

# The Pastor's Corner

## WAITING TO BE "IN TUNE"

When I was in seminary, one of many jobs I was tasked with was tuning the pipe organ - which was rather tedious since there were thousands of pipes. It isn't terribly difficult per se, once an ear is trained into what it is looking for, but it is very tiresome. After hundreds of pipes blaring loudly in my ears for hours, until they were tuned, the temptation would creep in to get sloppy just to get it done, but that meant I'd miss all sorts of pipes that needed tuned but could potentially be missed if I succumbed to that temptation. The very thing I set out to do would be rendered unsuccessful in my complacent attitude if I did that!

It doesn't take much searching to find all sorts of things that are tedious and can become wearisome if we are not careful. School can be boring, our jobs can load us down with monotony, and even our faith, at times, can even seem to be fraught with the same danger - to become old and familiar, and therefore we start to become drowsy and weary.

The first week of Advent is presenting us with a challenge to start - Be vigilant! Do not become drunken or drowsy! Do not succumb to carousing or the anxieties of daily life! Why? Because each of these things are dangerous, not only to physical life, but to our spiritual lives. If we become burdened by these supposed escapes, eventually a moment of importance will come when our Lord will appear before us. But will we have become too weary to notice? Will we see the Lord when He comes again for us, and will we still be attentive? Or will we be too distracted by all the "stuff" going on in our lives already? Will we be weary, or awake?

Life may be long and arduous - or even monotonous at times - but the end of it can so worth it, if we stay "in tune" with our Lord - and hear His calling to "Be vigilant at all times and pray!"

-Fr. Belken

### THE SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

December 9th is the transferred Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception - which due to some recent clarifications from the Vatican is a holy day of obligation. As a gentle reminder, this means if Mass is deliberately missed on this day without a very substantial reason (equivalent to or greater than a physical ailment or physical impossibility) is a serious sin (which means it needs confessed in the sacrament of Reconciliation as soon as possible after Mass is missed).

**MASS TIMES ARE AT 7AM AT ST. LAWRENCE, 8AM AT ST. DENIS,  
AND 7PM AT ST. DENIS.**

### Readings for Next Sunday

### THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*December 8, 2024*

**Bar 5:1-9**

**Phil 1:4-6, 8-11**

**Lk 3:1-6**

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT · DECEMBER 1, 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](http://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

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent  
December 1-7, 2024  
[www.stlnh.org](http://www.stlnh.org)  
E-Mail address: [Office@stlnh.org](mailto:Office@stlnh.org)

**Mass Schedule**

Sat.	Nov	30	4PM	Henry & Agnes Leible	Thu.	Dec	5	7AM	Andrew Essner
Sun.	Dec	1	8:30AM	Parish Family	Fri.	Dec	6	7AM	Ricky Duncan
Mon.	Dec	2	No Mass		Sat.	Dec	7	4PM	Felix Enderle
Tue.	Dec	3	6PM	Patrick Shelton	Sun.	Dec	8	8:30AM	Parish Family
Wed.	Dec	4	7AM	Louis & Anna Glastetter					

**SUNDAY: OUR LADY OF FATIMA VISITATION.** DEC 1-Jackie Griffith, DEC 8-Pat Moore, DEC 15-Mary F. Glastetter, DEC 22-Theresa Essner, DEC 29-Jill Pinkston.

**SUNDAY COLLECTION:**

November 24, 2024: Loose \$171, Envelopes \$1910, Total: \$2081.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6<sup>th</sup>, CHURCH CLEANING.** Chairman: Doug & Sue Kern  
Pat & Jan Kiefer, Jeff & Kara King, Darrell & Libby Klipfel.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7<sup>th</sup>, ST. LAWRENCE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY.** The Annual St. Lawrence Parish Christmas Party is December 7<sup>th</sup> starting at 5PM. There is a signup sheet in the back of church so we can get a meal count. Come and celebrate Christmas with the Parish.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7<sup>th</sup>, ST. DENIS 25<sup>th</sup> WINTER WONDERLAND OF TREASURES.** 8AM-2PM. Admission is a non-perishable food item. All proceeds go to the school. Join us for chili, chicken noodle soup, dessert and LOTS OF SHOPPING!

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>, ST. AMBROSE BREAKFAST.** Whole hog sausage, eggs, biscuits & gravy breakfast at St. Ambrose Parish Center, Chaffee. Served from 7:30-11AM.

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>, SWEETS WITH SANTA.** You are invited to join us for family fun and holiday activities, including pictures with Santa! 9:30AM-12PM in the Parish Center. See the flyer in the back of church.

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 9<sup>th</sup>, IMMACULATE CONCEPTION HOLY DAY MASS.** December 9<sup>th</sup>, St. Lawrence 7AM, St. Denis 8AM & 7PM, December 10<sup>th</sup>, St. Lawrence 6PM, St. Denis 7PM.

<b>Lector &amp; Communion Distributor:</b>	Sat.	Dec	7	4PM	Sally O'Brien
<b>Organist/Cantor:</b>	Sat.	Dec	7	4PM	Krista Kluesner
<b>Gift Bearers:</b>	Sat.	Dec	7	4PM	Mr./Mrs. David Lape
<b>Servers:</b>	Sat.	Dec	7	4PM	Eli Holman/Owen Asmus/Isabel Crook
<b>Ushers:</b>	Sat.	Dec	7	4PM	Harold Eftink/James Eftink/Terry Eftink/Brian Enderle

<b>Lector &amp; Communion Distributor:</b>	Sun.	Dec	8	8:30AM	Dorothy Deason
<b>Organist/Cantor:</b>	Sun.	Dec	8	8:30AM	Krista Kluesner
<b>Gift Bearers:</b>	Sun.	Dec	8	8:30AM	Mr./Mrs. Kerry Wayne Lasters
<b>Servers:</b>	Sun.	Dec	8	8:30AM	Ty Glastetter/Callen Glastetter/Collin Felter/Brady James
<b>Ushers:</b>	Sun.	Dec	8	8:30AM	Orville Enderle/Ralph Enderle/Randy Enderle/Dustin Essner

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15<sup>th</sup>, CHURCH DECOATION.** "Save the Date" If you would like to help decorate the church, it will be following Mass on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Any help is greatly appreciated.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20<sup>th</sup>, CHRISTMAS CHURCH TOUR OF SCOTT COUNTY.** 4:30-7:30PM. This is a free self-guided tour. St. Denis and St. Lawrence Church will participate in this tour. St. Lawrence will have both of our churches decorated and open, along with our beautiful grotto, and a live nativity as part of our tour. More information can be found on the flyers that are in the back of the church.

**ANGEL TREE.** The Angel Tree has started. Please keep your eyes and hearts open to the beginning of this Christmas season for giving. More details will follow.

**2025 ENVELOPES.** 2025 collection envelopes are available for pickup in the back of church.

**MEN'S CLUB BUTCHERING.** Signup sheet is in the foyer of church for sausage and headcheese from St. Joe's Sodality annual butchering. Men mark your calendars; the sausage & headcheese will be made on January 11<sup>th</sup>.

**SEMO CAMINITO.** A small southeast Missouri version of the Camino de Santiago (The way of St. James). 3 days, 10 churches, 40 miles. A walking journey in holiness for an increase in vocations, the sanctity of our priests and the laity in our diocese, and for those who have fallen away from the Church. March 10-12, 20-25. Flyers are in the back of the church.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF JEAN ANN ESSNER AND FOR HER FAMILY DURING THIS TIME OF LOSS AND SORROW.**