

December 2nd, 2018 | First Sunday of Advent | (785)

Saint Denis Parish

85 Main Street / Ashburnham, Massachusetts 01430

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



www.SaintDenisAshburnham.com

Join Flock Notes: Text "StDenis85" to 84576

Join Formed <https://formed.org> Use Code 6DF&JG



LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday – 4:30pm
Sunday – 8:00 & 10:30am

DAILY MASSES

Monday – Wednesday 9:00am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:30 – 4:00pm
or by appointment

ADMINISTRATOR

Fr. Guillermo "Memo" Ochoa
Fatherochoa@gmail.com

DEACON

Deacon Richard DesJardins
[978-343-6367](tel:978-343-6367)

COORDINATOR OF REL. ED.

Kimberly Brown

SECRETARY/OFFICE

Andrew W. Gage
StDenis@comcast.net
[978-827-5806](tel:978-827-5806)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday
10:00 - 3:00pm.

RECTORY

[978-827-5806](tel:978-827-5806)

RELIGIOUS ED. OFFICE

[978-827-4892](tel:978-827-4892)
StDenisRE@comcast.net

SAINT VINCENT de PAUL

[978-790-1923](tel:978-790-1923)

BAPTISMS

Deacon Richard DesJardins
[978-343-6367](tel:978-343-6367)

NOTIFY THE RECTORY

Visitation of the sick & elderly
Weddings, Pastoral Care



Sat	12/1	4:30pm	John D. Leblanc Sr <i>By Edith & Roland Leblanc</i>
Sun	12/2	8:00am	Philip Renda <i>By Fran Balzar</i>
		10:30am	Rev. Edward Mahan <i>By Jeff & Rose Lawrence</i> Pray for deceased members of the Family Jimenez Tierranegra
Mon	12/3	9:00am	Emererciana & Marcal Yandoc <i>By Family</i>
Tues	12/4	9:00am	
Wed	12/5	9:00am	
Fri	12/7	7:00pm	Vigil Mass for Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
Sat	12/8	9:00am	Mass for Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
Sat	12/8	4:30pm	
Sun	12/9	8:00am	
		10:30am	Dan Farrell 36th Birthday <i>By Family</i>

What is Advent?



Today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is also the first Sunday of the new liturgical year. The Advent season includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. The key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice.

In this new liturgical year, the Gospel of Luke will be the primary Gospel proclaimed. Today's Gospel is taken from the last chapter before the passion narrative in which Jesus is teaching in the Temple. We hear Jesus speak to his disciples about the need for vigilance and prayer as they wait for the coming of the Son of Man in glory. This passage marks the conclusion of a lengthy dialogue in which Jesus predicts the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, warns about the persecution and tribulations to follow and identifies the signs that will signal the coming of the Son of Man in glory.

The community for whom Luke wrote his Gospel may have believed that they were already experiencing some of the events Jesus described. Most scholars believe that Luke's Gospel was written after the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 A.D. At the time, many Christians interpreted this event as an indication that Jesus' second coming was near.

Though Jesus predicts a time of destruction and fear, Jesus indicates that others will be frightened; Jesus' disciples are not to fear but are to stand tall. Yet Jesus does not promise deliverance from anxiety or tribulations. He encourages his disciples to pray for strength. The early Christian communities did not find consolation in the promise of a utopia, nor should we. Instead, we find in our Christian faith the means by which we witness to God's unfailing love for us in all circumstances.

Jesus' predictions about the end times may sound dire, but in the next paragraph, Luke tells us that people woke early to listen to Jesus' teaching in the Temple area. In his person and in his message, those who heard Jesus found strength and consolation. Like the first Christians, we may encounter events and circumstances that could lead us to despair. Through prayer, however, we find strength and consolation in Jesus' words and in his continuing presence with us to endure all things and to witness to the action of God in our world.



SAINT DENIS CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR SUN. DEC. 2ND 9:00AM-2:00PM

Holiday Decor -Gift Items Wreaths Poinsettias & Crafts Galore
Santa's Café, Soups and Pastries Visit after Mass!

Breakfast with Santa

December 9th, 2018
9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Come and join Santa for breakfast on Sunday, December 9th from 9:00am to 1:00 pm at the parish center. Great food, Christmas music, crafts and a picture with Santa. Enjoy a family-friendly, stress-free visit with Santa!

(Your support will go towards new albs for the Altar Servers)

Volunteers Needed!

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus



Look in the Church entrance for the Seminarians-Giving-Tree-Tags which help support our seminarians throughout their academic year. Many of our

seminarians are international students making great sacrifices in their lives, they need our support. Also, you can write an encouraging card as well telling him of your prayers cheering him up.

Thanks you for supporting priestly vocations!

<http://www.worcestervocations.com>

On Friday, December 14 a **holy hour to pray for priests** will take place from 7 to 8 pm at **Immaculate Conception**. This holy hour will consist of adoration, a short reflection, the rosary, silent prayer, and benediction. This holy hour will be held on the second Friday of each month.



“Light a Candle & Light the World”

on 1230AM/970AM/101.1FM Emmanuel Catholic Radio's live Christmas broadcast, “Christ Be Our Light” 7 am - 6 pm on Thursday, December 6. Tune in to hear Bishop McManus and when you make your Christmas donation to Emmanuel Catholic Radio, we will light a candle for your special intention in honor or memory of someone you care about. Support Catholic radio with your tax-deductible donation and help us light 101 candles to make a brighter Christmas for all. Proceeds fund our Catholic Schools Essay Contest Visit: www.1230radio.com. Phone: 508-767-1020 Mail: Emmanuel Radio, P.O. Box 20027 Worcester, MA 01602.



Lessons and Carols

Join us on Sunday, December 16th at 3:00 PM for “Lessons and Carols” at St Denis parish. It is an **ecumenical event** for all the local churches of Ashburnham. Reserve that Date!



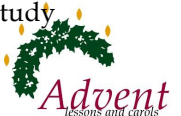
St Vincent De Paul Society

Your St. Denis St. Vincent de Paul Conference works very closely with the Community Church and People’s Church in Ashburnham to support the food pantry which is used to assist many people in the area. St. V assists many in the community with emergency medical needs, rent, food, utilities and other means of help. Anyone assisted is treated with respect and confidentiality, as we know how difficult it is to be in a receiving position; our hope is that temporary assistance will help them overcome a difficult period in their lives. Occasionally someone may need assistance with meals or being driven to a doctor’s appointment, and we’d like to compile a list of parishioners who might be willing to occasionally help with those needs. A list will be left in the back of the church for sign-ups. These needs may not occur often, but it is a means of demonstrating the love for one another that Jesus has asked of each of us. Thank you for your help.



December

- Sun 12/2 8:00am Men’s Group Bible Study
- Sun 12/2 Christmas Fair 9 AM -2 PM**
- Wed 12/5 9:30am Ladies Spiritual Enrichment Group
- Thur 12/6 6:30pm Kerygma Prayer/Bible Study
- Fri 12/7 7:00pm Vigil Mass for Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**
- Sat 12/8 9:00am Mass for Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**
- Sun 12/9 9:00am Santa Breakfast**
- Wed 12/12 9:30am Ladies Spiritual Enrichment Group
- 7:00pm Parish Council Meeting
- Thur 12/13 6:30pm Kerygma Prayer/Bible Study
- Sun 12/16 3:00pm Ecumenical festival of Lessons and Carols**
- Wed 12/19 9:30am Ladies Spiritual Enrichment Group
- Thur 12/20 6:30pm Kerygma Prayer/Bible Study
- Fri 12/21 7:00pm Marriage Matters



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

- Mon 12/3 3:00pm CCD Grades 3-5
- 6:30pm CCD Grades 6-8
- Tues 12/4 10:00am CGS Classes
- 3:00pm CCD Grades 1 & 2
- Wed 12/5 3:15pm CGS Classes
- Sun 12/9 Grade 10 Classes
- Mon 12/10 3:00pm CCD Grades 3-5
- 6:30pm CCD Grades 6-8
- Tues 12/11 10:00am CGS Classes
- 3:00pm CCD Grades 1 & 2
- Wed 12/12 3:15pm CGS Classes



Thanks to your generosity we have delivered 94 Backpacks to Our Father’s House. The impact is immeasurable. Backpacks are still available so spread the word. God Bless You
Jeff and Rose Lawrence 827-3326

Let us honor God with our first fruits rather than the leftovers.

- 11/25/18 Sunday Offertory: \$ 2,721.61
- Parish Needs: \$ 95.00
- Fuel & Maint. \$ 10.00
- 11/25/18 Online Donations: \$ 125.00



Thank you for your generous support of the parish. Your weekly financial support enables Saint Denis to provide for the needs of our parish.