

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

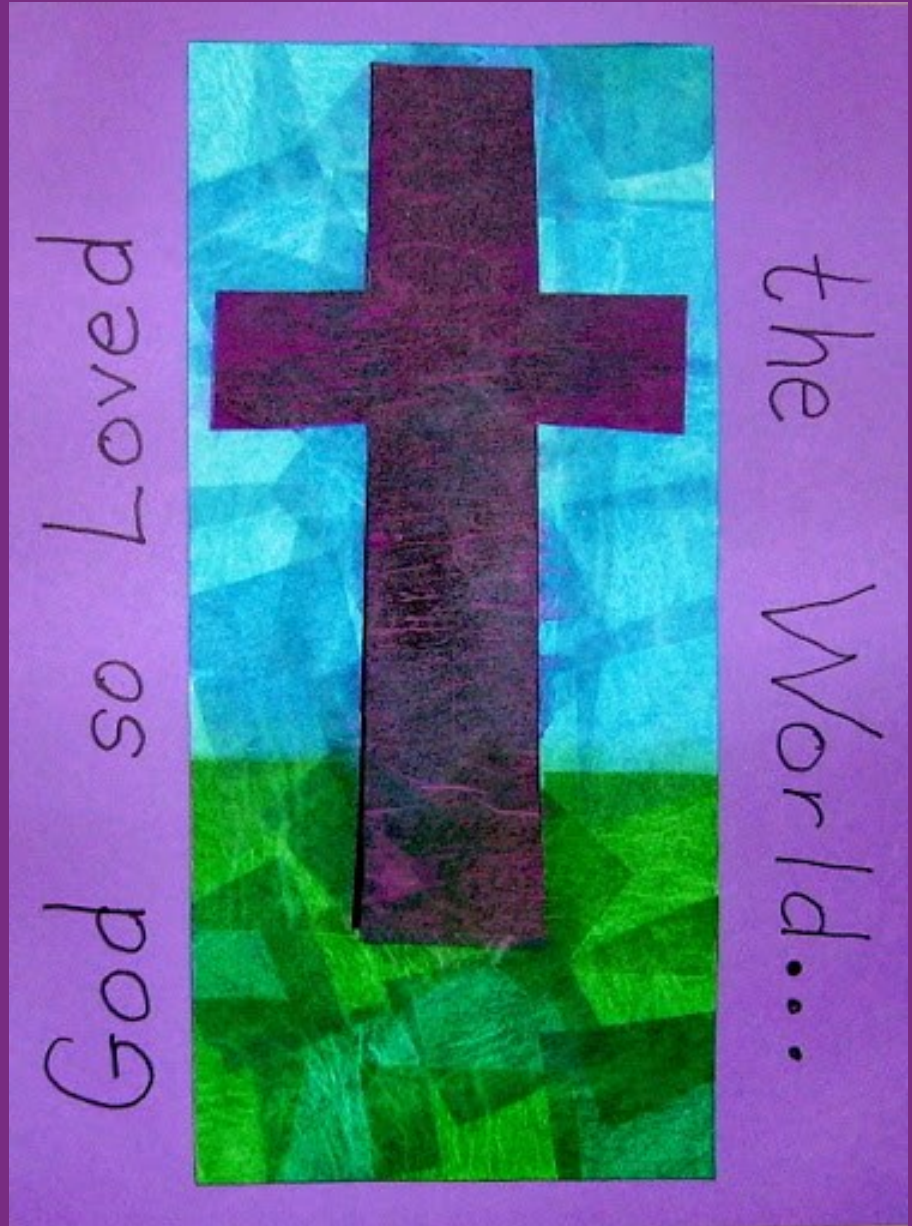
Saturday: 4:00 pm, Our Lady of the
Wayside

Saturday: 5:00 pm, St. Denis

Office Hours

M-F, 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Second Collection for Catholic Relief Services



March 14th, 2021 4th 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 saying I am sure most of us are familiar with "Temper justice with mercy." As human beings, our version of justice can be swift and severe if not vindictive. St. Paul in his letter to the Ephesians reminds us that God's version of justice always involves mercy. Mercy is defined as compassion or forgiveness shown toward someone whom it is within one's power to punish or harm. We are inclined to want to punish and harm someone who has hurt us.

The mercy of God is rooted in love, His love for us. God the Almighty does not use His power and authority to punish or harm us. Real love does not seek revenge. Real love does not destroy. Real love does not find pleasure in ruining others even if they may deserve it. God's love is real. Human love can have limits and conditions. I will love you as long as you do not hurt me. I will love you as long as I like you. The mercy of God is unconditional and infinite as His love is for us.

Every day and every minute of the day people hurt God by committing sin. Yet, He continues to love us and wraps us with His immense and unending mercy. God is rich in mercy while we at times are poor in mercy. During this Lenten season, we are called and challenged to be merciful as God is. With the grace of God, may we strive to achieve this worthwhile endeavor.

God bless, Fr. Paul

We Believe

Today's gospel makes a point of telling us that Nicodemus, a pharisee, comes to Jesus by night. Nicodemus is on a secretive truth search when he respectfully attests, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God.." Sensing a questioning uncertainty within Nicodemus, as if he can see straight into the soul of the man in the dark, Jesus states, "I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Seeming to focus on the literal meaning of Jesus' words, Nicodemus asks, "How can anyone be born after having grown old?" At first look we might think that this pharisee took Jesus literally, but his night time journey shows that he was touched by Jesus enough to call him "Rabbi" and enough to venture out into the night, risking the negative feedback he would encounter if his peers knew where he was going. Like Nicodemus, metaphorically speaking, each one of us "faces the night" to question what we believe and how we live out that belief. This is a spiritual journey of internalizing what has been given to us. Perhaps you yourself have silently thought to yourself, "Do I really believe this? Is there anything here worth believing?" Benedictine sister, author, and speaker, Joan Chittister describes her personal faith journey as one "from the certainties of dogma to that long, slow, personal journey into God, I began my own wrestling match with God, which no catechism, no creed, could mediate." She adopted what she called a "spirituality of search" in which openness to other evolving ideas enabled her faith to grow. We can gather a few clues about Nicodemus' journey from the two more times that he appears in John's gospel. In the seventh chapter Nicodemus, alone among the Pharisees, protests the treatment of Jesus by speaking up, "Our law does not judge people without first giving them a hearing to find out what they are doing, does it?" Then in the nineteenth chapter, after Jesus has been executed, after all the disciples have run away, Nicodemus appears yet again, this time with Joseph of Arimethea who has asked for and been given permission to take Jesus' body away. The two men have brought with them 100 pounds of myrrh and aloes. They wrap the body in linen and place it in a tomb which has never been used before. To provide such an extravagant burial for an executed criminal was a very dangerous thing to do; it placed them at great risk. Through a recently acquired and authentic faith, Nicodemus has come out of the shadows and leapt into risky action. In this second half of this Lenten season we might think about ways that Christ may calling us to an authentic faith, both individually and collectively as members of the Body of Christ. If we are truly called to be the light of the world, how do *we* bring it out of darkness?
Dede Waters Masters

Mass Intentions

St. Denis Church

Sat. Mar. 13 5:30pm For those we have lost due to Covid
Sun. Mar. 14 7:30am For those we have lost due to Covid
9:30am St Denis & Our Lady of the Wayside
Outreach Committee members
11:30am For all Catechists
Mon. Mar.15 8:00am In thanksgiving
Tues. Mar. 16 8:00 am For immigrants
Wed. Mar. 17 8:00 am Sands family (living)
Thurs. Mar. 18 8:00 am For first responders
Fri. Mar. 19 8:00 am For fathers

Our Lady of the Wayside Church

Sat. Mar. 13 4:30pm For those we have lost due to Covid
Sun. Mar. 14 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

For grades 2-6. Use the Zoom links you already have.

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

The NEW SET of class materials are available during office hours.

Confirmation Class Meets TODAY!

Sunday, March 14 at 3:00pm in the church.

This will be our chance to review what you've learned, turn in any homework and forms.

Bring your books. This is our last class of the year!

Confirmation will be celebrated at the Easter Vigil, April 3 at 7pm.

Easter Lillies

If you would like to designate an Easter Lily for a loved one, living or deceased, you may do so by sending in the name of the person, the Church, (St. Denis or Our Lady of the Wayside), and your donation of \$10 with check made out to St. Denis/OLW. Please have these requests in by Palm Sunday, March 28th so Dede can get the tags ready.



A Reverent Re-Set A Lenten Retreat

Might the circumstances of these times call us to a deeper listening and awareness? With an interesting background on early Christians, the community who first received the Gospel of Mark, we will draw some comparisons from the challenges facing that community and the challenges of our present lives. Using passages from the Gospel of Mark and revisiting the calls of the Lenten season, we will lay the groundwork for some quiet Lenten prayer - a kind of Lenten "Re-set." We are offering a virtual and live retreat, with the Sacrament of Reconciliation available at the end of our 1-1/2 hours together. Please join Lucy Soltau, Director of Religious Education, Dr. Mary Chan, Retreat Leader and Speaker, and Dede Waters-Masters, Pastoral Associate, MA Pastoral Ministry/Spirituality, From 10-11:30am, Wednesday, March 24, on Zoom (Zoom Details to be provided prior to event) or at St. Denis Church, 2250 Avy Avenue, Menlo Park, Ca. RSVP not necessary. Live attendees: we will open early at 9:30 for safe-distanced coffee and coffee treats. Seating will be at required capacity and masks are mandated for everyone's safety and remain 6 feet apart.



Question Of The Week

Life or death, condemn or save, hate or love, truth or lies, light or darkness.

Which do I choose? Does it show in the way I lead my life and how I treat others?



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 dewm@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 February 28, 2021	\$238,390.00
February 2021 Sunday Offertory Collections	\$25,623.00
Annual Appeal 2021 Goal \$98,096	\$98,096.00
Annual Appeal 2021 Actual	\$61,530.00

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. See more information on previous page.

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!

