

September 13, 2020 • Twenty-fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time

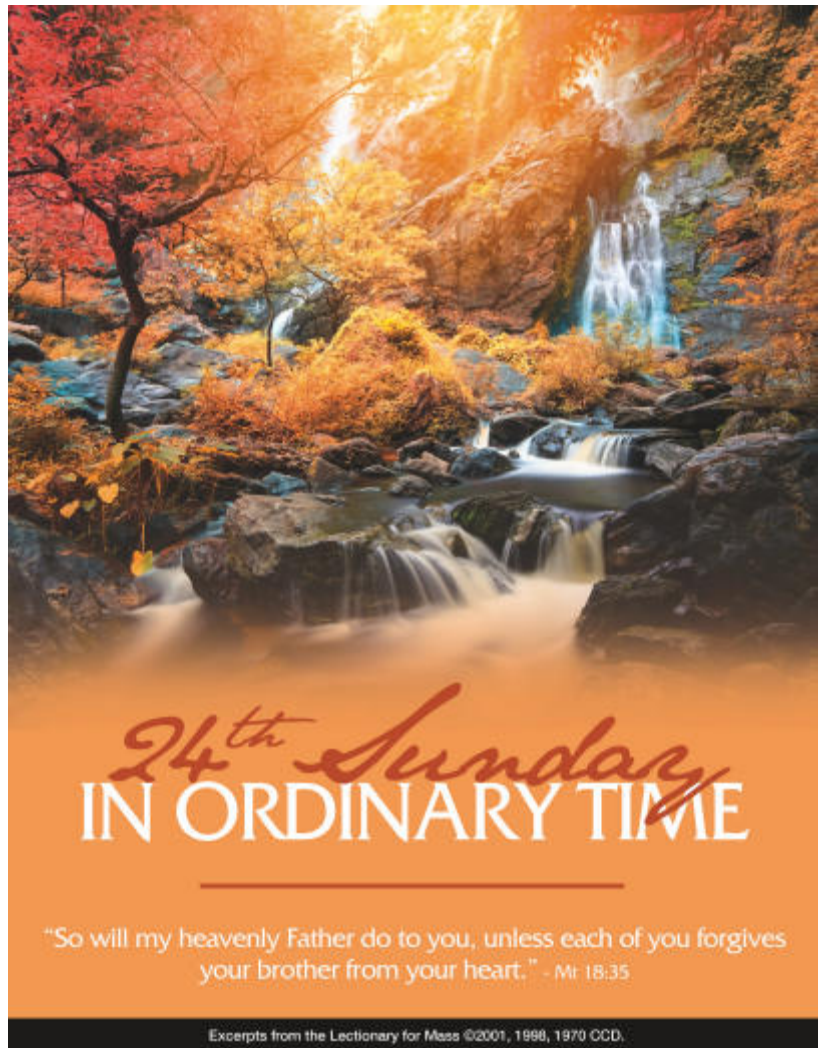
Welcome to

# THE COMMUNITY OF *Saint Denis*

*Celebrating God's Love  
for All People*

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## **Our St. Denis Mission Statement**

We, the Catholic Christian Community of St. Denis, as followers of Jesus Christ, call ourselves: to create a prayerful environment; to provide for spiritual, educational and social growth; to promote hospitality; to ensure the evangelization of our faith; and to minister to the people of our parish, our Ashburn community and our world.

## **Declaración de Misión de San Denis**

Nosotros, la Comunidad Católica Cristiana de San Denis, como seguidores de Jesucristo, nos llamamos a: Crear un ambiente de oración; prever el crecimiento espiritual, educacional y social; promover la hospitalidad; asegurar la evangelización de nuestra fe; y atender a las personas de nuestra parroquia, de nuestra comunidad de Ashburn, y de nuestro mundo.

## THIS AND THAT

Long ago I had a terrible nightmare. I was standing near a very old Chicago public school in my neighborhood. It was in shambles because there had been a nuclear attack. I woke from that dream shaken. I knew I had to do what I could to prevent it from happening.

For the next several years I educated myself on nuclear weaponry and disarmament. I participated in public demonstrations and was involved with peace groups of Roman Catholics and other Christians. And then, the Soviet Union dissolved and the threat of nuclear war seemed to disappear. Tensions were eased. It seemed like we did not have to be concerned about blowing up the world anymore.

Looking backwards I see that I was wrong. I said to myself that everything was okay now. Besides what could one person do? I had done what I could, I had done my part. It was time to be quiet. It wasn't my fault that the world was on the brink of nuclear war. But I was wrong. I had forgotten that even though it wasn't my fault, I still had a responsibility to act, to do what I could.

Justice is acting in this world as God would act. God isn't at fault for racism, poverty, or war. He works through us to resolve these issues and more. When we do what we can do we are acting justly. When we choose to do nothing we are acting unjustly.

We tend to pick and choose when it comes to the sins of the world like racism, poverty, and war. We are sensitive to some issues but blind to others. We tend to take sides. God doesn't take sides. God wants us *to do what we can*, not to stake out turf.

Elie Weisel said, "There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest." We are not God and can't stop all injustice.

But God knows we can do much more than we do.

We just celebrated Labor Day. That day was born in the pursuit of justice for the worker. That search for justice, for acting as God would act, is not over. We have a lot to do.

May God bless us all,  
Fr. Ted

## Mass Intentions

Saturday	September 12, 2020 Mark Butler
Sunday	September 13, 2020 Esther Gonzalez Stanley & Catherine Skocz
Monday	September 14, 2020 Eileen Demos
Tuesday	September 15, 2020 Healing Intentions of a St. Denis Friend
Wednesday	September 16, 2020 Michael Solorio
Thursday	September 17, 2020 Pelagia Kutz

### Readings for the week of September 13, 2020

**Sunday:** Sir 27:30—28:7/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 [8]/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35

**Monday:** Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38 [cf. 7b]/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

**Tuesday:** 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a/Ps 31:2 and 3b, 3cd-4, 5-6, 15-16, 20 [17]/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35

**Wednesday:** 1 Cor 12:31—13:13/Ps 33:2-3, 4-5, 12 and 22 [12]/Lk 7:31-35

**Thursday:** 1 Cor 15:1-11/Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28 [1]/Lk 7:36-50

**Friday:** 1 Cor 15:12-20/Ps 17:1bcd, 6-7, 8b and 15 [15b]/Lk 8:1-3

**Saturday:** 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49/Ps 56:10c-12, 13-14 [14]/Lk 8:4-15

**Next Sunday:** Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 [18a]/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a



**Those who are ill...**

Rita Brice, Elida Diaz, Renee Pletsch

**Those who serve our country...**

Patrick Brice, Ryan Danielian,  
Patrick Leamy, Antonio Worthy Jr.



**Prayer for Students**

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for the gift of learning!

I want to grow closer to you  
in everything I do at school.

In math and science, help me to see  
your beautiful plan in the world.

Help me to discover new stories  
and values as I read and write.

In arts and music, help me to be creative.

In sports, help me to treat my teammates  
and my opponents fairly.

Help me to learn new skills  
in technology.

Jesus, you are the perfect teacher.

Help me to listen with open ears,  
an open heart, and an open mind  
to all my teachers at school.

Help me to treat my classmates  
with care, kindness, and respect.

Thank you, Jesus, for school!

Amen.

LPi

Next Sunday, September 20th, there will be a  
collection for **Seminarian Education**. Drop your  
Seminarian Education envelope into the box along  
with your regular Sunday envelope as you exit church.

Thank you.

**The St. Denis Women's Guild** thanks all the women  
who used their pink August envelope to submit their  
annual Women's Guild membership dues.

If you have not done so as of yet, you may drop the  
pink envelope or any envelope marked "Women's  
Guild membership dues" into the box at the exit door.  
(Be sure to include your name, and address on any  
envelope other than the pink envelope.)


Thank you.

**RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**

Should I Stay or Should I Go? Life is not always easy on us and it can be hard to figure out the next step to take in our journey. We can even become immobilized by indecisiveness and fear about making the wrong move or choosing the incorrect path. I think of the song, Should I Stay, or Should I Go, as a mantra for many times in my life. Should I stay in this house, this job, or this car? Should I go here or there? When those times of decision surface, I usually turn to my wife, my friends, or even my children. Talking it out can help, and their perspectives give me more data to consider. When I lean on others to help me make a decision, it helps me become more confident in my choices. Discerning the will of God is not easy either. Rarely do we understand God's calling clearly at first. God's calling is always more easily discerned within a community of faithful disciples. Our stewardship way of life can suffer greatly if we refuse to allow others to assist us in the process of discernment. What gifts or talents are needed for the task at hand? Where do I fit best into God's plan? Where is God leading me? No one should have to decide the answers to these questions alone. We need to always lean on the Body of Christ to help us see the path that God has laid before us. Without a little help along the journey, over time we might find ourselves stuck in the same place where we started.—Tracy Earl Welliver ©LPi

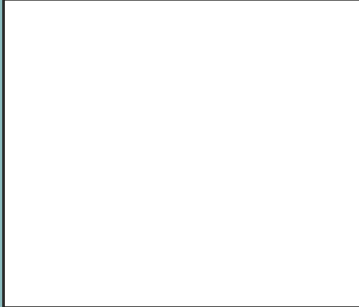
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