

The Pastor's Corner

DESIRED SHEPHERD AND LEADER

It's a powerful line: "they were like sheep without a shepherd." Jesus looked over the crowds who were following Him, and His heart was moved with pity. He had so much pity for them, in fact, that he started to teach them many things, as He was sent to do. It is a heartwarming story about how Jesus saw a need and filled that need by His work.

There is a question that can come to mind, though, when reading through this passage: why were they like sheep without a shepherd? Didn't they have rulers? Weren't there government officials over them? Didn't they have resources? Likely, the answer for each of these is that they did indeed have all of these things- but there was one thing that was lacking in the midst of all of them, and that was Christ. He provided them something they had never experienced before- and as a result they were hungering and thirsting for His leadership and rule!

We are preparing to enter an election cycle, and though many have been trying before, this one seems especially so, as we live and work in a country that is so divided that it seems one side would rejoice over the demise of the other, and any person affiliated with that view or set of beliefs. Truly, we too are in the midst of a people desiring a good shepherd! However, as with any election, we should ask ourselves a question with each candidate: are we searching for the Shepherd (Jesus) in our choices? Are we letting Jesus be the Shepherd we need, or do we start to despair and give up because we put our faith only in men (and women)? If that is all the faith we have- we may very well be searching for more, as the people in the Gospel were searching for more! Perhaps that is why there is so much division and anger these days- we haven't put Jesus in the right place- even in politics!

No matter what occurs, and no matter who is elected in due time, may we never forget: Jesus is our Shepherd. Only He will provide for the deepest longings and desires of our hearts.

-Fr. Belken

Readings for Next Sunday

The Seventeenth
Sunday in Ordinary
Time

July 28, 2024

2 Kgs 4:42-44
Eph 4:1-6
Jn 6:1-15

40 HOURS OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

August 9-11, 2024

Adoration begins at 7:00pm on
August 9, and concludes with Evening
Prayer and Benediction at 5:30pm on
Sunday, August 11. Sign-up for times
is in the back of church!

BISHOP RICE'S JULY PRAYER INTENTION

May our national efforts to
renew and strengthen our
belief in the
true presence
of Christ in
the Eucharist
bear fruit!



THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME · JULY 21, 2024



Saint Lawrence

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



Thank you all for a successful
2024 Saint Lawrence Parish Picnic!

1001 State Highway A, New Hamburg, MO — PO Box 247, Benton, Missouri 63736

Phone: 573-545-3317

Website: www.stlnh.org

St. Lawrence Church – New Hamburg, Missouri
P.O. Box 247 Benton, Missouri 63736 573-545-3317
Rev. Daniel Belken, Pastor
Billy Ray Johnson - Parish Office Manager

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 21-27, 2024
www.stlnh.org
E-Mail address: Office@stlnh.org

Mass Schedule

Sat. Jul 20 4PM	Andrew Essner	Thu. Jul 25 7AM	Robert & Emma Gaines
Sun. Jul 21 8:30AM	Parish Family	Fri. Jul 26 7AM	Paul Stuckey
Mon. Jul 22 No Mass		Sat. Jul 27 4PM	Bill Brucker
Tue. Jul 23 6PM	Lorena Beussink	Sun. Jul 28 8:30AM	Parish Family
Wed. Jul 24 7AM	Lefty & Ida Seyer		

SUNDAY: OUR LADY OF FATIMA VISITATION. JUL 21-Carol Klipfel, **JUL 28**-Dorothy Deason.

SUNDAY COLLECTION:

July 14, 2024: Loose \$468, Envelopes \$3193, Total: \$3661.

FRIDAY, JULY 26th, ADORATION. St. Lawrence Church, 7:30-10:30AM.

FRIDAY, JULY 26th, CHURCH CLEANING. Chairman: **Gary & Beverly Brucker**
Kenny & Sharon Blue, Henry Beussink, Kari Bickings, Todd & Elizabeth Brucker.

DIOCESAN DEVELOPMENT FUND (DDF). On the 11th week of DDF, we reached the goal established by the Diocese. Thank you to everyone who supported DDF in any way.

PASTORAL NOTE: INTRODUCTION OF ALTERNATE PENITENTIAL RITE - Starting in a few weeks, Father would like to introduce an alternate penitential rite from the Roman Missal (occurs at the very beginning of Mass, before the Gloria or opening Collect). The dialogue will go as follows, with congregation saying the bolded parts:

Presider: Have mercy on us O Lord.

R. For we have sinned against you.

Presider: Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

R. And Grant us your salvation.

Presider: May almighty God have mercy on us...

ST LAWRENCE CELEBRATION. We are now taking donations for fireworks for the closing ceremony of our St. Lawrence day celebration on **August 11th**. Please put in an envelope marked "Fireworks" and either drop in the collection plate or the rectory. Thanks in advance.

CODE OF CONDUCTS. Code of Conducts are available online or in the Parish Office to be signed for volunteers, workers, and PSR staff/teachers for the upcoming year. Please come by to sign as soon as possible. **This year another form needs to be signed. The "Fair Credit Reporting Act" background check form also needs to be signed along with the CoC form.** Both are available online and in the Parish Office.

Lector & Communion Distributor:	Sat. Jul 27 4PM	Shannon Schumer
Organist/Cantor:	Sat. Jul 27 4PM	Linda Essner/Kari Bickings
Gift Bearers:	Sat. Jul 27 4PM	Mr./Mrs Kenny Heisserer
Servers:	Sat. Jul 27 4PM	Kynli Duenne/Leeland Duenne/Brooke Reeves
Ushers:	Sat. Jul 27 4PM	Jon Heuring/Norman Joe Heuring/Jared Holloway/ Steve Holman

Lector & Communion Distributor:	Sun. Jul 28 8:30AM	Jill Pinkston
Organist/Cantor:	Sun. Jul 28 8:30AM	Linda Essner/Mary B. Glastetter
Gift Bearers:	Sun. Jul 28 8:30AM	Mr./Mrs. Elmer Heisserer
Servers:	Sun. Jul 28 8:30AM	Oliver Beck/Paxton Beck/Hailey Heuring/Heidi Heuring
Ushers:	Sun. Jul 28 8:30AM	Derrick Irwin/Brian James/Doug Johnson/Otto Kern

FOOD PANTRY. Summertime can be difficult for food pantries. We received a nice donation of cereal and instant potatoes from Gilster MaryLee but need help to buy other items. Please consider a donation. You can put your envelope in the collection marked: Jesus in Disguise Food Pantry. Thank you.

THANK YOU. To all who helped in the kitchen on Friday and Saturday for our picnic meal. Good workers, good food, and a good time. God bless you for everyone's hard work. Thanks, -Kara and Pat

THANK YOU. Thanks to everyone who came out for the annual picnic, thank you to all the countless parishioners who not only gave of their time but much more to make the picnic a great success. When all the expenses have been reported, a detailed report will be available in the foyer of the church. The picnic funds are a huge part of our annual budget. It helps greatly with bills, repairs, and upgrades. Thank you again for all you do, for the hard work, and for your dedication. God Bless!

MASS INTENTIONS. Whenever the church has a Mass that is skipped because of a circumstance, then that intention is moved to the next available day on the Mass calendar. Mass intentions for the upcoming year will be taken starting October 15, on a first come first served basis. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.