

THE PASTOR'S PEN

YOUR PRAYER IS WORTH BEING HEARD

One of the most powerful lines I heard about prayer actually came from our vice-rector at the seminary, Msgr. Mikesch: "Pray as you can, and not as you can't." The point was very simple- we ought to make sure we pray, and not excuse ourselves because we feel we cannot pray as the saints, or wouldn't be heard because we aren't holy enough. It was more important that we pray in the way that made sense and was most effective for us.

There are two main characters in the Gospel- the Pharisee and the tax collector. The Pharisee is the one presuming upon himself to pray like a saint. He is extolling his virtues and praising every bit of charity or good work he has ever been able to accomplish. The tax collector? He was not so arrogant, but had a very simple and humble prayer: "God be merciful to me a sinner." Both of those prayers are so vastly different, and yet only one is being heard- the one offered up in humility and sincerity.

We would do well to take note of this. Our prayers are not going to be unworthy of being heard, because of our past. Our prayers will not be left unanswered if we don't use poetic or flowery language. Our prayers will not be rejected if we don't "have it all together" when we are in dialogue with God. Some of the best prayers are simply this- the ones that we give our God, submitting them in all honesty and humility. Thus, pray as you can- and not as you can't.

-Fr. Belken

THE 30TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME—OCTOBER 26TH, 2025



St. Denis & St. Lawrence

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



<p>One-on-one answers to your Medicare questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shana Kight 573-450-8066 Doris Breymeyer 573-545-4253 Rhonda Ratledge 573-979-4537 <p>Medicare Supplements Medicare Advantage Plans Part D Plans</p>  	<p>Ditronics</p> <p>Video Surveillance / Two-Way Radio</p> <p>14 N. Winchester, Benton, Missouri</p>	<p>25 W Tywappity 573-313-9200</p> 
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<p>Benton Pharmacy</p> <p>CONVENIENTLY LOCATED INSIDE BENTON COMMUNITY CARE CENTER LOCAL DELIVERY DRIVE THRU SLIDING SCALE GENERIC PRICING</p> <p>6468 STATE HWY 77, BENTON, MISSOURI</p>	<p>Our providers are accepting new patients!</p> <p>MISSOURI DELTA BENTON COMMUNITY CARE CENTER</p> <p>Amber Thorne, FNP-BC Family Nurse Practitioner</p> <p>Juliana Jones, PMHNP-BC Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner</p>	<p>Pam Dannemueller</p> <p>573-887-1081</p>  <p>Edge Realty 573-620-6054</p>
<p>QC</p> <p>Caleb Seyer Owner</p> <p>573-897-4345 calebseyer1@gmail.com 1504 Chaffee Hwy #14 Oran, MO 63075</p>	<p>GATEWAY SEED</p> <p>It Doesn't start with the seed. It starts with the farmer.</p> <p>200 Industrial Drive Advance, MO 63730 573-258-0200</p> <p>www.gatewayseed.com</p>	<p>AMICK-BURNETT FUNERAL CHAPEL</p> <p>Benton, Chaffee, Oran & Scott City</p>

<p>St. Denis Parish</p>	<p>St. Lawrence Parish</p>
<p>135 N. Winchester, Benton, MO 63736 PO Box 127, Benton, MO 63736 Phone: 573-545-3864 Web: www.stdenisbenton.org</p>	<p>1001 State Highway A, New Hamburg, MO PO Box 247, Benton, MO 63736 Phone: 573-545-3317 Web: www.stlnh.org</p>
<p>Pastor: Rev. Daniel Belken</p>	
<p>Office Manager: Lisa Spalding, lisa@stdenisbenton.org Bookkeeper: Marilyn Burford Parish Council President: Jeff Diebold</p>	<p>Office Manager: Billy Ray Johnson, billyray@stlnh.org Maintenance: Henry Beussink & Gerard Dirnberger Parish Council President: Gary Reischman</p>
<p>St. Denis School</p>	<p>Sacraments:</p>
<p>105 N. Winchester Benton, MO 63736 Phone: 573-545-3017 Web: stdenisbenton.eduk12.net Email: lindsay@stdenisbenton.org</p> <p>Principal: Lindsay Wikle School Board President: Mr. Glenn Collom</p>	<p>Saint Denis Mass: Sunday at 7:00am and 10:00am Wednesday-Friday at 8:00am Confessions: Tuesday @ 7:00pm or by appt.</p> <p>Saint Lawrence Mass: Saturday at 4:00pm and Sunday at 8:30am Tuesday at 6:00pm and Wednesday at 7:00am Confessions: Saturday @ 3:15pm or by appt.</p>

SAINT DENIS PARISH

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Tues.	28	Adoration 7-9pm
Wed.	29- 8am	Ervin & Bertha Dumcy
Thurs.	30- 8am	Melvin Hamm
Fri.	31- 8am	Charles Klueppel
Sat.	1-8am	Robert Glastetter
Sun.	2-7am	Clara LeGrand
Sun.	2-10am	St. Denis Parish Family

LITURGICAL ROLES

Sunday November 2, 7:00am

Lector: John Felter
EM: John Felter
Servers: Tyson Gosche, Eli Eftink
Servers: Daniel King
Greet \ Gifts: Sharon Hennemann, John Felter

Sunday November 2, 10:00am

Lector: Bobby Burger
EM: Bobby Burger
Servers: Jack Heuring, Brooklyn
Servers: LeGrand, Tennyson White
Greet \ Gifts: Shane & Teresa Ray

Parish Stewardship

The Week of October 19, 2025

Envelopes:	\$6,002.00
Loose:	\$175.00
Total Collection:	\$6,177.00
Weekly Est .Budget	\$5,009.00
Difference:	\$+1,168.00

COMMITTEES AND MISCELLANEOUS ASSIGNMENTS

ST. DENIS PARISH

Church Cleaning for Saturday, November 1st: Susie Bohannon, Janet Felter, Sandy Hasenkamp, Geri Riley
 Church Decorating Committee for the month of November: Shirley Essner

ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

Friday, October 31, Church Cleaning:
 Chairman: Heath & Karen Burger
 Major & Monica Burger, Mark Burger,
 Matt & Jamie Burger

SAINT LAWRENCE PARISH

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Tues.	28-6pm	Patrick Shelton
Wed.	29-7am	Felix Enderle
Thurs.	30-7am	Decd Members Al & Rose Kern
Fri.	31-7am	Leonard Kluesner
Sat.	1-4pm	Loretta Kolozy
Sun.	2-8:30am	Parish Fmaily

LITURGICAL ROLES

Saturday November 1, 4:00pm

Lector \ EM: Shannon Schumer
Musician: Krista Kluesner
Cantor: Krista Kluesner
Gifts: Mr. & Mrs. Alex Duncan
Servers: Oliver & Leelynn Walter, Clara Drake
Ushers: Ralph Enderle, Jamie Essner, Jeff Essner, Tim Essner

Sunday November 2, 8:30am

Lector / EM: Gary Reischman
Musician: Krista Kluesner
Cantor: Krista Kluesner
Gifts: Mr. & Mrs. Scott Droddy
Servers: Kaybree & Paisley Bahr, Charleigh & Vanellope DeShaney
Ushers: Orville Enderle, Randy Enderle, Dustin Essner, Tom Essner

Parish Stewardship

The Week of October 19, 2025

Envelopes:	\$2,335.00
Loose:	\$172.00
Online:	\$55.00
Total Collection:	\$2,562.00

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

All Souls' Day
November 2nd, 2025
Wisdom 3:1-9
Romans 6:3-9
John 6:37-40

ST. DENIS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you from DeWayne Lix for all your prayers, thoughts, and cards during his recent heart procedure. He is doing well!

HALLOWEEN PARTY OCTOBER 26, St. Denis Parish Center: 5:00-7:00pm. Games, Concessions, and Costume Contest for all ages! Admission is one bag of Candy!

St. Denis Ladies Sodality will be collecting items for Birthright the month of October. Totes are available in the church foyer for your donations.

✠ PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER ✠
MIKE THOMPSON



12/04/2025 at 6:00 PM
Tickets go on sale October 29 at 6:00 PM
Online Only
<https://auctria.events/sdssantatrain2025>

Liturgy Training Schedule for Both Parishes will be held at St. Denis Church

Lector: Thursday, October 30th - 6pm
Eucharistic Minister: Thursday, November 13th - 6pm
Servers: Wednesday, November 19th - 6pm.

If you would like to help our food pantry (Jesus In Disguise) to provide a Thanksgiving meal to our clients, please place a \$25 check in an envelope marked Jesus in Disguise.

Stuff a Truck - The Scott City Knights of Columbus are hosting a stuff a truck canned food/ toy drive on Saturday November 8th at their hall from 8-11am. We will collect canned goods and nonperishable food items to support the Scott City Food Pantry and the St. Denis Jesus in Disguise Food Pantry in Benton. We will also be collecting new, unwrapped toys to help the Happy Slapowitz/Marine Corp League Toys for Tots drive. Please join us and help support these great causes! Hunger never takes a holiday, and every child deserve a Happy Holiday!

ST. LAWRENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

The family of Gerard Essner wishes to express our deepest gratitude for the outpouring of love, prayers and support extended to us during our time of loss. Your kindness, comforting words and acts of compassion have been a true reflection of God's love and have brought us great comfort and peace. We extend special thanks to the ladies who prepared the delicious meal and Fr. Belken for the beautiful service and consoling message. We are blessed to be a part of such a caring and faith-filled parish community. May God bless each of you abundantly for your love, kindness and prayers.
The Gerard Essner Family

SUNDAY: OUR LADY OF FATIMA VISITATION
 October 26th-Theresa Essner
 November 2nd-Jill Pinkston

St. Lawrence Fall Parish Dinner is Sunday, November 2nd- serving from 10:30am-1:30pm. Workers who agreed to help in the kitchen on Saturday, Nov. 1st for our Turkey Dinner will begin at 8am. Items are needed for the Country Store. Parish families are asked to bring 2 pies, and kitchen help to bring 1 cake.

St. Anne's Sodality Meeting & Birthright Baby Shower is Thursday, November 6th. Rosary at 6:00pm, followed by the meeting and refreshments at 6:15pm. Refreshment Committee: Dorothy Deason, Amanda Glastetter, Tammy Cureton and Rhonda Carroll. A donation tote will be in the back of church for those who wish to contribute to Birthright. Your kindness and support are deeply appreciated.