Bless the Lord, oh my soul.

- Psalms 103 -

February 23rd, 2020   7th Sunday In Ordinary Time
When we think of holiness, we may think of monks who are secluded and isolated from the world and others. They devote themselves to a life of prayer and to God. That may be true. When I think of holiness though, I think about single mothers or fathers who have to work several jobs to put a roof over their children’s head, food in their stomachs and clothes on their backs. Yet, they make the time to help their children with their homework after an exhausting day, and attend their sports games. I also think of those who put their lives in harms way every day to protect and serve others. Most importantly, I think about us.

We are all called and challenged to be holy. For that is what God expects from all those who believe in him. In today’s first reading, God commands Moses to tell the Israelites, “Be holy, for I the Lord, your God, am holy. To be holy is definitely not easy. It is hard. It is very difficult indeed. God gave his Chosen People the Ten Commandments as the way to be holy. Jesus taught us his greatest teaching: Love God and your neighbor as yourself. Love is expressed in many different ways.

Jesus expressed love as turn the other cheek, pray for your enemies and persecutors, forgive always, give without expecting anything back, serve the least of your brothers and sisters in Christ and to pray constantly. We know all too well how difficult that can be. Yet, that is what Jesus did and that is how he lived his life. That is the way to holiness. A famous saint once said, “Lord, make me holy, but not now.” As human beings, we tend to put off things, especially when it is not comfortable. Perhaps that is why we do not see enough holy people around.

God bless, Fr. Paul

A Spiritual Pilgrimage

This Wednesday we begin the season of Lent. Following our noon Mass and Soup Luncheon, I will kick off this season by hopping on a plane to begin a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, led by Fr. James Martin, S.J. In preparation for this 10-day trip we are required to read Fr. Martin’s bestseller, Jesus: A Pilgrimage, which I heartily recommend as a perfect Lenten read. In this book Fr. Martin states that visiting the Holy Land is like visiting the family of a good friend. No matter how well you know the person, you’ll understand your friend a lot better if you encounter their roots. This is why the Holy Land is often called the Fifth Gospel. I am so grateful to have this opportunity and will bring you with me in spirit as you begin your own Lenten journeys.

How might we all create our own Fifth Gospel? Pilgrimage involves travel to a meaningful destination that separates us from the routine of our lives. How could we all make a spiritual pilgrimage this Lent? The obvious answer is breaking our routines through meditation, reading, prayer, and service. Going deeper involves some real soul-searching and quiet listening, really paying attention to all our relationships: with God, with one another, and within ourselves. Wishing you a meaningful Lent!

Dede Waters-Masters

We Believe

Pastor’s Corner

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God bless, Fr. Paul
CLASS TIMES: Parents! Please remember that our early classes begin at 9:15 am:

- 9:15 am (PreK to 4th grades)
- 10:30 am (5th & 6th)
- 5:30 pm (7th & 8th, select Sundays)

CONFIRMATION CLASS MEETS
Sunday, February 23 beginning with Mass at 5:30 pm then dinner and class til 8:00 pm. Bring your Handbooks!!

LITTLE BLACK BOOKS FOR LENT
The Little Black books are a simple way to help you pray more and better during the season Lent. There are reflections for every day, and a schedule of parish events on the cover. And there are Little Purple books for the kids. Please take one home today!

PANCAKE BREAKFAST AND LENTEN WORKSHOP
Sunday, March 1 at 10:30 am in St. Denis Hall. Come and eat pancakes, pick up your Lenten supplies, and try some of the crafts and games to get us into the spirit of the season, leading up to the great feast of Easter. Everyone is welcome!

Lenten Soup Luncheon
Following the Ash Wednesday noon Mass, there will be a soup luncheon in the parish hall at St. Denis. All are welcome!

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS
The Deadline for bulletin articles is Tuesday before noon, before the weekend of publication. All announcements during Mass are to be scripted and approved by Dede prior to Masses. Contact her at dedewm@pacbell.net

NOTE: Announcement may not appear until the next bulletin due to space limitations. Thank You!

Who is my enemy, and how can I show them Love?

“Save Time and Donate Online!”
Online Giving is available for parishioners with WeShare, an easy and convenient way to save time and support the church. Donating is simple, safe, and completely secure. If you would like to enroll in Online Giving, please visit our website stdenisparish.org, and follow the links. If you have any questions or concerns about the program or would like help setting up your account, please call WeShare at 800 950-9952.

July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 (Estimated goal) $459,000.00
July 1, 2019 to January 2020 $258,056.00
Monthly Goal – January 2020 $36,000.00
January 2020 Sunday Offertory Collections $37,383.00
Annual Appeal 2020 Goal $107,655.00
Annual Appeal 2020 Actual $40,392.00
Upcoming Events

February 23rd– Confirmation Class meets at 5:30pm in the church
February 24th– First Communion Class with Fr. Paul at 3:30pm in the library
February 24th– Knit & Pray at 5:30pm in the parish library
February 26th– Ash Wednesday Mass times:  St Denis 8:00am mass
                          12:00pm mass (with soup lunch afterwards)
                          Our Lady of the Wayside 5:00pm mass
March 1st– Pancake Breakfast and Lent Workshop at 10:30am in the hall
March 8th– Confirmation Class meets at 5:30pm in the church
March 9th– First Communion Class with Fr. Paul at 3:30pm in the library
March 10th– Senior lunch at 12noon with Communion Service in the hall

St. Francis Center Bridge Tournament

Save the Date - Friday, March 20, 2020 for the "Queen of Hearts" bridge tournament and luncheon to benefit St. Francis Center. The event will take place from 9:30-2:30 p.m. at St. Francis' Siena Youth Center, 2625 Marlborough Ave., Redwood City. For your invitation, please contact Ellen Jones at 650 704-3666 or email emcjones@hotmail.com

Why Register In A Parish?

Whether it’s your first time here or you have been coming to Mass here for years, we invite you to register with St. Denis & Our Lady of the Wayside Churches.

There are many reasons to register:

- It is a commitment to practice your faith.
- In times of joy and in times of struggle, it is comforting to have the support of a faith family.
- Being part of our parish community.
- Gives the parish a way to connect with you.

Registration forms are available in our website stdenisparish.org and the back of the church.