

The Pastor's Corner

HARD-HEARTED OR SUPPLE-HEARTED?

You may not necessarily think marriage statistics would be all that much to write home about, and yet, they are. Certainly, as a Church we are experiencing a decline in several areas, including attendance, priestly vocations, and a handful of other things- and yet they all pale in comparison to statistics on marriage. One statistic that is particularly troubling is that between 1969 and 2019, Catholic marriages dropped 70% (double the rate of decline of priestly vocations). If that statistic isn't enough- the current rate of decline in our own diocese- if it continues at the exact same rate- would suggest there would be no Catholic weddings in the Diocese in a mere 11 years- by 2035. Why do all of these metrics matter?

Jesus, when questioned on why divorce was permitted in the time of Moses, gave the ultimate answer "because of the hardness of your hearts." He didn't say it was societal decline. He didn't point out a common hostility to family life. He didn't even cite religious statistics. Rather He pointed inside of each person. Why was marriage not working at the time? Hardness of hearts. It makes you wonder what the metrics on marriage must have been like then! Now, certainly there are many reasons why a separation or irreconcilable difference may occur, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't ask a question: how many things go wrong because of the hardness of our hearts? How many times do we not pursue life-giving relationships? How many times do we grow weary with one another- or even short-tempered? How often do we get angry and self-righteous at someone who corrects us (even if they may be right)? How often do we not follow God's will- all because we are hard of heart?

The invitation that is very clear to us through the Gospel this weekend. Don't be hard of heart- whether you are pursuing a married relationship, personal growth, or spiritual maturity. Make your heart supple instead.

-Fr. Belken

WHAT WOULD AMENDMENT 3 ACTUALLY DO?

THE FACTS

1. Put women at risk
2. Prohibit any regulation of abortion
3. Shield negligent health care professionals
4. Permit abortion even when the preborn child can feel pain
5. Eliminate parental notification or consent
6. Allow abortion at any time for any reason
7. Open the door to taxpayer-funded abortions

Vote
NO
on
3

SAFEGUARD THEM BOTH

Get all the detailed facts at www.mocatholic.org/abortion



Readings for Next Sunday

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

October 13, 2024

Wis 7:7-11
Heb 4:12-13
Mk 10:17-30

THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME · OCTOBER 6, 2024



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

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 6-12, 2024
www.stlnh.org
E-Mail address: Office@stlnh.org

Mass Schedule						
Sat.	Oct	5	4PM	Andrew Essner	Thu.	Oct 10 7AM Karl Westrich
Sun.	Oct	6	8:30AM	Parish Family	Fri.	Oct 11 7AM Vernon & Janet Vetter
Mon.	Oct	7	No Mass		Sat.	Oct 12 4PM Don Gosche
Tue.	Oct	8	6PM	Barney & Sylvia Steimle	Sun.	Oct 13 8:30AM Parish Family
Wed.	Oct	9	7AM	Leonard Kluesner		

SUNDAY: OUR LADY OF FATIMA VISITATION. OCT 6-Jill Pinkston, **OCT 13**-Carol Klipfel, **OCT 20**-Dorothy Deason, **OCT 27**-Margaret Heuring.

SUNDAY COLLECTION:

September 29, 2024: Loose \$139, Envelopes \$2458, Total: \$2597.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6th, HIGH SCHOOL RELIGION. Classes will begin at 6:30PM with a candlelight Rosary Procession to the Grotto, weather permitting. We invite parents, grandparents, and parishioners to pray the rosary with us and pray for a successful year. **Classes begin Sunday October 13th at Shibley Hall from 9:30-10:30AM.**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11th, ADORATION. St. Lawrence Church, 7:30-10:30AM.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11th, CHURCH CLEANING. Chairman: Jeff & Gina Essner
Theresa Essner, Tim & Jeanne Essner, Zachary & Jacklyn Essner, Sheila Harper.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12th, ST. LAWRENCE PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY. At the Grotto starting exactly at noon. Please bring your own lawn chair. This will last approximately one hour. LET’S FILL THE GROTTTO. (In case of inclement weather, the rosary will be prayed inside the church.) Flyers are in the back of church.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13th, ST. ANTHONY PARISH ANNUAL FALL DINNER. In the Glennon Parish Hall. Times: 11AM-1:30PM. The menu includes kettle beef, dumplings, dressing, and all the trimmings. Dessert & drinks included. Adults: \$14, Children (6-12): \$8, 5 & under: free.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13th, ST. DENIS DAY ANNUAL DINNER. In the Parish Center. Times: 10:30AM-1PM. The menu includes kettle beef, chicken & dumplings, chicken & dressing, sweet potatoes, buttered potatoes, green beans, slaw, and dessert. During the dinner, ALL St. Denis Catholic School alumni are eligible to put their handprint on the wall for \$10. All funds raised from this will go back to the school! Adults: \$15, children (6-12): \$7, 5 & under: free. All carry-outs: \$15.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16th, SCOTT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT FLU CLINIC. Open to the community and walk-ins welcome. From 9-11AM in the Kelso C-7 gym. NEW THIS YEAR: Free with proof of insurance/Medicaid. Also, they will have COVID vaccinations available this year.

Lector & Communion Distributor:	Sat. Oct 12 4PM	Stephanie Burger
Organist/Cantor:	Sat. Oct 12 4PM	Cheryl Kern/Mary B. Glastetter
Gift Bearers:	Sat. Oct 12 4PM	Mr./Mrs Michael Kern
Servers:	Sat. Oct 12 4PM	Oliver Beck/Paxton Back/Leigha Estes
Ushers:	Sat. Oct 12 4PM	Michael Backfisch/David Beussink/Eric Beardslee/ Henry Beussink

Lector & Communion Distributor:	Sun. Oct 13 8:30AM	Dorothy Deason
Organist/Cantor:	Sun. Oct 13 8:30AM	Cheryl Kern/Kari Bickings
Gift Bearers:	Sun. Oct 13 8:30AM	Mr./Mrs. Randy Kern
Servers:	Sun. Oct 13 8:30AM	Ty Glastetter/Callen Glastetter/Brady James/ Parker Reeves
Ushers:	Sun. Oct 13 8:30AM	Dustin Benson/Jason Bahr/Gerald Beck/ Robert Blattel

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18th, MEN’S CLUB GATHERING. Attention all men of St. Lawrence Parish, the St. Joseph’s Sodality will be hosting a get together at 6PM at Brian Heuring’s Meadow Crest Stables. Join us for an evening of food and fellowship.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20th, COLUMBUS DAY BANQUET KOC 6420. The Kelso Knights of Columbus will host their Columbus Day banquet on Sunday, October 20th in their lower hall with happy hour from 4:30-5:30PM with meal following. All members and widows of members and their families are invited. Please RSVP to Gary at 573-576-6451. Please bring a dessert to share.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22nd MEET ME AT THE GROTTTO WITH BISHOP RICE. Please join Bishop Rice in praying the rosary in honor of the Blessed Mother immediately after Mass. Please bring a lawn chair. Refreshments will be served following the rosary.

EUCCHARISTIC ROSARY CONGRESS. Bishop Rice has asked our Diocese to be part of the 2024 Eucharistic Rosary Congress by agreeing to pray the rosary on the top of every hour beginning Friday, October 4 to Friday, October 11. There is a sign-up sheet in back of church. Please decide to participate. Thanks to those who already signed up. Intentions are for: restore sanctity of life, establish peace in our hearts, families, church and our Nation, and to console hearts of Jesus and Mary. Thanks.

ST. DENIS RUMMAGE SALE. Please join us for our 1st annual Rummage Sale on November 2-3! We are accepting donations, so clean out your closets! The sale hours on November 2nd are 9AM-4PM, then on the 3rd from 11AM-4PM.

*****REMINDER*****

Confirmation Classes begin this Wednesday, October 9 at 7PM in St. Denis Church.