

From my youngest years, I've had a great fascination with tornadoes. They are terrifying. In a matter of seconds they can level a home, change a family's life forever, and yet there is something about their sheer power that has always filled me with awe. I certainly have a healthy respect for them, but despite the danger, the fascination has never really gone away. Oddly enough, today's Gospel helps explain why.

Jesus tells us, "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna." At first, those words can sound unsettling, but Jesus is really teaching us to put our fears in the proper order. We spend so much time worrying about the things that can harm us physically, while often giving far too little attention to the things that slowly destroy the life of grace within us. Does that mean we become reckless? Should I take up storm chasing on my days off? Well... probably not. Our lives are gifts from God, and we should care for them wisely. But what Jesus wants to free us from is the fear and anxiety that so often dominate our lives. One day, each of us will die. That much is certain. What should concern us even more is whether we are living in a way that leads us toward eternal life.

Pride. Bitterness. Lust. Dishonesty. Neglecting prayer. Treating Sunday Mass as optional. These are the storms that quietly damage the soul. Unlike a tornado, they often arrive without sirens or dramatic warning. Little by little they weaken our friendship with God until we no longer recognize how far we've drifted.

There are many things in this world that can frighten us—tornadoes included. But the greatest danger we face is not losing our house, our possessions, or even our earthly life. The greatest danger is allowing sin to separate us from Christ. When the storms of this life come—and they will—our greatest concern should not be whether they take away something that cannot last forever. Our greatest concern should always be whether we have kept our souls close to the One who does. That is the fear Jesus asks us to have: not a fear that leaves us anxious, but a reverent love that keeps us close to Him, trusting that no storm on earth can take away the eternal life He desires to give us.

~Fr. Belken

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
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"Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge."

-Matthew 10:25

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

## SAINT DENIS PARISH

### MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

|      |         |                            |
|------|---------|----------------------------|
| Tues | 23      | 7pm Adoration & Confession |
| Wed. | 24      | No Mass                    |
| Thu. | 25-8am  | Catherine Young            |
| Fri. | 26-8am  | Louise Seiler              |
| Sun. | 28-7am  | Clara LeGrand              |
| Sun. | 28-10am | Parish Family              |

### LITURGICAL ROLES

Sunday, June 28, 7:00am

Lector: Pam Dannenmueller  
EM: Pam Dannenmueller  
Servers: Alyssa Dannenmueller,  
Tyson Gosche, Jack Heuring  
Greet\ Gifts: Robert & Tutti Gosche

Sunday, June 28, 10:00am

Lector: Tim LeGrand  
EM: Larry Essner  
Servers: Ethan & Emma Diebold,  
Levi & Cheyenne Newton  
Greet\ Gifts: Tim & Christy LeGrand

### Parish Stewardship

Week of June 7th

Envelopes: \$4,295.00  
Loose: \$193.00  
Total Collection: \$4,488.00  
Weekly Est .Budget \$5,009.00  
Difference: -\$521.00

### ST. DENIS PARISH

Church Cleaning for Saturday June 27:  
Tutti Gosche, Crissy Campbell, Justine Hulshof,  
Kaelyn Urhahn  
Decorating Committee-June: LaDonna Gregory

Reminder: The St. Denis Parish Office  
hours have changed. The office is open  
8:30am-4:00pm Tues. & Wed. and 8:30am-  
12:00pm on Friday. Thank you!

## SAINT LAWRENCE PARISH

### MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

|       |           |                                         |
|-------|-----------|-----------------------------------------|
| Mon.  | 22-10:45a | End to Persecution                      |
| Tues. | 23-10:45a | Melvin Glastetter                       |
| Wed.  | 24-10:45a | David Dirnberger                        |
| Thurs | 25-10:45a | Alex Jr. & Vera Burger                  |
| Fri   | 26-10:45a | Liv & Decd Members Tim<br>Essner Family |
| Sat.  | 27-4pm    | Don & Dennis Gosche                     |
| Sun.  | 28-8:30am | Parish Family                           |

### LITURGICAL ROLES

Saturday, June 27, 4:00pm

Lector / EM: Gary Reischman  
Musician: Krista Kluesner  
Cantor: Krista Kluesner  
Servers: Luke & Drew Benson, Mila Burger

Sunday, June 28, 8:30am

Lector / EM: Diane Ashcraft  
Musician: Krista Kluesner  
Cantor: Krista Kluesner  
Servers: Vanellope DeShaney, Wyall  
Farrow, Noah & Caleb Vetter

### Parish Stewardship

Week of June 14th

Envelopes: \$4,008.00  
Loose: \$153.00  
Online: \$240.00  
Total Collection: \$4,401.00

### ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

Church Cleaning for Friday, June 26:  
Chairman: Jim & Lynn Dennis  
Daryl Dirnberger, Dorothy Dirnberger,  
Dirk & Ashley Dirnberger

### READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

June 28th

The 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time  
2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a  
Rom 6:3-4, 8-11  
Mt 10:37-42

## ST. DENIS ANNOUNCEMENTS

**American Red Cross Blood Drive**  
**ST. DENIS PARISH CENTER Monday June**  
**22, 2-6 PM**  
Call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit  
RedCrossBlood.org and enter  
StDenisChurchBenton to schedule an  
appointment.

**Flower Bed Committee Schedule**  
Week of June 21 & June 28: Sharon  
Hennemann, John & Diane Urhahn

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**  
Linda Bunselmeyer  
Mike Thompson  
Family of baby Hank Freed

**SAINT DENIS SCHOOL** received the  
Mancuso Grant for Catholic Schools-  
allowing them to purchase Hallow for use by  
our school family! Congratulations!

*Happy Father's Day to all of our fathers, both here and who have  
gone before us! May St. Joseph bless you in your vocation!*

Do you know someone who wants to know more about being Catholic or would like to join the Catholic Faith? Our  
Introduction Session of OCIA will be Sunday, September 13, at 5:00pm in the SDS cafeteria. Please join us!

### Diocesan Development Fund St. Denis-Week 6

To Date our parish has given **\$17,495.00**  
towards our **\$47,544** goal. Thank You! If  
you have not yet made your pledge, please  
add your gift, whatever the amount, in  
unity with those who have already given by  
returning a pledge card today.

## ST. LAWRENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY: OUR LADY OF FATIMA VISITATION  
June 21 -Carol Klipfel  
June 28-Dorothy Deason

**TOTUS TUUS** is this week! Please welcome the  
four missionaries from the Diocesan Youth Office  
who will be with us! Grades 1-6 meet 8:30am-  
2pm, Monday-Friday. Grades 7-12 meet 7-  
9pm, Sunday-Thursday. Donations of cookies are  
appreciated. There is still time to SIGN-UP!

*Congratulations to Jamie & Emily  
Essner who celebrated 25 years of  
marriage on June 9<sup>th</sup>!*

**SERVER TRAINING:** Calling all 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade + students  
from St. Denis and St. Lawrence! If you've ever  
wanted to serve at Mass, join us at St. Lawrence  
Church on June 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm for training!  
Experienced servers also welcome to re-train!

### Diocesan Development Fund St. Lawrence-Week 6

To Date our parish has given **\$16,110.00**  
towards our **\$25,045** goal. Thank You! If  
you have not yet made your pledge, please  
add your gift, whatever the amount, in  
unity with those who have already given by  
returning a pledge card today.

**DIOCESAN EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS:** Please plan to join us at the Diocesan Eucharistic Congress in  
West Plains, MO on August 15<sup>th</sup>, as we celebrate Eucharistic Renewal as a diocese. For more  
information, please see the flyers and posters that are in the back of both of our parishes. Bus  
transportation will be provided for \$65.00 per person if you choose not to drive. Reserve a seat on the  
bus from Guardian Angel parking lot in Oran at 5:30 am and returning approximately at 10:00 pm on  
Saturday, August 15 for the one-day event. Contact Doris Eftink 573-380-5119.