



Winter 2023



The Heads Up!

Message from Father Miguel Pagán



Dear families, the peace from the Savior of the world who comes to bring us divine hope be with you! How honored and privileged I feel for having been assigned as your Pastor here in this blessed sector of our beloved Diocese: Saint Denis Catholic Church. I am so happy to be here to serve you in the name of Christ, and of our Bishop, the Most Reverend Robert J. McManus.

I am grateful to the Lord for all of you, and for the wonderful Catholic tradition in this parish. You have excelled through 150+ years in love for God in the Eucharist (the center of the Parish community) and active charity. Our ancestors and predecessors have lovingly and unceasingly sowed the seed of the Gospel of Christ among us and it has grown strong. Now we are those men and women who received the deposit of the faith and the life of Jesus in Holy Communion, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit to live a Christian life. We have 'picked up the mantle.' We are the ones now teaching and living the faith in town, in the neighborhood, wherever we go, wherever we are. Saint Denis Parish is our life.

We follow in the footsteps of so many families (spouses, mothers, fathers, daughters, sons, children) who have lived the faith and passed on the life of Jesus through the warmth of home life and serving in the many ministries of the parish, especially the religious education of children and adults.

We follow in the footsteps of religious sisters and faith-filled parishioners who worked side by side with priests, teaching the tenets of faith. They were very self-sacrificial and what they taught remains inscribed in the minds and heart of many from their CCD years.

We follow in the footsteps of the priests who served this parish (Pastors and Vicars) who brought you to Christ through the Mass. They also instructed you in the faith and guided you in good and hard times, walking along with Jesus through time here on earth to eternity in God.

We continue doing just that. We want to preserve the gift of faith and the gift of Saint Denis Parish not only for decades, but for centuries to come! Your satisfaction, joy, and peace will be to see so many (especially your families) gathering the fruits of your faith life here at the parish - from heaven. You will be smiling in heavenly joy!

Let's continue, my friends, persevering in faith, joy, hope and charity. We don't see the full picture while on earth. We are looking forward to see our Creator face to face one day and

saying to him: "thank you Lord for the gift of faith, for my family, for the gift of so many friends, for the beauty of life, for thinking of me and creating me. And thank you, Father, for the gift of Redemption through your Beloved Son in the Spirit." We are a parish community through the gift of Jesus in the Eucharist. He offered himself for us in love for the Father and poured upon us the gift of the Holy Spirit, that we have life.

It is the sacrificial meal of Christ in the Eucharist—we celebrate on Sundays and weekdays—that keeps our beautiful temple standing in worship. We make the commitment through these three years of "Eucharistic Revival" (which culminates in 2024) to renew our faith in the eucharistic Jesus, present among us. I pray that your faith in the Eucharist may constantly grow stronger in your heart and in your family. Please remember me in your prayers for that intention too. We are all people of the Eucharist. We need to be eucharistic people. It is simply essential as a parish community. That is the meaning why the parish (us all) and the Church temple is in our midst.

Please come and visit Jesus for adoration. He is waiting for you here at Saint Denis. Waiting for you to talk to him and to listen to you. Give him some of your time, please. He comes to us in Christmas, so little, so as to fit in our hearts and souls. He comes to us in the simplicity and humility of his Blessed Body in the host and in his Precious Blood. He wants to be there for you always.

As we try to bring back our Catholic faith in worship and active charity after Covid, let's pray that this period of Eucharistic Revival be a fruitful time of spiritual growth and renewal in our midst, here at Saint Denis, in the diocese of Worcester and around the world. Let's pray for peace around the world. Let's share Jesus, who is our peace, with others. That is meant to be the most important gift we share with one another through the year.

Thanks for your generous offering at Mass and to the parish at all moments. May the Lord bless your hearts richly! Please, let's continue our support for the parish through faithful and committed stewardship (Time, Treasure, and Talent), so that families coming after us will reap the fruits of faith and love you are sowing today! Please, consider including Saint Denis parish in the preparation of your will. Those gifts and offerings secure the work of faith you are doing. And may the Lord, who never lets himself be outdone in generosity bless you richly and abundantly this Advent, at Christmas, in the upcoming year of the Lord 2024 and in the rest of your life. You are a miracle of God's goodness and grace in the world! I give thanks for you to the Lord always!

(1 Corinthians 1:4)

Fr. Pagán ❖

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St. Denis Church

Our Vibrant Parish Community



Lenten Fish Dinners



St. Patrick's Day Dinner



Living Stations of the Cross



Bishop Blessing our Mary Grotto



St. Denis @ the WooSox - August



Elvis Night - September



Blessing of Pets - October



St. Denis' Booth at Oktoberfest



Trip to National Shrine of Divine Mercy



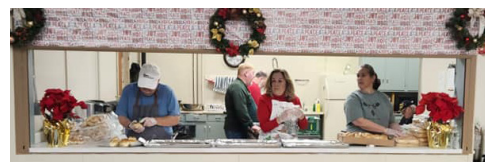
Free Pasta Dinner for Parishioners



CWC Christmas Party



Holiday Fair - Dec. 2nd



Faith Formation



**Congrats on your Retirement,
Kathy Archambault!**



**Welcome to the Program,
Cheryl Mauro!**

Congratulations to Kathy on her retirement, thank you for your many years of dedicated service to the children of Saint Denis. It has been a blessing to become the Faith Formation Coordinator this year. Along with an amazing team of catechists, we are teaching your children the history and graces of our Catholic faith. We look forward to including the children in our Masses and increasing family participation in our program. I welcome your thoughts and ideas. I can be reached at 508-476-2002 ext. 2 and at cmauro@saintdenischurch.com. Cheryl

Partners in Charity



Bob and Kathleen Hughes

We are blessed to welcome Bob and Kathleen Hughes, parishioners here at St. Denis, to our new Partners in Charity ministry. Bob and Kathie will serve as our parish ambassadors, helping to educate our families about the importance of supporting the annual Partners in Charity collection, and how the funds are used within our parish and our Diocese. Please pray for Bob and Kathie, and for our parish families, that we may continue to meet or exceed our goals, and remain good stewards of our community and our Diocese.



2nd Grade Retreat



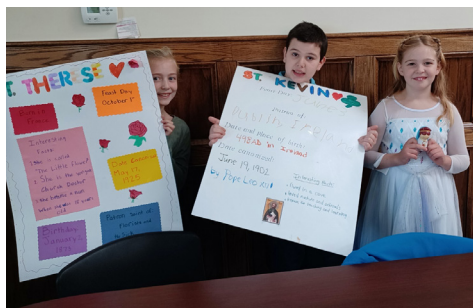
1st Communion - May 7th



Summer Vacation Bible School



Confirmation - Nov. 19th



3rd Grade Saints Day



2nd & 3rd Grade Living Nativity

Online Giving Make one time or recurring payments, donate to the food pantry and support other ministries and fundraisers. **Make your regular Offertory donation, especially if you will be away!** Use the **QR code**, text the word **give** to **508-850-0128**, or visit **SaintDenisChurch.com/offertory-regular**



Thank you, Mumford Knights of Columbus!



Our local order of the Knights of Columbus at Mumford Hall in Whitinsville very generously donated \$14,000 to St. Denis for technology upgrades. The first disbursement of \$8,000 was received in late summer, and was used to upgrade the internet access infrastructure in both the church and the rectory. We were also able to purchase a new laptop for our incoming Faith Formation Coordinator, Cheryl. The second disbursement of \$6,000 has just been received, and will be used to install new phones in the rectory, upgrade televisions for classes and meetings in the church, and possibly address some electrical issues. These upgrades and repairs would have fallen outside of the scope of our Legacy of Hope projects, and are very much appreciated.

Legacy of Hope Update

We're moving forward... Now that the new roof is completed, the next projects to be tackled will be the repairs to the chimney and the sealing and painting of the sanctuary. We are working on obtaining estimates and lining up vendors to perform these repairs. Please keep your pledge payments coming!

Legacy of Hope - Accounting Update Dec. 2023

Total Received to Date	\$ 166,649.72
Total Expenses to Date	\$ 81,628.00
Working Balance	\$85,021.72

Fundraising Update

Thank you for your support! Our recent parish fundraisers have been very successful. Please continue to support our parish by purchasing tickets to our annual Cash Calendar Raffle! They are on sale now through the end of February.

Elvis Night Inc. \$2,032.80 – Exp. \$671.94 = \$1,360.86

Free Pasta Dinner Inc. \$510.00 – Exp. \$215.49 = \$294.51

Holiday Fair and Cemetery Baskets

(Gross income - expenses not yet finalized) \$8,997.25

Christmas & New Year's at St. Denis

Dec. 24 **Christmas Eve** Mass: 4:00pm

Dec. 25 **Christmas Day** Mass: 10:15am

Jan. 1 **(Mary Mother of God)**

Mass in Thanksgiving for the New Year – 10:15am

Trip to Lasalette Shrine - meet at St. Denis at 3:00pm

Jan. 3 **Adoration Day** 9:00am to 5:45pm, Benediction 5:45pm

Jan. 6/7 **The Epiphany of the Lord**

Open House at the Church & Rectory - 11:30am to 2:00pm

Jan. 8 **The Baptism of the Lord** (End of the Christmas Season)

Jan. 13/14 **First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Feb. 14 **Ash Wednesday** - Lent begins

Lenten Fish Dinners - Most Fridays during Lent

Lenten Fish Dinners



Most Fridays During Lent – Feb. 16, 23, Mar. 1, 8 & 22

No Friday Fish Dinners on Mar. 15 or on Good Friday

Enjoy baked fish, potato or rice, and a vegetable... clam chowder is also available. Dine in or take out!

St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Saturday March 16th - 5:00pm

Tickets will soon be on sale – don't miss this fun-filled evening! A traditional corned beef and cabbage meal is served, followed by a lively performance by the Murphy Irish Dancers.



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