

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: 7:30 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

**Second Collection:
December 11th & 12th for
Retirement for Religious.
Speaker Sr. Pat Hunter**

Fill Us All With Hope



December 3rd, 2017 1st Sunday of Advent

(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 begin a new Liturgical Year on this First Sunday of Advent. For the next four weeks, we have the opportunity to prepare ourselves for the birth of Jesus. The best way to do this is to heed the words of Jesus. Today's gospel passage reminds us of a fundamental truth which is this. Life is short. Our life is short. Even if we live to be over ninety years old, in terms of faith, it is just a blink of an eye.

Thus, each and every day of our lives is important. Each and every day of our lives matters. No day, therefore, is inconsequential. The older I become, the faster life is. Before I know it, a week has passed by. It seems just like yesterday that I was ordained a priest. It will not be long before I start collecting Social Security. That is life. We are here one day and gone the next.

A life of faith compels us to value every day of our lives, and to make the most of it. We are called and challenged to love God and our neighbor, and to be of service to those in need. If we do this, then we will always be vigilant and prepared to meet the good Lord.

Fr. Paul

We Believe

Marian Reflections on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Mary's role in salvation history is right at the heart of our Christian faith, and revisiting her role in the 21st century is a key to making our devotion relevant to the times in which we live.

Mary's sinless nature and assumption into heaven are images that testify to the potential goodness and godliness within all human beings. Her willingness to participate in the natural process of procreation elevates the role of women, for it is Mary who initially gives us the Body and Blood of Christ, through the process of consent, pregnancy, and birth. She is an active participant in bringing Christ into the world and nurturing Him into adulthood.

As Jesus' first disciple Mary illustrates her faithfulness, devotion, and the confidence she has both in her beloved Son and the salvific plan of God. Her action and words to the wine steward at Cana attest to her role in the beginning of Jesus' public ministry when she says, "Do what he tells you."

Her apparitions to the poor and lowly throughout the ages attest to the worth of every person and the power God places within the lowliest among us. It is intentional that the young and seemingly powerless have been entrusted with her visions and messages throughout the ages. This is evidence of the love God has for the marginalized of the world.

The image of Mary at the foot of the cross is the epitome of the power of love, both heart-breaking and beautiful at the same time. Those who suffer in our world can look to the constancy of Our Blessed Mother and know that she is faithfully there with them on their journey. If you get a chance this Advent you might like to take a walk in our St. Denis garden and ponder some of these thoughts as you gaze on her statue. Dede Waters-Masters

Mass Intentions

St. Denis

Sat. Dec.	2	5:30 pm	Jerry Bagnani (+)
Sun. Dec.	3	7:30 am	Tad Daszkiewicz (+)
		9:30 am	Bob Shaw (+)
		11:30 am	John Donnelly (+)
Mon. Dec.	4	8:00 am	Doctors & Nurses
Tues. Dec.	5	8:00 am	Catechists & their Students
Wed. Dec.	6	8:00 am	Sailors & Fishermen
Thur Dec.	7	8:00 am	All Animals
Fri. Dec.	8	8:00 am	Irene Goodwin (+)
		6:00 pm	Blessed Mary

Our Lady Of The Wayside

Sat. Dec. 2 4:30pm Religious Vocations

Sun. Dec. 3 9:30am Renewal of Faith in Advent

In your charity, please pray for...

Pier Iglesias, Sandy Rock, Mila Wright, Rosa Sharif, Barbara Ham, John Hunter, Janet Sue Cox, Janice Varell

The List has been updated. Names will be removed monthly unless you let the office know. Thank you.

Faith Formation News

NO CLASSES TODAY, DECEMBER 3 FOR THE ADVENT FAMILY GATHERING

ADVENT FAMILY GATHERING TODAY!!

Sunday, December 3 at 10:30am in the parish hall

Come and explore different ways to celebrate Advent and prepare for Jesus' coming! Hands-on activities for the children! Free supplies to take home! All are welcome!

FIRST RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Saturday, December 9 at 10:00am at St. Denis. For children receiving their First Communion this Spring.

Families welcome!

FR. PAUL'S FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

These classes are optional for those children preparing to celebrate their First Communion this Spring. His next class will be Monday, December 11 at 3:30-4:30pm in the parish library.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT DAY FOR 7TH GRADERS

Saturday, December 16 at 10:00am til 5:30pm at Our Lady of the Wayside, Portola Valley

For 7th graders in our Confirmation program, the theme is "Gifts of the Holy Spirit" Bring a bag lunch, your journal and folder. Families are welcome to join us for Mass at 4:30pm with the parishioners.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

If you can read, you can be in our Children's Choir for Christmas Eve! We'll be singing at the 4:00pm Family Mass at St. Denis.

Rehearsals will be Sunday mornings in the church after the 9:30am Mass. So grab a donut and then come sing with us!

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Grades Pre-K thru 4 meet in their classrooms in the hall at 9:30am and will be brought to the Church during the Preparation of the Gifts.

We only have 30 minutes of class time, so please be on time!

Grades 5 and 6 meet at 10:30 to 11:30am in the hall.

Confirmation, grades 7 and 8, meet at 5:30pm in the Church for Mass, then dinner and class til 8:00pm. You can register your children by going to the parish website www.stdenisparish.org and click on the Faith Formation tab.



Christmas Giving Trees

The Christmas Giving Trees will be in both churches beginning Saturday, December 2nd. Gift tags may be removed and attached to gifts that should be returned to the church no later than Sunday, December 17th. Please securely attach the tags to your gifts paying special attention to whether gift wrapping is necessary which will be noted on the back of each tag. Gifts will be delivered to St. Francis Center, Catholic Worker House, Hoover Pre-School, and Life Moves "Maple Street" Shelter. If you cannot take a tag but would prefer to contribute there will be a box in the rear of each church for donations. Any amount is appreciated. Questions should be directed to Marlene Hunter 325-4058. Thank you.



Parish Christmas Tea

"Peace On Earth"



Saturday, December 9th, 2017

1:00 to 3:00 pm @ St. Denis Parish Hall

Tickets: \$25 each (All are welcome) Please make checks payable to: St. Denis Church. Last day to purchase tickets is December 5th. Seating is limited: payment must be received prior to event. Kindly make checks payable to St Denis Church. Questions contact Barbara Mason at 650 854-2526 or babs412@yahoo.com

Friendly Reminders

Bulletin & Announcements

The Deadline for bulletin inserts is (The Tuesday Before Noon,) before the weekend of publication. All mass announcements are to be scripted & okayed by Dede prior to masses. Contact her at dedem@pacbell.net
NOTE: Announcements may not appear until the next bulletin due to space limitations. Thank You!



Stewardship

July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 (Goal)	\$459,000.00
October 2017 Sunday Collections (Without EGiving)	\$27,661.00

If you gave online through ParishPay, the work of transferring your account to WeShare is done. Go to the parish website and click on the WeShare online giving link. Follow the instructions to verify your existing account. New to online Egiving? Follow the same link to create a new account.

Advent Parish Retreat

ADVENT: THE SEASON OF DEEPEST LONGING



St. Denis Parish invites you to an advent retreat Monday, December 11th, 9:30am-1:00pm

Presenter: Sr. Sharon McMillan, Sister of Notre Dame de Namur

Our day will include morning coffee, Advent presentation, Mass, and lunch

RSVP by December 9th by calling Dede at 650 854-5976 ext. 4 or dedewm@pacbell.net

Give yourself the gift of this mini-retreat!

Upcoming Events

Please take home an Advent Book for prayer and reflection. You'll find December's schedule on the front.

December 3rd Family Gathering Advent 10:30am at St. Denis hall

December 5th Communal Reconciliation Service 7pm at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

December 9th First Reconciliation Service at 10:am
at St. Denis for children receiving
their First Communion this Spring

December 9th Parish Christmas Tea 1:00pm in the
parish hall See bulletin for details

December 11th Parish Advent Retreat 9:30am-1pm
See bulletin for details

December 11th First Communion Class with Fr. Paul
(optional) 3:30pm

