

The phrase "Got a light" is likely seen as one of a bygone era, and yet it was pervasive in films and tv shows, and even in just casual conversations. I first encountered the phrase in Hogan's Heroes, and then in other places, and yet what I found, was that no matter where it was the end intention was always the same: it was someone who wanted help, even in a very small way.

We've just come through the end of the modern Christmas Season, and of course this season is filled with a great deal of "light" imagery. Whether it is the star, the Christ child, or the gentle glow of a dimly-lit manger, there is a ton of light to be seen. The Gospel this weekend provides a transition, in conjunction with the First Reading, into this season of Ordinary Time. The "light to all nations" is the Christ, who was seen to have the Spirit descend upon in the likeness of a dove. He is a tremendous source of light- and that is made clear through these readings.

Yet, there is a plea that is implied in these readings as well- not that we simply see the light and turn back into the cold of winter, with hearts indifferent or even colder than before. We are to be light-bearers to the world. That might seem abstract, but there are plenty of ways we can bear light. When everyone else speaks negatively- speak the light and the hope of Christ. When others tend to tear down- build up. When others may be lazy or have given up- be the one that presses on towards the goal.

Though the phrase may not seem all that common, there are still many asking "Got a light?" in one way or another. The underlying question that remains I leave for your prayer: do you have the light (of Christ) to help others?

-Fr. Belken

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St. Denis & St. Lawrence

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

SAINT DENIS PARISH

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Tues	20	Adoration 7-9pm
Wed.	21-8am	Catherine Young
Thu.	22- 8am	Joe Carlisle
Fri.	23-8am	Vernon & Janet Vetter
Sun.	25- 7am	Ervin & Bertha Dumey
Sun.	25- 10am	Parish Family

LITURGICAL ROLES

Sunday January 25, 7:00am

Lector: Tim LeGrand
 EM: Elaine Proctor
 Servers: Jaxon Welter, Ava Welter, Tennyson White
 Greet \ Gifts: Tim & Christy LeGrand

Sunday January 25, 10:00am

Lector: St. Denis Students
 EM: St. Denis Staff
 Servers: River Collom, Tyson Gosche, Levi Newton, Nova Wikle
 Greet \ Gifts: St. Denis School

Parish Stewardship

The Week of January 11, 2026

Envelopes:	\$5,689.00
Loose:	\$385.00
Total Collection:	\$6,074.00
Weekly Est .Budget	\$5,009.00
Difference:	+\$1,065.00

COMMITTEES AND MISCELLANEOUS ASSIGNMENTS

ST. DENIS PARISH

Church Cleaning for Saturday, January 24:
 Christian & Guy Williams, Jean Glastetter,
 Darin & Laura Halter, Jill & Mark Klipfel
 Decorating Committee for January:
 Maryiln Schlosser

ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

Church Cleaning for Friday, January 23:
 Chairman: Patty Halter
 Kenny & JoAnn Heisserer, Richard & Lana Green,
 Ralph & Debbie Heisserer

SAINT LAWRENCE PARISH

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Tues.	20- 6pm	Patrick Shelton
Wed.	21- 7am	Jerry & Carol Dirnberger
Thurs.	22- 7am	Margaret Klipfel
Fri.	23-7am	NO MASS
Sat.	24-4pm	Andrew Essner
Sun.	25-8:30am	Parish Family

LITURGICAL ROLES

Saturday January 24, 4:00pm

Lector \ EM: Cindy Glueck
 Musician: Bernice Kern
 Cantor: Kari Bickings
 Gifts: Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Glastetter
 Servers: Drew & Luke Benson, Bennett Essner
 Ushers: Volunteers

Sunday January 25, 8:30am

Lector / EM: Sally O'Brien
 Musician: Bernice Kern
 Cantor: Mary B Glastetter
 Gifts: Mr. & Mrs. Richard Green
 Servers: Mila Burger, Berkley Dirnberger, Eli Holman, Rocky Burger
 Ushers: Volunteers

Parish Stewardship

The Week of January 11, 2026

Envelopes:	\$2,823.00
Loose:	\$124.00
Online:	\$310.00
Total Collection:	\$3,257.00

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 25, 2026

Is 8: 23-9:3

1-Cor 1:10-13

Matt 4:12-23

ST. DENIS ANNOUNCEMENTS



Catholic Schools Week Breakfast is Sunday January 25th from 7-11:30am for your "good will donation."
MO-Scholars applications are open, visit brightfuturesfund.org/springfield-cape-girardeau to apply for a scholarship to St. Denis Catholic School! Call or email Mrs. Wikle with any questions!

Ladies' Meeting Wed. January 21, 6pm
Men's Meeting **Schedule Change to Wed. January 21, 6:30pm**

Confirmation Retreat-January 23-24, 2026. Arrival: Jan. 23 at 8pm. Pickup: Jan. 24 at 11am. Please remember, this is **mandatory! For questions, reach out to Fr. Belken at 573-545-3864 or frbelken@stdenisbenton.org.**



Please Remember in Prayer: Beckam Koepp, Carla Lynch, Anthony Scherer, Family of Joe Klueppel



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!

ALTAR SERVERS: If you are unable to fill your role at Mass, please find a substitute prior to Mass. Thank you for your help-Fr. Belken

ST. LAWRENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRO-LIFE PROCESSION. The St. Lawrence religion classes will sponsor a Pro-Life Rosary Procession, Sunday, January 18 after 8:30AM Mass, meet at the Parish Center. Dress warm, weather permitting, we will process outside. We invite parents, grandparents, and parishioners to join us to pray for the unborn. Senator Jamie Burger will be our guest to inform us about abortion legislative laws in Missouri. All are invited.

SUNDAY: OUR LADY OF FATIMA VISITATION
 January 18-Jill Pinkston
 January 25-Carol Klipfel

ST. LAWRENCE PARISHIONERS: PLEASE, PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN FRONT OF THE RECTORY GARAGE- AT ANY TIME!

THANK YOU: I want to thank each and everyone of you that has reached out, sent cards love and prayers. It truly means so much to me and my family. The love and support during this difficult time has been an incredible blessing. Your continued support is greatly appreciated! **Carolyn Ward**