. King Herod responds to this divine invitation with jealousy and fear, demonstrating an all too familiar reaction when a particular world view is threatened. Pride, as demonstrated by Herod, and the greedy pursuit and maintenance of power are barriers to discovering faith and truth.

The story of the Magi encourages us to seek truth, worship God, embrace inclusivity, and trust divine guidance, admirable goals to incorporate into our lives as we begin 2024!

Dede Waters-Masters

## Mass Intentions

### St. Denis Church

Sat. Jan. 6	5:30 pm	For those with disabilities
Sun. Jan. 7	7:30 am	For missionaries
	9:30 am	Claudine Tariche (+)
	11:30 am	Victims of earthquakes
Mon. Jan. 8	8:00 am	Tyler Scheetz (+)
Tues. Jan. 9	8:00 am	Victims of earthquakes
Wed. Jan. 10	8:00 am	For diversity in the Church
Thurs Jan. 11	8:00 am	In gratitude
Fri. Jan. 12	8:00 am	For those struggling financially

### Our Lady of the Wayside Church

Sat. Jan. 6	4:30 pm	For Christian unity
Sun. Jan. 7	9:30 am	For the safety of travelers

In your charity, please pray for...

EM, Frans Mertens, 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

Our elementary grades PreK to 6<sup>th</sup> are meeting Sunday mornings at 9:00am.

Our Confirmation group meets on selected Sundays at 11:30am.

Parents are welcome to join us on the patio at 9:00am for discussion of Sunday readings, share ideas, etc. Please use this link to register: <https://stdenisparish.org/religiousedreg>

There you will find our schedules and other information about activities and events for families. Contact Lucy Soltau at [lsoltau@stdenisparish.org](mailto:lsoltau@stdenisparish.org) for more information.



*Faith Formation*

### FAITH FORMATION CHRISTMAS BREAK

There are NO CLASSES on December 24, 31, January 7, 14 due to all the school holidays!

Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year and we'll see you all back on January 21, 2024!

### Question Of The Week

Wise people still seek the Lord, in unexpected places.  
Am I looking for the Lord? Where do I look?  
I won't see him if I'm not looking....

## Pauline Sister Mass Of Thanksgiving

The Daughters of St. Paul will be closing their Pauline Book & Media Center in Menlo Park this winter. For more information about the redesign & reconfiguration of our U.S. presence, to stay connected with us, or to email us your questions or prayer intentions, please visit: [connect.pauline.org/onthemove](https://connect.pauline.org/onthemove)



## Ignatian Mindfulness: Godfullness

The Jesuit Retreat Center of Los Altos is hosting a silent retreat Ignatian Mindfulness: Godfullness on Friday, January 26, 3:00 pm thru Sunday, January 28th, 1:00 pm. For more information click on the link below.

<https://jrc.retreatportal.com/calendar/event?programcode=24SON03792>



THE JESUIT  
RETREAT CENTER  
OF LOS ALTOS

## 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 [dianawatersmasters@gmail.com](mailto:dianawatersmasters@gmail.com)

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)	\$392,200.00
July 1, 2023 to June, 2024 (Received so far)	\$150,755.00
December 2023 Sunday Offertory Collections	\$56,606.00
December 2023 Sunday Offertory Collections (Goal)	\$38,451.00
Christmas Collections	\$26,733.00

### "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](https://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.



## Senior Luncheon & Communion Service

Start the new year off with other seniors for a Communion Service & Senior Luncheon this Monday, January 8th at noon in the St. Denis hall. All seniors & their caregivers are welcome!



## Senior Luncheon & Communion Service

Knit & Pray meets Monday, January 22nd at 4:00 pm in the St. Denis parish hall. All are welcome!



## St. Anthony Volunteer Opportunities

St. Anthony's Dining Room in Menlo Park are looking for volunteers to help with everyday prep work and serving. If you're interested contact Ruth Gilroy at [paduadiningroom@gmail.com](mailto:paduadiningroom@gmail.com) or Rickey Ono at [rickeyono5@gmail.com](mailto:rickeyono5@gmail.com).



## 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

