

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

Righteous Anger John 2:13-25



March 3rd, 2024 Third Sunday of Lent

(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 we read about how Jesus overturned the tables of the merchants and the moneychangers in the Temple at Jerusalem. In order to understand the relevance of Jesus' action, we must learn more about the activities that were going on in the temple area. Worship at the Temple in Jerusalem included animal sacrifice, and merchants sold animals to worshippers. Moneychangers exchanged Roman coins, which bore the image of the Roman emperor, for the temple coins that were needed to pay the temple tax.

Jesus' action at the Temple in Jerusalem is recorded in all four Gospels and is often understood to be among the events that led to Jesus' arrest and Crucifixion. The Gospel of John, however, places this event much earlier in Jesus' public ministry than do the Synoptic Gospels. In John's Gospel this event occurs at the very beginning of Jesus' ministry, after his first miracle at the wedding feast at Cana.

We must read the Gospel of John carefully, especially in its presentation of Jesus' relationship to Judaism. The Gospel of John tends to reflect greater tension and animosity between Jesus and the Jewish authorities than the Synoptic Gospels. The Gospel of John was the last of the four Gospels to be written, and its narrative reflects the growing divide between the Jewish community and the early Christian community. Thus, greater emphasis on the distinction between Christianity and Judaism is found in John's Gospel.

Reflecting upon the destruction of the Temple of Jerusalem (A.D. 70), John recalls Jesus' cleansing of the Temple and uses that story to interpret this later event. John explains to his audience, an early Christian community, that temple worship would no longer be necessary because it was surpassed in the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus. With greater frequency than the other Evangelists, John intersperses post-Resurrection reflections of this Christian community in his narrative.

After clearing the Temple of the merchants and the moneychangers, John's Gospel tells us that the people asked for a sign of Jesus' authority to do such an audacious act. In response, Jesus predicted his death and Resurrection. Throughout John's Gospel, the language of signs is distinctive. Jesus' miracles are called signs, and the people look to these signs for proof of his authority. Here we learn that the sign par excellence will be Jesus' passion, death, and Resurrection.

During Lent we reflect upon the meaning of this sign for us and for our world. We might take this opportunity to consider the quality of our prayer and worship. In our prayers we seek to deepen our relationship with the person of Christ. In our worship with the community, we gather to experience anew the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus and its significance in our lives. Christ promises to be present with us when we gather for prayer.

Loyola Press "Sunday Connection"

About the Gospel

The idea of Jesus displaying anger, as in today's gospel reading, in such a forceful way may challenge our perception of him as a peaceful and healing figure. In our overall consideration of Jesus' teaching, the possibility of being so angry without sinning could initially be perplexing, but it offers us an opportunity to examine righteous anger and how we might handle it in our own lives.

Righteous anger is typically seen as anger that is justified and directed towards addressing injustice, wrongdoing, or sin. In the case of Jesus' cleansing of the temple, his anger was justifiably directed at the corruption and exploitation happening within a sacred place.

As believers we are encouraged to express anger constructively, moving towards resolution and reconciliation rather than causing harm or division. In the expression of righteous anger, it is important that we try to address the specific issue directly, listen attentively, try to find common ground, use positive non-accusatory language, express anger at the action of persons rather than at their character, and seek a concrete resolution or mutual understanding.

Like me, if you have experienced righteous anger, these goals are a tall order, and perhaps we can take comfort in finding, that in today's gospel, Jesus also seems to have forgotten them in the heat of the moment!

Dede Waters-Masters

Mass Intentions

St. Denis Church

Sat. Mar. 2 5:30 pm Suzanne Schaffner (+)
 Sun. Mar. 3 7:30 am Janice Covolo (+)
 9:30 am Jose & Celedonia Payawal (+)
 11:30 am Peace in the Middle East
 Mon. Mar. 4 8:00 am Terrence Donohoe (+)
 Tues. Mar. 5 8:00 am For families in crisis
 Wed. Mar. 6 8:00 am For caretakers
 Thurs Mar.7 8:00 am For mothers
 Fri. Mar.8 8:00 am Gordian Boteilho (+)

Our Lady of the Wayside Church

Sat. Mar. 2 4:30 pm Those suffering Mental illness

Sun. Feb. 25 9:30 am For modern day martyrs

Long time parishioner of St. Denis, Don Lowry passed away peacefully last Saturday night. Don was 102 years old and served on several committees here over the years. Please keep his family in your prayers.

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 6th 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 for more information.



FIRST COMMUNION FAMILY WORKSHOP

TODAY, Sunday, March 3 at 1:00pm in the church.

Parents AND children can come and explore the symbols and rituals of the Sacraments.

Also, pick up your materials for home and your banner kits.

Question Of The Week

Jesus showed his justified anger at those who made material goods more important than God. If I'm honest, what gets more of my attention? The things of this world, or the things of heaven? Am I putting my material life ahead of my faith life?

Lenten Retreat-Seder Meal

Our Lenten Retreat-Seder Ritual is this Tuesday, March 5th. Everyone is invited to this Lenten event beginning at 11:00 am in the parish hall. We will start our time together with prayer & reflection, & move into our seder ritual & meal. Come & recall with us the meal Jesus celebrated with his apostles the night before he died! ***We Need your RSVP to insure we have enough provisions by the evening of Sunday, March 3rd. Call Dede at 650 854-5976 ext. 4 or email dianawatersmasters@gmail.com***



Thank You!

The St Vincent De Paul conference at St Francis of Assisi would like to thank St Denis Parishioners who contributed food or money to their food pantry. Those interested in donating, contact Stewart Hyland at 650-384-1665 or stewart.hyland@gmail.com.

Sneaker & Socks Collection

The Sisters & Associates of Notre Dame de Namur are collecting sneakers & socks for children at their refugee processing center in Phoenix. If you can help, please put your donations in the box at the back of both church.



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

NOTE: Announcement may not appear 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)	\$241,240.00
January 2024 Sunday Offertory Collections	\$33,879.00
January 2024 Sunday Offertory Collections (Goal)	\$30,761.00
Annual Appeal 2024 (Goal)	\$89,282.00
Annual Appeal 2024 Collections (Received so far)	\$47,475.00

"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.

Lenten Schedule

Every Friday during Lent at 8:00 am at St. Denis Mass, Stations of the Cross

Seder Meal (Passover supper) Tuesday, March 5th at 11:00 am, & Saturday March 23rd after the 5:30 pm Mass.

The Triduum (March 28, 29, 30, 31)

Holy Thursday 7:00 pm at St. Denis (Mass with feet washing, Benediction)

Good Friday services Noon at St. Denis (Stations, Passion, Adoration of Cross, Communion)

Easter Vigil 7:00 pm at St. Denis

Easter Sunday Regular Sunday schedules.

Participate In The Synod On Synodality!

Pope Francis invites the whole Church to participate in the next phase of the Synod on Synodality through engagement sessions that will inform the upcoming Synod of Bishops on Synodality in October 2024.

Engagement Sessions are taking place in each county this Lent. Contact Teresita Contreras at tcontreras@stmatthewcath.org

San Mateo:

When: Friday, March 8, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Where: St. Matthew Catholic Church
1 Notre Dame Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94402



Pray, Fast, Give

Take a Rice Bowl home and use it to help your Lenten practices.

Pray for those in need, make a sacrifice, then put that sacrifice in the bowl!

Filled bowls will be collected during Holy Week and Easter season.



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

