

Shortly after the Exodus from Egypt, it's striking that the Israelites who should have been grateful are thrown into a temper tantrum of sorts. Instead of being thankful that the Lord has released them from captivity and their former way of life, they begin to complain. "Why did we have to leave Egypt? To come out here and die of thirst with our children and our livestock?!" Even Moses is becoming exasperated as he cries out to the Lord- "a little more and they will stone me!"

Imagine- the gall of people who had just been released from slavery to turn their backs on God, and to ask to be let to go back to that very place (where they were complaining against the terrible plight and persecutions they were enduring). They had become bitter- and the Lord was certainly going to provide for them- but they couldn't help but complain bitterly because they wanted things their way.

As members of our two parish communities, we too must be careful of this bitter vice- and be on guard lest it take over or start to poison our parishes and our communities. It is so easy to complain about so many things- whether inside the church, about members of the community, or even our own personal situation and the way the Lord has called us to go. Complaining is not compatible with charity and with patience, and can greatly hinder our parishes, our hearts, and even others around us. It ultimately drags us down and does not allow us to see the good things God is doing in our midst.

The Israelites might have complained- but we don't need to succumb to such a vice. Instead, practice gratitude and trust in the Lord and His providence for you.



St. Denis & St. Lawrence

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



~Fr. Belken

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<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: Mrs. Lisa Spalding, lisa@stdenisbenton.org Bookkeeper: Mrs. Marilyn Burford Parish Council President: Mr. Jeff Diebold</p>	<p>Office Manager: Mr. Billy Ray Johnson, billyray@stlnh.org Maintenance: Mr. Henry Beussink & Mr. Gerard Dirnberger Parish Council President: Mr. 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 Principal: Mrs. Lindsay Wikle Parish & School Maintenance: Mr. 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	10	Adoration 7:30-9pm
Wed.	11-8am	Louise Seiler
Thu.	12- 8am	Joe Stuckey
Fri.	13-8am	Marvin & Mary Margrabe
Sun.	15-7am	Louis & Anna Glastetter
Sun.	15-10am	Parish Family

LITURGICAL ROLES

Sunday March 15, 7:00am

Lector: Stacy Marshall
EM: Rita Milam
Servers: Payton & Rylan Simmons,
 Tyson Gosche
Greet\ Gifts: Brad & Rita Milam

Sunday March 15, 10:00am

Lector: Cheryl Essner
EM: Jamie Burger
Servers: Ethan Diebold, Jack Heuring,
 Tennyson White
Greet\ Gifts: Chance & Amy White

Parish Stewardship

March 1, 2026

Envelopes:	\$7,227.00
Loose:	\$270.25
Total Collection:	\$7,497.25
Weekly Est .Budget	\$5,009.00
Difference:	+\$2,488.25

ST. DENIS PARISH

Church Cleaning for Saturday, March 14:
 Melanie Diebold, Susan Care, Paul & Patsy Burger,
 Kerri Schaefer
 Decorating Committee-March: Beth Uelsmann

SAINT LAWRENCE PARISH

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Tues.	10- 6pm	Patrick Shelton
Wed.	11- 7am	Henry Heuring Jr.
Thurs	12- 7am	Charles Klueppel
Fri.	13-7am	Dick & Mary Jo Dirnberger
Sat.	14-4pm	Donna Bucher
Sun.	15-8:30am	Parish Family

LITURGICAL ROLES

Saturday March 14, 4:00pm

Lector \ EM: Jill Pinkston
Musician: Linda Essner
Cantor: Jamie Essner
Gifts: Mr. & Mrs. Norman Joe Heuring
Servers: Noah & Caleb Vetter,
 Bennett Essner

Sunday March 15, 8:30am

Lector / EM: Sally O'Brien
Musician: Linda Essner
Cantor: Mary B Glastetter
Gifts: Mr. & Mrs. Jared Holloway
Servers: Kynli & Leeland Duenne,
 Berkley Dirnberger

Parish Stewardship

March 1, 2026

Envelopes:	\$3,336.00
Loose:	\$169.00
Online:	\$765.00
Total Collection:	\$4,270.00

ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

Church Cleaning for Friday, March 13:
 Chairman: Norman & Dianna Kluesner
 William Kluesner, Kyle & Andrea Koepf,
 Timothy & Kristy Landewee

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY-MARCH 15, 2026

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a
 Ephesians 5:8-14
 John 9:1-41



ST. DENIS ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Denis Kindergarten & PreSchool

LET YOUR CHILD EXPLORE, CREATE, AND SHINE WITH US!

Limited seats available for next year!

- 5 Openings in Kindergarten
- 8 Openings in 4s
- 6 Openings in 3s
- 2s and Infants -waitlist
- Upper Grades Open for Tours and Enrollment!

Call or email to set up a personal tour of our revitalized campus!

573.545.3017

lindsay@stdenisbenton.org
donna@stdenisbenton.org

If you would like to remember someone at Easter, and help decorate church, please put an offering of \$12 in an envelope, write who the flowers are given in memory of, and who they are given by. One name per donation.

Parish Organization Meetings
Ladies' Sodality: Wed. March 18- 6 PM
Confirmation Class: Wed. March 18- 7PM
Men's Sodality: Wed. March 25- 6:30 PM

Please Remember in Prayer:

Family of Roger Glueck

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays of Lent, 1pm at St. Denis (with school), 7pm at St. Lawrence
 Confessions will follow immediately after the Stations at each parish.

LENTEN MISSION - "FULLY ALIVE"

Tuesdays of Lent at 7pm in St. Denis Church

Come join us during this Lent for very short sessions (<30 mins each) to receive encouragement on how to become more fully alive this Lent!
 Optional times of Adoration and Confessions follow until 9pm.

Reminder: All Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence- meaning that they are meatless. This is binding from all Catholics over the age of 14 years old!

ST. LAWRENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY: OUR LADY OF FATIMA VISITATION
 March 8-Pat Moore
 March 15-Mary F. Glastetter

St. Lawrence Daddy Daughter Dance

Saturday, March 28, 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM
St. Lawrence Parish Center
 Theme: Denim & Diamonds
Deadline: March 21-Cost: \$20 per person
Late Registration (after March 21):
 \$25 per person

For questions please contact **Ashley Lasters: 573-887-1383**
Ashley Dirnberger: 573-837-7763

Rabies Vaccination Clinic- Saturday, April 18- { \$15 shots} **11 AM-Noon**
 -New Hamburg ballpark pavilion behind old school
 -Dr. Brian Heuring and Cape Small Animal Clinic will administer the discounted pet vaccines. Debit/credit cards accepted as WiFi allows, cash, or checks please.

Thank you to everyone who helped in anyway with the Brown Bag Meal. Thanks to the workers, those who made donations to help with the expenses, donated cookies and washed the dish towels. **GREAT CREW!**