

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
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

Sunday: 9:30 am (temporarily
cancelled)

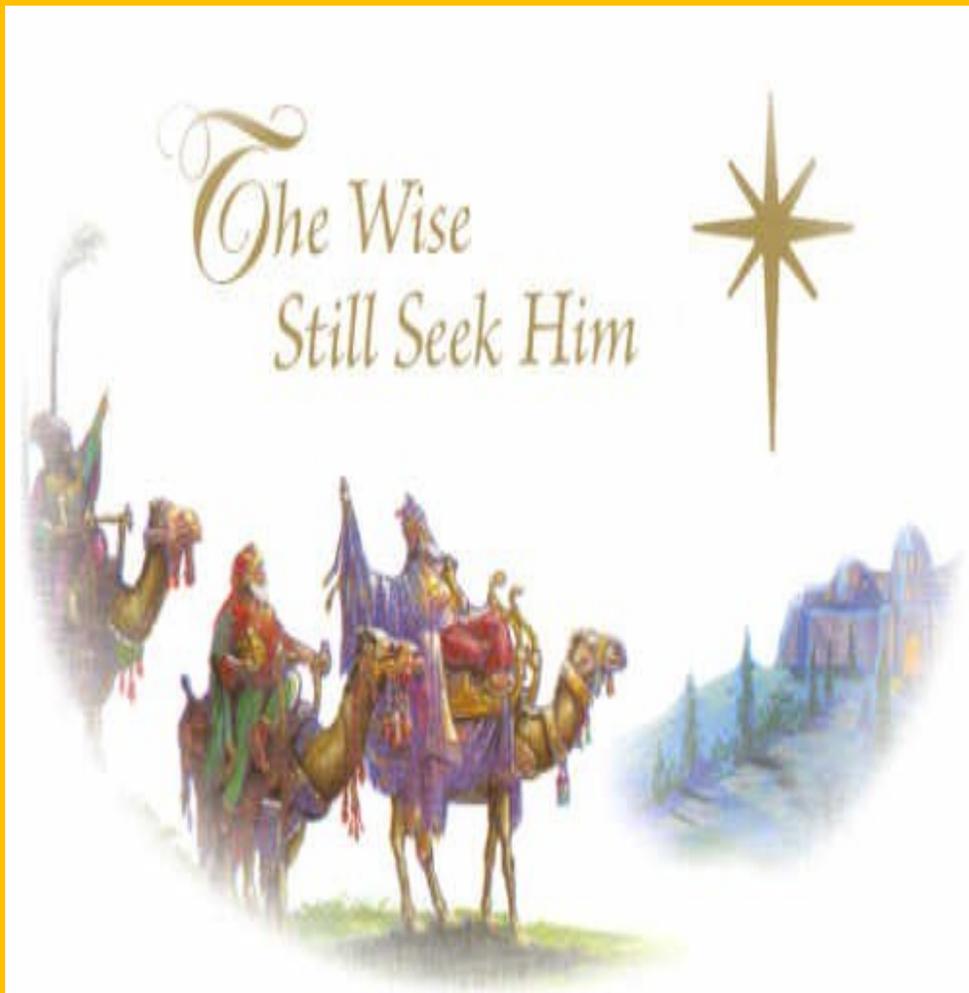
Confession Times

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



January 3rd, 2021 The Epiphany of the Lord

(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

The Gospel

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . ." The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a savior. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.

Loyola Press "Sunday Connection"

We Believe

(A prayer from Joyce Rupp's Out of the Ordinary)

Mother of God, you risked saying yes to being pregnant with the seed of the Holy One.

—May I also overcome my fears and take the risk that spiritual growth requires of me.

Mother of God, you offered the hospitality of your womb as a dwelling place for the Holy One..

—May I continually open the womb of my heart to all who need a welcome there.

Mother of God, you awaited a long nine months of the child's gestation.

—May I wait patiently when spiritual growth seems to come far too slowly.

Mother of God, you did not know how the birth of your child would affect your life

—May I trust in God's presence to protect and guide me when I face uncertainty.

Mother of God, you cared for and nurtured the divine life within you

—May I daily do the same through faithfulness to prayer and virtuous action.

Mother of God, you experienced the pain of contractions as you birthed the holy one

—May I have the courage to bear the pains of my inner growth.

Mother of God, you found kinship with your pregnant cousin Elizabeth

—May I recognize the Elizabeth's who is staying and encourage me

Mother of God, you felt the child within you stirring and kicking

—May I deepen my awareness of God stirrings in the midst of my life.

Mother of God, when the divine child pushed forth from your womb he uttered his first cry

—May I believe in the goodness within me that is yet to resound.

Mother of God, the newly born child in your arms engendered awe, mystery, and wonder.

—May I, too, reverence and be awed by the way that the Divine One enters my life. Amen.

Wishing you all a blessed 2021. Dede Waters-Masters

Mass Intentions

St. Denis Church

Sat. Jan. 2nd 5:30pm For first responders
Sun. Jan 3rd 7:30am For all that follow Jesus
9:30am Sally Randall (+)
11:30am For medical workers



Our Lady of the Wayside Church

Sat. Jan 2nd 4:30pm For first responders
Sun. Jan 3rd 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 takes a break!

Our Zoom classes are taking a break for the holidays, but will resume January 10. There will be **NEW MATERIALS** to pick up before that, so watch your email for details. If you are not registered but would like materials to teach your children at home, contact Lucy at lsoltau@stdenisparish.org and we'll take care of you!



Faith Formation

PreK/Kindergarten/First grade Families!

Dede has finished another great video for you to share with your little ones! She tells the four stories of Christmas and offers suggestions for celebrating at home. Contact Lucy at lsoltau@stdenisparish.org and we'll send them directly to you.

Question Of The Week

Questions for the Holidays:

Christmas, Holy Family, and Epiphany! So many stories to tell, and so much to celebrate. Take some time during these holidays to read and reflect on these stories. They can be found in both the Gospel of Matthew and Luke. Who knows, you might even discover something new in them!

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

Outreach Christmas Giving Tree

Thank you to everyone that contributed to our annual Christmas Giving Tree. We were able to give 20 individual gift cards of \$25 each to St. Francis Center, Catholic Worker House, & Maple Street Shelter. All of the 15 families from Hoover Preschool were adopted, & we provided gifts for the children, more than \$250 each for the families. Your generosity is very much appreciated by all of these organizations especially in these times of COVID when there is so much need. May you all have a blessed Christmas!



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!



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 and Holy days of 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 December 18th, 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 patio. 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 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.

Private Retreats At Vallombrosa

AN ISLE OF PEACE IN A CRAZY WORLD

VALLOMBROSA RETREAT CENTER INVITES YOU TO COME BACK AND TO ENJOY A MOMENT OF REPOSE FROM TODAY'S COVID WORLD.

We offer private single rooms for either a day stay, or up to a week. These private rooms offer business class wifi and a writing desk, an en suite restroom, open access to lovely gardens, and, if you wish, Spiritual Direction. Or maybe you just need a break from the house, children and spouse to write a few emails and reflect.

Our prayerful atmosphere is what we hope can bring back the presence of mind and heart you miss. Take advantage of our lush ten acres of gardens; cozily nestled in the quiet neighborhood of Nativity Church and Corpus Christi Monastery.

We call these peaceful times away "day retreats". A private room is available at \$300 for a five-day week from 7am until 5 pm. Or, you can opt for overnight retreats - a minimum of three nights for \$300. There may be other ways we can accommodate what you may have in mind, so just reach out to us.

Please email David at davidl@vallombrosa.org to learn more.

Space is limited due to safe distancing requirements.

We hope to see you soon! - Your Friends at Vallombrosa



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!

