THE FEAST OF CANDLEMAS

The Presentation of the Lord is an important feast in the liturgical cycle of the Catholic Church, even though it may not be as well known as it was in the past (even all the way back to the 4th century in Jerusalem). In the past it was this feast, and not the Baptism, that brought about the end of the Christmas Season. This feast is a rather unique one, because it is one of the two major occasions that we have that have the possibility of a procession-Palm Sunday, and the this one- but it was always attached to Christmas, and not to Holy Week. A major part of this celebration is the root of the name for this Mass- "Candlemas."

This is a moment where we can actually consider some of our liturgical furniture and its purpose- the candles. The candles that we have in the Church are there for a very deliberate purpose- they remind us of the importance of what we celebrate- and that Christ is the light to all nations, as was indicated in the first reading. Each time we light a candle in the Catholic Church or even blessed candles in our homes they are all to indicate to us that Christ is our light- the messenger that God Himself sends. He comes to illuminate the darkness- and to bring us good news.

Even as this has traditionally ended the Christmas season, that does not mean that our lights extinguish or go dim. Rather what it means is that we have to continue to carry the light of Christ's coming to a world in need. Are we going to change the way we act? Are we going to be more prayerful? Are we going to finally get serious about worship in Church? Whatever we do, we can still bear witness and light up our world as we proclaim the one who is the "light to all nations."

-Fr. Belken



Readings for Next Sunday

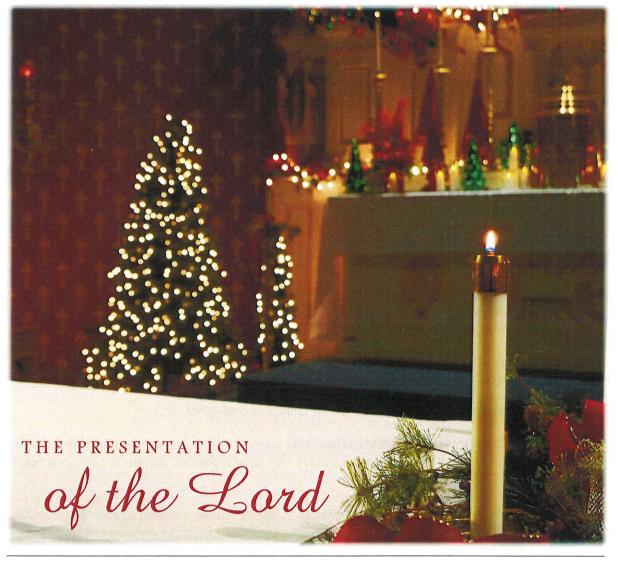
THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
February 9, 2025

Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8 1
Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11



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

The Presentation of the Lord February 2-8, 2025

www.stlnh.org

Billy Ray Johnson - Parish Office Manager

E-Mail address: Office@stlnh.org

Mass S	Schedu	<u>ule</u>							
Sat.	Feb	1	4PM	Don Gosche	Thu.	Feb	6	7AM	Jeanne Essner
Sun.	Feb	2	8:30AM	Parish Family	Fri.	Feb	7	7AM	Joe, Theresa & Karl Westrich
Mon.	Feb	3	No Mass		Sat.	Feb	8	4PM	Parish Family
Tue.	Feb	4	6PM	Leonard Kluesner	Sun.	Feb	9	8:30AM	Mike Ward
Wed.	Feb	5	7AM	Elmer Heisserer					

SUNDAY: OUR LADY OF FATIMA VISITATION. FEB 2-Mary B. Glastetter, **FEB 9-**Terri Stuckey, **FEB 16-**Norma Seyer, **FEB 23-**Jackie Griffith.

SUNDAY COLLECTION:

January 26, 2025: Loose \$150.40, Envelopes \$3430, Total: \$3580.40.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS. Volunteers are needed to help put the Christmas decorations up after Mass on Sunday, February 2nd. Lifting help is needed to put decorations, trees and nativity in storage. Any help from men or young men is appreciated.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2nd, ST. AMBROSE MEN'S CLUB ANNUAL BREAKFAST. In the Parish Center at St. Ambrose in Chaffee from 7:30-11AM. Whole hog sausage, eggs, biscuits & gravy. All are welcome!

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6th, ST. ANNE'S SOCALITY MEETING. Our rosary will be at 6PM and meeting at 6:15PM. Refreshments will be served and Bingo played. Refreshment committee is Ashley Beck (chair), Jaime Bellville, Georgianna Bennett, Heather Benson, and Pam Beussink.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7th, CHURCH CLEANING. Chairman: Terri Stuckey Danny & Belinda Tetley, Ryan & Erica Thomure, Ben & Nikki Urhahn

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9th, ST. DENIS MEN'S BREAKFAST. In the St. Denis Parish Center from 7:30-11:30AM. Homemade pork sausage, ham, eggs, biscuits & gravy. Fruit salad and drinks. All you can eat for a goodwill donation. All are welcome!

SATURDAY, MARCH 8th, DADDY/DAUGHTER DANCE. St. Anne's Sodality is hosting a Daddy/Daughter dance from 6PM to 9PM in the Parish Center. Flyers and registration forms are in the vestibule of church. Please contact Ashley Laster or Ashley Dirnberger for more information.

SPECIAL BLESSING. If you are a mother who is expecting, please know that the Church has a special blessing, reserved for mothers who are anticipating the birth of a child, so that she may receive protection, aid, and

Organist/Cantor:	Sat.	Feb	8	4PM	Krista Kluesner
Gift Bearers:	Sat.	Feb	8	4PM	Mr/Mrs. Gary Reischman
Servers:	Sat.	Feb	8	4PM	Oliver Beck/Paxton Beck/Isabel Crook
<u>Ushers:</u>	Sat.	Feb	8	4PM	Jeff King/Darryl Klipfel/Floyd Klipfel/Gary Kluesner
Lector &Communion Distributor:	Sun.	Feb	9	8:30AN	1 Stephanie Burger
Organist/Cantor:	Sun.	Feb	9	8:30AM	1 Krista Kluesner
Gift Bearers:	Sun.	Feb	9	8:30AN	Mr/Mrs. Evan Reischman
Servers:	Sun.	Feb	9	8:30AN	1 Kynli Duenne/Leeland Duenne/Berkley Dirnberger/Brooke Reeves
<u>Ushers:</u>	Sun	Feb	9	8:30AN	

Lector &Communion Distributor: Sat. Feb 8 4PM Frank Glueck

support during the days and months leading up to the child's arrival. This is available at any time- please feel free to contact Father Belken to receive it. Please also note that you do not have to wait until after birth to meet to schedule and arrange a baptism, that can be done at any time prior as well! God Bless you, and keep you, as you carry the gift of life!

ST. DENIS DINNER AUCTION "THE SDS PRICE IS RIGHT". Held on Saturday, March 1, 2025. Doors will open at 4PM with dinner being served at 6PM. Ticket prices are \$40 per person and include dinner, drinks, and lots of fun. Meals are catered for by 2 Chef's Catering. **Tickets will go on sale Saturday, February 1st. Tickets may be purchased online at https://auctria.events/SDSdinnerauction2025.**

GUARDIAN ANGEL SCHOOL AUCTION. Guardian Angel School dinner auction tickets for "Survivor" can be purchased online beginning January 19 on the Auctria website

www.charityauction.bid/GUARDIANANGEL2025. You can get your seat assignments after Mass on Jan 19 (10:30AM Mass) in the school library. The cost is \$40 per ticket for meal, drinks, and all auction purchasing (online and oral). For \$10, you can do online bidding for silent and certificate auctions. After the 19th, you can get seat assignments by contacting Taylor Pharris at 887-1637.

GRADE SCHOOLERS INVITED TO NOTRE DAME HOMECOMING. Notre Dame is inviting 6th-8th graders to visit ND for Homecoming on Monday, February 3! Arrive at 1:30PM to walk to halls of Notre Dame to see them on full display (theme is movie sequels!) Stay for our Homecoming assembly at 2PM where we'll introduce the Homecoming court, watch the cheer/dance routine, and watch each class level's video.

CALL FOR PALMS! Ash Wednesday is about a month away- and Father needs your palms to prepare for the distribution of ashes. You may place your palms from last year in the back of church in the collection basket in the next few weeks, to be burned for ashes. Thank you!

NEXT WEEK IT IS THE SECOND COLLECTION FOR "THE MIRROR".