



SAINT DENIS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Dominican Friars, Province of Saint Joseph

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WORSHIP AT SAINT DENIS

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 9:00 and 11:30 AM

Weekday Mass: Monday-Friday: 7:30 AM;

Saturday: 9:00 AM

Confessions: Wednesdays 4:00 - 4:30 PM,
Saturdays 3:30 - 4:30 PM (and by
appointment).

Eucharistic Adoration:

Wednesdays 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM;

First Fridays of the month 8:00 AM - Noon

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to Saint Denis Parish! We are grateful for your worshipping with us. If you regularly attend Mass here at St. Denis, you are encouraged to register in the parish at the office during the week. Parish Office hours are Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Please note that a family must be registered at St. Denis in order for their children to be enrolled in our religious education program.

INFANT BAPTISM: Takes place normally following the 11:30 AM Mass on Sundays. Families have the option of scheduling a baptism during the 9:00 AM Mass on Sundays. First-time parents are required to attend a pre-baptismal session; please call the parish office to schedule.

MARRIAGE: Engaged couples must contact the parish office at least six months in advance of scheduling a wedding.

VISITING THE SICK: Please call the parish office to arrange for Communion or for the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.



4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God. - Jn 3:20-21

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

SLP

March 14th 2021

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT



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Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

MASS INTENTIONS

- Sat., March 13 5:00 pm – †Antonio and Stefan Pribila
Sun., March 14 **4TH SUNDAY OF LENT**
9:00 am – For the people of St. Denis
11:30 am – †Charlie McCollester
Mon., March 15 Lenten Weekday
7:30 am – Luke Novotny
Tues., March 16 Lenten Weekday
7:30 am – Special Intentions
Wed., March 17 Lenten Weekday
7:30 am – †James and Marilyn Holleran
Thurs., March 18 Lenten Weekday
7:30 am – †Thomas Goldrick and
†Thomas MacDonald
Fri., March 19 **SAINT JOSEPH**
7:30 am – †Cori Sandoe
Sat., March 20 Lenten Weekday
9:00 am – †Jean Fung
5:00 pm – For the people of St. Denis
Sun., March 21 **5TH SUNDAY OF LENT**
9:00 am – †Charlotte Cook
11:30 am – †Roger and Rita Lynch

The Mass intention books for 2021 and 2022 are open. If you would like to have Masses offered for your personal intentions, for loved ones living or deceased, or for special occasions, please contact Mary Durand at admin.stdenis@gmail.com.

Please remember the following people in your prayers: Barbara Batt, Thomas Surprenant, Eddie Bloom, Cay Volpe, Trey Logue, Laura Boyajian, Heather Pedersen, Grace Carney, Jeannette Kendall, Daniel Markwood, Jivat Thadani, Susan J. Price, Ada Brown, Edward Christiano, Max Bryant, Elizabeth Murphy, Jim Horan, Steven Ward, John and Patricia Huss, Annastacia Akiti, Rich Royce, Michael O’Leary, Grace Manna, Fernando Ferraz, Helen Quinn, Sandy Bondis, Carl Fogliano, Patricia Fowler, Jason Aaron, Perry Chase, John Hofmann, Annemarie Kleiber, Denise Carlin, Stephen Horan, Edward Kory, Jennifer Reed, Marie Willis, Dennis & Marcella Logue, Rebecca Logue, John & Margaret Mahoney, Allison Carr.

Anyone wishing to receive Communion and/or the Sacrament of the Sick, please call the Parish office.

PASTOR’S CORNER

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St Denis,

This weekend, you and I as Catholics are celebrating the Fourth Sunday of Lent, which we call **Laetare Sunday**, one of the two Sundays of the year when rose-colored vestments are permitted. Two weeks from now, it will be Palm Sunday, and a week after that, Easter!

But did you know that for our Orthodox Christian brothers and sisters this year, **Holy Lent** begins on **Monday, March 15**? That’s right. Catholic (or Western) Easter and Orthodox Easter this year are about as far apart as they can get on the calendar. Our Orthodox brothers and sisters, who follow the Julian calendar for their liturgical calendar, will celebrate **Pascha** or Easter on **Sunday, May 2**, four whole weeks after our celebration of Easter on **Sunday, April 4** this year.

Some years, Orthodox and Catholic Easter fall on the same date (as they did in 2014 when I got to spend Holy Week and Easter in the Holy Land), but some years, like 2021, they can be almost a month apart. And that’s because we both calculate the date of Easter the same way (“the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Vernal Equinox”), but because we use different calendars, when the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox occurs differs from year to year. Right now, there is a discrepancy of thirteen days between **the Julian calendar** and **the Gregorian calendar**, but by the year 2100, the discrepancy between the two calendars will have stretched to a full fourteen days or two weeks.

The Julian calendar, which takes its name from the Emperor Julius Caesar, replaced the Roman calendar, which had only 355 days in a year. By the time Julius Caesar came to power, the Roman calendar was three months ahead of the solar year. To fix the situation and put the things in order, Julius Caesar decided to change the whole dating system. His inspiration came from the Egyptian solar calendar, where they had 365 ¼ days, and he adopted it to his new calendar as well, making each fourth year a leap year. But that was still inaccurate, because of the formula that was used to calculate the leap years. Having a leap year each and every fourth year was too often, and the solar year was miscalculated by 11 minutes. By the 16th century, it became too noticeable as the calendar started falling out of sync with the seasons.

The Gregorian calendar was first introduced in 1582 by Pope Gregory XIII to save Easter. By this time, it was noticeable that the spring equinox and Easter needed to be realigned with the seasons. The structure of the calendar did not change much, but the calculations of the leap years were modified. Instead of assigning every fourth year 29 days in February, more sophisticated rules have been used (and have been in use ever since). The year has to be evenly divisible by four. The year that can be divided by 100 is not a leap year unless it can be also divided by 400. To switch to the Gregorian calendar, it was necessary to **skip 10 days** in 1582; however, for some countries, it took centuries to admit the necessity of the change. That’s why when the United Kingdom and its colonies (like the ones in North America) decided to shift to the Gregorian calendar in 1752, they had to omit 11 days. And our Orthodox Christian brothers and sisters, in the sixteenth century, weren’t going to let some Pope in Rome tell them when Easter was, so for liturgical purposes, they still follow the Julian calendar, even though in all other matters, they follow the Gregorian calendar just like the rest of the world.

Fr Brian, OP

FAITH FORMATION

Faith at Home emails continue to go out each week.

There are no Faith Formation zooms this weekend. Next weekend, March 20/21, we have 3rd grade sacrament prep on Saturday and Sunday, 4th/5th/6th grade as well as Ignite (7th grade and older) on Sunday.

For more information on any of these programs, contact Jessica at faithformation.stdenis@gmail.com.

MOMS' MINISTRY

Moms' Ministry continues to meet weekly on Tuesdays from 9:30-10:00am via Zoom for prayer and fellowship.

During Lent, we are basing our discussions on Bishop Barron's Lenten Gospel Reflections.

If you are interested in joining us, email Jessica at faithformation.stdenis@gmail.com.

FAITH AND LITERATURE GROUP

The March meeting for Faith and Lit will be on **Tuesday, March 16 at 7:00 PM** via zoom. We will be reading and discussing a beautiful essay by the Catholic author W. Paul Jones. The essay should be helpful in our preparation for Lent and Easter. For a PDF of the essay, or if you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Sharon Weaver at sharon.ramey.weaver@gmail.com.

ROSARY GROUP



Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary

Update: Patron Saint of the St. Denis Chapter of the Confraternity

Thanks to all Confraternity members who considered which of our Patron Saint candidates would be the best model/example/intercessor for the St. Denis Chapter of the Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary.

We are happy to announce that St. Dominic is the patron saint of the St. Denis Chapter of the Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary! St. Dominic received the most votes and with a large margin. Of the 33 Confraternity members who did vote, St. Dominic received 16 votes.

St. Dominic, pray for us.

Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, pray for us.

Daily Rosary at St. Denis - All are invited to join members of the Confraternity whenever you are able as they pray the Rosary directly following daily Mass (8 am on M-F; 9:30 am Sat). They meet in the pews directly facing the Icon of Our Lady of Czestochowa.

New members are always welcome. Need a refresher on praying the Rosary?

Please contact Diane Palac through the Parish Office for more information.

Women's Rosary Group

Please join us on Monday mornings at 9:00 am for fellowship and to pray the rosary together for all our intentions. We join on Zoom whenever we are able. To sign up, please contact Mitsu Chobanian at mitsu.chobanian@gmail.com



Faith Formation Lenten Almsgiving

Lent is a time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. In the past, during Lent, we have encouraged the children and families of Faith Formation to participate in Lenten Almsgiving for a specific need for our partners in Western Kenya through St. Denis's Hearts Open to the World organization.

While we are not passing out the traditional cardboard boxes this year, we still would ask you to encourage your children to participate.

This year's funds raised by the children and families of faith formation will go directly to St. Denis Konditi and Our Lady of Grace schools to be used to purchase needed children's bibles, bible stories books, and children's church hymnals.

Donations will be collected after Easter. Consider setting aside a special bowl or jar in your home to collect money throughout Lent. Additionally, you can donate online to Hearts Open to the World at www.Saintdenisparish.org. If you do this and would like the money earmarked for this specific project, please email Jessica and let her know of your donation. Otherwise, it will still go directly to our friends in Kenya, simply to the general funds.



Family Service Project

Easter Cards for the Elderly

Each year, the children of our parish, during Faith Formation classes, spend time making Easter cards for elderly and shut-ins that are delivered as part of our Helping Hands program. The children's cards are so appreciated and a much loved part of the program. As we did for Christmas, we need your help again! While hope is on the horizon, many are still so isolated and a handmade card from a child can bring a welcomed surprise or smile to someone in need. We hope your family can make cards at home and drop them off at church to be used in the gift bags. Please take a little time to spread Easter joy!

You can simply use copy paper folded in half, decorated with a drawing or two. Inside the card could say, "Dear Friend," include a little note, and sign from "Your friend at St. Denis" or first name. No envelopes needed. Cards can be dropped off in the box at the side entrance of the Church or mailed to the parish office any time before March 23rd.

Any questions, contact Jessica at faithformation.stdenis@gmail.com.

Lenten "Fireside Chats" with Fr. Brian

In place of our annual Lenten Soup Suppers we will be having a series of Lenten "Fireside Chats" with Fr. Brian via Zoom.

Mark your calendar for the 3rd in the series taking place on Wednesday, March 24th from 7:00-8:00 PM via Zoom. Father Brian will be speaking about the Sacred Triduum.

Access info will be sent via the weekly Flocknotes.

Journey to the Cross Lenten Faith Sharing

Join fellow parishioners as we continue our series of Lenten faith sharing. Utilizing art, video, discussion, and prayer, we will reflect on our Lenten journey to the cross.

Next meeting is **March 15th, 7-8pm via Zoom**.

To sign up email Jessica at faithformation.stdenis@gmail.com.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Readings for the week of March 14, 2021

Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16; Ps 137; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30; Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9; Ps 46; Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145; Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106; Jn 5:31-47

Friday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a; Ps 89; Rom 4:13; Mt 1:16

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7; Jn 7:40-53

Next Sunday: Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33



Access to Bishop Barron's Word on Fire—Our parish has a subscription to Bishop Barron's Word on Fire ENGAGE. All of Bishop Barron's Word on Fire content is available to you in short video segments through St. Denis's Flocknote page. Take a few minutes to check it out and see the wealth of resources at your fingertips!

If you are part of our Flocknote email list you have access to Word on Fire (WoF), but may not have known that. It is easy to access once you know how. You must first create a Flocknote login.

1. Go to flocknote.com/login
2. Enter your email address (the address that already received Flocknote emails)
3. Click "Reset or create a password" below the big blue "Sign In" button.
4. After that, click the yellow "Reset my password" button, and follow the prompts from there. Flocknote will send you a link to create a password.

Once you have your Flocknote login and password, log in to Flocknote. Once in Flocknote on the St. Denis dashboard you will see a large picture block of Bishop Barron that says, "You've got Word on Fire ENGAGE." Click on the orange button that says "Visit WoFDigital.org" and you have arrived!

If you would like to be added to Flocknote to receive emails and/or to have access to Word on Fire, please contact Jessica at the office or at faithformation.stdenis@gmail.com.

If you encounter any difficulties, please call the office and we are happy to help you.

Great News - Worldwide Marriage Encounter has gone "Virtual"! To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring virtual marriage experiences. Some are on weekends and some span multiple weeks on a given weekday. Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God's plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call at or visit them at <https://wwmema.org/>.

The next virtual Experiences are Friday/Saturday/Sunday March 19-21 and Thursdays/Mondays April 8-29.

Please join Fr. Brian virtually in prayer

Now that we are allowed to celebrate Mass in public, with precautions, we will continue to live stream all three weekend Mass, as well as our weekday Masses, for anyone who chooses to or who must remain at home at this time. Simply visit saintdenisparish.org and click on the box entitled "Live Streaming" to access St Denis Masses from home. Until we can figure out if it's possible to record the Masses through the digital camera installed in church, the recording of one Mass and uploading to YouTube will not continue. We will keep you posted.

The Church is open daily for private prayer from 8:00 am- 4:00 pm. Please use the side entrance and practice social distancing from others who may be praying.

Some notes regarding Mass attendance

- **Attendance is limited to 80 people per Mass** to allow for appropriate distancing. **Please know we have not reached that limit for any one Mass yet.** Also, the basement is available for overflow seating should we need it.
- **The sound on the Smart TV in the basement is fixed and so overflow seating, or for those who would feel more comfortable for you or your children's sake, is available down in the Parish Hall.**
- The 5:00 PM Saturday Vigil Mass has had very small attendance these past weekends and would provide an assured opportunity for a seat.

Distribution of Holy Communion

At weekday Masses at St Denis, the distribution of Holy Communion begins as soon as Father Brian has gone into the sacristy to wash his hands and put on his protective gear, and Father will be in the sanctuary until 8:00 am.

For Sunday Masses, since the distribution of Holy Communion begins the same way and lasts about 10 minutes, the distribution of Holy Communion outside of that time frame usually will not be available.

Important things to note

- **One restroom is available for each Mass. Please be sure to use the restroom that has the time for the Mass you are attending on the door.** That way we can thoroughly disinfect afterwards and keep the other restroom clean for the next Mass.
- The obligation we have as Catholics to attend Sunday Mass still remains suspended in the Diocese of Manchester.
- If you choose to come to Mass, a face covering is required.
- Please enter through the front/main doors of the Church.
- Holy Communion will be distributed once Mass has ended. You are asked to exit via the side door after receiving Communion.



The tithe for the weekend offertory for the third and fourth weekend of March is set aside to support **Catholic Relief Services (CRS)**. The CRS Collection supports Catholic Church organizations that carry out international relief and solidarity efforts. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to all people here and abroad. In keeping with the theme "**Help Jesus in Disguise,**" the collection helps six Catholic agencies provide relief and support to struggling communities and work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/nationalcollections, and click on "How to Give" link on the left.

OUTREACH



Hearts Open to the World (HOW) and our Nyakach Hospital Partners: Upgrading health facilities in Western Kenya

Located in the village of Pap Onditi, Nyakach District Hospital is a primary public facility for the rural region of Kisumu County in western Kenya. Kisumu County is the epicenter of HIV in Kenya. HIV care (which is administered free) through treatment services, curative in-patient services and outpatient services are all offered at the hospital. Nyakach District Hospital, which serves a population of about 45,000 people, has only one medical doctor, Dr. Anifill Agwanda, Medical Superintendent, who is in charge of the facility. In addition to its one physician, the Nyakach Hospital staff comprises 13 clinical nurses, seven clinical officers (similar to a physician assistant), two pharmacists, one occupational therapist and one physical therapist. Through clinic visits about 22,000 outpatients are treated each year. The hospital's inpatient capacity is 10 pediatric beds, eight women's ward beds, 10 men's ward beds and 10 beds in maternity with eight in labor and delivery. The hospital services include x-ray facilities and a lab to screen blood.

Since 2013, the Nyakach District Hospital has worked to establish a strategic plan to improve hygiene and sanitation throughout Kenya. Towards that goal, the generosity of St Denis parishioners in 2017 made it possible for HOW to undertake our biggest project to date: funding the drilling of a deep well to provide a consistent source of clean running water for the hospital. This life-changing project occurred at a time of severe drought and dramatically improved the lives of many, who are enormously grateful for the result.

During this last year, HOW's most recent project has been the construction of four multi-fixture restroom structures, called ablution blocks, to replace the existing pit latrines throughout the hospital facility. The project consists of separate restroom facilities for the women's ward, men's ward, outpatient and visitors and staff. Each of these facilities will be equipped with a sink to wash hands, shower and handicap access. Part of the program is also to improve the sanitary waste system. We are very pleased to share with you, our St. Denis community, that with your generous contributions, this important project is nearing completion. This vital improvement will make a difference in the health and hygiene of not just our friends at Nyakach Hospital but for the families, children and patients they labor to serve. On their behalf, we the members of HOW at St. Denis sincerely thank you for your continued kindness and generosity.



STEWARDSHIP and FINANCE

Supporting Our Parish Through Electronic Giving

Now you can use your credit card or electronic check to support the mission of Saint Denis. Using electronic giving is easy to do. Go to our website www.saintdenisparish.org and click on the Online Giving button. In a few minutes you can be sure that your gift will work every day of the year to help our parish.

You can now contribute to Saint Denis with a quick text message! Simply send a text to **603-931-3467** with the amount you wish to contribute. Make sure to include the dollar sign before the amount. Example: \$25. Within a few minutes, you'll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your cardholder name and credit or debit card information. Once your registration is complete, you will receive a text verification and a receipt via email. For future giving, simply send a text with the amount you wish to give, and it will process automatically!

Offertory March 6 & 7	\$3,485.50 (online only)
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	\$30.00
Easter	\$100.00
Good Friday	\$60.00
Helping Hands	\$45.00
Hearts Open to the World	\$170.00

Thank you for your continued generosity to St. Denis! In order for donation records to be complete, make sure that you are registered and that your donation is in an envelope with your full name and the amount on it.

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