

# The Pastor's Corner

We've heard the line before: "You had to be there!" Maybe it was a joke, a hilarious occurrence at work, or perhaps even an unbelievable disaster. Many such things happen, and when we have the misfortune of missing them, that is always the line that we hear from our colleagues or even our family members. We missed out on it, and it's almost too hard to describe after the fact!

In the Gospel for this weekend, we hear an account of the misfortune of Thomas called Didymus. Jesus appeared to the disciples, showed them His hands and side, and all the while Thomas was not with them. What he was out doing is unclear, but when he came back what was the result? His faith was greatly weakened, and He almost refused to believe that Jesus had appeared. Truly- he had to be there!

In a life of faith, often we get lost in the feel of the "monotony" of being a person of faith, and because of that we discount and lose sight of what is really going on. Perhaps Thomas had gotten bored and wanted to go on a trip out and away. Maybe his faith had weakened. Perhaps he found something better to do. Nonetheless- whatever the reason was, he missed the Lord appearing to Him!

We cannot and should not make the same mistake. Sure, it may seem like an hour of conscious and active prayer is a lot to ask. Plus, we have a bunch of "stuff" that we need to tend to. Maybe we just feel like we aren't actually getting anything out of the Mass, and we just go out of obligation. There are countless reasons that we may drift out of the Lord's presence like Thomas. However, if we do that, we shouldn't be shocked if we start to miss out on the Lord's presence, or our faith becomes even weaker, and even fades to where doubt clouds our minds.

"You had to be there." The reality is- any of us who have come to Mass regularly are already there. We simply need to make sure we remain in Christ's presence and actively engaged with our faith so that we don't miss a thing!

-Fr. Belken

## Readings for Next Sunday

### The Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19

1 Jn 2:1-5a

Lk 24:35-48

*Congratulations to those who joined the Church at the Easter Vigil!*



## BISHOP RICE'S APRIL PRAYER INTENTION

"Let us pray for those burdened with sorrow, those facing health issues, those suffering from war, famine, or disease: May the Risen Christ be their hope and their joy!"



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) · APRIL 7, 2024



# Saint Lawrence

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



Blessed are those who have not seen  
*and have believed*

1001 State Highway A, New Hamburg, MO — PO Box 247, Benton, Missouri 63736

Phone: 573-545-3317

Website: [www.stlnh.org](http://www.stlnh.org)

St. Lawrence Church – New Hamburg, Missouri  
P.O. Box 247 Benton, Missouri 63736 573-545-3317  
Rev. Daniel Belken, Pastor  
Billy Ray Johnson - Parish Office Manager

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter  
April 7-13, 2024  
www.stlnh.org

E-Mail address: [StLawrenceNH@outlook.com](mailto:StLawrenceNH@outlook.com)

**Mass Schedule**

|                   |                         |                    |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Sat. Apr 6 4PM    | Andrew Essner           | Thu. Apr 11 7AM    | Lefty & Ida Seyer |
| Sun. Apr 7 8:30AM | Parish Family           | Fri. Apr 12 7AM    | Vernon Vetter     |
| Mon. Apr 8        | No Mass                 | Sat. Apr 13 4PM    | Felix Enderle     |
| Tue. Apr 9 6PM    | Barney & Sylvia Steimle | Sun. Apr 14 8:30AM | Parish Family     |
| Wed. Apr 10 7AM   | Henry & Agnes Leible    |                    |                   |

**SUNDAY: OUR LADY OF FATIMA VISITATION.** APR-7-Jackie Griffith, APR14-Pat Moore, APR 21-Mary F. Glastetter, APR 28-Theresa Essner.

**SUNDAY COLLECTION:**

March 31, 2024: Loose \$374, Envelopes \$2752, Total: \$3126.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 7<sup>th</sup>, FUNDRAISER MEAL.** St. Mary Cathedral Grade School presents a fundraiser meal to support SMS students attending an educational trip to Washington D.C. this Summer! Event will be located in the cafeteria of St. Mary's School on April 7th from 11AM-1PM. The buffet style meal will be provided by Hinkebein Catering LLC and include kettle beef, chicken & dumplings, and all the sides. Adults \$15, kids ages 6-12 \$10, kids under 6 are Free! Any questions contact Deanna Witte at 573-579-1413 or [dlanae1313@yahoo.com](mailto:dlanae1313@yahoo.com).

**FRIDAY, APRIL 12<sup>th</sup>, CHURCH CLEANING.** Chairman: Chris & Beth Kern  
David & Dolly Kluesner, Dustin & Nancy Kluesner, David & Robin Kern.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 12<sup>th</sup>, ADORATION.** St. Lawrence Church 7:30-10:30AM.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 14<sup>th</sup>, REMEMBRANCE FOR CHERYL ANNE SCHERER, 1PM IN THE ST. DENIS PARISH CENTER.**

Please join us for an afternoon of reminiscing, prayers and fellowship with family, friends, classmates and community members to commemorate the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Cheryl's disappearance on April 17, 1979 from the Rhodes gas station in Scott City where she was employed. Guest Speakers will start around 1:30PM. Light refreshments will be served. Feel free to wear yellow to represent Cheryl and all missing persons. Donations will be accepted for a permanent remembrance marker to be placed at Rhodes Convenience Store in Scott City, MO. A preliminary sketch of this marker will be available for viewing on this day.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 18<sup>th</sup>, PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.** 6PM in the Parish Center.

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|---|-----------------|---|
| <b>Lector &amp; Communion Distributor :</b> | Sat. Apr 13 4PM | Cindy Glueck  |
| <b>Organist/Cantor:</b>                     | Sat. Apr 13 4PM | Cheryl Kern/Jamie Essner                                      |
| <b>Gift Bearers:</b>                        | Sat. Apr 13 4PM | Mr./Mrs. James Duncan   |
| <b>Servers:</b>                             | Sat. Apr 13 4PM | Eli Holman/Leeland & Kynli Duenne/Rocky Burger                |
| <b>Ushers:</b>                              | Sat. Apr 13 4PM | Evan Reischman/Gary Reischman/Shannon Schumer/Patrick Sheldon |

|   |                    |  |
|---|--------------------|--|
| <b>Lector &amp; Communion Distributor :</b> | Sun. Apr 14 8:30AM | Jill Pinkston  |
| <b>Organist/Cantor:</b>                     | Sun. Apr 14 8:30AM | Cheryl Kern/Kari Bickings                              |
| <b>Gift Bearers:</b>                        | Sun. Apr 14 8:30AM | Mr./Mrs. Harold Eftink                                 |
| <b>Servers:</b>                             | Sun. Apr 14 8:30AM | Hailey & Heidi Heuring/Paxton & Oliver Beck            |
| <b>Ushers:</b>                              | Sun. Mar 14 8:30AM | Steven Riley/Mike Senciboy/Ronnie Senciboy/Chris Seyer |

**Grounds Committee.** We are looking for individuals who would like to help with the upkeep of our parish grounds, which would include meeting to help discuss potential projects and suggestions with Fr. Belken, as well as working to help complete them. If you are interested, please contact the parish office to join the group as it is being formed.

**PRINCIPAL OPENING.** Principal and Educator Opening, elementary: Saint Denis School in Benton, Missouri is seeking a principal and teacher for the 2024-2025 school year. Responsibilities: Responsibilities will include leadership in the school environment as a community of faith, as well as providing an instructional and professional leadership to the school faculty, as well being able to fill the capacity of a classroom teacher. Requirements: A qualified candidate must be an active and practicing Catholic, possess their Missouri certification, as well as possessing a master's degree in School Administration (or are working towards it). Administrative experience is preferred, and 3-5 years of Catholic school experience is desired as well. To request an application, please contact Fr. Daniel Belken at Saint Denis Parish, Benton, MO at 573-545-3864, or email [frbelken@stdenisbenton.org](mailto:frbelken@stdenisbenton.org).

**SAVE THE DATE.** Totus Tuus at St. Lawrence parish center June 9-13 for grades 7-12, 7-9PM. June 10-14 for grades 1-6, 8:30AM-2PM. More details to follow.

**Please pray for First Communicants as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist. Owen Asmus, Willow Bickings, Grace Brucker, Ty Essner, Colin Felter, Emerson Irwin, Logan Jackson, Hallie Lovett, and Rosalin Mack.**