

If you ever visit the location of the Lord's Nativity, there is an odd entrance door. While most other doors would be large and grand, this one is actually very small, and makes you stoop over to enter in. It's an odd thing- and when our tour guide explained why it made a lot of sense- you have to humble yourself to behold the mystery beyond this door properly. That, honestly, could be said of any of the mysteries that our faith has contained in it- we have to have humility to properly understand any of them at all.

Yet, notice, there are always a couple of flavors of humility that are possible- true humility and false humility. True humility is a virtue. It is putting ourselves in a proper place in reference to our Creator. We recognize how lowly we are, and yet how kindly we are treated and how much we are loved. It is a recognition that we do not deserve what we have, and yet we are given so much!

False humility on the other hand seeks to be "humble" for recognition. It is putting ourselves in places that make us appear lowly, but we are not in fact ready to "stoop" to enter the door of faith, but are doing it only to make ourselves appear better. What is the difference of the two? Who the humility makes us pay attention to- God or ourselves. If we pay attention to God because of our humility, we are on the right track.

May we thus always approach our Lord this way- willing to stoop down to enter the doors of faith to be closer to Him, and less full of ourselves.

-Fr. Belken

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St. Denis & St. Lawrence

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



St. Denis Parish	St. Lawrence Parish
<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>
St. Denis School	Sacraments
<p>105 N. Winchester Benton, MO 63736 Phone: 573-545-3017 Web: stdenisbenton.eduk12.net Email: lindsay@stdenisbenton.org</p> <p>Principal: Lindsay Wikle Parish & School Maintenance: Larry Essner 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	3	Adoration 7-9pm
Wed.	4-8am	Jewell Graham
Thu.	5- 8am	Eugene Fodge
Fri.	6-8am	No Mass
Sun.	8- 7am	Melvin Hamm
Sun.	8- 10am	Parish Family

LITURGICAL ROLES

Sunday February 8, 7:00am

Lector: Linda Urhahn
EM: Larry Urhahn
Servers: Brailey Ratledge, Eli Eftink, Daniel King
Greet \ Gifts: Bev Riley, Mary Ann Robert

Sunday February 8, 10:00am

Lector: Leonard Weber
EM: Leonard Weber
Servers: Jaxon & Ava Welter, Chloe Welter
Greet \ Gifts: John Welter Family

Parish Stewardship

Tithing Report will be posted next week.

Envelopes:	\$.00
Loose:	\$.00
Total Collection:	\$.00
Weekly Est .Budget	\$5,009.00
Difference:	

COMMITTEES AND MISCELLANEOUS ASSIGNMENTS

ST. DENIS PARISH

Church Cleaning for Saturday, February 7: Lila Seiler, Sherry Burger, Taryn Lovett, Mary Young
 Decorating Committee for January:
 Lisa Neumeyer

ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

Church Cleaning for Friday, February 6:
 Chairman: Steve & Denitra Holman
 Jamie Belville, Derrick & Rosemary Irwin,
 Brian and Emily James

SAINT LAWRENCE PARISH

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Tues.	3- 6pm	Ralph & Margie Klipfel
Wed.	4- 7am	Alfred Kluesner
Thurs	5- 7am	Vocations
Fri.	6-7am	Lorena Beussink
Sat.	7-4pm	Gerard Essner
Sun.	8-8:30am	Parish Family

LITURGICAL ROLES

Saturday February 7, 4:00pm

Lector \ EM: Gary Reischman
Musician: Linda Essner
Cantor: Jamie Essner
Gifts: Mr. & Mrs. Steve Griffith
Servers: Tucker & Saylor Dirnberger, Colin Felter
Ushers: Volunteers

Sunday February 8, 8:30am

Lector / EM: Shannon Schumer
Musician: Linda Essner
Cantor: Volunteer
Gifts: Mr. & Mrs. Green
Servers: Drew, Kinsey & Ty Essner, Eli Holman
Ushers: Volunteers

Parish Stewardship

Tithing Report will be posted next week.

Envelopes:	\$.00
Loose:	\$.00
Online:	\$.00
Total Collection:	\$.00

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 8, 2026
Is 58:7-10
1-Cor 2: 1-5
Mt 5:1-13-16

ST. DENIS ANNOUNCEMENTS



MO-Scholars applications close on April 2nd, visit brightfuturesfund.org/springfield-cape-girardeau to apply for a scholarship to St. Denis Catholic School! Call or email Mrs. Wikle with any questions!

St Denis Men's Breakfast

Sunday February 8, 7:30-11:30 AM

All you can EAT

Good Will Donation

Homemade Pork Sausage, Ham, Eggs, Biscuits & Gravy & Fruit Salad

"Thank you to all families of Circle 3 who helped clean church in January. We truly appreciate your support. Bev and Diane "

There will be No First Saturday Mass this coming week, as Fr. Belken will be across the Diocese assisting the Bishop.



Please Remember in Prayer: Ronnie Burford, Jasmine Elkins, Kristin Horn & Baby Violet, Amy Proctor, Diane Urhahn



ST. LAWRENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY: OUR LADY OF FATIMA VISITATION

February 1-Dorothy Deason
 February 8-Margaret Heuring

St. Anne's Sodality: The next meeting will be Thursday, February 5. Our Rosary will be at 6:00pm and meeting at 6:15pm. Refreshment Committee: Chairperson Glenda Enderle, Rhonda Enderle, Carolyn Enderle, Carla Essner and Amy Essner

St. Lawrence Brown Bag Fundraiser

Mark your calendar for the St. Lawrence Brown Bag Fundraiser on **Sunday, March 1st**. **Pre-order by Feb. 15th**. Pick up time on March 1st is **10:30am to Noon**. Price is **\$15.00**. Pay at time of pick up. Cash or check accepted only! 12 oz. Chicken and Dumplings, Slaw, Green Beans, Roll and Cookie. When ordering, please include your name, contact phone number and the number of carry outs needed. You can Email: karaking43@hotmail.com respond on St. Anne's Sodality Facebook page, drop off form at Parish Office or give to parishioner to order!

SCAN HERE FOR TICKETS!

DINNER AUCTION
ST. DENIS IS OUT OF THIS WORLD

MARCH 7th, 2026
 TICKETS GO ON SALE FEB 7 @9AM ONLINE
 AVAILABLE IN PERSON AT MEN'S BREAKFAST FEB 8

FUN GAMES!
RAFFLES!
SWEET TREATS AUCTION

SILENT AUCTION!!
ORAL AUCTION YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!

Please bring in any old palms to be burned by Fr. Belken to use for Ash Wednesday. Baskets will be in the foyer at St. Denis and St. Lawrence.

Christmas Decorations: Sunday February 1, St. Lawrence will take down Christmas decorations after 8:30am Mass, and St. Denis will take down Christmas Decorations after 10am Mass. We would appreciate all available help!