THE THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME • NOVEMBER 8, 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	10~7pm	Adoration & Confessions
Wed.	11~8am	Paul & Bert Essner
Thu.	12~8am	Melvin Hamm
Fri.	13~8am	Danny Dumey
Sun.	15~7am	Mary Alice Schweer
Sun.	15~10am	Parish Family

Liturgical Roles

Sunday, November 15, 7:00am

Lector:	Kay Elkins
EM:	Kay Elkins
Servers:	Nova Wikle, River Collom, Ella Mack
Greet\ Gifts:	Greg & Denise Menz

Sunday, November 15, 10:00am

Lector:	Leonard Weber
EM:	Leonard Weber
Servers:	Gabriel, Roslen & Vivian Mack
Greet\ Gifts:	Chance & Amy white

Parish Stewardship Week of November 1st

Envelopes:	$6,236.00
Loose:	$331.00
Total Collection:	$6,567.00
Weekly Est .Budget	$5,009.00
Difference:	$1,558.00

St. Denis Parish

Church Cleaning – Saturday November 14: Michelle Scherer, Connie Thorne, Linda Wade, Sharon Hennemann

Church Decorating – November: Shirley Essner

Readings for Next Sunday

November 15th, 2026

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Proverbs 31: 10~13, 19~20, 30~31

1 Thessalonians 5:1~6

Matthew 25: 14~30

Saint Lawrence Parish

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Tues.	10~6pm	Earl & Henrietta Dirnberger
Wed.	11~7am	Jerry & Carol Dirnberger
Thurs.	12	St. Denis~8am
Fri.	13	St. Denis~8am
Sat.	14~4pm	Donna Bucher
Sun.	15~8:30am	Parish Family

Liturgical Roles

Saturday, November 14, 4:00pm

Lector / EM:	Gwen Essner
Musician:	Linda Essner
Cantor:	Mary B Glastetter
Servers:	Drew & Luke Benson, Vanellope DeShaney

Sunday, November 15, 8:30am

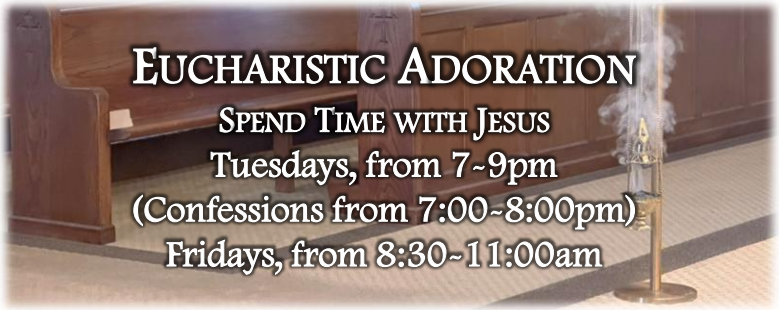
Lector / EM:	Sally O'Brien
Musician:	Linda Essner
Cantor:	Kari Bickings
Servers:	Leigha & Tucker Estes, Able Duncan, Kinley Lasters

Parish Stewardship Week of November 1st

Envelopes:	$2,472.00
Loose:	$216.00
Online:	$780.00
Total Collection:	$3,468.00

St. Lawrence Parish

Church Cleaning for Friday, November 13:
Chairman: Greg & Rhonda Riley
Marilyn Schlosser, Shannon & Crystal Schumer, Mike & Linda Senciboy



St. Denis Announcements

Please join us at St. Denis School on November 11th at 8:45 for a special Veteran's Prayer service led by our students! Coffee and donuts be provided!



3rd Annual SDS RUMMAGE SALE!
Now accepting donations! No Clothing Donations! Come shop 7am-2pm November 14th & 15th. For questions, call St. Denis School, 573-545-3017.

Parish Committee Meetings
November 12, 2026

School Board~5:30 PM
Parish Pastoral Council~6:30 PM
Finance Council~7:30PM

November 1, 2026

Ladies' Sodality~6 PM, Men's Sodality~6:30 PM

St. Lawrence Announcements

SUNDAY: OUR LADY OF FATIMA VISITATION
November 8~Theresa Essner
November 15~Jill Pinkston



THANK YOU: Thanks to anyone who helped in anyway with the Fall Turkey Dinner. Your help was greatly appreciated. Good food, Good workers. God Bless you all. ~Carol & Pat
MISSING: We have several items missing from the parish center kitchen. If you have borrowed anything, please return it. Thanks.

Remembrance Mass this Sunday,
5PM at St. Lawrence for both parishes. Potluck meal following



Please Remember in Prayer
John Buell, Mary Buell,
Beckam Koepp

If you would like to help our food pantry (Jesus In Disguise) to provide a Thanksgiving meal to our clients, please place a $25 check in an envelope marked Jesus in Disguise. You may drop your donation in the collection basket or by the Parish Office.

Christmas Service Project "The Angel Tree" information is in the foyer of both St. Denis and St. Lawrence. Please keep your hearts open for the beginning of this Christmas season for giving. For questions contact Laura Essner~ 573~225~4825, or Valerie Dirnberger~ 573~270~3836.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS: The 27th Annual St Denis Winter Wonderland Craft Show is Saturday 12~5~26, 9am~ 3pm, admission by donation. If you would like to donate an item or make a monetary donation for items needed for concessions, the sign~up sheet will be in the back of church starting this Sunday. Please note, there will not be a sweet treats table this year. Sweet treats vendors and more savory treats vendors will be there. However, we are looking for some bakers to make pies to sell by the slice for concessions. If interested, Crystal Gosche, 573~264~1217, call or text. Thank you.

Diocesan Development Fund
St. Denis

To Date our parish has given **$38,200.00** towards our **$47,544** goal. Thank You! If you have not yet made your pledge, please add your gift, whatever the amount, by returning a pledge card today.

Diocesan Development Fund
St. Lawrence

To date our parish has given **$24,215.00** towards our **$25,045** goal. Thank You! If you have not yet made your pledge, please add your gift, whatever the amount, by returning a pledge card today.

UNPREDICTABLE LIGHTNING

Just like so many here in southern Missouri, I love watching thunderstorms roll in, unleash their fury, and then roll off into the distance. There is something remarkable about watching nature's power on full display, even if it can be slightly terrifying! We can predict the possibility of thunderstorms, and even anticipate where they might develop, but we cannot know precisely where lightning will strike or what damage a storm might bring. There is something humbling about witnessing a power that is so far beyond our control. In this weekend's Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the ten virgins, five of whom are foolish and five of whom are wise. But what exactly distinguishes the wise from the foolish? It isn't that the wise virgins knew when the bridegroom would arrive. They didn't! Rather, the difference was in how they prepared for his coming. The foolish virgins acted as though they could count on having enough time, while the wise recognized that his arrival was certain, even if its timing was not. They prepared accordingly. For us, this parable offers an important reminder about the coming of Christ, whether at the end of our own earthly lives or at the end of time. We know that this moment will come, but we do not know when. Some days it might feel as though it could happen at any moment, while other days it seems so distant that we hardly give it a thought. Yet the question remains: **Are we preparing ourselves for that moment?** Are we storing up the oil of good works, living lives of charity and faithfulness? Are we regularly examining our consciences and seeking God's mercy in the Sacrament of Confession, especially when we have fallen into sin? Are we living each day in a way that reflects our desire to be with Christ when He comes? The foolish virgins made the mistake of assuming they would have time to prepare later. The wise knew that preparation could not be postponed indefinitely. And therein lies the challenge for each of us: we cannot predict when the Bridegroom will come. We only know that He will. In some ways, it is just like watching a thunderstorm. We cannot know precisely when or where the next bolt of lightning will strike. But we can certainly prepare for the storm. The question is not whether Christ will come, but whether we will be ready to welcome Him when He does.

-Fr. Belken

One-on-one answers to your Medicare questions.
• Shana Kight 573-450-8066
• Doris Breymeyer 573-545-4253
• Rhonda Ratledge 573-979-4537
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