THE TWELFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME • JUNE 21, 2026

St. Denis & St. Lawrence

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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: lindsy@stdenisbenton.org Principal: Mrs. Lindsy 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	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 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, Wyatt Farrow, Noah & Caleb Vetter

Parish Stewardship

Week of June 14th

Envelopes:	$4,008.00
Loose:	$153.00
Online:	$240.00
Total Collection:	$4,40100

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 13th 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!

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 9th!

SERVER TRAINING: Calling all 3rd 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 25th at 6:00pm for training! Experienced servers also welcome to re-train!

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.

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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 15th, 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.

The Pastor's Pen

Tornadoes and Temptations

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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