

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

dedewm@pacbell.net  
(650) 854-5976 press 4

## 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 December  
12th/13th for Retirement For  
Religious**



**December 13th, 2020 Third Sunday Of Advent  
Gaudete Sunday**

(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

## Pastor's Corner

Dear Beloved Parishioners,

Always, the Lord remembers. He never forgets. Close to His heart are the brokenhearted, the lowly, the poor, the abandoned and the forgotten as well as those held in captivity and are imprisoned. The Lord hears their cry, and He responds in time. In and through us who are open to share in the work of the Lord, the forgotten are remembered.

Throughout my many years as a priest, I have witnessed countless parishioners who have responded so graciously and generously to those in need. Soup kitchens, ministry to the sick, prison ministry, active members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society are just some ways the good Lord has worked through people of faith to respond to His least ones.

Advent is a holy season. It is made holy by those living their faith and putting it in action. St. Paul reminds us that faith without works is dead. May we keep our eyes, ears, hands and more importantly our heart open to the least of our brothers and sisters in Christ. Long live the faith.

God bless, Fr. Paul

## We Believe

Gaudete Sunday is a celebration of hope. The word “Gaudete” means *rejoice*. Gaudete Sunday marks a shift in our Advent focus. The first two weeks of Advent remind us “The Lord is coming,” but beginning with Gaudete Sunday, we focus on the theme, “The Lord is near.” Liturgically we take a visual mini-break from the Advent wreath ritual of lighting violet candles by lighting a pink one, a sign of joyous hope that is meant to invade our pre-Christmas scurrying and spiritually move us to looking forward to a better time with joyous anticipation.

Reality check: with all that has gone on this year, joyous anticipation and hope are a little hard to come just now. After months of mask-wearing, sanitizing, sheltering in, political turmoil, economic strains, restrictions, and fear, our hearts just may not be into it. But, not to worry: being filled with Christian hope is not an emotion, it's a personal and communal commitment to a way of life.

“Christianity is a lifestyle—a way of being in the world that is simple, non-violent, shared and loving.” (Rohr) As believers we are not just worshipping Christ, but living as Christ as co-creators in the building up of the Kingdom of God. It is possible to be greedy, racist, self-centered and still profess Jesus as one's “personal Lord and Savior,” but our suffering world cries for a much deeper commitment, and so do our personal relationships with God, ourselves, and others.

As believers we are called to illuminate a Christ already present in our world. Our lives are meant to testify to the light of Christ, the same light that is witnessed by John the Baptist. This light enables us to see misplaced priorities and lead us out of darkness and discouragement. The real Christmas gifts are free for the taking: faith, hope, and love.

Dede Waters-Masters

## Mass Intentions

### St. Denis

Sat. Dec. 12 5:30 pm For an end of Covid-19  
Sun. Dec. 13 7:30 am James Mercer(+)  
9:30 am Dorene Butler(+)  
11:30 am Grace & George Wasmer (+)  
Mon. Dec.14 8:00 am St. Denis & Our Lady of the  
Wayside parishioners  
Tues. Dec.15 8:00 am In gratitude  
Wed. Dec.16 8:00 am For caregivers  
Thurs. Dec.17 8:00 am Colleen Slavin (+)  
Fri. Dec. 18 8:00 am Those affected by Covid-19



### Our Lady of the Wayside

Sat. Dec. 12 4:30pm End of Covid-19  
Sun. Dec. 13 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 continues on Zoom**  
2<sup>nd</sup> grade at 2pm, 3 /4 grades at 1pm and 5 /6 grades at 11am.

If you need the Zoom links to join us, contact Lucy at [lsoltau@stdenisparish.org](mailto:lsoltau@stdenisparish.org)

Parents! If you would just like the lessons to teach them yourself, we have plenty!  
Just come by the office on Sunday from 9am to 3pm.

**PreK/Kindergarten/First Grade Families!**  
Dede Waters-Masters is creating videos for you to use at home whenever you want! She offers suggestions, encouragement, project ideas, and prayer ideas for you to do with your little ones. Just contact Lucy at [lsoltau@stdenisparish.org](mailto:lsoltau@stdenisparish.org) and we'll send them directly to you!

## Advent Retreat Morning

Thank you for joining us on the Advent Retreat Thursday morning. If you missed it, here's the link to watch the recording.

Share recording with viewers:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/-pGbrigEhK0mXLK9Hx1i2\\_aZh680r9hZbBkn0NdjtnGcmBUPGLa\\_DaGI0iQ\\_RTjm.NIIEKNv9bl6LOPpw](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/-pGbrigEhK0mXLK9Hx1i2_aZh680r9hZbBkn0NdjtnGcmBUPGLa_DaGI0iQ_RTjm.NIIEKNv9bl6LOPpw)

## Question Of The Week

A prophet's mission is to speak for God.  
Sometimes a warning, sometimes encouragement.  
Am I a prophet?  
What message has God given me to share?

## Parish Outreach Committee Update

**December: Today, Sunday December 13th is the last day to give to the Christmas Giving Tree**

To simplify this annual event, we are requesting \$25 gift cards to Target, Kohl's, & Walmart— or checks (made out to St. Denis Church with memo Christmas Giving Tree.) These cards/funds will be distributed to Maple Street Shelter, Catholic Worker House, and the St Francis Center. **They are needed no later than Dec. 13.** Your donation can be put in the collection basket or mailed into the office. You may also adopt a needy family. Contact Pat Mach at [patricia.mach@sbcglobal.net](mailto:patricia.mach@sbcglobal.net)



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

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

limitations. Thank You!



## Stewardship

July 1, 2020 to June 30th, 2021 (Estimated Goal)	\$410,000.00
July 1, 2020 to November 30, 2020	\$156,005.00
Monthly Goal- November 2020	\$40,195.00
November 2020 Sunday Offertory Collections	\$32,285.00
Annual Appeal 2020 Goal	\$107,655.00
Annual Appeal 2020 Actual	\$107,655.00

## 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](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

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. Please maintain 6 feet distancing by following the marks on the floor, pews, and refrain from singing as tiny droplets can spread even through masks per California Public Health and San Mateo Guidelines.

Effective November 29th, 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 at Our Lady of the Wayside is still temporarily cancelled. Thank you for your patience and understanding in helping us to protect parishioners and staff.

Effective since 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 patience and understanding in helping us to protect the parishioners and staff. 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. We look 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.

## Christmas Mass Schedule

### Christmas Schedule

As of now, we are planning to have a full schedule of Masses, in person outdoors. Of course, this is subject to change, following state and local guidelines.

### Christmas Eve: Thursday, December 24

4:00pm at St. Denis (live streamed on our Facebook page)

6:00pm at St. Denis

4:30pm at Our Lady of the Wayside

### Christmas Day: Friday, December 25

7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am at St. Denis

9:30am at Our Lady of the Wayside



## 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!

