

Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025

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

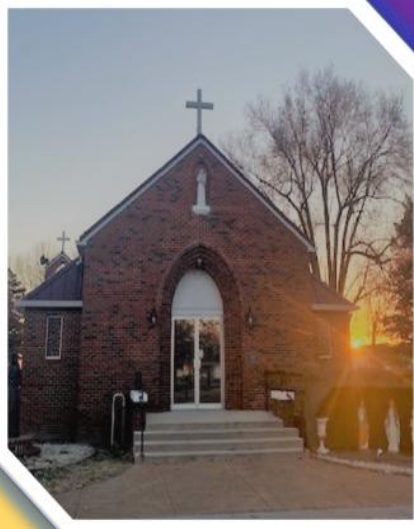
Father Christopher Aubuchon, Pastor

Deacon Steve Schwartz

Michele Renkemeyer, Parish Secretary

Loren Otto / Michele Renkemeyer, St. Anthony Hall Rental

Lauren Kliethermes & Kara Scheulen, Faith Formation Coordinators



<https://www.stanthonycatholicchurch.org>



<https://www.stlawrencecatholicchurch.org>



ST. ANTHONY PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Sandy Wieberg, President

Julie Dye, Secretary Billy Buechter

Brandon Buechter Loren Otto

Scott Roark Nikki Rowden

ST. ANTHONY FINANCE COUNCIL

Eva Voss, President Chris Dye

Kevin Otto Jackie Perkins

Mary Schulte

POPE LEO'S DECEMBER PRAYER INTENTION



FOR CHRISTIANS IN AREAS OF CONFLICT

Let us pray that
Christians living in areas
of war or conflict,
especially in the Middle
East, might be seeds of
peace, reconciliation
and hope.

ST. LAWRENCE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Tom Oligschlaeger, President

Abby Kemna, Secretary

Chris Beck

Kelli Green

Craig Oligschlaeger

Eric O'Neil

ST. LAWRENCE FINANCE COUNCIL

Ben Scheulen, President Janet Beck

Kaye Finn

Leroy Heckemeyer

Jim Plassmeyer

Church Contact Information

Father Aubuchon @ 573-493-2301; caubuchon@diojeffcity.org / Deacon Steve Schwartz @ 573-680-9449; sschwartz@diojeffcity.org

Parish Secretary: Michele Renkemeyer @ 573-291-6638 / 573-793-6550

Church Email Addresses: stanthonyofpaduachurch@hotmail.com / stlawrencegridiron@hotmail.com

Parish Office: St. Lawrence Church Basement / Hours: Mon – Fri, 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM / SUMMER HOURS (Jun – Aug): Tues-Fri, Closed Mondays

Loren Otto / Michele Renkemeyer, St. Anthony Parish Hall Rental @ 573-793-6550

WEEKLY HOLY MASS SCHEDULE: December 16 - 21, 2025

ST. LAWRENCE				ST. ANTHONY	
Tuesday	Dec 16	6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration/Confessions † Roger Kliethermes		
Wednesday	Dec 17	6:30 PM	CCD Mass / † Henry & Marie Fennwald Ministries & Confessions: Grade 5	6:30 PM	CCD Eucharistic Adoration/Rosary Ministries & Confessions: All Grades
Thursday	Dec 18	7:15 AM	† Gerard & Joyce Blomberg	5:30 PM 6:00 PM	Confessions † John & Mathilda Rehagen
Friday	Dec 19	7:15 AM 10:00 AM	† Ramona Meyer Miller Co Care & Rehab Center Mass		
Saturday	Dec 20	4:00 PM 5:00 PM	Confessions † Paul Bax		
Fourth Sunday of Advent	Dec 21	9:30 AM 10:00 AM After Mass	Confessions Parishioners of St. Anthony & St. Lawrence Christmas Church Decorating	7:30 AM 8:00 AM	Confessions † Jimmie & Angela Schulte

Sun, Dec 14, 2025; Third Sunday of Advent. Daily Reflection: John the Baptist was a pivotal figure in the history of Israel. It had been 500 long years since Malachi had issued his momentous prophecy concerning “the day of the Lord”, and when John came on the scene, many people recognized him as a prophet, a voice of hope and perhaps even the fulfillment of that hope! They were so excited that they flocked to the desert to hear him and receive his baptism of repentance. In today’s Gospel, Jesus makes it clear that John is even “more than a prophet”. He is the final messenger, the one who would return and prepare the way of the Lord. John’s appearance signaled a turning of the ages, the dawn of the long-awaited Messiah. We, too, are in our own turning of the ages as we await the coming of Jesus, our Messiah. So how can we make our hearts ready for him to come, both at Christmas and at the end of time? One way, of course, is to confess our sins. But just as John was more than a prophet, God wants to do more for us than cleanse us of sin. He wants to go deeper into our hearts and heal our inner wounds and any attitudes that might be keeping us from fully welcoming Jesus. For example, perhaps your life hasn’t turned out the way you envisioned, and you feel disappointed with God’s plan or you may blame the Lord for something bad that has happened in your life or for not answering a heartfelt prayer. Perhaps the burdens of life have weighted you down, and you’ve allowed yourself to become satisfied with superficial or routine prayer. Whatever is burdening you, now is the time to cry out to the Lord for healing! He wants you to live in freedom, not under a cloud of grief or resentment or complacency. Remember John’s message: “The kingdom of heaven is at hand”. (Matthew 3:2). God’s grace is at hand for you TODAY!

Lord, search my heart and set me free!

Stewardship Schedule Fourth Sunday of ADVENT	SATURDAY, Dec 20, 5:00 PM St. Lawrence † Paul Bax	SUNDAY, Dec 21, 8:00 AM St. Anthony † Jimmie & Angie Schulte	SUNDAY, Dec 21, 10:00 AM St. Lawrence Parishioners’ Mass
LECTORS	Kathleen Schwartze	Lisa Otto	Kaye Finn
SERVERS	Daisy Bax Augusta Schanzmeyer Cooper Lueckenotto	Keaton Jones Mason Otto Sarah Kliethermes	Rowan Juergensmeyer Ben & Harper Kemna
GIFT BEARERS	Ryan & Bethany New Family	Paul & Catherine Kliethermes	Henry & Erica Nilges Family
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Deacon Schwartze Dale Buechter	Deacon Schwartze	Deacon Schwartze Ben Scheulen
SACRISTAN	Mike Verhoff	Linda Volmert	Stan Struemp
PRAYER HOSPITALITY SERVICE	Rosary: Michele Renkemeyer Greeters: Tom & Rachel Oligschlaeger	Rosary: Patsy Voss Greeters: Dennis & Margie Wilson Ushers: Eddie Green, Herman Gudeman, Dustin Hagenhoff, Fred Herx	Rosary: Brett & Lindsey Holtmeyer Greeters: Eric & Alysha O’Neil

***** SEE BACK PAGE FOR CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY STEWARDSHIP SCHEDULES *****

LAST CCD CLASS for 2025 is Wednesday, Dec 17, 6:30 PM

St. Anthony begins with Eucharistic Adoration/Rosary - Ministries: All Grades

St. Lawrence begins with Mass – Ministries & Confessions: Grade: 5

CCD Classes resume Wednesday, January 7, 2026

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES HERE & AROUND US

*St. Lawrence (St. Elizabeth)
Sun, Dec 14, 5:30 PM*

*Our Lady of the Lake (Lake Ozark)
Wed, Dec 17, 6:00 PM*

*St. Cecilia Church (Meta)
Thurs, Dec 18, 6:30 PM*

FISCAL YEAR: July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026 ST. LAWRENCE PARISH STATISTICS Number of Registered Households: 292 / Individual Catholics: 737			FISCAL YEAR: July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026 ST. ANTHONY PARISH STATISTICS Number of Registered Households : 143 / Individual Catholics: 322		
ST. LAWRENCE OFFERINGS	Fiscal Year to Date (FYD) Totals 07/01/2025 – 12/09/2025		ST. ANTHONY OFFERINGS	Fiscal Year to Date (FYD) Totals 07/01/2025 – 12/09/2025	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 96,506.48	Total Offertory Contributions \$ 131,896.14	Adult Envelopes	\$ 41,861.57	Total Offertory Contributions \$ 50,201.57
Online Offerings	18,530.00		Online Offering	4,160.00	
Youth Envelopes / Loose	735.00 / 3,289.66		Loose	3,283.00	
Missions	12,785.00		Missions	897.00	
Christmas Special	50.00		Christmas Special	0.00	
Easter Special	0.00		Easter Special	0.00	
Other Income		28,404.91	Other Income		4,697.32
Total YTD Parish Income		160,301.05	2025 Fall Supper Income		26,622.00
Total YTD Parish Expenses		\$ 197,033.37	Total YTD Parish Income		81,520.89
FY Budget 25 - 26: \$ 320,200.00 / Weekly Avg Offertory Goal: \$ 6,159.62			FY Budget 25-26: \$ 123,400.00 / Weekly Avg Offertory Goal: \$ 2,373.08		
MONTH	Weekly Average Offertory Contributions	Monthly Tithe (BASED on tithable Income)	MONTH	Weekly Average Offertory Contributions	Monthly Tithe (BASED on tithable Income)
August (5 Weeks)	4,380.60	1,805.00	August (5 Weeks)	1,513.06	708.00
September	6,548.11	2,576.00	September	2,946.34	1,043.00
October	7,289.90	1,613.01	October	2,092.75	688.00
November (5 Weeks)	5,330.55	2,349.00	November (5 Weeks)	2,276.43	1,064.00

ST. ANTHONY PARISH & COMMUNITY NEWS

Saturday, Dec 13, 5:00 PM: The Old School House Boutique Christmas Parade, 350 Main Street, Iberia, MO. EVERYONE is welcome and anyone can put a float, tractor, or old car in the parade. Call Joise for more information at 573-619-2331. Also serving FREE Hot Chocolate and S'MORES!

The St. Anthony Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary is sponsoring a Giving Tree again this year. The Giving tree is/will be set up in the back of church. Please select the tag(s) off the tree, gift wrap and attach the tag on the gift(s), and place in the back of church. Gifts need to be returned by Monday, December 15th. Your support in helping the Auxiliary sponsor families this holiday season is much appreciated!

St. Anthony Sunday Rosary, Dec 21, 6:00 PM: Join us for the Rosary in St. Anthony Church. All are welcome!

St. Anthony Christmas Caroling begins at 6:00 pm on Christmas Eve in Church. Both Youth and Adult Choirs will lead caroling. All choir members are asked to arrive by 5:55 pm. Everyone is welcome to join us in celebrating the Birth of Jesus with song. There will be no caroling on Christmas Day. On Sunday, December 28, the Youth Choir will lead caroling and are asked to arrive by 7:30 am.

ST. LAWRENCE PARISH & COMMUNITY NEWS

WE NEED YOUR HOLIDAY HELPING HANDS! ON Monday, Dec 15, FOOD PANTRY DAY. Hours are 4 – 8 PM. Store Hours are 1–7 PM. We appreciate the assistance!

St. Cecilia Children's Choir Christmas Practice and Christmas Eve: The last **MUST ATTEND** Christmas Choir Practice is Wednesday, Dec 17, 5:30 PM (In Church). On Christmas Eve, Dec 24, we will meet in the Church Basement at 2:45 PM.

St. Ann's Sodality has begun work on our "Angel" project for Christmas. This project has become a wonderful giving event! If any St. Ann's member has not been contacted yet and you would like to help with baked goods, candy, etc., to include in the Christmas gift boxes, please contact Diane Juergensmeyer at 573-680-9900. St. Ann's will assemble gift boxes on Wednesday, Dec 17, 8:00 am. in the church basement and any help is appreciated. This is a great way to spread cheer to some individuals at Christmas.

It's that time of the year again. 🍷 **St. Ann's Giving Tree** is placed in the back of St. Lawrence church. 🌲 We adopted three families and nine nursing home residents. If you would be so kind, take a tag, buy the gift(s), wrap it, put the tag on the gift and

return it to the back of Church by **December 14**. Your gift and generous heart will certainly brighten someone's holiday. Thank you in advance. Merry Christmas!

Sunday, December 21, following the 10:00 AM Mass: St. Lawrence Church Christmas decorating. Any help is appreciated.

BAPTISMAL BLESSINGS!

*Koen Dale Humphrey
Child of Hayden & Callie (Holtmeyer) Humphrey
Baptized at St. Lawrence Church
Saturday, December 13, 2025*



CHRISTMAS Special Collection envelopes can be found in your church envelop packets and/or in the Catholic Missourian. This special offering can be made any time during the Christmas Season with second collections being done during Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses.
Please consider supporting our diocesan seminarians and infirm priests.

Fred Grellaur
Donna Hoeller
Barb Brison
Fred Schaffer
John Schaefer
Helen Davis
Travis Tomson
Larry Buckley
Clinton Luebbering
Dylan Nichols
Terry Yates
Dakota Clarkston

Lorraine Hoecker
Bryan Hoecker
Bryleigh Wulff
Sherry Johnson
Sister Vicki Ewers
Nolan Kesel
Cathy Thompson
Grant Lamb
Deidra Buechter
Emberlee, Josie, &
Brody Boeckman
Joel Gares

Jerry Herx
Mike Kesel
Louis Toebben
Vicki Cox Bullock
Ramona Bax
Bruce Berendzen
Christopher Thompson
Nic Gilardi
Patrick Holtmeyer
Treyton Kemna
Joseph Volmert
Gene Wilde

NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

NEW YEAR'S EVE
December 31, 2025
6:00 pm St. Lawrence

NEW YEAR'S DAY
January 1, 2026
9:00 am St. Lawrence
6:00 pm St. Anthony

2025 Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Stewardship UPDATED Schedules

Stewardship CHRISTMAS Ministry Schedule	St. Lawrence Christmas Eve <u>Vigil Mass (Pg 78)</u> Dec 24, 4:00 PM Choir Begins @ 3:25 PM † Daniel Scheulen	St. Anthony Christmas Eve <u>Mass During the Night (Pg 82)</u> Dec 24, 6:30 PM Choir Begins @ 6:00 PM Parishioners' Mass	St. Anthony Christmas Day <u>Mass at Dawn (Pg 84)</u> Dec 25, 8:00 AM † Roger Kliethermes	St. Lawrence Christmas Day (Pg 85) Dec 25, 10:00 AM † William & Carmen Luetkemeyer
LECTORS	Janet Weckenborg	Emma Musick	Lynette Otto	Daniel Buechter
SERVERS	Preston & Harrison Plassmeyer Evelyn Buechter, Cameron Kesel	Leo & Rita Wieberg Ben Engelmeyer, Alyssa Perkins	Lillian & Nick Wieberg Christina & Rachel Bax	Benton & Lucy Heckemeyer Mya & Alayna Oligschlaeger
GIFT BEARERS	Ben & Kara Scheulen Family	Ethan & Haley Musick Family	David & Dennis Kliethermes	Blaine & Jackie Luetkemeyer
COMMUNION MINISTER	PRECIOUS BODY & BLOOD Deacon Schwartz, Paul Beck Kim Plassmeyer Cathy Reinkemeyer	PRECIOUS BODY & BLOOD Deacon Schwartz Margie Chipman Mary Schulte	PRECIOUS BODY & BLOOD Deacon Schwartz Catherine Kliethermes Liz Voss	PRECIOUS BODY & BLOOD Deacon Schwartz, Macy Beck Bert & Jane Doerhoff
SACRISTAN	Brett Holtmeyer	Margie Wilson	Catherine Kliethermes	Jennifer Oligschlaeger
HOSPITALITY Seminary Collection (2 nd Collection)	Choir begins @ 3:25 PM/No Rosary Greeters: 2 nd Grade CCD Ushers: Brett Holtmeyer, Dale Renkemeyer, Jim Plassmeyer, Ben Scheulen	Caroling begins @ 6 PM/No Rosary Greeters: 1 st Grade CCD Ushers: Jerome & Larry Herx and David & Jeffrey Holtmeyer	No Rosary Greeters: Brandon & Amanda Buechter Ushers: Randy, Richard, Ronnie, and Steven Holtmeyer	No Rosary Greeters: Leroy & Shelia Heckemeyer Ushers: Leroy Heckemeyer, Tom Oligschlaeger, Craig Oligschlaeger, Eric O'Neil

*If you are unable to fulfill the assigned Christmas ministry, please attempt to find a replacement OR contact Parish Secretary Michele Renkemeyer as soon as possible (call/text 573-291-6638) so an alternate(s) can be assigned.
Thank you to all during the Christmas Season!*