

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

December 24 - 25, 2023

Welcome to the Parish Communities of:

St. Anthony of Padua

132 Main Street
Iberia, MO 65486

St. Lawrence

246 Main Street, PO Box 128
St. Elizabeth, MO 65075

Father Christopher Aubuchon, Parochial Administrator

Deacon Steve Schwartze

Michele Renkemeyer, Parish Secretary

Donna Dickneite, St. Anthony Hall Rental

Lauren Kliethermes & Kara Scheulen, Faith Formation Coordinators



ST. ANTHONY PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Jacob Kliethermes, President

Julie Dye, Secretary

Donna Dickneite

Ronnie Holtmeyer

Billy Buechter

Sandy Wieberg

ST. ANTHONY FINANCE COUNCIL

Eva Voss, President

Mary Schulte

Kevin Otto

Chris Dye

Jackie Perkins

Bishop McKnight's December prayer intention for our Local Church

For the family; that all fathers, mothers and children of our community may follow the example of the Holy Family in practicing the virtues of family life and be bound more strongly together in the bonds of charity.



ST. LAWRENCE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Brett Holtmeyer, President

Jennifer Oligschlaeger, Secretary

Andrea Holtmeyer

Chris Beck

Eric O'Neil

Tom Oligschlaeger

ST. LAWRENCE FINANCE COUNCIL

Ben Scheulen, President

Jim Plassmeyer

Leroy Heckemeyer

Janet Beck

Kaye Finn

Church Contact Information

Father Aubuchon @ 573-493-2301; caubuchon@diojeffcity.org / Deacon Steve Schwartze @ 573-680-9449; sswartz@yahoo.com

Michele Renkemeyer @ 573-291-6638 / 573-793-6550 / stanthonypaduachurch@hotmail.com / stlawrencegridiron@hotmail.com

Donna Dickneite, St. Anthony Parish Hall Rental @ 573-694-5550

Lauren Kliethermes / Kara Scheulen – faithformationcoordinators@gmail.com

HOLY MASS SCHEDULE: Week of December 24, 2023 – January 2, 2024

St. Lawrence				St. Anthony	
Fourth Sunday of Advent	Dec 24	9:30 AM 10:00 AM	Confessions † Cency Luetkemeyer	7:30 AM 8:00 AM	Confessions † Adolph & Cecilia Dickneite
Christmas Eve Sunday	Dec 24	6:00 PM 6:30 PM	Confessions † Francis L. Struempf <i>(Balcony reserved for Choir Only)</i>	3:30 PM 4:00 PM	Confessions † Rosemary Wieberg
Christmas Day Monday	Dec 25	9:30 AM 10:00 AM	Confessions † Leonard & Marie Schanzmeyer	7:30 AM 8:00 AM	Confessions Parishioners of St. Anthony & St. Lawrence
Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday	Dec 26 Dec 27 Dec 28 Dec 29	NO SERVICES	NO WEEKDAY SERVICES OR MASSES (Mass Intentions for Dec 28 & 29 have been or will be rescheduled.)		
Saturday	Dec 30	4:00 PM 5:00 PM	Confessions Parishioners of St. Lawrence & St. Anthony		
Sunday	Dec 31	9:30 AM 10:00 AM	Confessions † Gene Heckemeyer	7:30 AM 8:00 AM	Confessions † John & Matilda Rehagen
Sunday Solemnity of Mary	Dec 31			5:00 PM	† Barbara Chipman Solemnity of Mary Evening Mass
Monday Solemnity of Mary	Jan 1	10:00 AM	† Ray Doerhoff		
Tuesday	Jan 2	6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Confessions/Adoration † Norma Beck		

Sunday, Dec 24, 2023 – Fourth Sunday of Advent: In today’s Gospel, we see Zechariah’s voiceless yes to God’s plan when he wrote that the name of his and Elizabeth’s baby would be John. Despite his initial disbelief, Zechariah ultimately agreed with God’s plan for his son. He may not have fully understood what the future held for his child; he may have even been unaware that John would grow up to be the greatest and last of Israel’s prophets. But he made his choice, and God’s plan of salvation took another step forward. Today, think about the decisions you are facing, especially as Christmas approaches. ***Perhaps you have to decide whether to make an extra effort to reach out to a loved one. Perhaps the coming new year offers an opportunity to heal wounded relationships. God’s dreams can come through you; one choice at a time.***

Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24: Mary’s words to the angel can seem easy and somewhat romantic to us. But to Mary, they were anything but and represented a seismic shift in her life forever! She would become the Mother of God, and nothing would ever be the same. She would unconditionally trust in God and because of such, she continually and without failure, offers us her compassion, support, and intercession. ***Holy Mary, Mother of God, help me to walk the path of trust as I await the coming of your Son.***

Christmas, Monday, December 25: Merry Christmas! On this most joyous day, let’s join with the angels and worship our newborn King! Glory to God in the highest. We adore you, Jesus, Light of the World! We, the people, who walked in darkness, have seen a great light in You. Your glorious light shines in the darkest corners of our world and our hearts. No power of evil can prevent your love from reaching us, your sons and daughters. We praise you for this holy day when your light dawned upon the earth! We glorify you, Jesus, Emmanuel! You have joined yourself to us in an unbreakable bond. You dwell with us and will never leave us. You promise to be with us always....even to the end of time. ***Glory to God in the highest! Praise to Jesus, born for us on this day.***



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSED SOUL OF

GERARD "BUTCH" BLOMBERG
JUL 9, 1953 – DEC 18, 2023

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO HIM O LORD,
AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON
HIM. MAY HE REST IN PEACE.

AMEN

FISCAL YEAR: 2023 - 2024 ST. LAWRENCE PARISH STATISTICS For 2023: Number of Registered Households - 281			FISCAL YEAR: 2023 - 2024 ST. ANTHONY PARISH STATISTICS For 2023: Number of Registered Households - 138		
ST. LAWRENCE OFFERINGS	Fiscal Year to Date Totals 07/01/23 – 12/20/23		ST. ANTHONY OFFERINGS	Fiscal Year to Date Totals 07/01/23 – 12/20/23	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 89,458.99	\$ 105,813.17 Total Offertory Contributions	Adult Envelopes	\$ 41,334.99	\$ 50,897.04 Total Offertory Contributions
Online Offerings	12,500.00		Online Offering	4,950.00	
Youth Envelopes	315.00		Youth	0.00	
Loose	3,539.18		Loose	4,612.05	
Other Income (Includes Organ Donations)		109,416.07	Other Income (Includes Fall Supper Income)		42,791.99
Total Parish Income		215,229.24	Total Parish Income		93,689.03
Expenses (Include Pipe Organ Restoration)		225,344.43	Expenses (Includes Fall Supper Expenses)		76,273.07
Budget 23-24 \$ 384,100 Per Week: \$7,386.54 (52 Weeks per Year)	Month End	Weekly Average Offerings by Month	Budget 23-24 \$ 144,870 Per Week: \$2,785.96 (52 Weeks per Year)	Month End	Weekly Average Offerings by Month (Excludes Fall Supper)
	August	\$ 7,835.19		August	\$ 2,542.75
	September	5,301.28		September	1,856.45
	October	3,669.14		October	2,153.65
	November	13,148.94		November	2,440.56

Stewardship Ministry Schedule	St. Lawrence - Saturday Dec 30, 5:00 PM	St. Anthony – Fifth Sunday Dec 31, 8:00 AM	St. Lawrence - Sunday Dec 31, 10:00 AM
LECTORS	Karla Buechter	Knights of Columbus	Leroy Heckemeyer
FOUR (4) SERVERS	Daisy Bax Paisley Bax Addyson Heckman Matthew Heckemeyer	Sarah Kliethermes Rachel Bax Knox Buechter Augie Dearduff	Hannah Bax Cooper Coleman Brennan Doerhoff Annabelle Gass
GIFT BEARER	Brian & Carol Kirk	Knights of Columbus	Syl & Mary Kesel
COMMUNION MINISTER	Deacon Schwartze Paul Beck	Deacon Schwartze	Deacon Schwartze Dale Holtmeyer
SACRISTAN	Mike Verhoff	Catherine Kliethermes	Brett Holtmeyer
ROSARY GREETERS & COUNTERS	Dale & Michele Renkemeyer Tim & Jennifer Oligschlaeger	Knights of Columbus Clinton & Jackie Perkins USHERS: Knights of Columbus	Diane Heckemeyer & Kaye Finn Brett & Lindsey Holtmeyer

Stewardship Ministry Schedule Solemnity of Mary	St. Anthony Solemnity of Mary EVENING Mass Dec 31, 5:00 PM	St. Lawrence Solemnity of Mary MORNING Mass JANUARY 1, 2024 - 10:00 AM
LECTORS	Margie Chipman	Rich Juergensmeyer
SERVERS	Bryan Chipman Ben Engelmeyer Sidney Engelmeyer	Kiptyn Green Lucy Heckemeyer Benton Heckemeyer
GIFT BEARER	George & Taylor Otto	Aaron & Beth Kliethermes
COMMUNION MINISTER	Deacon Schwartze	Deacon Schwartze
SACRISTAN	Mary Schulte	Diane Juergensmeyer
ROSARY GREETERS & COUNTERS	Pasty Voss Jacob & Lauren Kliethermes USHERS: Randy, Richard, Ronnie, and Steve Holtmeyer	Albert & Dolores Frey Dale & Andrea Holtmeyer

Parish Offices will be closed for the Christmas Holiday from Dec 25 – 27 and on January 1, 2024 (New Year's Day).

CCD News/Events

Wednesday, January 10, 2024: CCD classes resume. St. Anthony will begin with Mass (Ministries/Confessions 5, 6, 7th) at 6:30 PM and St. Lawrence will begin with Class at 7:00 PM.

ST. ANTHONY PARISH & COMMUNITY NEWS

Thursday, January 4, 2024, 7 PM: Knights of Columbus Meeting in the Parish Hall.

ST. LAWRENCE PARISH & ST. ELIZABETH COMMUNITY NEWS

St. Ann's gives a big THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the St. Ann's Giving Tree. Approximately 75 gifts will be given to local families to brighten their holidays. Your generosity to help and provide joy is very much appreciated! Thank you for the parishioner support. **AND THANK YOU** to the St. Ann's Angels for the cheerful gift baskets for our homebound seniors, nursing home (parish) residents, and other elderly parishioners. What a treat, but wait, THERE'S MORE....

On Wednesday, Dec 27: The St. Anne's Sodality will be going on a church tour of area churches and the newly remodeled cathedral! We will be having lunch in Jefferson City. If you would like to attend, please sign; the sign-up sheet is in the back of church. JOIN US for a fun filled day! If questions, please contact Diane Juergensmeyer.

THANK YOU to our Holiday Home Tour Hosts (Eric & Alysha O'Neil, Rick Doerhoff, Diane (Roger) Heckemeyer, and St. Elizabeth Firehouse)! The event raised \$730 for the community. Thank you too to Shell Trading and St. Elizabeth TV & Appliance; your support is appreciated and we are so fortunate to have your businesses in our community!

Wednesday, January 3, 2024, 7 PM: Knights of Columbus Meeting in the Community Center Meeting Room.

2024 St. Elizabeth Community Bowling Tournament: Dates are January 6, 13 - 14, and 20th. Help support the local bowling alley and enjoy a day of bowling with friends! Singles: \$20, Doubles: \$40, Team: \$100. Questions: Contact: RJ Scheulen at 573-694-1858.

Christmas Special Collection

During this holy time of giving — please remember our clergy. Christ was born to share God's good news. Today, our Catholic clergy dedicate their lives to sharing this same message with the world. Your gift will help us educate our seminarians and provide for the needs of our infirm priests. The priests — and future priests — of the Diocese of Jefferson City, thank you for your generosity!



Vicki Cox Bullock
Gerard Blomberg
Colette Hicks
Brad Niemeier
Ramona Bax
Carol Schaffer
Bruce Berendzen
Mary Jane Kemna
Tony Libbert
Kenneth Brown
Stacey Luttrell
Christopher Thompson
Nic Gilardi
Patrick Holtmeyer
Adam Tellman

Trevor Burrows
Treyton Kemna
Dane Steenburgen
Josie Boeckman
Joseph Volmert
Stacia Kimball
Robert (Bob) Kesel
Darrin Tellman
Diane Bax
Ed Grellner
Frank Bax
Dale Reinkemeyer
Pam Tipton
Michael Wansing

Henry Kemna
Maggie Dickneite
Milinda Hoecker
Melody Welschmeyer
Keith Pigg
Joe Fuemmeler
Paige Bax
Rachel Woehr
Bernie Forck
Gene Wilde
Wanda Clark
Patti Trinklein
Bruce Kemna
Mike Herx

**Those in bold will be removed at the end of December 2023.
Please contact Michele to keep names on Prayer List.**

CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER

Loving Father,

Help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children, and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake.

Amen.

