

The Pastor's Corner

FOMO~ FEAR OF MISSING OUT

When Herod is confronted by the questions of the magi in the Gospel today- it appears that he becomes quite curious about the story that they are telling him- a newborn king of the Jews? That seems like competition! Nonetheless, Herod sends the magi out to “go and search diligently” so that he too can go and do him “homage.” Herod seems to be expressing what has become a modern acronym, “FOMO,” or fear of missing out.

Or... is he actually?

If Herod truly believes that there is a newborn king- why isn't he stopping everything else he is doing to go and search for him? What is he so wrapped up in to prevent his encounter with Christ? Would that have prevented him from being the ruthless tyrant and shedding so much innocent blood in a short while? We will never know because Herod didn't really have a fear of missing out on Christ- he had other plans.

We need to be very careful ourselves, that we do not become so wrapped up in temporal affairs as to become as cold-hearted or as indifferent as Herod was. We see Jesus in the manger in Bethlehem now- but He especially waits for us in tabernacles of Catholic Churches throughout the world- and especially in the Mass. Are we going to make the choice to be like the magi and drop everything else- our sporting events, vacations, social events, parties, and the like- to meet the Christ child when He comes to us? Are we going to really and truly give Christ first place in our lives- instead of living in the midst of our kingdom and our plans?

Or, do we have other stuff we have to do first? Herod made that choice- wrongly. We know we can choose better- and choose to see Christ first- in this Christmas Season- and in every moment!

-Fr. Belken

THANK YOU!

Dear St. Lawrence Parishioners,

I want to take a moment to thank all of you who took a moment out of your busy preparations for Christmas to send me a card, or even a generous gift as well. I am so humbled by your kindness to me, as your pastor, even though I do not feel truly worthy to hold this position. Know of my prayers of gratitude!

-Fr. Belken

Readings for Next Sunday

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

January 12, 2024

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 Acts

10:34-38

Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD · JANUARY 5, 2025



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

The Epiphany of the Lord
January 5-11, 2025
www.stlnh.org
E-Mail address: Office@stlnh.org

Mass Schedule					
Sat.	Jan	4	4PM	Patrick Shelton	Thu. Jan 9 7AM Henry & Agnes Leible
Sun.	Jan	5	8:30AM	Parish Family	Fri. Jan 10 7AM Joe, Thomas, & Karl Westrich
Mon.	Jan	6	No Mass		Sat. Jan 11 4PM Parish Family
Tue.	Jan	7	No Mass		Sun. Jan 12 8:30AM Patricia Schott
Wed.	Jan	8	No Mass		

SUNDAY: OUR LADY OF FATIMA VISITATION. JAN 5-Carol Klipfel, JAN 12-Dorothy Deason, JAN 19-Margaret Heuring, JAN 26-Coonie Essner.

SUNDAY COLLECTION:

December 29, 2024: Loose \$483, Envelopes \$3290, Total: \$3773.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10th, CHURCH CLEANING. Chairman: Greg & Tiffany Morgan
Amy Niederkorn, Pat & Sally O'Brien, Tony & Reatha Paul, Mike & Edith Pennington.

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12th, ST. JOSEPH'S MEN'S CLUB ANNUAL BREAKFAST. In the Parish Center from 8-11:30AM. Homemade sausage, pancakes, eggs and more. Adults: \$10, Children (6-12): \$5, under 5 eat free. All are welcome!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18th, ST. LAWRENCE MEN'S SODALITY EUCHE TOWNSHIP TOURNAMENT. In the Parish Center, doors open at 5PM. Play begins at 6:30PM, \$15 donation. Free chili & chicken noodle soup. For more information, contact the church office at 573-545-3317.

2025 ENVELOPES. 2025 collection envelopes are available for pickup in the back of church. Please check and make sure that you pick up the correct envelopes and if not please return them with the rest of the envelopes.

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 11th.

New Security. As you are about the campus, you will likely notice the addition of several security cameras in a few key places. These are being added to help us to proactively keep our facilities safe and secure. Thank you to all of those whose generosity makes these much-needed improvements possible!

Wi-Fi on Campus. Our campus wi-fi network is expanding! Please note you may now access wi-fi in the parish center, if needed. Credentials to access the network are provided in the building. This resource has been

Lector & Communion Distributor:	Sat. Jan 11 4PM	Frank Glueck
Organist/Cantor:	Sat. Jan 11 4PM	Krista Kluesner
Gift Bearers:	Sat. Jan 11 4PM	Mr/Mrs. Doug Menz
Servers:	Sat. Jan 11 4PM	Mila Burger/Leeland Walter/Oliver Walter
Ushers:	Sat. Jan 11 4PM	Raph Heisserer/Kenric Heisserer/Scott Heisserer/Shawn Heisserer

Lector & Communion Distributor:	Sun. Jan 12 8:30AM	Stephanie Burger
Organist/Cantor:	Sun. Jan 12 8:30AM	Krista Kluesner
Gift Bearers:	Sun. Jan 12 8:30AM	Mr/Mrs. Dale Mock
Servers:	Sun. Jan 12 8:30AM	Paisley Bahr/Kaybree Bahr/Leigha Estes/Tyler Morgan
Ushers:	Sun. Jan 12 8:30AM	Brian Heuring/Dean Heuring/Jon Heuring/Norman Joe Heuring

added to help all remain connected, especially since cellular reception is not extremely present on our grounds.

Student Priest in Residence. Fr. Maurice Chukwukere, who is a priest who has been ministering in our Diocese, will be transitioning to being a full-time student at SEMO. Since he had need of a place to stay, Bishop has asked that he be in residence at our parish rectory. He will only be in residence at our parish (meaning that he is not serving our or any parish in a formal capacity). However, he will be helping area priests on a part-time basis (including Fr. Belken!) by filling in for Mass and Confessions as needed. If you see him, please make him feel to be welcome here. Please also maintain and respect the privacy of the back quarters of the rectory to help him feel at home.

