

## St. Denis Church Establishes St. Vincent de Paul Chapter

Several parishioners, along with Fr. Paul O'Dell, gathered in the parish hall on February 17, 2016, to learn about volunteer opportunities within the newly established St. Denis Conference (chapter) of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP), San Mateo County. Participants also received information about the history of the Society and its structure within San Mateo County.

Representatives from SVdP of San Mateo County included Executive Director Lorraine Moriarty and Board members Martin Duda, Chairperson of the SVdP Conference at Our Lady of the Pillar, Half Moon Bay, and James Fox, Restorative Justice, retired District Attorney for the County of San Mateo.

The next meeting will be held at the St. Denis parish hall on Wednesday, March 2nd, at 5:30 pm. All interested parishioners are welcome.



## Lenten Schedule

**Every Friday during Lent at 8:00am at St. Denis:**

Mass, Stations of the Cross, Hot Cross Buns

**Tue. Mar. 1 Senior Luncheon**

Noon at St. Denis

**Tue. Mar. 8 Lenten Retreat 10:00am to 2:00pm**

Prayer, reflection, Mass and lunch at St. Denis

**The Triduum (March 24, 25, 26, 27)**

Holy Thursday - 7:00pm at St. Denis

(Mass with Feet Washing, Benediction)

Good Friday services - noon at St. Denis, noon at Our Lady of the Wayside

(Stations, Passion, Adoration of Cross, Communion)

Easter Vigil - 7:00pm at St. Denis

(with reception after)

Easter Sunday (regular Sunday schedules)



## Need A Ride To Mass?



If you are in need of a ride to Mass the Outreach Committee is available.

Please call Maritza Longland at 650 291-0657.

## 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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### MassTimes

**St. Denis Church**  
Saturday: 5:30pm (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

**Office Hours**  
M-F, 9:00 am—2:00 pm



February 28th, 2016

3rd 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

## Pastor's Corner

Dear Beloved Parishioners,

We have journeyed almost half way through the Lenten season. This Sunday is the time for us to hear some hard words from Jesus. We may not like them. They may even rub us the wrong way. Yet, they are words we need to hear at this point in Lent. Jesus is telling us to repent. If we do not repent our sins, then we face the consequence of perishing. The hard words of Jesus, though, are tempered with a merciful parable. He tells the parable of the gardener who pleads with the owner to give him more time. Jesus is the gardener. God is the property owner.

Jesus intercedes on our behalf to God. He urges God to be patient. When I was a wee lad, one of my many chores around the house was gardening. I had to mow the front and back lawns, and pull the worse weeds in the world, milkweeds, from the flower beds. In the summer, the temperature would get into the 100's. Pulling the milkweed was a dirty, laborious and sweaty job that I absolutely loathed. Even today, I abhor gardening. Jesus, on the other hand, willingly rolls up his sleeves to toil the hardened ground of our hearts.

For Jesus, gardening is a labor of love. Under the scorching sun, in the heat of the day and without taking a break to cool off and relax, He lovingly works the soil of our hearts so that our hearts can receive God's Word. Drenched with sweat, the good Lord gets his hands dirty in removing the debris of our sins. How filthy our sins are. Jesus will not stop. He will not quit on us. He works unceasingly with tremendous love for us. How blessed we are to have Jesus himself as our merciful gardener. May we turn to the good Lord believing always in his compassion and mercy for us. We believe in a merciful Lord who loves each and every one of us with love beyond our imagination.

## What We Believe

### Mercy

How long do we have to wait?!

If God is going to forgive me anyway, why doesn't God just do it?

What is God waiting for?!

I know I need to be sorry, to repent, to acknowledge my sins. But God already knows my sins; God knows everything.

In the readings today, we hear that God's people have been waiting and pleading with God to act on their behalf, to save them. God tells Moses that he has heard their cry and will set them free.

But the letter from St. Paul reminds us that, although all were freed, not all made it to the promised land. They did not fully appreciate the freedom they were given.

And in the Gospel, Jesus reminds us that repentance - real, honest change - is required of us, so that we are not just forgiven, but so we can move on and grow and produce fruit!

On Ash Wednesday, we were told "Repent and believe in the Gospel!" During Lent, we take a real, honest look at our sins and ask God's forgiveness. Then, when Easter comes, we can truly celebrate our new life in God's mercy!

Yours in the Lord, Lucy Soltau

## Religious Education

### FIRST COMMUNION ENRICHMENT CLASSES WITH FR. PAUL

Fr. Paul is offering optional enrichment classes to children preparing to celebrate their First Communion this Spring.

Classes are Mondays at 3:30-4:30pm in the parish hall, Parents welcome!

### LITTLE BLACK BOOKS

These books are designed to help you pray more and differently during Lent.

They are FREE and can be found in the boxes near the church entrances.

### LITTLE PURPLE BOOKS

Just like the books for adults, but these are for children!

Also free and in the box in the back of the church.

### OPERATION RICE BOWL

Catholic Relief Services project to help you pray, fast and give!

Pray for the poor around the world, make a sacrifice

and put the money in the RICE BOWL.

There are also recipes from around the world,

stories about how CRS is helping fight hunger and poverty,

and more on their website at [www.crsricebowl.org](http://www.crsricebowl.org)

Take a bowl with you today, and we'll collect them during Holy Week.

## Spiritual Book Club

How has your faith evolved since the Second Vatican Council? Our new book **Grounded: Finding God in the World, A Spiritual Revolution** describes how many Christians in the U.S. have shifted their perspective from a more distant God to the God within us and in our neighbor. Diana Butler Bass is both a historian and journalist. Currently she writes for the Huffington Post and for Beliefnet. In the spirit of Pope Francis, Diana describes taking care of the earth as a spiritual responsibility. Books are available on the Book Club shelf at Kepler's. Our meetings are on Tuesdays at 10:00 am. Please call Tereza McNamee 650 323-6859, for more information.

*The Many Stories and Last Days of Thomas Merton"*  
A documentary film and discussion

With the film's producer Morgan Atkinson

Sunday, March 6, 2016

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Arrillaga Family Recreation Center  
700 Alma Street, Menlo Park, CA

## Cyber Savvy Parent Workshop

**CYBER SAVVY PARENT WORKSHOP: ST. RAYMOND PARISH, MARCH 10th from 7-9pm**

Are you concerned about how to keep your child safe when using the internet? Would you like to have a tool to insure your child's use of social media is responsible and kind? Many parents have expressed concern over how to keep their child safe as well as how to guide them into making responsible decisions with their digital life. This is why St. Raymond Parish and School have decided to jointly sponsor a **Free Cyber Savvy Parent Workshop**. Parents attending will be introduced to a new software (eyeDactic) that allows you to see and monitor every online decision on all devices made by your child. The workshop includes a detailed demonstration of eyeDactic given by the Silicon Valley engineer dad who created this software followed by parenting strategies given by Janada Clark, a local parenting expert that help parents implement this program and guide their child's navigation of the internet and social media in loving ways. To register, please go to [www.janadaclark.com](http://www.janadaclark.com) under Cyber Savvy Parenting. Registered parents will receive a free year's subscription to eyeDactic (\$180.00 value.) This workshop is free and open to the public.

## Mass Intentions

### ST. DENIS

Sat. Feb. 27	5:30pm	Mick Humphreys (+)
Sun. Feb 28	7:30 am	Wilson Sharif (+)
	9:30 am	St. Denis Parishioners
	11:30 am	Barbara Patierno (+)
Mon. Feb. 29	8:00 am	St. Denis Parishioners
Tues. Mar. 1	8:00 am	The Deceased Members
Wed. Mar. 2	8:00 am	St. Denis Parishioners
Thurs. Mar. 3	8:00 am	St. Denis Parishioners
Fri. Mar. 4	8:00 am	Terrence Donohoe (+)

### OUR LADY OF THE WAYSIDE

Sat. Feb. 27	4:30 pm	Our Lady of the Wayside Deceased Members
Sun. Feb. 28	9:30 am	Our Lady of the Wayside Parishioners

## In your charity, please pray for...

Rosa Sharif, Bob O'Neil, Dean Babcock, Carol Armstrong, Stella Arde, Agnes Babcock, Bob Bark, Louise Brent, Mike Carragee, Lily Chan, Lynn Cintron, Sandra Dailey, Gertrude DeZelaya, Bob Ellis, Amelia Elsbree, Michael Fil, Susan Fil, Ruben Fuentes, 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, Lorraine O'Connor, Lorie Ortega, Jim Rock, Robert Roger, Raymond Shaaf Sr., Kathy Schoendorf, Marie Scott, Dorothy Skala, Doug Ury, Walter Weber, Bev Wheat, Mila Wright, William Yates, Ada Zilli, and William and Jean Zonner. **NAMES WILL REMAIN ON THE LIST FOR A MONTH UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED.**

## Stewardship

<b>July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 (Goal)</b>	<b>\$372,300.00</b>
<b>July 1, 2015 to January 31, 2016</b>	<b>\$214,691.84</b>
<b>Monthly Goal-January 2016</b>	<b>\$41,000.00</b>
<b>January Sunday Collections</b>	<b>\$40,317.84</b>

<b>2016 Annual Appeal</b>	<b>\$83,000.00</b>
<b>Contributions to Date</b>	<b>\$50,875.00</b>