

# The Pastor's Corner

## MY SHEEP HEAR MY VOICE

As we go through our days, we likely hear a variety of voices speaking to us. Some of these are very pleasant and speak things that are easy to hear: compliments, affirmations, encouragement, amongst other things. Some voices are informative, and there is little inflection on them. Some voices, however, are very hard to hear. These are the voices that speak things that are a little less charming to the ear: a rebuke, a correction, or even at times some criticism. There are many voices that speak to us, and really, we don't have much choice in which ones are speaking- but we do have a choice in the ones we listen to and remember.

The Gospel today is very plain. Jesus starts off this Gospel reading with this line: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me." The line seems beautiful, and it is, but it is also laced with a challenge. There is a call: My sheep hear my voice. Then, more critically, there is a necessary response: they follow me. The reason that both elements must be together is that we need to understand that the voice of Christ is going to say both things pleasing to the ear, and things that are challenging. He will speak things that are pleasant: the affirmation we never receive, the feeling of being treasured and valued, the encouragement to push through hard times, and being called a child of God. However, that voice will also tell us some things that are challenging as well: to stop making excuses, to follow the Gospel better, to quit being lazy with our faith, or maybe even to be more selfless and love those around us more. His voice is speaking- but are we going to respond and follow?

We cannot chose what the voice of Christ is saying. He speaks to us very boldly. The question is, whenever Christ speaks, no matter the tone, are we going to trust Him enough to not only hear His voice, but to follow Him as well?

-Fr. Belken

**GOD BLESS THE MINISTRY OF POPE LEO XIV  
AS HE LEADS OUR CHURCH!  
LONG LIVE THE POPE!**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL EIGHTH GRADE  
GRADUATES! MAY GOD BE WITH YOU AS YOU  
MOVE INTO THE NEXT CHAPTER!**

### Readings for Next Sunday

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF  
EASTER**

*May 18, 2025*

Acts 13:14, 43-52

Revelation 7:9, 14b-17

John 10:27-30

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER · MAY 11, 2025



# Saint Lawrence

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

**OUR HOLY FATHER**

**POPE LEO XIV**



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

Fourth Sunday of Easter  
May 11-17, 2025  
[www.stlnh.org](http://www.stlnh.org)  
E-Mail address: [BillyRay@stlnh.org](mailto:BillyRay@stlnh.org)

Mass Schedule							
Sat.	May	10	4PM	David Harris	Thu.	May	15 7AM Patrick Shelton
Sun.	May	11	8:30AM	Parish Family	Fri.	May	16 7AM Elmer Heisserer
Mon.	May	12	No Mass		Sat.	May	17 4PM Parish Family
Tue.	May	13	6PM	Jeanne Essner	Sun.	May	18 8:30AM Pat Schott
Wed.	May	14	7AM	Felix Enderle			

SUNDAY: OUR LADY OF FATIMA VISITATION. MAY 11 - Pat Moore, MAY 18 - Mary F. Glastetter, MAY 25 - Theresa Essner.

SUNDAY COLLECTION:  
May 4, 2025: Loose \$161, Envelopes \$2970, Total: \$3131.

FRIDAY, MAY 16<sup>th</sup>, CHURCH CLEANING. Chairman: Dustin & Amy Essner  
Carla Essner, Gerard & Carolyn Essner, Jamie & Emily Essner.

FRIDAY, MAY 16<sup>th</sup>, ADORATION. St. Lawrence Church 7:30-10:30AM.

SATURDAY, MAY 17<sup>th</sup>, SCAPULAR ENROLLMENT CEREMONY. Following Mass on May 17<sup>th</sup>, St. Lawrence is having a Scapular Enrollment Ceremony. Brown scapulars will be provided. The 2025 First Communicants and Grades 5-8 are encouraged to participate. Also, anyone who has not previously enrolled are encouraged to participate.

THURSDAY, MAY 22<sup>nd</sup>, SCOTT CITY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BRATWURST SALE. Just in time for your Memorial Day weekend cookout, the Scott City Knights of Columbus will be taking orders for their world-famous bratwurst. Cost is \$5 per Pound, and it will be ready for pick up Thursday May 22<sup>nd</sup>, at the hall after 6PM. To order call Gary 573-576-6451.

SUNDAY, MAY 25<sup>th</sup>, HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION MASS. Sunday 8:30AM Mass will be honoring our St. Lawrence high school graduates Hayden Steimle, Kole Burger, Kendyl Burger, Gwen Essner, Rolen Heuring, Mady Johnson, Carson Kern, and Molly Johnson. Please wear cap and gown. If we missed anyone, please call the parish office.

JESUS IN DISGUISE T-SHIRT FUNDRAISER. Jesus in Disguise is selling t-shirts as a fundraiser. Order sheets are in the back of church. For more information, please contact the church office. It is a great cause from a great organization.

Lector & Communion Distributor:	Sat.	May	17	4PM	Frank Glueck
Organist/Cantor:	Sat.	May	17	4PM	Bernice Kern/Mary B. Glastetter
Gift Bearers:	Sat.	May	17	4PM	Mr./Mrs. David Asmus
Servers:	Sat.	May	17	4PM	Isabel Crook/Wyatt Farrow/Eli Holman
Ushers:	Sat.	May	17	4PM	Kenny Dirnberger/Michael Dirnberger/Nathan Dirnberger/Rodney Dock

Lector & Communion Distributor:	Sun.	May	18	8:30AM	Shannon Schumer
Organist/Cantor:	Sun.	May	18	8:30AM	Bernice Kern/Jamie Essner
Gift Bearers:	Sun.	May	18	8:30AM	Mr./Mrs. Jerome Backfisch
Servers:	Sun.	May	18	8:30AM	Ty Glastetter/Callen Glastetter/Colin Felter/Bennett Essner
Ushers:	Sun.	May	18	8:30AM	Travis Dirnberger/Stephen Drake/Scott Droddy/Adam Duncan

SUMMER CAMPS AT NOTRE DAME. Notre Dame is excited to host a variety of sports, arts and science camps this summer! Camps are for students entering K - 8th grade next school year. To view our many camp offerings and to register, visit [www.notredamehighschool.org/camps2025](http://www.notredamehighschool.org/camps2025).

Diocesan Development Fund (DDF) REPORT. To date our parish has given \$5,115 toward our \$24,075 goal. Thank You! If you have not yet made your pledge, please add your gift, whatever the amount, in unity with those who have already given by returning a pledge card.

MASS INTENTIONS. Our Mass intention schedule is full (which is an excellent thing!), and we need to curtail scheduling more Mass intentions till next year. If you wish to have intentions said for a loved one in the immediate or near future, we would be happy to help you schedule with a sister parish in the Diocese that has agreed to provide Masses for our needs. Please note that it will take some time to work through the current commitments that we have. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

TOTUS TUUS. Totus Tuus is coming to St. Lawrence Parish in New Hamburg on June 16-20. For more information, or to register your children, please contact Pat Moore or the church office.

WHAT IS TOTUS TUUS. Totus Tuus (Latin for Totally Yours) was the papal motto for Pope St. John Paul II who dedicated his life totally to Jesus Christ through Mary. Totus Tuus is also the name of our fun and energetic summer youth program for all children in elementary, middle school, and high school. The weeklong program is dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting the Catholic faith through evangelization, catechesis, Christian witness, music, fun activities, Eucharistic worship, and more. Not only will the youth learn more about their Catholic faith, but they will return home excited to live it and share it! Call Pat Moore or the parish office for more information or to register your children.