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

It's Gaudete (Rejoice Sunday! Light the third (rose-colored) candle on your Advent wreath. On Gaudete Sunday, the season of Advent shifts its focus. For the first two weeks of Advent, the focus can be summed up in the phrase, “The Lord is coming.” But beginning with Gaudete Sunday, the summary might be, “The Lord is near.” This shift is marked by a lighter mood and a heightened sense of joyous anticipation. Liturgically, the colors lighten as well. The priest usually wears rose-colored vestments, a hue seen only on Gaudete Sunday and Laetare Sunday. In times when the focus of our anticipation is often on the negative and fearful, this celebration is a reminder that God who loves us is still in charge and that we await his coming not with fear, but with tremendous joy.

United States Conference Catholic Bishops

Gaudete Sunday

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.

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.

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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

GAUDETE SUNDAY

December 13th, 2015 | 3rd Sunday of Advent

(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,

This third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is a Latin word which means rejoice. Rejoice is the first word of the introit (entrance) of today's mass. The Church and the Sacred Liturgy, then, is calling us to rejoice in the Lord. There is much to rejoice about these days. We are half way through the Advent season. The rose colored candle is lit today to indicate this, but it also sets the mood. Rose is a cheerful and uplifting color isn't it? The Christ child is coming very soon. The birth of the Christ child brings Hope to all of humanity. Hope will arrive before we know it.

Hope is truly needed in the world at this time, and it is the tremendous gift that will be ours to have. With hope, despair and gloom will be no more. Hope keeps us going, and it empowers us to persevere and overcome life's difficulties. When I think of the people who need hope, I think of my oldest sister Patti. Severe mental illness has plagued most of my sister's life. It has robbed her of a normal and healthy life. It has caused her to live on the streets of San Francisco. There is nothing that I or anybody else can do for her.

It seems as though only a little child can help her. In the birth of the Christ child, hope is given to my sister for her to have. With hope, marvelous things can happen. The newborn Savior can work miracles if given the opportunity. All that my sister has to do is simply embrace this little child in the bosom of her heart. That is all we need to do as well. Even a little child is capable of holding a newborn. It is no wonder then that hope is wrapped in swaddling clothes. Hope is waiting for us to accept it in our lives and in our newborn. It is no wonder then that hope is wrapped in swaddling clothes. Hope is waiting for us to accept it in our lives and in our hearts. When we do, may we rejoice in the Lord.

Opening the Treasure

One of the key elements of a really great dinner party is meaningful conversation. The same holds true with the Mass as we move into the Liturgy of the Word. It may seem that the Sunday Readings are a one-way form of communication, but they are intended to promote an internal conversation within each participant and a response from the entire Assembly. The readings are intended to form us by revealing God’s action in the past, the present, and the future and this divine revelation asks each one of us to listen, respond, and prayerfully internalize the meaning God’s Word has for us right now.

The practice of sharing the Scriptures during the Eucharist celebration developed over the centuries, but, surprisingly, for many years the Old Testament was read only during weekday Masses. Vatican II returned the importance of all of Sacred Scripture stating that “the treasures of the Bible are to be opened up more lavishly so that a richer fare may be provided for the faithful at the table of God’s Word.”

The First Reading, usually from the Old Testament, shows the rich continuity between the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures and is chosen to complement the Gospel. Not only are we fed through the Body and Blood of Christ, but through the sharing of these Scriptures we are fed from the living Word of God, which is why we respond, “Thanks be to God.”

Ded

Mass Intentions

ST. DENIS

Sat. Dec. 12 5:00pm Frank Joseph Quinn Jr (+)
Sun. Dec. 13 7:30 am Maria Sa-ing Swang-Ngam (+)
      9:30 am Al Yujioco (+)
Mon. Dec. 14 8:00 am Deceased Members
      11:30 am Luzia Barreto de Lucena (+)
Tues. Dec. 15 8:00 am St. Denis Community
       10:30 am Bob Shaw (+)
Wed. Dec. 16 8:00 am St. Denis Community
    11:00 am Colleen Straw (+)
Thurs. Dec. 17 8:00 am St. Denis Community
     9:00 am Sat. Dec. 12 4:30 pm Community of OLW
     10:30 am Sun. Dec. 13 9:30 am Community of OLW
      11:00 am St. Denis Community
Fri. Dec. 18 8:00 am

Our Lady of the Wayside

Sat. Dec. 12 4:30 pm Community of OLW
Sun. Dec. 13 9:30 am Community of OLW

Pray for the deceased members of the St Denis & Our Lady of the Wayside Community:

Bob Shaw: Mass & Celebration of Bob’s Life on Tuesday December 15th at 10:00 am at St. Denis Church with reception following at Quadras Café in Menlo Park.

In your charity, please pray for...


NAMES WILL REMAIN ON THE LIST FOR A MONTH UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED.

Stewardship Report

Dear St. Denis Parishioners,

We are beginning our annual December/July stewardship appeal. In September we received $42,349.50 of which $39,386.00 came from our members. In November we received $18,963.50 of which $17,984.00 came from our members. St. Denis has received $118,805.00 in pledges and $18,615.00 in cash donations this giving season.

We are grateful for your generosity and thank you for your support. If you have not made a pledge or contributed cash, please consider doing so. Our pledges will be due this Sunday and our cash donations should be received no later than December 20th.

In the spirit of the season, we are asking our parishioners to consider whether they would like to give the gift of a gift. We are asking parishioners to consider giving to the “Gift of Giving Tree” project. Each year we provide gifts for the most vulnerable children in our community. There are no religious or spiritual requirements. We are simply asking you to send us a gift. Your generosity can make a significant impact on the lives of those in need.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Radford
Stewardship Coordinator