

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

Rev. Paul O'Dell
Pastor

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Operations Manager

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(650) 854-5976 press 1

Lucy Soltau
Director of Faith Formation

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

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

Sunday: 9:30 am (temporarily
cancelled)

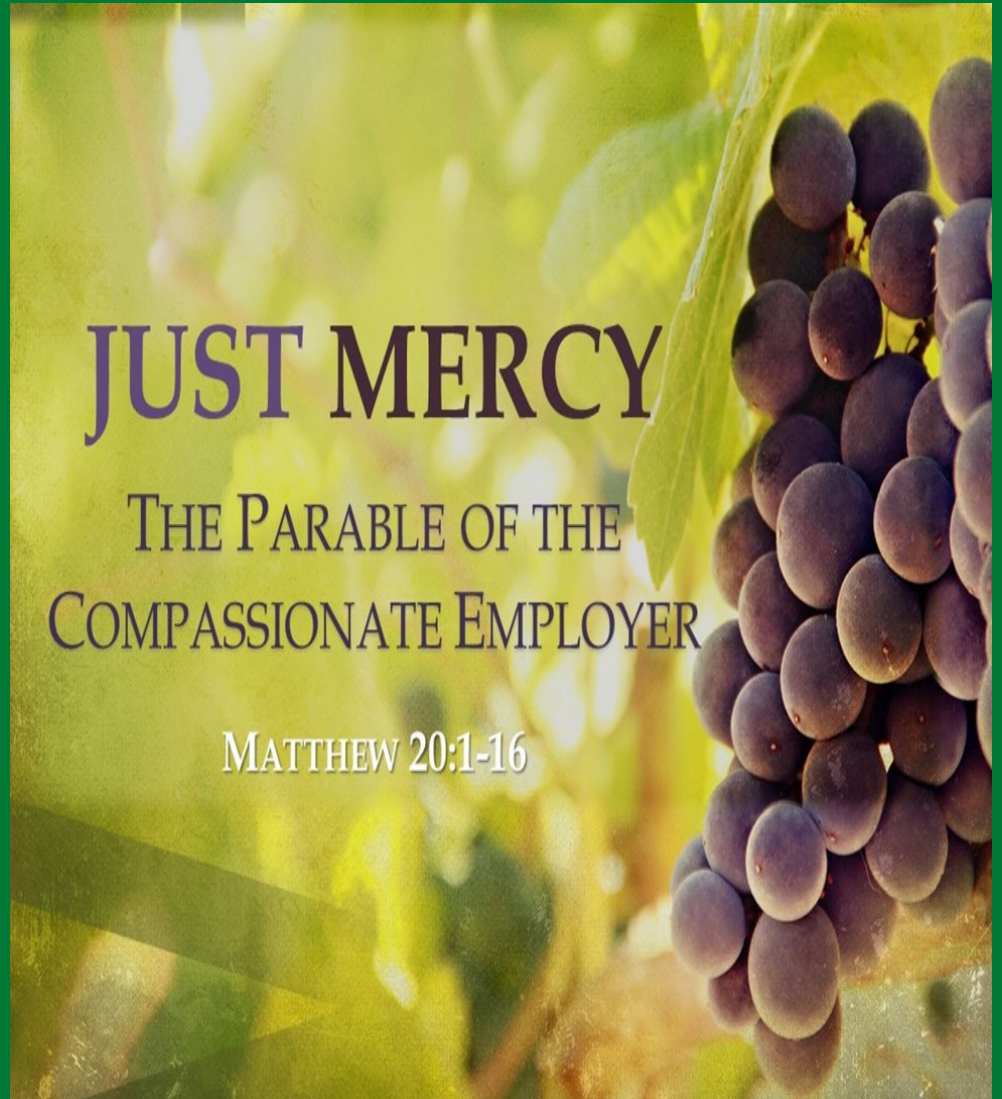
Confession Times

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

Second Collection
this weekend for
Priests Retirement



September 20th, 2020 25th 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

Pastor's Corner

Dear Beloved Parishioners,

This has indeed been quite the year. We have experienced a pandemic and fires. So much death and so much destruction have come our way. It is only natural to ask the question where is God in all of this? Has he abandoned us? Has he forsaken us? I believe not. God is with us. He always has been with us and always will be with us. He is with us here and now.

I say this not just because I am a priest. I say this as a man of faith. I say this as a Catholic. The essence of our faith is the Eucharist. Mass is celebrated every day throughout the world. Given the different times zones of the world, mass is celebrated numerous times a day. The good Lord is with us because of what we believe as Catholics. The Eucharistic is the real Body and Blood of Christ. Christ becomes present in the Eucharist, in the mass, in the Church thus in the very whole wide world. The real presence of Christ is everywhere.

With unshakable faith, we can proclaim the Lord is near to all who call upon him. That is our Responsorial Psalm for this Sunday, but not just this Sunday though. We can proclaim it every day throughout the day because the celebration of the mass takes place. It is good to be Catholic. What a tremendous gift and blessing the Eucharist is. How blessed we are to be able to receive it quite often.

God bless, Fr. Paul

We Believe

Parables are open-ended stories that challenge us in a variety of ways because they represent a variety of meanings. While on the surface, this parable describing disgruntled workers in the vineyard could challenge our own personal feelings of jealousy and resentment, I would like to examine this gospel against some prevalent socially acceptable attitudes and popular rhetoric.

Many mainstream people of today consciously or subconsciously take pride (and prejudice) to another level by insisting on their superiority over other classes, other countries, and other people around the world. In much the same way, the Jews of Jesus' time truly believed in their superiority over all people and their exclusivity to the one true God. This "insider" attitude justified their harsh attitudes, clannishness, resentments, and treatment of gentiles and their outrage when someone other than them received some needed assistance.

Viewing today's gospel through this lens, we can see that this parable challenges the Jewish assumption that God (and the Messiah God would send) would be exclusively for them. Like the disgruntled vineyard workers who were paid the same wage as the late comers, the Jews of Jesus' time were challenged to accept that the blessing of knowing and serving God were blessings available to all, regardless of when or how they came to know the good news. The generous and powerful God they knew was available to all!

God's promises to Israel are expanded in much the same way as a day's wage is paid to everyone, regardless of their hours at work. The owner of the vineyard shows graciousness and mercy to those who come late to work, as our God graces all creation with total inclusivity and mercy. Through Christ, all creation, from beginning to end, from alpha to omega, is blessed and loved.

Many Jews would be slighted by this broadened understanding. Contrary to much of our current national cultural bias, recognition and acceptance of God's lavish and universal love is the truest of Christian values.

Dede Waters-Masters

Mass Intentions

St. Denis

Sat. Sept. 19 5:30 pm For teachers and students
Sun. Sept. 20 7:30 am For teachers and students
9:30 am For teachers and students
11:30 am For teachers and students
Mon. Sept. 21 8:00 am Ann Begley (+)
Tue. Sept. 22 8:00 am For peacemakers
Wed. Sept. 23 8:00 am Special blessings
Thur. Sept. 24 8:00 am Franklin Bautista (+)
Fri. Sept. 25 8:00 am Those affected by covid



Our Lady of the Wayside

Sat. Sept. 19 4:30pm For teachers and students
Sun. Sept. 20 9:30am Mass temporarily cancelled

In your charity, please pray for...

T.J. Pryor, J.M., G.G., Janice Varvelle, 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.

Faith Formation News

FAITH FORMATION MATERIALS AVAILABLE

We have lessons, parent guides and online resources for use at home or with our optional Zoom gatherings! Materials are for grades PreK to 6th. Zoom gatherings for grades 2 to 6. Contact Lucy at Isoltau@stdenisparish.org to schedule a pick up time.



Faith Formation

FAITH FORMATION ZOOM GATHERINGS BEGIN TODAY!

If you registered your children for Faith Formation, you should have received a link to our optional Zoom gatherings. We will offer these gatherings every Sunday, beginning today.

Please contact Lucy at Isoltau@stdenisparish.org for more information.

The Faith Formation calendar for 2020-2021 and the NEW registration form is now on the parish website at www.stdenisparish.org You will see some major 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 Isoltau@stdenisparish.org if you have any questions.

Question Of The Week

Question of the Week:

It's never too late to come to the Lord.
What are you waiting for?

Donut Update

Since as of writing this we are still in the State "purple zone." We are postponing the donut and coffee distribution after the 9:30am mass. Since the purpose of this event is to enhance our St. Denis and Our Lady of the Wayside communities, and since we are asked to disperse immediately after mass, we do not want to be at cross purposes. For that reason we have decided to delay doughnuts and coffee just a few more weeks. But Be Assured We Will Be Back As Soon As We Get Into A Safe County Zone.

Blessing of Pets

Blessing of the pets honoring St. Francis is Friday October 2nd at 4pm at St. Denis in front of chapel.



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

August 2020 Sunday Offertory Collections	\$30,565.00
August 2020 Sunday Offertory (Goal)	\$45,000.00
Annual Appeal 2020 Goal	\$107,655.00
Annual Appeal 2020 Actual	\$100,655.00

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

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 provided.

Effective August 1, 2020– Due to the State of California Health compliance for San Mateo County masses will be outside only. Mass at St. Denis is in the patio. Mass at Our Lady of the Wayside will be in the courtyard. 9:30am Mass is temporarily cancelled at Our Lady of the Wayside. Thank you for your patience and understanding in helping us to protect parishioners and staff.

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

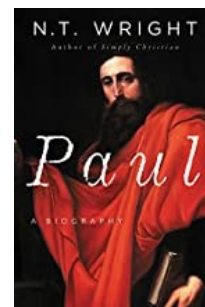
We are excitedly looking forward to seeing you and being able to worship face to face, in community, with the Sacrament. Thank you for your faithfulness and prayers during this unusual time.



Spiritual Book Group

We're happy to announce our newest reading: *Paul, a Biography*, by the well-known biblical scholar, N.T. Wright, also known as Tom Wright. From the cover: "Wright draws our attention to Paul the man –who survived assassination attempts, imprisonments, and shipwrecks, all while inventing new language and concepts for faithfully translating Jesus's story for the Gentile world." The book is very readable. We'll include some of Paul's letters as part of our study.

Discussions begin on September 30th. In this time of Covid-19 precautions, we meet weekly on Zoom, Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon. Please contact Tereza McNamee at 650-323-6859 for more 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!

