

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
wpodell@aol.com
(415) 686-9951
Pastor

Gina Morales
Operations Manager
gmorales@stdenisparish.org
(650) 854-5976 press 2

Lucy Soltau
Religious Ed & Youth Ministry
lsoltau@stdenisparish.org
(650) 854-5976 press 3

Dede Waters-Masters
Pastoral Minister in charge of
Liturgy & Senior Services
dedewm@pacbell.net
(650) 854-5976 press 4

Mass Times

St. Denis Church
Saturday: 5:30pm (Vigil)
Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am
Monday-Friday: 8:00 am

Our Lady of the Wayside Church
Saturday: 4:30 pm (Vigil)
Sunday: 9:30 am

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

**2nd Collection this weekend
December 8th/9th Retirement
for Religious**



December 9th, 2018 2nd Sunday of Advent

(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,

We are in the midst of the Winter season. It can be a time of dreariness and gloom. Daylight is short. The cold night is long. Dark, ominous clouds hang over us. We have been blessed with much needed rain though. This time of the year compels us to hibernate. Winter can cause our attitude and outlook to get down. Although winter is several months long, we can live most of our lives this way.

Negativity and pessimism can creep into our lives. As the People of God, we have an inextinguishable light that shines brightly and forever. It is the light of faith which we received at our baptism. The light of Christ illuminates the way we are to live our lives even during the coldest and longest of winter nights.

The light of Christ fills us with optimism and hope. We come to realize and believe that all that God gives us is a blessing, even the bad. Many good things have come out of bad experiences. It takes faith to believe that and trust in God's providential plan for us. Today's Responsorial Psalm reminds us of this truth. The Lord has done great things for us, we are filled with joy. Having faith empowers us to see not with our own eyes, but through and with eyes of faith. Life makes more sense to us if we live it with faith and trust in God. Keep the faith.

God bless, Fr. Paul

We Believe

ALREADY, BUT NOT YET

This reflection is part of a homily offered by Deacon Gregory Burch of Concord, NH.

As we move through the season of Advent, we are exposed to the push and pull of a dual reality. Advent reveals to us the tension between the "Already" and the "Not yet".

"Already" recognizes that, in Christ, "The Kingdom of God has come to you". "Not yet" tells us that its fulfillment is beyond human capability.

Jesus has *already* opened his heart, bidding us come home on a true path. *Not yet*, reminds us that challenges of life sometimes turn our paths away from God.

The Lord has *already* forgiven me, though I have *not yet* forgiven myself.

Lord, you *already* breathe life into me and carry me in the palm of your hand, although I do *not yet* entrust my life to you.

I am *not yet* ready to put aside anger and jealousy even as I *already* bathe in your love.

I will *not yet* stop coveting money and objects, when you *already* give me all that I need.

I can *not yet* face myself though you, though you *already* are my true reflection.

Help me, Lord, to know that you are *already* here with me, even though I am *not yet* ready to welcome you.

Amen.

Lucy

Mass Intentions

St. Denis

Sat.	Dec.	8	5:30 pm	Raymond "Dee" Tolles (+)
Sun.	Dec.	9	7:30 am	For the homeless
			9:30 am	For those injured by violence
			11:30 am	Michael Heavin (+)
Mon.	Dec.	10	8:00 am	Mary Frances Kennedy (+)
Tue.	Dec.	11	8:00 am	June Dewey (+)
Wed.	Dec.	12	8:00 am	John West (+)
Thurs.	Dec.	13	8:00 am	Patsy Grewe (+)
Fri.	Dec.	14	8:00 am	Hilary Donohoe (living)

Our Lady Of The Wayside

Sat.	Dec.	8	4:30pm	Blessed Virgin Mary
Sun.	Dec.	9	9:30am	Blessed Virgin Mary

Mila Wright Funeral Mass December 15th at 2pm. There will be a celebration of life reception following in the parish hall.

In your charity, please pray for...

Maria da Ponte, Sarah Lucas, Robert Roger, Holly Hermansen, Pier Iglesias,,Rosa Sharif, Barbara Ham, Janice Varell, Peter Fulchiron

John Hunter,

Faith Formation News

FR. PAUL'S FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES

Fr. Paul will be offering optional classes for those children preparing to celebrate First Communion in the spring. Classes will be on Mondays at 3:30pm in the parish library. His NEXT class is Monday, December 10

CONFIRMATION RETREAT DAY: PRAYER

Saturday, December 15 at Our Lady of the Wayside Church, Portola Valley. All 7th and 8th graders are invited! Meet there at 10:00am. Bring your lunch and snacks to share. We'll join the parishioners for Mass at 4:30pm.



CHILDREN'S CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

We're forming an informal choir of children to lead the singing at our Family Mass on Christmas Eve at 4:00pm at St. Denis. Join us for practices after 9:30am Mass on Sundays, December 9, 16, and 23. If you can read, you can be in the choir!



A MISSION TRIP FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL!!

Last year, Fr. Paul and Lucy took 8 kids to Hawaii to work, learn, and make friends.

This year, we're headed to Anchorage, Alaska! June 24-28, 2019 We are limited to 10 kids currently in 6, 7 or 8th grades. The cost is \$310 per person (not including airfare) and scholarships are available. For more details about the program, go to www.just5days.org

To sign up, contact Lucy at lsoltau@stdenisparish.org

Deadline for sign up is December 31

Mission Trip For High School!!



We're adding a mission trip for teens currently in 9-12 grades. And we're headed for Buffalo, NY!

July 21-26, 2019

We are limited to 5 teens only!

The cost is \$395 per person (not including airfare) and scholarships are available. For more details about the program, go to www.youngneighbors.org

To sign up, contact Lucy at lsoltau@stdenisparish.org

Deadline for sign up is December 31

Valley Ecumenical Group

Valley Presbyterian Church, 945 Portola Road, Portola Valley, is hosting *The Longest Night*, on Thursday, December 20, at 7:00 PM. "On the eve of winter solstice, we gather amidst the festivities of the holiday season to honor the dark places in our world and in our lives where all is not calm or bright. In this service we will honor grief, loss and suffering and wait together for the light to come." All are invited. There are seven member churches in Woodside & Portola Valley that make up the Valley Ecumenical Group.



Friendly Reminders

Bulletin Announcements

The Deadline for bulletin inserts is (The Tuesday Before Noon,) before the weekend of publication. All mass announcements are to be scripted & okayed by Dede prior to masses. Contact her at dedem@pacbell.net NOTE: Announcements may not appear until the next bulletin due to space limitations.

Thank You!



Stewardship

July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 (Estimated goal)	\$468,000.00
July 1, 2018 to November, 2018	\$181,163.00
Monthly Goal- November 2018	\$36,000.00
November 2018 Sunday Offertory Collections	\$37,139.00

Donation Corner

ONLINE GIVING WITH WESHARE

Whether you are new to online giving, or would like to make an update to your existing donations, follow the link below to give.

<https://stdenisparish.churchgiving.com/ws/opportunities>

<https://olwparish.churchgiving.com/ws/opportunities>

Christmas Mass Schedule at St. Denis

Monday December 24 Christmas Eve Masses

4pm Family mass at St. Denis

6pm mass at St. Denis

Tuesday December 25 Christmas Day Masses

Regular mass schedule:

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



Christmas Giving Trees

The Annual Christmas Giving Trees are in both churches. Gift tags may be removed and attached to gifts, and returned to the church No Later Than Sunday, December, 16. Please securely attach the tags to your gifts paying special attention to whether gift wrapping is necessary which will be noted on the back of each tag. Gifts will be delivered to St. Francis Center, Catholic Worker House, Hoover Pre-School, and Life Moves “Maple Street” Shelter. If you cannot take a tag but would prefer to contribute there will ENVELOPES in each church for donations. Any amount is appreciated. Questions should be directed to Marlene Hunter 650 325-4058. Thank you.



Vallombrosa Christmas Concert

The annual Vallombrosa Christmas Concert will be held at St. Raymond’s Church on Sunday December 16, 2018, at 2:00pm. Donations are gratefully accepted.

Christmas Mass Schedule at Our Lady of the Wayside

Monday December 24 Christmas Eve Mass

4:30pm

Tuesday December 25 Christmas Day Mass

9:30am

