

November 30, 2014, 1st Sunday in Advent

Saint Denis Parish

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.



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Mass Times

St. Denis Church

Saturday: 5:30 pm (Vigil)
Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am
Monday-Friday: 8:00 am

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
Saturday: 5:00 pm, St. Denis

St. Denis Church

2250 Avy Avenue • Menlo Park

St. Denis Office Hours: M-F, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

(650) 854-5976

www.stdenisparish.org

Our Lady of the Wayside Church

930 Portola Road • Portola Valley

Pastor's Corner

Dear fellow members of St. Denis and Our Lady of the Wayside,

We begin another liturgical year with the First Sunday of Advent. The purpose of Advent is to help us to prepare ourselves for the celebration of the Birth of Christ. The readings of this season tell us how God prepared the people of Israel for the Birth of the Savior, Jesus Christ. We are the beneficiaries of all the promises God made to the people of Israel. May this season of advent help us to appreciate the great blessings that God has given us in the person of Jesus Christ.

We inaugurate the giving tree on the first Sunday of Advent. I would like to invite you all to participate in it. May our generosity bring joy and cheer to those who are not as blessed and fortunate as we are, during the Christmas season!

Yours sincerely,
Fr. Jose Shaji, Pastor

Gospel Reading

Jesus said to his disciples: "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his own work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch. Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"

Mass Intentions

	<u>St. Denis</u>	<u>Our Lady of the Wayside</u>
Sat. 11/29	5:30pm Pat Smyth† (Mary Schleifer)	4:30pm Mrs. Alexandria (Emmanuel Vonderlinden)
Sun. 11/30	7:30am Irene Goodwint† (Elaine Schack) 9:30am Dick Kusa† (Mary Rapp) 11:30am George† & Terry† Edel & Family (Rose Edel)	9:30am for the parishioners of OLW
Mon. 12/01	8:00am Mary Margaret Koch†	
Tue. 12/02	8:00am for the parishioners of St. Denis	
Wed. 12/03	8:00am for the parishioners of St. Denis	
Thu. 12/04	8:00am for the parishioners of St. Denis	
Fri. 12/05	8:00am Fr. Eugene Duggan† (Frank Koch)	

In your charity, please pray for...

Carol Armstrong, Agnes Babcock, Louise Brent, Mike Carragee, Lily Chan, Sandra Dailey, Gertrude DeZelaya, Bob Ellis, Amelia Elsbree, Michael Fil, Susan Fil, Ruben Fuentez, Johnny Gentry, Lauren Goode, Michael Ho, Ryan Johnston, Maurice Kidd, Lisa Kitz, Matthew Lear, Phyllis Lucas, Luke Mars, Ann Martin, Sheri Martin, Dorothy Meyers, Dennis Miller, Rozeh Nikili, Lorraine O'Connor, Lorie Ortega, Angie Real, Jim Rock, Raymond Schaaf Sr, Aileen Schiel, Kathy Schoendorf, Lilly Schulte, Marie Scott, Omid Sharif, Dorothy Skala, Frank Vitale, David Welling, Bev Wheat, Mila Wright, William Yates, Ada Zilli and Jean Zonner.

Please call the parish office if you would like to receive Holy Communion at home.

Saint of the Week: St. Nicolas, Bishop

December 6 - Born in Patara, a land that is part of present-day Turkey, circa 280, St. Nicholas was a Christian bishop who helped the needy. After his death, the legend of his gift-giving grew. St. Nicholas transformed into the legendary character called Santa Claus, who brings Christmas presents to children around the world. He lost both of his parents as a young man and reportedly used his inheritance to help the poor and sick. A devout Christian, he later served as bishop of Myra, a city that is now called Demre.



There are many legends about St. Nicholas of Myra. One story tells how he helped three poor sisters. Their father did not have enough money to pay their dowries and thought of selling them into servitude. Three times, St. Nicholas secretly went to their house at night and put a bag of money inside. The man used the money so that one of his daughters could marry. On the third visit, the man saw St. Nicholas and thanked him for his kindness. Several sources state St. Nicholas is believed to have died on December 6, 343. Over the years, stories of his miracles and work for the poor spread to other parts of the world. He became known as the protector of children and sailors and was associated with gift-giving. He was a popular saint in Europe until the time of the Reformation in the 1500s, a religious movement that led to the creation of Protestantism, which turned away from the practice of honoring saints. St. Nicholas, however, remained an important figure in Holland. The Dutch continued to celebrate the feast day of St. Nicholas, December 6. It was a common practice for children to put out their shoes the night before. In the morning, they would discover the gifts that St. Nicholas had left there for them. Dutch immigrants brought St. Nicholas, known to them as Sint Nikolaas or by his nickname Sinter Klaas, and his gift-giving ways to America in the 1700s.

Musical Opportunities for Advent and Christmas

All parishioners are invited to become involved in music ministry.
Here is a detailed schedule of musical opportunities:

Children's Choir

rehearses after 9:30 am Mass 11/30, 12/7, 12/14, 12/23
sings at the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass, St. Denis

Adult Choir, OLW

rehearses Wednesday, 7:30 pm 12/10, 12/17
sings at the 9:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass, OLW

Adult Choir, St. Denis

rehearses Thursday, 7:00 pm 12/4, 12/11, 12/18
sings at the 6:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass, St. Denis

Musicians' Recital

Please join us on Sunday, December 21, 4:00 pm at St. Denis Church for an organ, piano and guitar recital and Christmas Carol Sing featuring our parish musicians: Kelly Lim, Ethan Williams, Bryan Lorentz and Jeffery Abbott.

Weekly Stewardship Report

November 22/23, 2014		November 23/24, 2013	
	<u>Sunday Collection</u>	<u>E-Giving</u>	
St. Denis	\$4,499.00	\$2,667.25	St. Denis
OLW	\$1,090.00	\$545.41	OLW
Total: \$8,801.66		Total: \$9,983.71	
Monthly Total, October 2014		Monthly Total, October 2013	
	<u>Sunday Collection</u>	<u>E-Giving</u>	
St. Denis	\$15,974.00	\$10,669.00	St. Denis
OLW	\$5,822.00	\$2,181.66	OLW
Total: \$34,646.66		Total: \$38,690.51	

Religious Ed

NO CLASSES—Happy Thanksgiving!

Next Sunday (12/7)

9:30am—Pre-K through 5th Grade

10:30-11:30am—6th/7th Grade

1pm-4pm—First Reconciliation Workshop
(2nd Graders and Parents)

Upcoming Dates & Events

12/6 (Sat) - Year 2 Confirmation Retreat

12/7 (Sun) - 1st Reconciliation Workshop

12/13 (Sat) - First Reconciliation (2nd Grade)

Christmas Giving Tree

The Christmas Giving Trees will be in both churches beginning Saturday, Nov. 29. Gift tags may be removed and attached to gifts that should be returned to the church no later than Sunday, Dec. 14. Please securely attach the tags to your gifts paying special attention to whether gift wrapping is required which will be noted on the back of each tag. Gifts will be delivered to St. Francis Center, Catholic Worker House, Maple Street Homeless Shelter and Hoover Pre-School. If you cannot take a tag but would prefer to contribute there will be a box in the back of each church for donations. Any amount is appreciated. Questions should be directed to **Marlene Hunter, (650) 325-4058**.

Wine and the Word

The next wine and the word will be on Monday, December 8, at 7:00 pm at St. Denis Rectory.

Christmas Tea

8th Annual Parish Christmas Tea

Gloria in Excelsis Deo

Saturday, December 13, 1:00-3:00 pm
St. Denis Parish Center

Guest Speaker:
Fr. Gladstone H. Stevens, S.S.

Tickets can be purchased (\$25.00 per guest) in the parish office, on the parish website or from Barbara Mason.

Caroling, Sweets & Savories

Our Lady of the Wayside will be having an afternoon of singing, sweets and savories on December 14, Sunday at 3:00 pm at the OLW Rectory. Everyone is invited to this celebration!

Men's Group

St Denis Parish will be forming a Men's Group. The purpose of the group is to come together to enrich ones faith, to bond, to socialize and to build community. The first gathering of the Men's group will be on Wednesday, December 4, at 7:00 pm at the St Denis Parish Hall. All the men in the parish are invited to the gathering.

Insight Series at Woodside Priory

"The Path of Beauty: Spirituality and Creativity"

Wednesday, December 3, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Presentation and Art Exhibit with Fr. Arthur Poulin

Monk and artist, Fr. Arthur Poulin, will present on the spirituality of his creative process, from which his paintings emerge. In response to his work, Sister Wendy Beckett said: "It is intense and strong, with a pure clear inner radiance that is a silent witness to your vocation."

Fr. Arthur's presentation will be accompanied by his artwork, which he will be exhibiting in Kriewall-Haehl Gallery located in the Rothrock Performing Arts Center, at Woodside Priory School, from **November 26 through December 18, 2014**. For questions or to RSVP, please contact: Carrie Rehak at crehak@prioryca.org.

Ministry Schedule

December 6/7

St. Denis

5:30pm Lector: Joan Mersch-Foss

E.M.: Brigitte Mornand, Tina Morris, Anne Marie Jewell

7:30am Lectors: James Tornes, Paul Kirincich

E.M.: Jackie Tornes, Bill & Gerri Beasley

9:30am Lectors: Roy Thiel-Sardina, Eileen Braunreiter

E.M.: Susanna Tang, Catherine Coluzzi*, Josephine Dorval, Marlene Hunter*, Barbara Mason

11:30am Lector: L. Lomardi

E.M.: S. Flax, P. Dewes, L. Marco

Our Lady of the Wayside

4:30pm Lector: Welling

E.M.: Welling, DeStaebler

9:30am Lector: Buckley

E.M.: Alfano B., Healey, Anderson