

# 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.*

## Parish Staff

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**Pastor**

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**Dede Waters-Masters**  
**Pastoral Minister in charge of  
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dedewm@pacbell.net  
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## Mass Times

### St. Denis Church

Saturday: 5:30pm (Vigil)  
Sunday: 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am  
Monday-Friday: 8:00am

### Our Lady of the Wayside Church

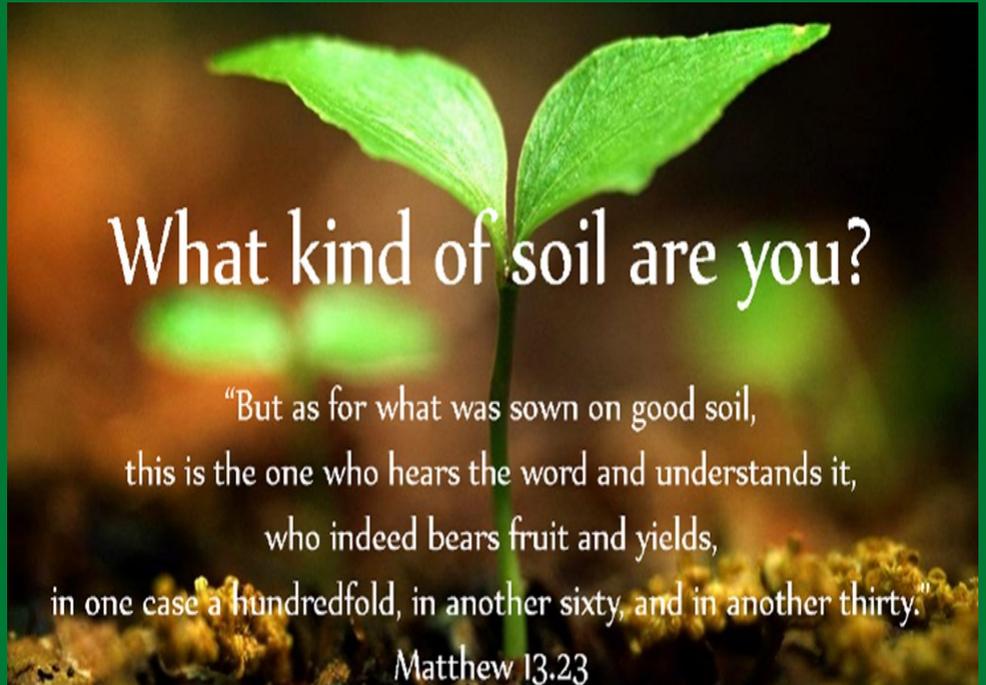
Saturday: 4:30 pm (Vigil)  
Sunday: 9:30 am (temporarily  
cancelled)

## 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



**July 12th, 2020 15th Sunday of Ordinary Time**

(650) 854-5976  
[www.stdenisparish.org](http://www.stdenisparish.org)

St. Denis Church (Parish Office)  
2250 Avy Avenue • Menlo Park

Our Lady of the Wayside Church  
930 Portola Road • Portola Valley

## Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel marks the beginning of the third long discourse given by Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew. Over the next few weeks, the Gospel readings will consist of the entire 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Matthew's Gospel, a lengthy teaching discourse.

Throughout this discourse, Jesus will offer several parables to illustrate for his listeners what he means by the kingdom of heaven. He begins with the parable of the sower, which appears rather straightforward—of course seeds grow best in good soil. Seeds that miss the soil, are sown on rocky ground, or are sown among other plants will not grow. The surprise in the parable is the enormous yield of the seed that is sown on good soil.

Jesus then explains his use of parables. Jesus seems to suggest that he uses parables to teach because the meanings of parables are not self-evident. The hearer must engage in some degree of reflection in order to comprehend the message of a parable. In this way, the medium—the parable—models the point of the parable of the sower. Those who are willing to engage themselves in the effort to understand will be rewarded by the discovery of the message and will bear fruit.

To bring home the point, Jesus interprets the parable of the sower to his disciples. The different types of soil in which the seeds are sown are metaphors for the disposition with which each individual hears the teaching about the kingdom of heaven. Some will be easily swayed away from the kingdom of heaven. Some will receive it for a time but will lose it when faced with difficulties. Some will hear the word but will then permit other cares to choke it out. Yet some will receive it well, and the seed will produce abundant fruit.

Loyola Press "Sunday Connection"

## We Believe

### The Good Seed

As the season of sheltering in has extended, the little things around my home have become more noticeable. As I was sitting in my backyard thinking about what to write this week, I noticed a little steppingstone I put there's some years ago. It reads, "To plant is to believe in tomorrow."

Today's gospel speaks to us of planting and Jesus indirectly invites all of us to take root and grow.

We might take this opportunity to ask ourselves, on an individual and communal level, what that might look like. Are we responding to our Sower? Are our best days still in our future?

Those very questions were posed at a zoom talk I attended last week, entitled, "Are Our Best Days Yet to Come?" Taking root, seeking to grow, and looking forward to our individual and collective futures are positive approaches to becoming who we really are and who our loving God intends us to be.

In the light (or the darkness) of all that is going on in our lives right now, here is some worthwhile advice on how to focus on what could be ahead:

1. Dream the future. Imagine how you want it to be.
2. Give yourself permission to make the positive changes you can, exercising your power of choice.
3. Begin small. Small choices create the large tapestry of who we are.
4. Aim to be the best. The more we try, the more choices we will have before us.
5. Dare to believe in the impossible. Miracles, small and large, do happen when we're open to them.

Stay in the place of possibility.

6. Don't ask "What should we do next?". Ask "What should we become next?"

We usually operate in "horizontal" time; it's how we attempt to organize our lives from morning til night, from birth to death. But God, our Sower, operates in "vertical time," a timeless eternity that invites each one of us to truth, justice, and grace. If, as the good seed, we continue to grow, tended by God's unconditional love, our best days are truly ahead of us.

Dede Waters-Masters

## Mass Intentions

### St. Denis

Sat. July 11 5:30 pm Those affected by the virus  
Sun. July 12 7:30 am Michael Ryan Courtney (+)  
9:30 am Those affected by the virus  
11:30 am Those affected by the virus  
Mon. July 13 8:00 am Christian unity  
Tue. July 14 8:00 am For environmentalists  
Wed. July 15 8:00 am In gratitude  
Thur. July 16 8:00 am Those with mental illness  
Fri July 17 8:00 am For St. Denis & Our Lady of  
the Wayside parishioners



### Our Lady of the Wayside

Sat. July 11 4:30 pm Those affected by the virus

In your charity, please pray for...

Betty O'Rourke, T.J. Pryor, J.M., G.G., Janice Varvelle, Teresa Bautista, Holly Hermansen, Pier Iglesias, Rosa Sharif, John Hunter, Anselmo Briones, Grace Kohen **Names will be removed monthly unless you let the office know. Thank you.**

## To Our Parishioners



### Faith Formation

The Faith Formation calendar for 2020-2021 is now on the parish website. You will see a few changes due to the ongoing pandemic. We will be offering two class sessions, during the 9:30 and 11:30 Masses, to make the class sizes smaller. That means we will need more catechists! We will also be offering materials for parents to teach at home, including online resources. We hope to be able to offer some family gatherings during the year, provided we can do so safely within county guidelines. Please check out the calendar and revised registration form, and contact Lucy Soltau at [lsoltau@stdenisparish.org](mailto:lsoltau@stdenisparish.org) if you have any questions or would like to volunteer!

### Children's Liturgy of the Word

Every summer, we offer the Liturgy of the Word for children during the 9:30am Sunday Mass. We will be offering this again beginning July 12. We will take the children into the garden at the beginning of Mass, and they will return at the collection. Children should wear masks.



## Question Of The Week

Today's Gospel tells the parable of the Sower and the Seed. God is the sower, God's word is the seed. What kind of SOIL are YOU?

## Prayer During Spiritual Communion

"My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there,

and unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you.

Amen!"



## Outreach Ways To Help

If you are interested in helping with Outreach efforts we have the following opportunities available.

St. Francis Center needs groceries. Peanut butter, cooking oil, cans of corn, bags of beans, rice, and tuna. You can drop these items off in the barrels that are outside of St. Denis Church.

July 12th we will be providing a meal for 120 clients at Maple Street.

You can donate for the various charities that we give to which are St. Francis Center, St. Anthony's, Maple Street Shelter, St. Catherine Center, and Catholic Worker House by dropping off or mailing a check made out to St. Denis Parish with 5th Sunday collections in the memo or you may go to our website [stdenisparish.org](http://stdenisparish.org) and go to WeShare for giving, choosing 5th Sunday collections for a one time donation or monthly donations. Thank you for your generosity.



## Bulletin Deadline

### 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](mailto:dedewm@pacbell.net)

NOTE: Announcement may not appear until the next bulletin due to space

limitations. Thank You!



## Stewardship

July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 (Estimated goal)	\$459,000.00
July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020	\$427,031.00
Monthly Goal- June 2020	\$36,000.00
June 2020 Sunday Offertory Collections	\$35,284.00
Annual Appeal 2020 Goal	\$107,655.00
Annual Appeal 2020 Actual	\$85,325.00

## Donation Corner

### "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](http://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.

## Our Evolving Covid-19 Precautions During Mass

We welcome you back to our churches for in-person Masses. There are a few things you should know before you come: If you are at risk, either by age or health concerns, or if you are not feeling well, please do not attend. The archbishop has extended dispensation from Sunday obligation.

Everyone over the age of 3 should wear a face covering (covering nose and mouth)

Use the hand-sanitizers at the entrances.

Please maintain 6 feet physical distancing by following the marks on the floor and pews. To keep these distances, we will need to limit the number of people inside the church. At St. Denis, there will be extra seating on the patio and wifi available in the parking lot.

Effective July 2020—with the increased outbreak of Covid-19 the California Department of Health guidelines are mandating no singing in public gatherings, including churches. We will have instrumental music.

Thank you for your continued understanding and cooperation as we fight this pandemic together.

We will continue to live-stream the Mass Monday thru Friday at 8:00am and Sunday at 9:30am. It will be available on our parish website [www.stdenisparish.org](http://www.stdenisparish.org) immediately following the Mass.

Communion will be distributed after the dismissal in the church and on the patio.

We ask that everyone leave the parish grounds immediately after receiving communion.

We are excitedly looking forward to seeing you and being able to worship face to face, in community, with the Sacrament. Thank you for your faithfulness and prayers during this unusual time.



## St. Denis & Our Lady of the Wayside Spiritual Book Group

The Spiritual Book Group is announcing our summer Stay-in-Place reading, *Healing the Heart of Democracy: The Courage to Create a Politics Worthy of the Human Spirit*, by Parker Palmer. Originally written in 2011, Palmer's book speaks to our present moment. He invites us to look beyond the political divisiveness that disempowers us, and shift to a heart-centered perspective on the issues. Palmer's discussion is based in faith, and individual and community action. He shows us how our expanded knowledge and simple acts can create a whole new reality.

Everyone is welcome to join at any time. We are reading the 2014 edition, available online. Our weekly discussions begin on Wednesday, July 15 at 10:00 am to 12:00 noon on Zoom. Our group has members of various persuasions, so we honor differences without engaging in conservative/liberal arguments. Please call Tereza McNamee, 650-323-6859 for further information.

## Supporting Your Parish During These Difficult Times

Please continue to financially support your parish so that we can continue to provide the ministries that everyone relies on. You may mail your donations to the parish office, or you may give online through WeShare. Go to the parish website, [stdenisparish.org](http://stdenisparish.org) to find the links to set up your donation or you may call WeShare at 800 950-9952, press 3, then press 2 or email [weshare@4lpi.com](mailto:weshare@4lpi.com). We thank you for your support!

