

In a world of social media and apps, we expect things to happen quickly- if not instantly. If we log in on Facebook, we expect everything to be lightning fast. If we order something from Amazon, if it isn't here tomorrow, it's late. If we text someone, we expect the reply to be instantaneous! We like things to happen quickly- if not instantly.

The season of Advent is not a season that fits in this mold. It is a season that invites us to wait. To wait to put the tree up. To wait to turn the lights on. To wait to experience the Joy of the Christmas Masses and gatherings that we go to. Yet, today, we tend to put all of these things up front, so that by the time Christmas does arrive, we are burned out on it and just simply get back on with life. Yet, that is not what the season of Advent is for. It is not "Christmas lite." It is the season where we scrub our hearts and souls to prepare to receive the joy of Christ's birth well. We should celebrate by going to confession, and reading sacred scripture, and going to Mass even more often than normal. We shouldn't just be fighting with inflatable lawn ornaments during these four weeks- but rather preparing so that we celebrate not just a season of good feelings and nostalgia- but a season that provides us new hope.

This year, don't let the Season of Advent pass by, and then Christmas come to find a bunch of burned-out hearts. Prepare well and truly wait for the coming of Christ. It may not be instant or lightning-fast, but if we prepare in this way, we will be ready for Him not just this year, but also when He comes for us to see if we are ready to enter into the eternal Kingdom- and the eternal Christmastime.

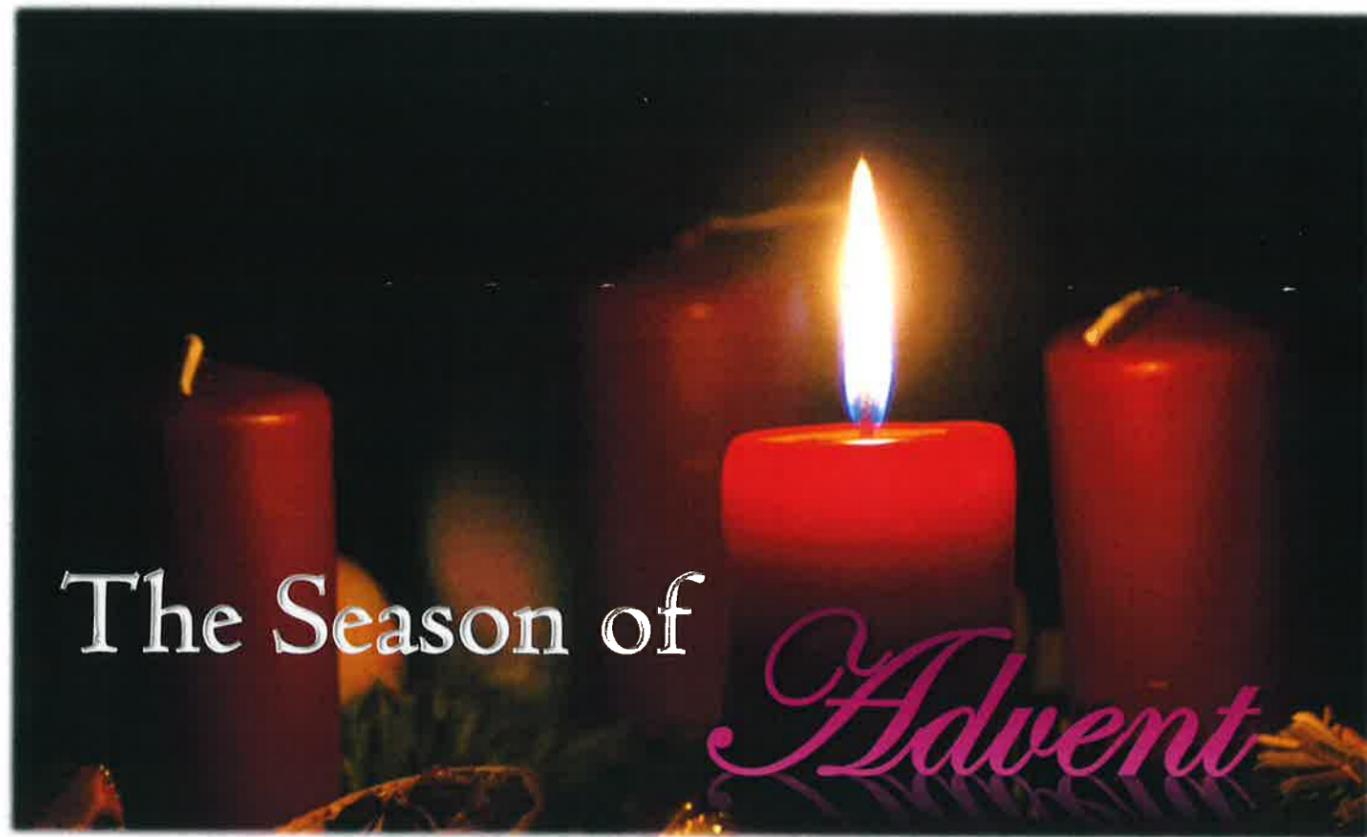
-Fr. Belken

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St. Denis & St. Lawrence

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



<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.	2	Adoration 7-9pm
Wed.	3-8am	Justin Mosby
Thurs.	4-8am	Leo Fuller
Fri.	5-8am	Iona Welter
Sat.	6-6:30am	Vince Hulshof
Sun.	7-7am	Felix Enderle
Sun.	7-10am	St. Denis Parish Family

LITURGICAL ROLES

Sunday December 7, 7:00am

Lector:	John Felter
EM:	John Felter
Servers:	Tyson Gosche, Payton & Rylan Simmons
Greet \ Gifts:	John Felter, Volunteer

Sunday December 7, 10:00am

Lector:	Bobby Burger
EM:	Bobby Burger
Servers:	Tate Shively, Danile King, Emmalyn Care
Greet \ Gifts:	Wil & Jessica O'Guin

Parish Stewardship

The Week of November 23, 2025

Envelopes:	\$3,431.00
Loose:	\$327.00
Total Collection:	\$3,758.00
Weekly Est .Budget	\$5,009.00
Difference:	\$-1,251.00

COMMITTEES AND MISCELLANEOUS ASSIGNMENTS

ST. DENIS PARISH

Church cleaning for Saturday, December 6,
Bob & Margie Stull, Stan & Shirley Essner
Church Decorating Committee for the month of
December: Sandy Glaser

ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

Friday, December 5, Church Cleaning:
Chairman: Mike & Darlene Dirnberger
Nathan & Kara Dirnberger, Rodney & Carri Dock,
Stephen & Erin Drake

SAINT LAWRENCE PARISH

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Tues.	2-6pm	Patrick Shelton
Wed.	3-7am	Felix Enderle
Thurs.	4-7am	Jeanne Essner
Fri.	5-7am	Leonard Kluesner
Sat.	6-4pm	Parish Family
Sun.	7-8:30am	Pat Schott

LITURGICAL ROLES

Saturday December 6, 4:00pm

Lector \ EM:	Dorothy Deason
Musician:	Cheryl Kern
Cantor:	Jamie Essner
Gifts:	Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Essner
Servers:	Bennett Essner, Isabel Crook, Wyatt Farrow
Ushers:	Doug Johnson, Billy Johnson, Zakery Johnson, Richard Johnson

Sunday December 7, 8:30am

Lector / EM:	Gary Reischman
Musician:	Cheryl Kern
Cantor:	Mary B. Glastetter
Gifts:	Mr. & Mrs. Dustin Essner
Srvcers:	Oliver & Leelyn Walter, Charleigh & Vanellope DeShaney
Ushers:	Aloysius Kern, Bill Kern, Chris Kern, David Kern

Parish Stewardship

The Week of November 23, 2025

Envelopes:	\$4,293.00
Loose:	\$267.00
Online:	\$250.00
Total Collection:	\$4,810.00

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

2nd Sunday of Advent
December 7, 2025
Isaiah 11:1-10
Romans 15:4-9
Matthew 3:1-12

ST. DENIS ANNOUNCEMENTS

MASS INTENTIONS

Due to the number of intentions currently on file, St. Denis cannot open the schedule for new Mass Intentions until July of 2026. If there is a desire to schedule an intention in the very near future, we have options available in the Diocese. Please call the parish office for more information!

Breakfast with Santa Sunday, December 7 10:00-12:30, St. Denis Parish Center. Pictures with Santa at no charge! Breakfast will be served, all for a free will DONATION!
Questions, call- LeShae Hann 573-579-6212



RORATE MASS- Join us for a special Advent Mass on December 6, 2025, at 6:30am at St. Denis as we celebrate Advent and honor Our Lady. This Mass is celebrated in candlelight and ends around dawn, showing us the light of the coming Messiah. Please join us for this rare opportunity!



ADVENT MISSION- On December 10, 2025, at 7pm in St. Denis Church, we will have a special night of Mission as we ask the question "Why the Wait" as Fr. Belken will break apart why we wait in Advent- and how that relates to the Mass. All are welcome!



Please Remember in Prayer
Asher Priggel, Mike Thompson



Both St. Lawrence & St. Denis will participate in the Scott County Christmas Church Tour this year on December 19, from 4:30-7:30pm. December 14 St. Lawrence will decorate after 8:30am Mass and St. Denis will decorate after 10am Mass. All help is greatly appreciated.

St. Denis Home & School's 26th annual "Winter Wonderland of Treasures" sale
Saturday, December 6th-8am-2pm in the Parish Center.

Admission is by Donation!

There will be more than 50 booths with vendors ... Concessions will be breakfast items, cinnamon rolls, chicken noodle soup, chili & more. **50/50 Drawing & Raffles**



ST. LAWRENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY: OUR LADY OF FATIMA VISITATION
November 30, Mary B. Glastetter
December 7, Terri Stuckey



**December 6, Family Christmas Party-
Happy Hour 5-6pm, Dinner 6pm.
December 7, Sweets with Santa-9:30-12:30**

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