

December 25, The Nativity of the Lord
December 28, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

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.*



Parish Staff

Rev. Jose Shaji

Pastor
joshshaji.62@gmail.com
(650) 854-4071

Msgr. Jose Rodriguez

(650) 854-5976

Lindsey West

Dir. of Rel. Ed/Youth Ministry
lwest@stdenisparish.org
(650) 854-5976, ext. 102

Dede Waters-Masters

Liturgy Coordinator
& Senior Services
dmasters@stdenisparish.org
(650) 854-5976, ext. 110

Gina Morales

Administrative Assistant
gmorales@stdenisparish.org
(650) 854-5976, ext. 106

Jeffery Abbott

Director of Music
& Bulletin Editor
jabbott@stdenisparish.org
(650) 854-5976, ext. 101

Mass Times

St. Denis Church

Saturday: 5:30 pm (Vigil)
Sunday: 7:30, 9:30, 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, OLW
Saturday: 5:00 pm, St. Denis

Bulletin Cover Art:

Christine Ryu, 2nd grade

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,

Christmas is about incarnation, God's son taking on human nature in order to confer on us the dignity of the children of God. It is about Jesus, the Word made flesh. It is about God's love for us. God did not come to us as a judge but as Savior, to reveal to us our eternal destiny as children of God. This is the good news. This is the message that gives us joy and hope as we celebrate Christmas! You have been very busy preparing yourself for Christmas. Now that all that preparations are done, I am sure you can celebrate Christmas and the holidays with your family and friends. May this season be a celebration of love, joy and hope!

After Christmas I am leaving for India. I will be spending some time with my parents who are getting up in age. I will return on the 20th of January. Please pray that I may have a safe trip home and back. In my absence Msgr. Jose Rodriguez will be taking care of the parish. You can contact him for your Spiritual and parish needs.

I would like to thank all those who came to decorate the Church at OLW and St Denis on Sunday 21st of December. The churches look very pretty! Thank you!

Let me wish you all a Merry Christmas!

Yours sincerely,
Fr. Jose Shaji, Pastor

Gospel Reading

When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, they took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Mass Intentions

	<u>St. Denis</u>	<u>Our Lady of the Wayside</u>
Wed. 12/24	4:00pm parishioners of St. Denis 6:00pm parishioners of St. Denis	4:00pm parishioners of OLW 9:00pm parishioners of OLW
Thu. 12/25	7:30am parishioners of St. Denis 9:30am parishioners of St. Denis 11:30am parishioners of St. Denis	9:30am parishioners of OLW
Fri. 12/26	8:00am parishioners of St. Denis	
Sat. 12/27	5:30pm Mary Margaret Koch†	4:30pm parishioners of OLW
Sun. 12/28	7:30am Irene Goodwin† (Elaine Schack) 9:30am Pauline Diaz† (Irene Oncley & Jose Diaz) 11:30am Bob McMahan† (MC McMahoan)	9:30am parishioners of OLW
Mon. 12/29	8:00am parishioners of St. Denis	
Tue. 12/30	8:00am Mary Margaret Koch† (Frank Koch)	
Wed. 12/31	8:00am parishioners of St. Denis	
Thu. 1/01	8:00am parishioners of St. Denis 5:00pm parishioners of St. Denis	9:00am parishioners of OLW
Fri. 1/02	8:00am parishioners of St. Denis	

In your charity, please pray for...

Carol Armstrong, Agnes Babcock, Bob Bark, 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, Marie Scott, Omid Sharif, Dorothy Skala, Frank Vitale, David Welling, Bev Wheat, Mila Wright, William Yates, Ada Zilli and Jean Zonner.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (January 1)



The honoring of Mary as the Mother of God can be traced back to the Council of Ephesus in 431. By the 7th century, January 1st was observed as a celebration of the Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In the 13th century, the Feast of the Circumcision of Christ had come to replace the feast honoring Mary; however in 1751, after a push in Portugal for an official feast day celebrating Mary's divine maternity, Pope Benedict XIV allowed Portugal's churches to devote a feast to Mary on the first Sunday in May. Eventually, the feast extended to other countries, and in 1914 began to be observed on October 11. In 1931, Pope Pius XI extended the feast to the entire church, and in 1974, Pope Paul VI removed the feast of the Circumcision of Christ from the liturgical calendar and replaced it with the feast of the "Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God", bringing Mary's feast day back to the first day of the year.

The feast is a celebration of Mary's motherhood of Jesus. The title "Mother of God" is a western derivation from the Greek Theotokos, which means "God-bearer". On this day, we are reminded of the role that the Blessed Virgin played in the plan of our salvation. Through the Holy Spirit, God the Father prepared Mary to be the dwelling place where His Son and His Spirit could dwell among us. Christ's birth was made possible by Mary's fiat, "Be it done to me according to thy word". The solemnity is celebrated on the 1st of January.

Annual Christmas Tea

The Parish Tea Committee would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended and contributed to the 8th Annual Parish Christmas Tea "Gloria In Excelsis Deo".

**We wish you all a
Very Merry Blessed Christmas.**



The parish office will be closed December 26, December 31, January 1 and January 2.

Weekly Stewardship Report

December 20/21, 2014			December 21/22, 2013		
	Sunday Collection	E-Giving		Sunday Collection	E-Giving
St. Denis	\$3,169.00	\$2,667.25	St. Denis	\$3,808.00	\$2,635.04
OLW	\$1,402.00	\$545.41	OLW	\$907.00	\$578.34
Total: \$7,783.66			Total: \$7,928.38		
Monthly Total, November 2014			Monthly Total, November 2013		
	Sunday Collection	E-Giving		Sunday Collection	E-Giving
St. Denis	\$19,503.00	\$11,589.66	St. Denis	\$24,574.00	\$10,511.00
OLW	\$6,339.00	\$1,984.16	OLW	\$5,090.00	\$2,562.00
Total: \$39,415.82			Total: \$42,737.00		

Religious Education

THIS Sunday, Dec. 28
No Classes – Christmas Break

Classes Resume Sunday, January 11th

Upcoming Dates & Events
1/18 (Sun) - Altar Server Appreciation Bowling Party

Merry Christmas, safe travels, and a blessed start to 2015! Thank you for being a part of the Religious Ed family at St. Denis Parish.

Youth Fundraising Dinner

Get Your Tickets!

The Annual Youth Fundraising Dinner is Saturday, January 31st at 6:30pm.
Proceeds towards our fundraising dinner go to support youth enrichment trips such as the Teen Leadership Conference in June 2015 and, especially, World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland in Summer 2016.

Tickets on sale this Sunday after the 9:30am and 11:30am Mass at St. Denis Church! Or contact Lindsey in the parish office – lwest@stdenisparish.org or 650-854-1081.

Youth Council

After the great success working with our Youth Leadership Team and incorporating feedback from our teens, St. Denis is forming a Parish Youth Council to be the voice of the teenage members of our community.

The Youth Council will meet monthly with Fr. Jose and Lindsey West to advise and help implement best practices and programs for the enrichment and empowerment of the youth of our parish and within our local community.

There is a very brief application for the Youth Council now available in the back of the church and on our website on the Youth Ministry Page. We invite all high schoolers interested in making a change and improving our parish to apply. Apps due by January 18th, 2015. Questions? Contact Lindsey West at lwest@stdenisparish.org.

XLT Mid-Peninsula

Does Faith Matter After High School?

High School and Middle School students are invited for XLT Mid-Peninsula II on Wednesday, January 28th. St. Denis, St. Raymond, and Church of the Nativity are teaming up again to host an hour and half of praise & worship, and inspiring talk by a Stanford student, and Eucharistic Adoration.

Tickets are \$5. XLT is 7pm-8:30pm, with hospitality 6:30pm-6:55pm. Tickets are available through Eventbrite: <https://eventbrite.com/event/14994513995/> Questions? Contact Lindsey at lwest@stdenisparish.org.

Mary, Mother of God Holy Day

January 1

Holy Day of Obligation

St. Denis Church
8:00 am & 5:00 pm

Our Lady of the Wayside Church
9:00 am

Senior Luncheon

The next Senior Luncheon will be on Monday, January 5, 2015 at 12 noon. Please come and celebrate “Little Christmas” with us! All Seniors are invited. RSVP by calling 854-5076 x110 and leave a message or call Dede.

Wine and the Word

The next Wine and the Word will be on Monday, January 26, 7:00 pm in the rectory.

Men's Group

The St. Denis Men's Group will meet on Tuesday, January 27, at 7:00 pm.

Ministry Schedule

St. Denis

January 3/4

- 5:30pm **Lector:** Beverly Huss
E.M.: Brigitte Mornand, Tina Morris, Anne Marie Jewell
- 7:30am **Lectors:** Danuta Eustice, Maria Decker
E.M.: Jackie Tornes, Bill & Geri Beasley
- 9:30am **Lectors:** Dennis Monohan, Pat Mach
E.M.: Susanna Tang, Catherine Coluzzi, Josephine Dorval, Marlene Hunter, Barbara Mason*, Heather Scholl
- 11:30am **Lector:** LisaMarie Lombardi
E.M.: L. Marco, P. Dewes, E. Parsons

Our Lady of the Wayside

- 4:30pm **Lector:** DuBois
E.M.: Sullivan, Vonderlinden
- 9:30am **Lector:** DeLuca
E.M.: Alfano B., Healey, Anderson