All are welcome at the banquet of the Lord!

Parish Staff

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

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Dede Waters-Masters
Pastoral Minister in charge of Liturgy & Senior Services
dedewm@pacbell.net
(650) 854-5976 press 4

Mass Times

St. Denis Church
Saturday: 5:30 pm (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 next Sunday October 22nd For World Missions

October 15th 2017 28th Sunday in ordinary time

(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,

Norman Rockwell is one of my favorite American artists. He has a unique way of capturing the human spirit in his paintings. The painting The Thanksgiving Picture is one of his most famous paintings. It depicts a family sitting at a table conversing with each other while grandma is holding the Thanksgiving turkey and grandpa waiting to carve it. In the old days, grandma would spend days preparing the Thanksgiving Day meal. Although she would work tirelessly to cook the meal, everything was made from her heart because she simply loved her family, and loved having her family come together to share a feast.

The good Lord is no different. Jesus loves having us come home to share no ordinary meal. It is a meal like no other. It is a sacred meal. It is a heavenly meal. One cannot find it in a restaurant. No one can make it, not even grandma. It is the simplest of meals. Jesus gives all of himself to us in this meal, his very body and blood. No plates are needed. No fancy silverware is used. No goblets are put out. Only our hands are needed. There is something special about eating with our hands. We feel how succulent the Body of Christ is, how tender and fresh it is.

All that we have to do is come home and gather around the table of the Lord. There is no better place to be. We are reminded of how much we are loved, and how much we are missed. The good Lord longs and waits for our homecoming. May we always know that we are welcomed home.

God bless, Fr. Paul

Why

Every day there seems to be a new crisis in the news, ranging from earthquakes, floods, shootings, fires, teenage suicides, and threats of nuclear war –and that’s just in the past two and a half weeks! These tragedies potentially cause one to trivialize their own struggles or to become hardened by the frequency of hearing such horrific and disagreeable news; but the most common reaction is probably the feeling of powerlessness. We ask, “Why are all these things happening?”

In the face of the tragedies of late, we hear about heroic people who surface to save, soothe, and bolster the helpless, but currently being removed from the sites of these devastating happenings, we may ask ourselves, “How can we really help?” Donations are a necessary and positive response, but as believers we are called even deeper.

A lot of us erroneously start out believing that our faith can be a firewall against pain and suffering, but we get on the right track by simply looking at the life of Jesus, who found his Father’s presence in the loving acts of those who stood by him on the way, at the foot of, and beyond the cross. While we are naturally tempted to seek a God offering protection from hardship and loss, we might miss out on the real God who offers unwavering support through the prayers and actions of those God sends our way in the face of tragedies.

Yes, God is there through those who care. Our faith in God does not give us an immunity to suffering, but rather a call to accept comfort and solace when we ourselves need it, and to give it on behalf of Christ when others are in pain. And while we may never know the answer to “Why are all these things happening?” the mystery of God’s healing will eventually unfold.

Dede Waters-Masters

Dear Beloved Parishioners,

In your charity, please pray for...

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.

Mass Intentions

St. Denis
Sat. Oct. 14 5:30 pm Beatrice Goldsmith (+)
Sun. Oct. 15 7:30 am Peter Valenti (+)
9:30 am Victims of the NorCal fires
11:30 am Victims of the NorCal fires
Mon. Oct 16 8:00 am Braulio Bautista (+)
Tues. Oct 17 8:00 am Marion Mercer (+)
Wed. Oct 18 8:00 am for doctors
Thurs. Oct 19 8:00 am for fire fighters
Fri. Oct 20 8:00 am for relief workers

Our Lady Of The Wayside
Sat. Oct. 14 4:30 pm Victims of the NorCal fires
Sun. Oct. 15 9:30 am Victims of the NorCal fires
**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.

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](http://www.stdenisparish.org) and click on the Faith Formation tab.

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**THE POPE ASKS YOUNG PEOPLE TO TAKE A SURVEY**

The Pope is requesting your feedback!
The theme for the Synod of Bishops in October will be: “Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment.” Young people from around the world are urged to help the Church prepare for the Synod by taking this survey. Pope Francis says, “The Church also wishes to listen to your voice, your sensitivities and your faith; even your doubts and your criticism… Make your voice heard.” A survey for young people 16 to 29 years old is now online on a special website. The survey is online at [https://survey-synod2018.glauco.it](https://survey-synod2018.glauco.it), and can be taken in English, French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, or German. Surveys should be completed by November 30.

For more details, contact Amanda George, Young Adult Ministry Coordinator 415-614-5595 georgea@sfarch.org

www.sfarch.org/youngadults

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**SANTA CLARA FAITH FORMATION CONFERENCE**

Santa Clara Faith Formation Conference: God is Always With Us
Registration for the 2017 Santa Clara Faith Formation Conference is now open! Santa Clara Convention Center on November 3-4. Sponsored by the Dioceses of Monterey and San Jose. Workshops in English, Spanish, Vietnamese and Chinese will focus on the Word, Worship and Witness as key components to our ongoing faith formation. Conference brochures are available in the back of the church or online at [www.scffc.org](http://www.scffc.org)

We look forward to seeing you at #SCFFC2017.

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**Youth Rally**

**WHOSE IMAGE IS THIS??**

**YOUTH RALLY!! Whose Image is This?**
For high school youth and those preparing for Confirmation.
A day of music, prayers, speakers, Mass, food and a dance!
Saturday, October 21 at St. Bede Parish in Hayward.
To sign up and get a permission slip, contact Lucy at [lsoltau@stdenisparish.org](mailto:lsoltau@stdenisparish.org)

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**Liturgical Ministry Training**

If you are interested in becoming a Lector or Altar Server, we will be scheduling a training soon! The training will be on a Sunday morning between Masses. Please contact Dede to sign up! [dedewm@pacbell.net](mailto:dedewm@pacbell.net)

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**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 due to space limitations. Thank You!

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**Stewardship**

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<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 (Goal)</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 1, 2017 to September 30th, 2017</td>
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<td>Monthly Goal— September 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 2017 Sunday Offertory Collections</td>
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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.
Annual Bake Sale

OUR BAKE SALE IS COMING

Our annual Bake Sale to benefit St. Anthony’s Dining Room will be on Sunday, October 22\textsuperscript{nd} at St. Denis after 9:30 mass. It will help this wonderful organization continues to serve 500-600 nutritious hot lunches daily, provides lunches to local homeless shelters, and groceries to those in need.

You can participate in the Bake Sale in 3 ways: 1) bring baked goods; 2) buy baked goods; or 3) both! There will be sign-up sheets after masses on 10/15, or you may contact Barbara Mason at babs412@yahoo.com or 650-854-2526. Don’t forget – NO DONUTS – but lots of goodies from our parishioners. This is always such a good community event for our parish – you won’t want to miss it!

CALLING ALL TEENS & TWEENS:
Whether you want to explore your baking talents, share a fun evening with friends, help provide healthy meals for local needy families, or all of the above, JOIN US for a BakeFest on Saturday October 21st, from 5-8:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Pizza, beverages and fun will be served. Contact Chris Sheehy 650-274-9738 or cmsheehy79@yahoo.com to sign up or ask questions!

Upcoming Events

October 16th  First Communion Class with Fr. Paul (optional) 3:30pm

October 21st  Youth Rally all day in Hayward

October 21st  Songbirds sing at Our Lady of the Wayside 4:30pm mass, reception to follow
All are welcome

October 22nd  Bake Sale to support St. Anthony’s at St. Denis
After 9:30am and 11:30am masses

October 23rd  First Communion Class with Fr. Paul (optional) 3:30pm

November 1st  All Saints Mass (Holy day of Obligation)
St. Denis, 8am & 6pm

November 5th  Confirmation class 5:30-8:00pm