

The Pastor's Corner

HOW GOOD IS GOD ANYWAYS?

“Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.” No, you aren’t having a case of déjà vu... we really have just heard this last week. As we’ve heard that responsorial psalm not only once but now twice- it actually might draw up an interesting question: is our God actually good? Can we actually taste the goodness- is it even there?

The reason for this question is that it is one of the most frequently made objections to God’s existence. It is simply stated as “if God exists, why is there so much evil?” It is presumed that the existence of a good God would completely inhibit the possibility of any sort of evil. However, this is not accurate. There are three sorts of levels that God could interact with us on in regards to the evil we experience. First, He could be too weak to deal with evil. Thus, everything that we teach about omnipotence (being all-powerful) would be wrong. Or, He could be powerful enough as to fight back and forth with evil, as an eternal battle is in play, but He simply does not save us from that evil all that much- or so it seems. However, we know that also not to be true, as we know Him to be a loving God- that promises us that if we give Him our burdens, He will give us rest. So what is the answer?

There is one final option: our God is so powerful that He can create good even out of evil. This is a God that is so intelligent and all-powerful that even evil can be turned into good, if one lives in faith. He works through all sorts of ways, especially the natural and unseen, and He is also very patient in how He makes things work- but He does give us good- even out of the evil and the bad things that happen- if we have faith.

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. May we truly see our God’s goodness- especially in the evils that He conquers for us, and in ways that we both have and have not seen.

-Fr. Belken

Readings for Next Sunday

**The Twenty-Second
Sunday in Ordinary
Time**

September 8, 2024

Dt 4:1-2, 6-8

Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27

Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

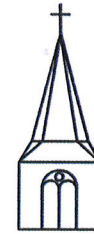
NEW!!

First Saturday Masses

Fr. Belken will be celebrating the inaugural First Saturday Mass on September 7 (and each first Saturday) at 8:00am at St. Denis. Please join us each first Saturday as we renew our devotions to our Blessed Mother. During these months prior to the election, the intention will be for a pro-life Nation and State.

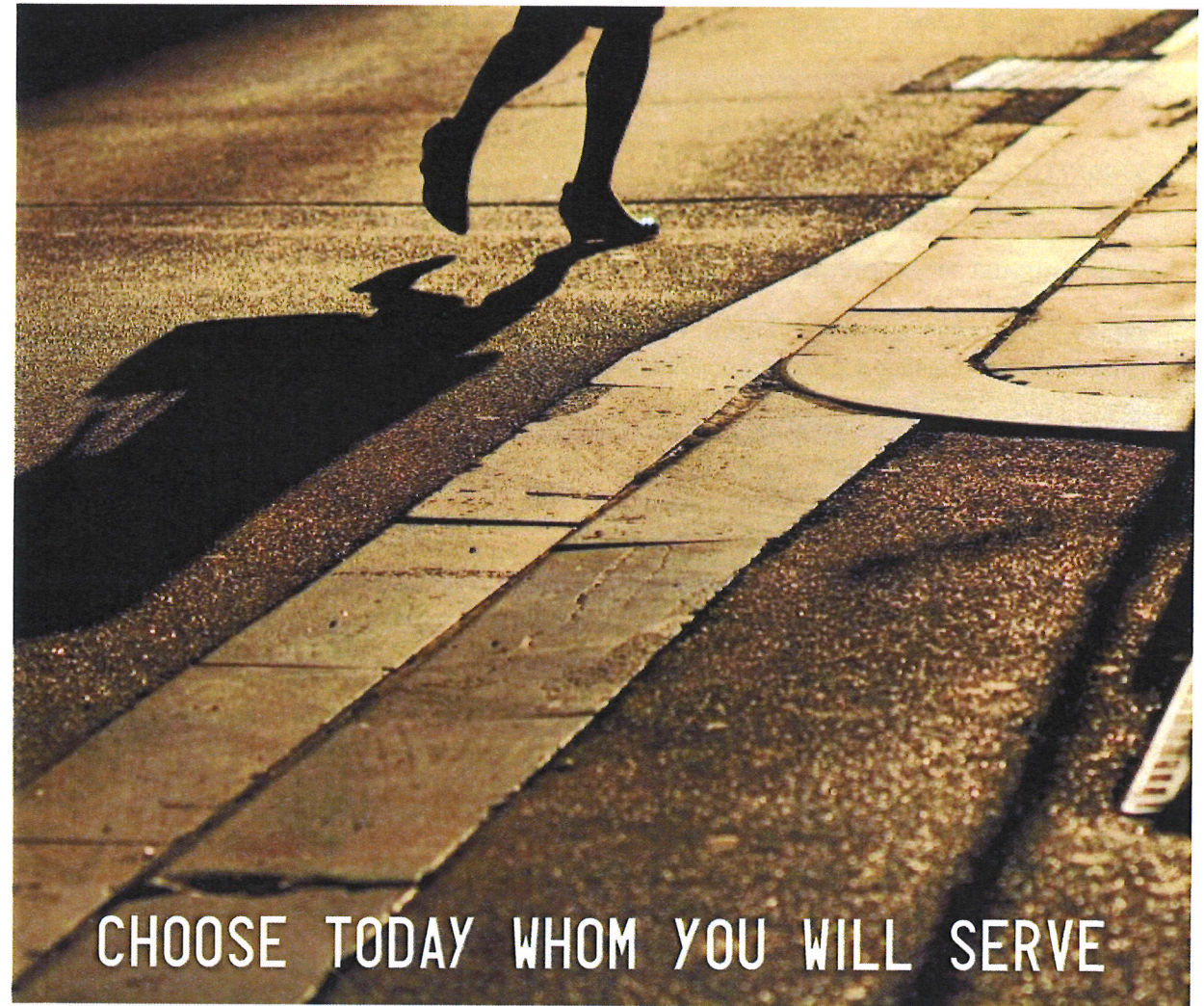
BISHOP RICE’S AUGUST INTENTION

As we celebrate the Assumption of Mary, we ask for her intercession for all students and teachers as they begin a new year of faith and education.



Saint Lawrence

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 25-31, 2024
www.stlnh.org
E-Mail address: Office@stlnh.org

Mass Schedule

Sat. Aug 24 4PM	Felix Enderle	Thu. Aug 29 7AM	Shelby & Charlene Steger
Sun. Aug 25 8:30AM	Parish Family	Fri. Aug 30 7AM	Leonard Kluesner
Mon. Aug 26 No Mass		Sat. Aug 31 4PM	Cletus & Norma Gosche
Tue. Aug 27 6PM	Lorena Beussink	Sun. Sep 1 8:30AM	Parish Family
Wed. Aug 28 7AM	Jerry Heuring		

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SUNDAY: OUR LADY OF FATIMA VISITATION. AUG 25-Terri Stuckey.

SUNDAY COLLECTION:

August 18, 2024: Loose \$135, Envelopes \$2007, Total: \$2142.

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

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30th, CHURCH CLEANING. Chairman: Jim & Lynn Dennis

Janet Dirnberger, Brandon & Cara Dirnberger, Cody & Kyla Dirnberger, Daryl Dirnberger, Dorothy Dirnberger.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5th, ST. ANNE'S SODALITY MEETING. Rosary at 6:15PM. Meeting at 6:30PM in the Parish Center. New leadership is needed. Please join us for this important discussion about the future of St. Anne's Sodality.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th, ANNUAL FALL DINNER, ST. JOSEPH CHURCH. St. Joseph Catholic Church Annual Fall Dinner from 10:30AM-1PM in the School Gym. The menu is kettle beef, chicken & dumplings, chicken & dressing, mashed potatoes, green beans, slaw, dessert, tea and coffee. Buffet style. Adults \$15, Children 6-12 \$7 and Children 5 & Under Free. Carry-outs available. We will also have our country store and bakery shop.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th, ST. DENIS 10th ANNUAL PAUL STUCKEY GOLF SCRAMBLE. At Bent Creek golf course. Lunch served at 11:30AM with a shotgun start at 12:30PM.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28th, ST. AMBROSE DINNER AUCTION. St. Ambrose dinner auction presents Viva Las Vegas, doors open at 5PM at the VFW Chaffee. Tickets are \$40 per person. Highlights are raffles, silent auctions, live auction and all you can drink & eat. Buy your tickets online at <http://www.charityauction.bid/STAVivaLasVegas>.

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.

Lector & Communion Distributor:	Sat. Aug 31 4PM	Pat Moore
Organist/Cantor:	Sat. Aug 31 4PM	Cheryl Kern/Kari Bickings
Gift Bearers:	Sat. Aug 31 4PM	Mr./Mrs Billy Johnson
Servers:	Sat. Aug 31 4PM	Oliver Walter/Leeland Walter/Isabel Crook
Ushers:	Sat. Aug 31 4PM	Doug Menz/Dale Mock/Justin Modglin/Jarrett Moore

Lector & Communion Distributor:	Sun. Sep 1 8:30AM	Dorothy Deason
Organist/Cantor:	Sun. Sep 1 8:30AM	Cheryl Kern/Mary B. Glastetter
Gift Bearers:	Sun. Sep 1 8:30AM	Mr./Mrs. Doug Johnson
Servers:	Sun. Sep 1 8:30AM	Leigha Estes/Brooke Reeves/Drew Benson/ Luke Benson
Ushers:	Sun. Sep 1 8:30AM	Doug Lynn/Steve Lynn/Shayn Mabury/Ethen Maddox

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSR). There is a signup sheet for kindergarten religion students in the back of church. If your child will be attending kindergarten PSR, please enroll. **We need a 3rd grade teacher for this upcoming year.** If you can help, please call Pat Moore at 573-545-3458.

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.

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.

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...