

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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Dede Waters-Masters
**Pastoral Minister in charge of
Liturgy and Senior Services**
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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

**He who sows the good seed is
the Son of Man. Matthew 13:37**



July 19th, 2020 16th Sunday of 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

Gospel Reading

In today's Gospel, Jesus offers three parables to describe the Kingdom of Heaven. He also explains why he speaks to the crowds in parables and interprets the parable of the sower for the disciples. This reading is a continuation of Jesus' discourse that we began reading last Sunday.

All three parables use commonplace experiences to describe aspects of the Kingdom of Heaven. The first parable is longer and more detailed than the next two, and it alerts us to the two-fold reality of the Kingdom of Heaven. The beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven can be found in this world. The fruition of the Kingdom of Heaven, however, will not be realized until the final judgment. In the meantime, as Jesus' explanation to the disciples cautions, any effort to judge the progress of the Kingdom of Heaven is premature. Only God, in the final judgment, will distinguish the fruit of the Kingdom of Heaven and offer its reward.

The second and third parables call to our attention the abundance that will result from the small beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven. Just as a mustard seed—the smallest of all seeds—will become a large bush, so too God will bring his Kingdom to full bloom. As a small amount of yeast will leaven the entire batch of bread, so too God will bring about the expansion of his Kingdom. In each case the image is of the superabundance that God brings out of even the smallest of signs of the Kingdom.

Contained within these parables are words of caution as well as words of consolation. In the parable of the sower we are warned against judging others. To judge and uproot the "weeds" prematurely will harm the wheat; final judgment rests with God. In the parables of the mustard seed and the yeast, we are consoled by the message that God can work wonders and produce abundance from even the smallest beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven.

Loyola Press "Sunday Connection"

We Believe

The Wheat and the Weeds

I have three large planters in my garden. Every year I plant certain seedlings and take great pleasure when they take root and bloom. Simultaneously, some mysterious, often identifiable seeds have interrupted my horticultural plan. When I have withheld my urge to yank them from the ground, I have usually been rewarded for my curiosity and have actually been influenced as to what plants I buy for the next season. The accidental appearance of many of these "invaders" has taught me a gardening practice of waiting to see what happens.

I thought of this when thinking about today's Gospel. We've heard a lot about seeds the past couple of weeks, but the "Wheat and the Weeds" parable really hits home.

In the climate in which we live, it is good to be reminded that, as believers, we might need to censure our gut reactions and judgments toward others. Our weeding out might be replaced with trying to understand one another. While we often can't help forming opinions, sometimes our self-righteous anger is not tempered with forgiveness, respect, and true justice. What if we all made a conscious effort to positively grow with EVERYONE?

God claims the ultimate role of judge. With all the pitfalls and problems present in today's environment, we are challenged to overcome polarization, seeking to address all our brothers and sisters as beloved children of God. Our response to the world is to live in hope, a hope that builds on the Kingdom of Christ.

Dede Waters-Masters

Mass Intentions

St. Denis

Sat. July 18 5:30 pm Sinforosa Firinion (+)
Sun. July 19 7:30 am Those affected by the virus
9:30 am Teresa Bautista (+)
11:30 am For scientists
Mon. July 20 8:00 am Christian unity
Tue. July 21 8:00 am For our parishioners
Wed. July 22 8:00 am World peace
Thur. July 23 8:00 am Those that follow Jesus
Fri. July 24 8:00 am In gratitude



Our Lady of the Wayside

Sat. July 18 4:30 pm In gratitude
Sun. July 19 9:30 am For medical workers

In your charity, please pray for...

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

REGISTER NOW FOR FAITH FORMATION PROGRAMS!!

We will be offering the full Faith Formation program for children in grades 1 to 8, including Sacrament preparation. We will have two sessions of classes, during the 9:30am and 11:30am Sunday Masses, and a home study version for parents to use at home that includes online resources that all parents can use! Parents can sign up for either classroom or home study.

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 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 if you have any questions.

We are also looking for **VOLUNTEERS** to teach in the classroom sessions. We have safety protocols in place, and children spend a very short time in the rooms. If you are planning to register your own children for classes, please consider volunteering. Contact Lucy at lsoltau@stdenisparish.org for more information.

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 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

**Last week it was soil, today its seeds!
How big/small is YOUR faith?**

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.

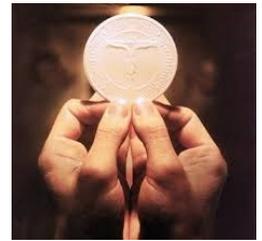
Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

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.

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 and go to WeShare for egiving, 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

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, 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 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 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. We thank you for your support!

