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

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March 26th, 2017  4th 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
Dear Beloved Parishioners,

In today's gospel passage, the man born blind reminds us that there are two kinds of blindness: physical blindness and spiritual blindness. Even though the man was physically blind, he was still able to function on a daily basis. He got around fairly well. Nothing seemed to hinder him despite his blindness. What is worse than physical blindness is spiritual blindness.

Spiritual blindness severely affects not only the person, but also those he is in contact with on a daily basis. A spiritually blind person is not able to see his own sinfulness, and how it negatively impacts others. Sins of pride, arrogance, selfishness, being self-centered, greed, and malice to name a few destroy and ruins human lives.

The man born blind allowed Jesus to touch him. The hands of Jesus healed and restored the blind man's eyes. He was able to see for the very first time in his life. If we allow Jesus to touch our hearts with his Word, with his grace and with his Sacraments of healing, then we too will be able to see clearly once again. Lent is the time to allow Jesus to come into our lives so that the darkness of our sins can be removed within us. May the light of faith shine in our heats so that we can see how to live in this world as disciples of Jesus.

God bless, Fr. Paul

Blind Spots

As a young mother, way before baby wipes even existed, in an “emergency,” if one of my toddlers was unexpectedly smudgy, I would lick my finger and clean his/her face. I was reminded of this when reading Sunday’s gospel when we encounter Jesus mixing his saliva with dirt and applying it to the blind man’s eyes.

Jesus invites the blind man to be an active participant in this miracle of healing. Let us dwell on the incredible faith it took for the nameless blind man to go to Shiloam and wash the clay off his eyes in hopes of seeing for the first time! Viewed by the community, the blind man's condition is seen as proof of his parents’ sinfulness. He is not only nameless in John’s gospel account but was certainly viewed as a person of no value in the society in which he lived. Yet Jesus chooses this marginalized man to make us all see the truth.

Pharisees challenge both the blind man and Jesus. Believing that the man is proof of his parents' sinfulness, the leaders cannot understand how such a complete cure is possible, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How does he now see?” The Pharisees' false assumption of Jesus' contempt for Judaic law is also illustrated, “This man is not from God because he does not keep the Sabbath.”

But although the blind man has been sightless up until his encounter with Jesus, his insight unlocks the essential meaning of this healing. “This is what is so amazing, that you do not know where he is from, yet he opened my eyes. . . .but if one is devout and does his will, he listens to him. It is unheard of that anyone ever opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he would not be able to do anything.

As we continue the journey through Lent, perhaps we can focus on our “blind spots,” actively participating in becoming our best selves, daring to wash away the muddiness so that we too can really see.

Dede Waters-Masters

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>St. Denis</th>
<th>Our Lady Of The Wayside</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat. Mar 25</td>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun. Mar 26</td>
<td>7:30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Margaret Rodgers (+)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>Deceased Members</td>
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<td>Mon. Mar 27</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
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<td>Tues. Mar 28</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
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<td>Wed. Mar 29</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
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<td>Thurs Mar 30</td>
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<td>Fri. Mar 31</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
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<tr>
<th>In your charity, please pray for...</th>
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**CONFIRMATION CLASS MEETS TONIGHT**

This is our last class together before we celebrate!
Meet for Mass at 5:30pm in the chapel tonight March 26th.
**BRING YOUR BOOKS AND JOURNALS!**

**FIRST COMMUNION FAMILIES: SACRAMENT WORKSHOP**

Sunday, April 2 at 1:00pm in St. Denis Church.
All families preparing to celebration the Sacrament this spring should come.
Bring your children!! There will be activities around the church to explore each of the Sacraments.
Parents, be prepared to share your own sacramental experiences!

**OPERATION RICE BOWL**

A beautiful way to answer the call to PRAY, FAST and GIVE during Lent.
Pick up your FREE Rice Bowl container by the church entrances TODAY!
Return your filled Rice Bowl during Holy Week.
All proceeds go to hunger projects in our area and Catholic Relief Services.
For more information go to [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org)

**Parish Directory**

**2017 Parish Directory Important News**
Please join us in having a picture of you, your family and even your pets in our parish directory!
All participating parishioners will receive a FREE directory & an 8X10 color portrait.
Our 2017 Parish Directory won’t be complete without you! Please sign up today!
Pictures will be taken on Saturday April 1 and Sunday April 2 at St. Denis Parish Hall.
For further information please contact Josephine Dorval at (650)506-6571

**Flower Donations for OLW**

In Memory of Peter Vanos, azaleas will be planted at Our Lady of the Wayside Church in April. If you would like to make a contribution special envelopes will be available in the back of the church or you may contact Barbara Kataoka at 415 713-3783 for more details. Please enter in memo of check OLW azaleas. Thank you.

**Outreach Ride To Mass**

If you are in need of a ride to Mass the Outreach Committee is available. Please call Maritza At 650 291-0657

**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 and okayed by Dede prior to the masses. Contact her at dedewm@pacbell.net
NOTE: Announcements may not appear until the next bulletin Cycle due to space limitations.
Thank You.

**Stewardship**

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<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Actual Amount Needed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 (Goal)</td>
<td>$450,000.00</td>
<td>$71,139.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 1, 2016 to February 28, 2017</td>
<td>$300,777.98</td>
<td>$100,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monthly Goal– February 2017</td>
<td>$36,000.00</td>
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<td>February 2017 Sunday Collections</td>
<td>$34,337.00</td>
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Spend time together as a family during Lent and help to spread joy and love to those served by the St. Vincent de Paul Society. There are two projects to choose from:

**HEALING SOCKS** – place inside a pair of new white tube socks the following:
- a toothbrush, toothpaste, travel-sized shampoo, dental floss

**FRESH START KITS** – pack toiletry kits of soap, body wash, brush/comb
- and a new white large t-shirt.

Place your family-provided items in the SVDP containers at the back of the church throughout Lent. Have questions? Contact George Quiter at 650-363-1330

**THRIFT STORE VOLUNTEERS** – We encourage you to volunteer your time at the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store in Redwood City. Visit the parish website homepage and click on the St. Vincent de Paul link to sign up. Great for young people grades 8 and up, when accompanied by an adult.

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**Nearby Reconciliation Services**

St. Raymond’s Church: Monday April 10th at 7pm
St. Pius Church: Tuesday March 28th at 7pm
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church: Wednesday April 5th
- at 7pm

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**Upcoming Events**

March 29 & April 5- Please join us each Wednesday during Lent at 6:00pm in St. Denis parish hall. We’ll share a simple pot luck supper then reflect on the Sunday readings. Childcare will be available.

**Every Friday During Lent**– Mass, Stations of the Cross, hot cross buns & coffee.

**April 2nd**– Sacrament Workshop for First Communion Families at 1pm at St. Denis.

**April 8th**– Seder Meal 6:30pm St. Denis Parish Hall

**The Triduum**– April 13th-16th
- **Holy Thursday** 7pm at St. Denis

**Good Friday** Services Noon at St. Denis

**Easter Vigil** 7pm at St Denis

**Easter Sunday** regular mass schedules