2015 Annual St. Denis & Our Lady of the Wayside Christmas Tea

9th Annual Parish Christmas Tea
The Star of Bethlehem

Saturday, December 12th 2015
1:00 – 3:00 pm
St. Denis Parish Center

Featured Speaker: Fr. Paul O’Dell

Tickets: ($25 each)
Please make checks payable to: St. Denis Parish

Christmas Mass Schedule

Our Lady of the Wayside Church
Thursday December 24th
4:00 pm and 9:00 pm

St. Denis Church
Thursday December 24th
4:00 pm (Children’s Mass) and 6:00 pm

Our Lady of the Wayside Church
Friday December 25th
9:30 am
St. Denis Church
Friday December 25th
7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am

Bulletin Announcements

If you have information that you would like to be placed in the bulletin, we ask that all of the information be submitted to us the Tuesday before by noon. Thank you.

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

Rev. Paul O’Dell
wpodell@aol.com
(415) 686-9951
Pastor

Msgr. Jose Rodriguez
(650) 854-5976
Gina Morales
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gmorales@stdenisparish.org
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Religious Ed & Youth Ministry
lsoltau@stdenisparish.org
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Dede Waters-Masters
Pastoral Minister in charge of Liturgy & Senior Services
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Bulletin Editor
stdenisbulletined@gmail.com

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

Second Collection: Sunday December 6th for Retirement of Religious

(650) 854-5976
www.stdensisparish.org
St. Denis Church (Parish Office)
2250 Avy Avenue • Menlo Park

Our Lady of the Wayside Church
930 Portola Road • Portola Valley
Dear Beloved Parishioners,

We are well into the winter season. It has indeed been very cold these days.

When I wake up in the morning, I see frost on the ground and on rooftops. The sun sets earlier in the day. The darkness of night is longer. In a sense, the winter season is similar to life, to our own lives. Some of my beloved parishioners have recently experienced some very dark and bitter cold days in their lives. Life brings us things that we do not necessarily anticipate or expect in life. Our faith reminds us that we need to put our faith and trust in God. No matter what trials and tribulations may come our way, we are to persevere and to be patient. I speak from my own experience.

Being a priest has not been easy at times. Throughout my priesthood, I have witnessed and experienced things that have shaken my faith. I have never been the political type of priest. I never had the stomach to play the game. Even though I may arguably be the apple of my parishioners’ eye, I have always felt as though I was the black sheep of the clergy. Early on in my priesthood, I realized I needed to be my authentic self and be the kind of priest that God wants me to be. By enduring hardships with and in and for Christ and bringing faithful to God’s will, I have finally been led to the Promise Land of St. Denis/Our Lady of the Wayside. It has taken me a long time to be your pastor. It has undoubtedly been worth the wait. The Israelites had to wait as well.

Today’s Responsorial Psalm mentions how the Israelites were captive for so long a time. When God finally rescued his people, it seemed like a dream to them. It was no dream though. In the fullness of time, God delivered his people from slavery in Egypt. Like the Israelites, we too are to persevere, and to endure all things with faith and trust in God. The Lord will come. When the good Lord does come to free us from the dark and cold winter days of our lives, we will rejoice and praise him. I do this every time I wake up in the morning, and so will you. Trust in God’s providential plan for you.

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### Mass Intentions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ST. DENIS</th>
<th>Mass Intentions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat. Dec. 05</td>
<td>5:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun. Dec. 06</td>
<td>7:30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. Dec. 07</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. Dec. 08</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed. Dec. 09</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs. Dec. 10</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri. Dec. 11</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
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### Religious Education

**BOYS AND GIRLS CHOIR AT ST. DENIS!**

All school-aged children are invited to come sing with us on Christmas Eve at the 4:00pm Family Mass at St. Denis.

**Rehearsals will be in the Chapel after the 9:30am Mass every Sunday beginning December 13th. Children can get a quick donut and then meet in the Chapel for 35 minutes while parents enjoy their coffee and donate outside. The Christmas Eve Mass is well attended, so we want to welcome all the children to sing with us and sit up front for this special celebration!**

Contactivalsadradf at laradford@yahoo.com or Lucy Sellou, our DRE, for more information.

### Stewardship Report

**Calling All Musicians**

**Are You a Musician?**

Calling All Musicians! The 8th Annual Music for Seniors will be Sunday December 13 at 1:00pm. Any age, any level of experience, any instrument is welcome to join. Bring your friends too. We are sharing our Christmas music with those in retirement homes and they are always an enthusiastic and appreciative audience. To sign up, contact Lisa Marie Lombardi at 650-368-6363 or email lmlombardi1220@hotmail.com. Please sign up by Tuesday December 7th.

### Calling All Musicians

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday Collection</th>
<th>E-Giving</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Denis $4,261.50</td>
<td>$2,295.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>OLW $2,285.00</td>
<td>$400.00</td>
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Total: **$9,242.00**

### Monthly Total, November 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday Collection</th>
<th>E-Giving</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Denis $20,034.50</td>
<td>$11,473.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLW $8,847.00</td>
<td>$1,995.00</td>
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Total: **$42,349.50**

### Christmas Giving Trees

**The Christmas Giving Tree will be in both Our Lady of the Wayside and St. Denis Churches beginning Saturday, November 29-30. Gift tags should be removed and attached to gifts and returned to the churches next Sunday, December 13th. 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. Pius X Center, Catholic Worker House, Mapig Street Shelter, and Hoover Pre-School. If you cannot take a tag but would like to contribute, you may make a check out to St. Denis Church with the memo “Christmas Giving Tree” in an envelope. You can put envelopes in the collection baskets. Any amount is greatly appreciated. If you have further questions please contact Marilyn Hunter at 650-325-4056.**

### Holy Day of Obligation-Events

December 7th 7 pm – Vigil Mass at St. Denis Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

December 8th 7:30 am and 3 pm – Mass at Our Lady of the Wayside Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

December 8th 8:00 am – and noon Mass at St. Denis Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

December 8th – 9:30 am to 2:00pm - St. Denis Women’s Ad- vent Retreat Day “Mary, Women Today: The Lord Is with You!” Presented by Sr. Free Myers, spiritual director and Sister of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Sister will lead us in exploring new ways to be open to receive God’s favor. Each of us has a space hollowed out to be that vessel, that container of life, as Mary was. Our day begins with coffee and hospitality, prayer, Sister’s presentation, Mass, lunch, and a fall and winter workshop. Each person $25.00 each person RSVP dekemlin@pacbell.net or call Dede: 650-854-9976.

December 13th – 2:00 pm St. Raymond Church Christmas Prayer Service Please join us at St. Raymond Church under the Direction of Patrick Frehan with the Vallombrosa Choir.