

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
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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

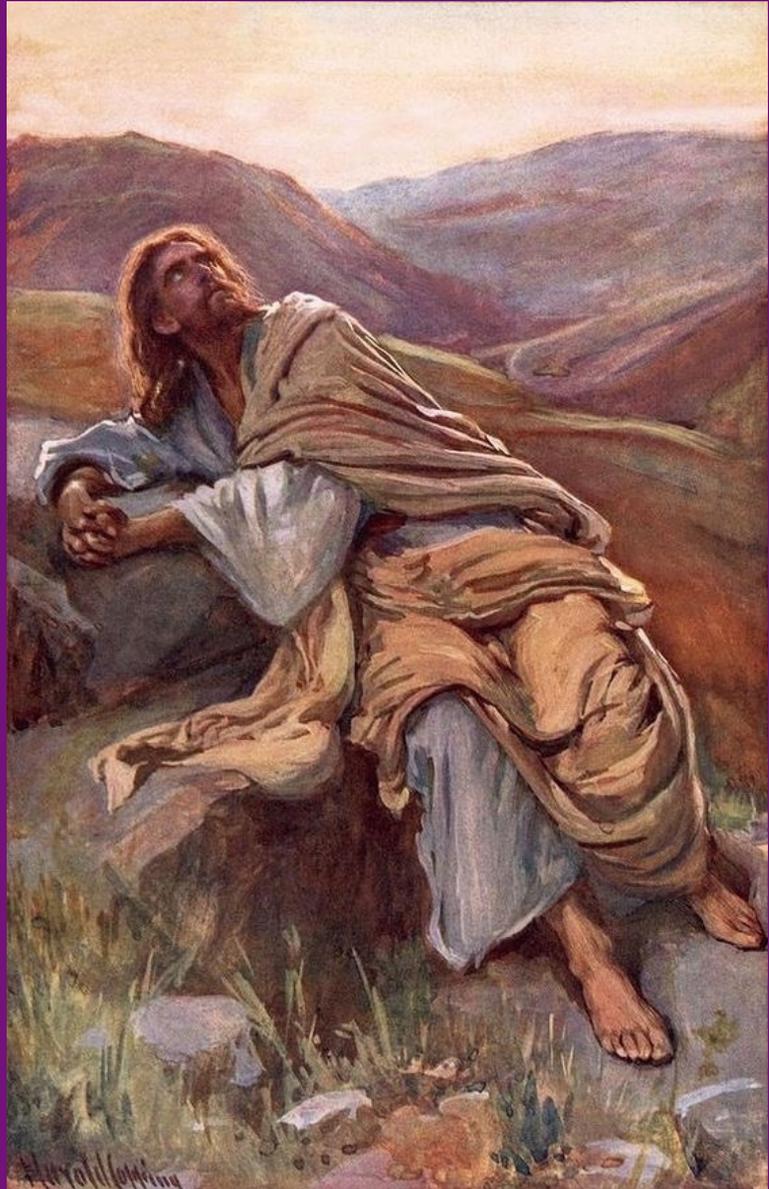
Saturday: 4:00 pm, Our Lady of the
Wayside

Saturday: 5:00 pm, St. Denis

Office Hours

M-F, 9:00 am—2:00 pm

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert... Mark 1:12



February 21st, 2021 1st Sunday of Lent

(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,

There is a motif that runs throughout Sacred Scripture. It is the motif of testing. God tests His beloved people. God tested Adam, Job, Abraham and especially His son Jesus. Adam failed while Abraham did not. Adam brought on the Fall of humanity. Abraham became the Father of faith. On this first Sunday of Lent, in the gospel of Mark, the Holy Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert.

I had the wonderful experience of going on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land before coming to St. Denis. We visited the wilderness where the Holy Spirit drove Jesus. It was extremely windy and the land was rugged with rolling hills. Just walking several yards was very arduous. It appears that Jesus did not have a choice in being tempted. He was driven into the desert by the force and power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus was in the desert for one purpose. To be tempted by Satan himself.

Even though St. Mark's version of the temptation of Jesus does not contain very much detail, in the end Jesus overcame Satan. Have we not been in the desert since last March? The pandemic has indeed tested the whole world. Given what has happened, it is easy to lose hope and to fall into despair. Our faith in God has been tested beyond reason. We just need to believe that it is all part of God's providential plan for us even though we may not comprehend it at the time. All the trials and tribulations that I have experienced personally has made me who I am today. It has made me stronger and wiser. It is my belief that I have more to offer to others because of the hardships and difficulties I have endured. Has it been easy? No. Yet, I am grateful that the good Lord and the Holy Spirit have always been with me through it all. I guess it takes faith to believe that.

God bless, Fr. Paul

We Believe

It's significant that Jesus waited until 30 years of age to begin his public ministry. We meet Jesus at this pivotal point of his life as the gospel of Mark begins. Jesus humbly offers himself in a public baptism of repentance, a ritual form of washing, administered by John the Baptist, a desert-dweller. Clothed in animal skins instead of the robes of a high priest, as was his father, Zachariah, John the Baptist has completed his mission of announcing Jesus to the world. Both John and Jesus have been affirmed by witnessing God the Father's response, "This is my beloved Son..."

In today's gospel passage, the Gospel of Mark also affirms the Trinitarian relationship by telling us that it is the Holy Spirit leading Jesus into the desert. After the awe and wonder of Mark's baptismal scene, this desert retreat is a meaningful contrast, a way of reminding us of Jesus' humanity. Our beloved Savior demonstrates his human need for prayer and introspection, and he submits himself to forty days and nights, probably plagued by the demons of fear and uncertainty, and inevitably comforted and strengthened by the angels of compassion and fortitude that come to him as he wrestles with his messianic destiny.

As we begin this season of Lent, today's gospel reminds us of the value of making time for prayer as we seek our own destinies as God's beloved, the demons of doubt we all face at one time or another, and the divine comfort available to us for the asking.

Dede Waters-Masters

Mass Intentions

St. Denis Church

Sat. Feb. 20 5:30pm Peace in our nation
Sun. Feb. 21 7:30am Xavier De Gery & family (+)
9:30am Peace in our nation
11:30am Effective vaccine distribution
Mon. Feb. 22 8:00am Christian unity
Tues. Feb. 23 8:00 am For catechists
Wed. Feb. 24 8:00 am For our parish community
Thurs. Feb.25 8:00 am For those affected by Covid-19
Fri. Feb. 26 8:00 am For our Jewish sisters & brothers



Our Lady of the Wayside Church

Sat. Feb. 20 4:30pm Mary O'Halloran (+)
Sun. Feb. 21 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 ZOOM

Classes resume this weekend! Use the Zoom links you already have.

If you need the link, please contact Lucy at lsoltau@stdenisparish.org

Class materials are available during office hours.



FIRST COMMUNION WORKSHOP

Sunday, February 28 at 2:00pm in St. Denis Church.

This will be an in-person workshop for families preparing to celebrate First Communion this spring. Parents and children will have a chance to explore each of the Sacraments, and learn the symbols and rituals for each. You'll also be able to pick up your first communion banner kits and class materials. Wear your masks!

CONFIRMATION CLASS

We'll meet in-person on Sunday, February 28 at 3:00pm in St. Denis Church.

We'll be exploring the signs, symbols and rituals of the Sacraments.

Wear your masks!

Question Of The Week

Temptations always look good, even when they are not actually good for me!

What behaviors or attitudes am I tempted to hold on to, even if they are not good for me?

Kenya Help Update

You may recall that our 2019 Lenten Project was raising funds to provide scholarships for high school students in Naivasha, Kenya. We worked with our local nonprofit organization, Kenya Help, and its Kenyan charitable partner foundation. Thanks to your outpouring of support, we raised enough money to provide 4 years of high school for 6 students, the "St. Denis Scholars." The students, all with great potential but lacking money for school fees, room and board, were selected and began the term that started in January 2020. But due to COVID-19 schools in Kenya closed, as they did here. It is not yet clear when they will fully reopen. Our funds have been held at our Kenyan partner organization to be used for tuition when school reopens.

Separately, some families of students that Kenya Help supports have needed food assistance during the COVID-19 crisis and donors have provided some funding for that purpose. We look forward to letting you know the progress of our Scholars in the future. Thank you again for your generosity. Please visit www.kenyahelp.us for more information and to sign up for the newsletter.

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, 2020 to June 30th, 2021 (Estimated Goal)	\$410,000.00
July 1, 2020 to January 31, 2021	\$212,767.00
January 2021 Sunday Offertory Collections	\$26,021.00
Annual Appeal 2021 Goal \$98,096	\$17,125.00

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.

Welcome Back To Masses Inside Church

As we welcome you back to Mass inside of church here are a few reminders:

Wear a face mask, covering your nose and mouth at all times. Practice physical distancing by staying 6 feet apart by following the marks and taped areas on the floor and pews. Use the hand-sanitizers that are provided.

The State of California Health Department does not permit singing inside or outside of church . The cantor at each mass will sing for you.

If you have traveled outside of your home more than 120 miles, in respect of our elderly and at risk parishioners kindly quarantine from coming to mass for 10 days. You may watch mass from the comfort and safety of your home.

We will continue to live-stream the Mass Monday thru Fridays at 8:00am and Sunday at 9:30am. on Facebook. It will be available on our website www.stdenisparish.org immediately following mass.

Lenten Schedule

Every Friday During Lent at 8:00 am at St Denis Church- Mass, Stations of the Cross in the garden.

Lenten Retreat March 24th at 10:00 am in person & live streamed with Reconciliation, individual confession available.

The Triduum April 1,2,3,4

Holy Thursday 7:00pm at St. Denis (Mass with feet washing, Benediction)

Good Friday Services Noon at St. Denis (Stations, Passion, Adoration of the Cross, Communion)

Easter Vigil 7:00pm at St. Denis

Easter Sunday Regular Sunday Schedule



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!

