

When I was a freshman and sophomore in college, I took classes at Saint Louis University in addition to my classes at the seminary. It was an odd experience, because not only did I have a different major from many of the other college students, but I dressed differently and even acted a bit differently too. The purpose was intentional—we were set apart to do different work, and everything about us bore testimony to that. St. Paul's Letter to the Romans gives us an important reminder of that very same point: "Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect" (Romans 12:2).

It is a line that sounds nice—but what does it mean in practice? It means that we, as Christians, have a duty not just to exist in this world, but to exist differently. We cannot simply look the same, act the same, and live the same as everyone else in most respects. We are called to be a people set apart for God—and for His will for us. That means that what we watch, what we listen to, what websites we visit, what apps we use, where we spend our free time, and even what interests occupy us should never lead others astray. Instead, our choices should help others recognize something about us: we are Christians, and we live like it too.

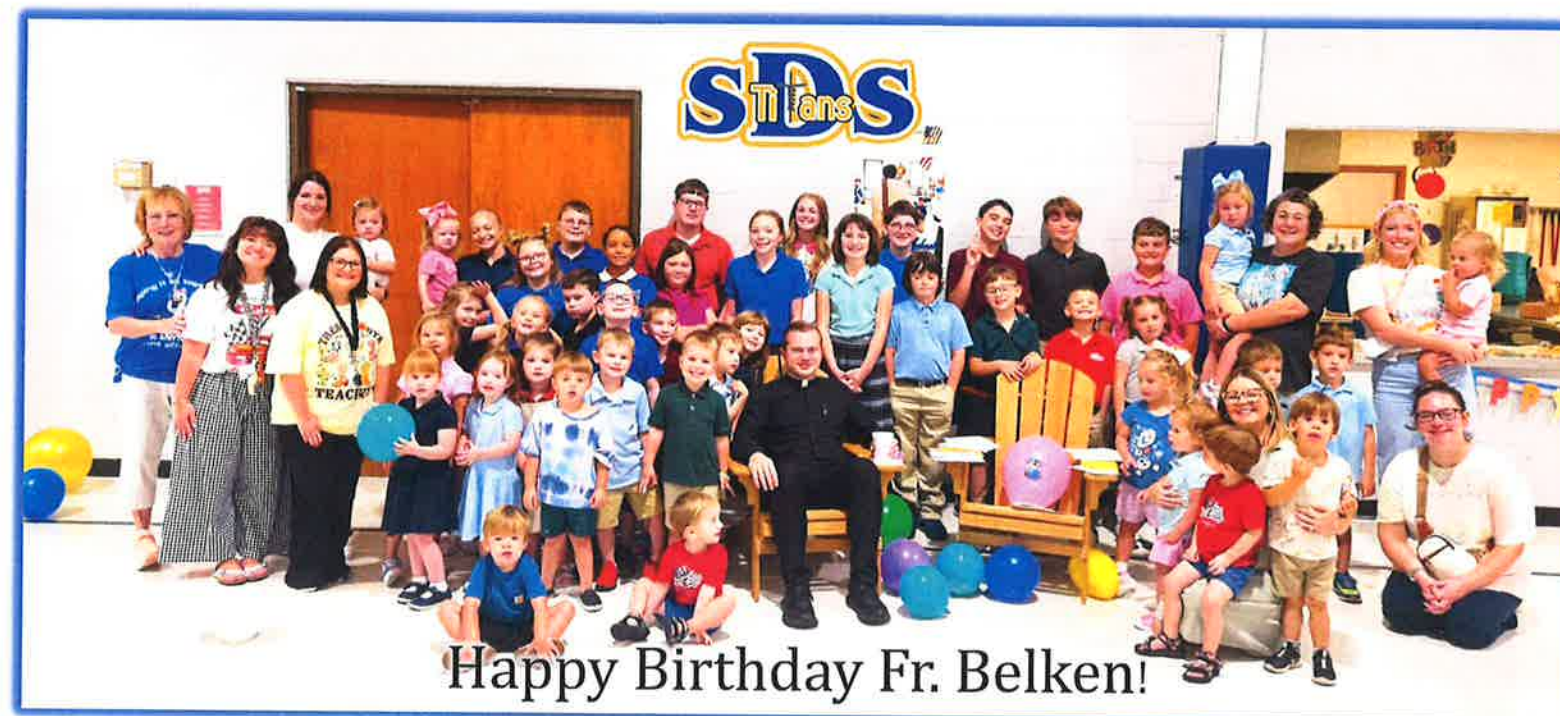
Seminarians aren't the only ones who are supposed to be different from everyone else. All of us are called to be set apart—not merely by what we say we believe, but by the way we live. *-Fr. Belken*

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St. Denis & St. Lawrence

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



Welcome Back, St. Denis School!

St. Denis Parish	St. Lawrence Parish
135 N. Winchester, Benton, MO 63736 PO Box 127, Benton, MO 63736 Phone: 573-545-3864 Web: www.stdenisbenton.org	1001 State Highway A, New Hamburg, MO PO Box 247, Benton, MO 63736 Phone: 573-545-3317 Web: www.stlnh.org
Pastor: Rev. Daniel Belken	
Office Manager: Mrs. Lisa Spalding, lisa@stdenisbenton.org Bookkeeper: Mrs. Marilyn Burford Parish Council President: Mr. Jeff Diebold	Office Manager: Mr. Billy Ray Johnson, billyray@stlnh.org Maintenance: Mr. Henry Beussink & Mr. Gerard Dirnberger Parish Council President: Mr. Gary Reischman
St. Denis School	Sacraments
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	Saint Denis Mass: Sunday at 7:00am and 10:00am Wednesday-Friday at 8:00am Confessions: Tuesday @ 7:00pm or by appt. 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.

SAINT DENIS PARISH

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Tues	1-7pm	Adoration & Confessions
Wed.	2-8am	Charles Klueppel
Thu.	3-8am	Mary Lou Welter
Fri.	4-8am	Mary Alice Schweer
Sun.	6-7am	John Felter
Sun.	6-10am	Parish Family

LITURGICAL ROLES

Sunday, September 6, 7:00am

Lector: Anthony Scherer
EM: Elaine Proctor
Servers: Tyson Gosche, Eli Eftink, Nova Wikle
Greet\ Gifts: Greg & Denise Menz

Sunday, September 6, 10:00am

Lector: Rhonda Ratledge
EM: Jim Simmons
Servers: Brailey Ratledge, Payton & Rylan Simmons, Daniel King
Greet\ Gifts: David & Rhonda Ratledge

Parish Stewardship Week of August 23rd

Envelopes: \$5,267.00
Loose: \$315.00
Total Collection: \$5,285.00
Weekly Est .Budget \$5,009.00
Difference: \$276.00

ST. DENIS PARISH

Church Cleaning for Friday, September 4: Denise Shelton, Elaine Proctor, Michelle (Bruce) Scherer
 Church Decorating for September: Lisa Spalding
 Flower Bed Committee: August 30 & September 6: Greg & Denise Menz

BLESSING FOR PREGNANT MOTHERS

Are you or someone you know pregnant? Please be sure to let Fr. Belken know, as there is a special blessing for mother, and for the infant and his or her safe delivery!

SAINT LAWRENCE PARISH

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Tues.	1-6pm	Dennis Heuring
Wed.	2-7am	Melvin Glastetter
Thurs.	3-7am	No Mass
Fri.	4-7am	No Mass
Sat.	5-4pm	Donna Bucher
Sun.	6-8:30am	Parish Family

LITURGICAL ROLES

Saturday, September 5, 4:00pm

Lector / EM: Jill Pinkston
Musician: Linda Essner
Cantor: Mary B Glastetter
Servers: Wyatt Farrow, Eli Holman, Abel Duncan

Sunday, September 6, 8:30am

Lector / EM: Dorothy Deason
Musician: Linda Essner
Cantor: Kari Bickings
Servers: Drew, Kinsey & Ty Essner, Owen Asmus

Parish Stewardship Week of August 23rd

Envelopes: \$1,792.00
Loose: \$285.00
Online: \$290.00
Total Collection: \$2,367.00

ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

Church Cleaning for Friday, Sept. 4 :
 Chairman: Brian & Lauren Heuring
 Scott Heisserer, Shawn Heisserer, Dean & Leonna Heuring, Jon Heuring

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

September 6th, 2026
 The 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time
 Ezekiel 33:7-9
 Romans 13: 8-10
 Matthew 18: 15-30

ST. DENIS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parish Meetings September 10th
 School Board-5:30pm
 Finance Council-6:30pm
 Parish Pastoral Council-7:30pm

Mass Intentions for St. Denis will be accepted starting Tuesday, September 15th for the months of October, November & December 2026, as well as the entire year of 2027. Please contact the parish office to schedule a Mass.

Thank you for your prayers for **Lee Helton**. He is home, will have further testing as he continues his recovery.

SAVE THE DATE SEPTEMBER 18th, 2026!
 One of our schools' biggest fundraisers, *The 12th Annual Paul Stuckey Scramble* will be here soon! Get your team ready! Contact Natalie Eftink at 573-887-1317 to register. Flyers are in the foyer of Church!

Diocesan Development Fund St. Denis-Week 15

To Date our parish has given **\$33,590.00** 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.

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY Conference WEEKEND September 12-13 at Campus Ministry, SEMO, Cape. Rediscover the Human Person through the teachings of St. John Paul II. SEMO Students are free!
 Please scan the QR Code to register. →

REMINDER: If you have a loved one who is homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion, please contact the parish office as soon as possible.

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!

ST. LAWRENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY: OUR LADY OF FATIMA VISITATION
 August 30-Jill Pinkston
 September 6-Carol Klipfel



KINDERGARTEN RELIGION SIGN-UPS

Sign-Up sheet is in the back of church for kindergarten religion class this coming year. If your child will be in kindergarten and will attend religion classes, please sign them up. Thank You.

PSR Teachers Meeting Wednesday, September 2 at 6pm in the Parish Center meeting room.

St. Anne's Sodality Meeting: Thursday, September 24, at 6pm in the Parish Center meeting room.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER
 BECKAM KOEPP, KATHLEN NALL

Diocesan Development Fund St. Lawrence-Week 15

To Date our parish has given **\$21,990.00** 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.

