



Saint Denis Parish

157 Washington Street, Westwood, MA 02090

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Longing

God, our faithful Lord,
you accomplish your will in all things.
We await the fulfillment of your promises.
We long for the fullness of your kingdom,
and that longing is our ceaseless prayer.
Until the advent of that glorious day,
lift up our hearts in unwavering joy.
Show us the light that has already come into
our world,

so that we may give you thanks in all that
we do.
Keep us holy and blameless
as we undertake works of justice and
promote peace,
so that others may see and hear and know
your goodness,
and be drawn to your light.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

James G. Burke, Pastor

William L. Sebet,
Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries

Thomas D. Dugan, Director of Music

Matthew J. Brady
Director of Faith Formation, 781-326-2335

Sarah K. Keough
Administration, 781-326-5858

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday Evening - 4:30 PM

Sunday: 8:00am & 10:30 AM
(10:30am Mass will also be online)

Daily Mass:

Wednesday - 9:00 AM

Baptisms: 1:00 PM Sunday as needed

Parish Office: 781-326-5858

Faith Formation: 781-326-2335

Fax: 781-326-1232

www.stdeniswestwood.com

GOSPEL MEDITATION

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Did you ever stop and realize that there is no earthly gain that can ever really satisfy us? Think of winning the Lotto. On this side of the winning ticket, it's all about the money, the new car, house, vacations, bank accounts, and infinite pleasures. The possibility of acquiring all of these earthly securities brings us back again and again to the purchase of a ticket. Then, one day we win! Our dreams are fulfilled, and happiness is on the horizon. Then one day, we wake up and realize that nothing has really changed, and I am not as satisfied as I thought I was or would be. I find myself living in my incompleteness and with my profound sorrow and grief. I did not find joy.

Glimpses of joy are possible but not by material means. They are brought to us through incredible experiences of connection that bring us face to face with real and authentic faith, hope, and love. And, they are glimpses and do not last. The moment we find ourselves looking back at them, they are gone, and we find ourselves remembering the moment in memory. To carry joy within us is to realize that it is not something I create, manufacture



or even acquire. It is not able to be purchased. It is a gift. My need for joy mirrors my need for eternity, for a Creator who has a claim on the very essence of who I am and desires a home within me. As C. S. Lewis discovered, joy is a surprise that speaks to my very soul and is given as gift by the God who loves me.

The beauty of Advent is found in discovering the beauty of the gift of joy. God has visited his people for no other reason than to show them where and how to find joy! All of our human and earthly joy experiences are always only glimpses. They

never satisfy us, sustain us or fulfill us. It is only God who is the joy of my soul. Real, Divine experiences of joy catch us off guard, make us stop and become aware, bring a feeling of awe and rightness and have an eternal Otherness about them. Nothing created by humans can ever come close to this. We probably will not fully realize the truth of all of this until we actually meet God face to face in heaven one day. Then, in that sacred moment when our hearts leap for joy we will understand what we have been tirelessly searching for all along. Intense gratitude will most surely follow.

CALENDAR

Sunday 13	Monday 14	Tuesday 15	Wednesday 16	Thursday 17	Friday 18	Saturday 19	Sunday 20
3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT			9:00 AM MASS			4:30 PM MASS	4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8:00 AM & 10:30 AM MASS							8:00 AM & 10:30 AM MASS

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY**NEXT WEEKEND'S SCHEDULE
DECEMBER 19/20, 2020**

Saturday, December 12 | 4:30 p.m.

Lector: F. O'BRIEN

Sunday, December 13 | 8:00 a.m.

Lector: J. PATTERSON

Sunday, December 13 | 10:30 a.m.

Lector: K. VERNACCHIO**2020 GRAND ANNUAL CAMPAIGN**

We are very grateful for the generosity shown by so many to our Grand Annual Collection. Thank you!

Campaign Statistics as of 12/8/2020

Total # Pledged:	171
Total Amount Pledged:	\$76,025.00
% of Participation:	15%
Total Amount Paid:	\$74,200.00

LIVE THE LITURGY
INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

What gives you joy? Joy is discovered when we connect with something or someone very deeply and experience a dimension of ourselves that material or secular possessions cannot bring. Joy is stumbled upon when we see our newly born child for the first time, get caught up in the vastness of a mountain landscape, and are led out into infinity gazing at an ocean's horizon, or being lovingly present with someone when they are vulnerable and in need. Joy is a profound experience that in its uniqueness grounds us in ultimate truth. Did you know that all authentic, profound, and memorable moments of joy mirror the eternal joy we desire from God? We can have glimpses of this eternal Divine joy as we embark upon our earthly journey, mirrored in our human connections with joy, but experienced directly during moments of deep prayer. God is the joy of my soul. Ponder those intense words! You will know moments of true and real joy by paying attention to your response to the experience. You will find yourself rejoicing and saying thank you.

COLLECTIONS

Week of 11/30-12/6/20 - \$2,552.00

Online - \$1,908.37

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 13	Remembrance
10:30am <i>Thomas Griffin</i>	
Wednesday, December 16	Anniversary
9:00am <i>John J Burke</i>	
Sunday, December 20	Anniversary
8:00am <i>Michael Kelly</i>	
Sunday, December 20	Anniversary
10:30am <i>James Kitterick</i>	
<i>All who have died from COVID-19</i>	

**SIGNUP GENIUS LINK FOR
WEEKEND'S MASSES**

Below is the link to sign up for weekend Masses. You must sign up on Sign Up Genius before you come. Click on the link below to sign up.

Saint Denis Parish: [December 12/13, 3rd Sunday of Advent Liturgy \(signupgenius.com\)](https://signupgenius.com)

CHRISTMAS MASS INFORMATION

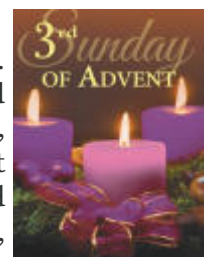
Social distancing requires limited seating, therefore we may not be able to accommodate walk-ins for our Christmas Masses.

Christmas Mass sign ups have begun. Check our website to sign up to participate in Christmas Mass.

If you are still unable to come to Mass in person, you may also watch Christmas Mass on Westwood TV and YouTube. Please check your local listings to view Mass on TV and check our website on December 24th, to watch it on YouTube.

**PRAYER FOR LIGHTING THE
ADVENT WREATH CANDLES****Week 3 -**

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to joy. Lift up our heads from the dust and adorn us with your righteousness, that we may rejoice and testify that our Lord has come; for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.





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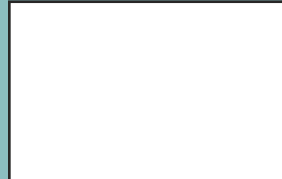
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