The Wise Still Seek Him

January 8th, 2017    The Epiphany of the Lord

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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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

(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
Dear Beloved Parishioners,

Today we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord. What a joyful celebration it is. The manifestation of the invisible God is revealed visibly in the birth of the Christ child. Three significant gifts are brought to the newborn Savior of the world by the three Kings: gold, frankincense and myrrh. These three gifts reveal something about baby Jesus.

Gold symbolizes the kingship of the baby born in a manger. The Christ child is the King of kings. As the King, Christ will usher in the Kingdom of God and govern his people in ways of justice and peace. Frankincense symbolizes the priesthood of Christ. As the Priest, Christ will offer the oblation of himself. He will surrender his will to do the will of the Father, which entails making the ultimate sacrifice of himself on the altar of the cross. Myrrh symbolizes that the Christ child will die. Jesus is both human and divine. Being human, Jesus will die, but his death will conquer sin and death once and for all. In his death is our eternal life.

Just as the three Kings gave the Christ child gifts, we are called to give the gift of ourselves to God and to one another. Look for ways to give of ourselves to those we encounter on a daily basis. What will be revealed is our goodness and love. May that be our New Year's resolution.

Fr. Paul

Epiphany Thoughts

If you are like me, the conclusion of the hustle and bustle of the Christmas holidays is welcomed almost as much as the festivities themselves! But before moving forward too quickly, the Church reminds us to stop and ponder on the spiritual depth of what we are commemorating and presently living out. For most of us here, the significance of the Feast of the Epiphany is overshadowed culturally by the Feast of the Nativity, but there is great religious significance in this feast, officially observed in the US Catholic Church on the Sunday between January 2 and January 8. After acknowledging the fact that God became human, the depth of the Mystery of the Incarnation is complemented by the fact that the Christ Child, ironically born in a makeshift animal shelter of seemingly lowly parents, is actually our God and King! Whereas Christmas celebrates the Baby’s birth and thereby the unwavering love God has for humanity, the Feast of the Epiphany is the great universal manifestation of Emmanuel, “God with us” for all of the world.

Through a heavenly sign, Christ is made manifest as the true Son of God, a theme repeated in his Baptism and the Wedding Feast of Cana readings coming up. Christ is revealed to the three kings who represent the Gentile world, acknowledging this King with their presence and costly gifts. Christ is the Light of the World. At first this light is seen by those few gathered around the manger, an animal feeding trough. But at Epiphany we are reminded that light has burst forth to all nations in the form of a radiant star for all to witness.

As you and I retire our Christmas decorations to the attic and vow to cut back on celebrating for the next few weeks, perhaps we can feast on the spiritual food for thought and reflection provided by the Feast of the Epiphany, making an effort to search and follow the light of the star that our loving God is trying to shine on each one of us.

Dede

Pastor’s Corner

Mass Intentions

St. Denis
Sat. Jan 7 5:30 pm Elaine Jenkins (+)
Sun. Jan 8 7:30 am Mary Rapp (+)
9:30 am Beatrice Buss (+)
11:30 am Wise Leaders
Mon. Jan 9 8:00 am The Pope
Tues. Jan 10 8:00 am St. Denis Parishioners
Wed. Jan 11 8:00 am Deceased Members
Thurs Jan 12 8:00 am Christian Unity
Fri. Jan 13 8:00 am Matthew Stafford (+)

Our Lady Of The Wayside
Sat. Jan 7 4:30 pm Wise Leaders
Sun. Jan 8 9:30 am Our Lady of the Wayside Families

In your charity, please pray for...

Stewardship

ALL FAITH FORMATION CLASSES RESUME TODAY!
Welcome back and Happy New Year!
All classes meet today at their usual time and place.
We will be off again next week, January 15, for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

CATECHIST MEETING
Sunday, January 8 at 10:30am in the parish hall.
This is our chance to check in with each other and pick up your materials.
Hope to see you all there!

CONFIRMATION CLASS MEETS TONIGHT
Sunday, January 8 at 5:30pm in the chapel for Mass
Bring your journals!
Your homework was to finish rewriting the Nicene Creed in your own words.
Be prepared to share it!

CONFIRMATION RETREAT DAY: 8TH GRADERS
Saturday, January 21 from 10am to 5:30pm at Our Lady of the Way-side.
Our theme is Prayer. Bring a bag lunch and your journals.
We will be joining the parishioners for Mass at 4:30pm and parents are welcome to join us then too!

Senior Lunch
There will be a senior lunch this Tuesday, January 10th. All seniors and caregivers are welcome. RSVP to Dede 650 854-5976, press 4.

Religious Education

July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 (Goal) $450,000.00
July 1, 2016 to November 30, 2016 $192,473.98
Monthly Goal- November, 2016 $36,000.00
November Sunday Collections $37,391.58

We step into the New Year with a new book, Julian’s Gospel: Illuminating the Life and Revelations of Julian of Norwich by Veronica Mary Rolf. Julian was a medieval mystic who lived in turbulent times not unlike the world we have today. Her visions of Christ inspired her to write about God’s unconditional love and the importance of resting in that Love. Veronica Rolf, an independent scholar, has reconstructed the historical times and Julian’s life to provide a more vivid understanding of these revelations. Where previously it was thought that Julian was a nun, Rolf shows good evidence that she was a merchant and a widow with children. The book is lively and fun. Books are available at Kepler’s on the Book Club shelf. Ask for the Book Club discount. We meet on Tuesdays starting January 10th at 10:00 am at a private home. Please call Tereza at 323-6859 for further info.

Christmas Giving Tree

Thanks to everyone for your phenomenal generosity this Christmas season. All 272 gifts were delivered.
41 wrapped gifts to LifeMoves Shelter
32 wrapped gifts to children and adults at Catholic Worker House
24 unwrapped toys to St. Francis Center
175 wrapped gifts to children and parents at Hoover Pre-School
Thanks again from your Outreach Committee!

Friendly Reminders

Bulletin & Announcements.
This is a busy time of year with a lot going on so here are a couple of reminders:
The deadline for bulletin inserts is the Tuesday (before noon)
Before the weekend of publication.
All mass announcements are to be scripted and okayed by Dede
Prior to the masses. Contact her at dedewm@pacbell.net

Advent Office Hours
Due to our heavy workload caused by the end of the year and a new payroll system our office hours are 9:30am to 2:00pm Monday thru Friday. Please call if you are planning on coming in during lunch time as we may be on break.
Parish Pictorial Directory

**Parish Directory Important News**
We are starting the process for our new St. Denis and Our Lady of the Wayside Parish Pictorial Directory. All participating parishioners will receive a FREE directory and an 8X10 color portrait of their family. Our 2017 Parish Directory won’t be complete without you!
Please sign up today!
To schedule your appointment, go to the parish website www.stdenisparish.org
Or use the link below.
For further information please contact Josephine Dorval at (650)506-6571

Farewell Msgr. Jose Rodriguez

Please join us for a farewell mass and reception for Msgr. Jose on Sunday, January 15th at the 9:30am mass at Our Lady of the Wayside Church. We thank him for his years of priestly ministry with us.
We will miss him!