

May 5, 2024

## **Sixth Sunday of Easter**

"

## The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

~ Ps 98

#### Parish Mission Statement

We are a vibrant and welcoming Catholic Church community that recognizes God's presence in all through our love and service.

#### Parish Vision Statement

Build the Kingdom of God, individually and communally, by fostering discipleship and thanksgiving through:

- the celebration of Eucharist and other sacraments,
- prayer and lifelong Catholic formation,
- service with and for one another and the greater community.

#### "where all are welcome"

St. Benedict Catholic Church | www.stbenedict.org 16223 S 48th St. Phoenix, AZ 85048 | 480.961.1610

St. John Bosco Catholic School | www.sjbosco.org 16035 S 48th St. Phoenix, AZ 85048 | 480.219.4848

#### Office Hours ———

Monday - Thursday 9 am - 5 pm Fridays 9 am - 3 pm

#### Closed Daily 12 pm - 1 pm

Saturday 5 pm, Sunday 7, 9, 11 am, 5 pm Weekdays Mon-Thurs, Chapel: 8:15 am Weekdays on Fri 8:15 am, Church

Mass Schedule ——

#### Reconciliation ———

Fri 5-6 pm. Sat 8-9 am

#### Upcoming Events

For a complete calendar of events, please visit stbenedict.org/calendar

Monday, 5/6 8:15am | Mass Tuesday, 5/7 8:15 am | Mass Wednesday, 5/8

8:15 am | Mass 6 pm | Youth Choir

Thursday, 5/9

Friday, 5/10

8:15 am | Mass 5 pm | Confession Saturday, 5/11

8 am | Confession 5 pm | Mass

Mass Intentions—

Sunday, 5/5/2024

7 am | Laura Arkfeld-Mohr † 9 am | Ed Kacsanek † 11 am | Darel Williams †

5 pm | Regina Brewer †

M 5/6 | Winkelbauer Family

Tu 5/7 | Ignacio Gil †

W 5/8 | Jean Sarnowski † Th 5/9 | Doug Souders †

F 5/10 | Paul Zuzich † Sat 5/11 | Eve Smith †

Sunday, 5/12/2024

7 am | Carlos Garcia †

9 am | Darel Williams †

11 am | Parishioners

5 pm | Victoria H. Galvan †

8:15 am | Mass 4:30 pm | Legion Mary

6 pm | Adult Choir 6 pm | Knights of Columbus

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### **Liturgy & Administration**

## **Scripture Readings**

Monday: Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149:1b-2, 5/6 3-4, 5-6a, 9b; Jn 15:26-16:4a **Tuesday:** Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138:1-2ab, 5/7 2cde-3, 7c-8; Jn 16:5-11 Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22–18:1: Ps 148:1-

5/8 2, 11-12, 13, 14; Jn 16:12-15

Thursday: Acts 18:1-8; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab,

5/9 3cd-4; Jn 16:16-20

Friday: Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47:2-3, 4-5,

5/10 6-7; Jn 16:20-23

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-9,

5/11 10; Jn 16:23b-28

Sunday: Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-7,

5/12 8-9 (6); Eph 1:17-23;

Mk 16:15-20

(The Ascension of the Lord)

## **Parish Contributions**

A special thank you to those who are faithfully contributing

Regular Contributions for

March 2024

**Actual:** \$ 79,823\*

**Budget:** \$ 78,352

\* Realm

Online: \$ 46,009

Cash/Check: \$ 33,814

(Contributions are recorded on a monthly basis per

fiscal year

July 1, '23 to June 30, '24)

## Construction **Project**

February 28, 2024

Current **Estimated** Construction

Costs: \$9.281.993\*\*

Donations/

Fundraising: (\$4,717,907)

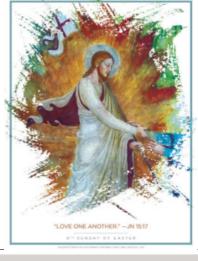
Line of Credit/

Debt: (\$4,500,000)

Additional Funds

to Raise: \$64,086

\*\* Includes building permits not previously included, change orders and fluctuating costs of FF&E.



## Live the Liturgy **Inspiration for the Week**

Christ's love for us is radical — it changed the whole world. It will not be easy to love as Christ loved, but this is the mission for which we have been chosen by God. So let us love one another.

Let us change the world.

**©LPi** 

Pastor - Fr. James Aboyi, VC x 302 fraboyi@stbenedict.org

Parochial Vicar - Fr. Manasseh Iorchir, VC x 306 frmanasseh@stbenedict.org

Office Manager - Mary Jane Livens x 304 mlivens@stbenedict.org

Children's Formation - Sr. Liza Sulit x 308

srliza@stbenedict.org

Front Office/Admin. Asst. - Amy Fletcher x 300

afletcher@stbenedict.org

Deacon - Ed Winkelbauer x 300 dcned@stbenedict.org

Dir. Evangelization/Formation - Sr. Ruth de la Cruz, OP x 303 srruth@stbenedict.org

Dir. Music/Liturgy - Phil Arkfeld x 311 parkfeld@stbenedict.org

Stewardship/Engagement - Maryola Fabilena x 309 mfabilena@stbenedict.org

Youth/Campus Ministry - Sr. Delia Obenza, OP x 307 srdelia@stbenedict.org

Contact the Parish Office at 480.961.1610

#### A Reflection by Fr. Manasseh

#### "THIS IS MY COMMANDMENT: LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU."

The twelve men chosen by Jesus to be His Apostles were all Jewish. Similarly, most of the area that Jesus went about teaching and healing was Jewish territory. Little wonder when the Apostles began to make Disciples of all nations, they naturally went to fellow Jews and shared with them the Good News about the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the salvation that His death and resurrection purchased for all people. However, there were non-Jewish people who heard of the growing "way" and desired to be part of it. This presented to the early Church its first major problem other than persecution. Should those who were not of the Jewish origin and religion and so unclean be granted unconditional acceptance into the assembly of the emerging Christ's faithful or not? The early Church quickly realized that it had a huge problem on its hands, a challenge that threatened the very existence of the Church if not properly handled. How the Holy Spirit prompted the Church to carefully navigate this huddle is what the First Reading at the Liturgy this weekend recounts.

The Holy Spirit used Simon Peter, leader of the Apostolic college to whom Jesus made the promise "on this rock I shall build my Church and the gates of hades shall not prevail against it....." (Matthew 16:18) to open the way for the Gentiles to have unhindered access to the means of salvation. Earlier, Peter had seen a vision in which he was instructed to take and eat a dish full of "unclean" animals according to Jewish pedagogical separation of "clean" from "unclean" animals which was symbolic of the separation of God's people from the people of the world. At the house of Cornelius, a Gentile who desired to embrace the Christian faith, Peter interpreted the vision he had earlier to mean that "God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears Him and acts uprightly is acceptable to Him." While he was still speaking, the Holy Spirit confirmed his holy opinion by falling on the Gentiles and causing them to speak in tongues to the amazement of Peter's Jewish companions. Invoking his Apostolic prerogative, Peter determined that the Gentiles were more than welcome to be Christians and he ordered that Cornelius and his household should be baptized.

In the Second Reading, St. John determines that God is love and anyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Invariably, whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love. This is similar to the conclusion of St. Peter in the First Reading that all one needs to be accepted by God is to "fear Him and act righteously." Righteousness and the fear of the Lord can be rightly interpreted to mean the love of God and neighbor and anyone who loves God and his or her neighbor as Christ loves us is in the right relationship with God.

In the Gospel passage, Jesus gave His disciples a new commandment. "This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you." The law of love as far as Jesus is concerned, is the law of the New Covenant which He came to seal with the sacrifice of Himself on the cross for us while we were still sinners and enemies of God. This indicates a significant shift in the focus of the law in the Old Testament which commanded its adherents to "love your neighbor as you love yourself." In the new dispensation, Christ and not the "self" would become the standard of love since He demonstrated the greatest form of love by dying the shameful death on the cross so that we could have life, and instructed us "you are my friends if you do what I command."

May we subject ourselves to the law of love as taught to us by Christ. May our love for each other be visible to the world and so make our witnessing more effective, and may Jesus teach us to love even those who, by our flawed judgment, are undeserving of our love.

Please be kind and may God bless you.

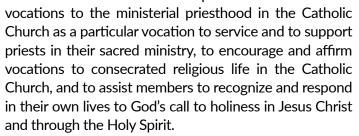
Fr. Manasseh

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#### **Current Events and More**

#### Serra Club Visit

The Serra Club of the East Valley is part of Serra International, the Catholic Church's lay apostolate supporting vocations. Their mission is to foster and promote



Representatives will be available after Masses this weekend, May 4 and 5, to provide information to parishioners who have an interest in or feel called to support our priests and religious in special ways. We are also accepting members and meet twice monthly.

For more information, stop by the Serra Club table after Mass. Their website is at **www.serraeastvalley.org**.

## St. Benedict Welcoming Sunday

This weekend, after the 9 am Sunday Mass, members of the parish community will be gathering for the monthly Welcoming Sunday for fellowship and some refreshments. Meet our priests, members of the Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils, Staff and other parishioners. Join us for fellowship and refreshments. It's always a lot of fun and we hope you will stop by after Mass!

## **Anointing Mass**

The next St. Benedict Anointing Mass will be on **Saturday**, **May 25** at 11 am in the church. We invite those who are in need of healing in their lives, be it physical, emotional or spiritual. Please RSVP with the parish office at **480.961.1610** ext. **300**.

#### **New Parishioners**

- Devon Jones
- Colton Miller



## **New Assignments**

We would like to let you know that Fr. Manasseh is being transferred from St. Benedict to serve at St. Steven's Catholic Church in Sun Lakes, effective July 1, 2024. We will miss him dearly here in our parish community but I am glad to know that he will be nearby and will be coming by to visit from time to time. On the same note I would like to announce to you that Fr. Augustine Acheme, VC, has

been assigned to serve in our parish community as Parochial Vicar, effective July 1, 2024. Fr. Augustine belongs to the Via Christi Society and is currently serving at St. Timothy Parish in Mesa, AZ. Let us give Fr. Augustine a warm welcome.



#### **Congratulations Connor**

Our Seminarian, Connor Companik, is being ordained a Deacon on **Sunday**, **May 26**, 9 am, at Ss. Simon and Jude Cathedral. He will be serving and preaching at our 5 pm Mass that same evening. Afterwards we are having a Meet & Greet for him over at the St. John



Bosco School Multipurpose Room. This will be a pot luck... watch your email for a link to the list of items for sign up!

#### **Pastoral Care**

Please remember in your prayers **Leonor Amaro**, **Edward J. Bires** and **Ed Kacsanek** who died recently. We pray that their families and friends will feel God's healing embrace through the prayers and support of our faith community.

#### **Volunteers Needed**

St. Benedict parish is looking for volunteers with access to Microsoft Publisher to assist with layout and printing of worship aids for funerals. The average time commitment is about two hours a week. Training is available. If interested, contact Phil Arkfeld at *parkfeld@stbenedict.org* or call **480.961.1610** ext. **311**.

#### Faith Formation and More

# Happenings in Children and Youth Faith Formation

#### Sunday, May 5

Liturgy of the Word with Children Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (last) EPIC (last)

#### Sunday, May 12

Liturgy of the Word with Children
Children's Mass at 9 am

## **OCIA** Registration

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults and Children - used to be RCIA) is a process for individuals to become Catholic and receive the sacraments of initiation - Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist. Come to our meetings with someone who has never been baptized or who has been baptized in a non-Catholic Christian tradition. Registration for the 2024 sessions is ongoing. Sessions begin in August.

#### Faith Formation 2024-2025

The Roman Catholic Church teaches that Faith Formation is a lifelong process of learning, loving, and living our faith. The concept of lifelong learning invites each of us to continuously grow in our faith by learning and sharing with others in our community. Our parish offers Faith Formation programs in different areas:

#### Children:

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Journey of Faith

Liturgy of the Word with Children

#### Youth Formation:

JAM for Middle School EPIC for High School

Registration for the School Year 2024-2025 starts on July 1, 2024. Classes will start on the second week of September 2024. For more information, you can visit our church's website at www.stbenedict.org.

## **Baptism Class**

The next Baptism Class at St. Benedict for parents and godparents is on **Saturday**, **May 18** from 9:30 am to 11:30 am in the St. Benedict Conference Room (Annex 1). To RSVP, contact Sr. Ruth at *srruth@stbenedict.org*.

## May, the Month of Mary

Honor the Blessed Virgin Mary throughout the month of May by creating a special prayer space in her honor. Cover a table or stand with a white cloth and add a statue, icon, or image of Mary. If there is room, place a candle and a vase on the table or stand. Use the vase to hold flowers and flowering branches all through the month.



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#### Ministries & More -

## **Knights of Columbus**

Cinco de Mayo is not Mexican Independence Day, a popular misconception. Instead, it commemorates a single battle. In late1861, Benito Juárez was elected president of Mexico. At the time, the country was in financial ruin after years of internal strife, and the new President was forced to default on debt payments to European governments. France, ruled by Napoleon III, decided to use the opportunity to carve an empire out of Mexican territory. After much strife, the French retreated losing nearly 500 soldiers where fewer than 100 Mexicans had been killed in the clash. Although not a major strategic win in the overall war against the French, Zaragoza's success at the Battle of Puebla on May 5 represented a great symbolic victory for the Mexican government and bolstered the resistance movement.

#### **Announcements:**

- Thank you to all the Brothers who attended Adoration on Friday, May 3.
- The State Raffle closes Wednesday, May 15, 2024.
   Remember to buy your tickets on time.

#### **Events:**

- Monthly Council Meeting on Thursday, May 9 at 7 pm in the Annex 1 Conference Room.
- New officers elections on Thursday, May 9. Please remember to vote.

Vivat Jesus,

Isauro Amaro, Grand Knight Fr. Bob Binta Council # 12246 480.748.1449

grandknight@kofc12246.org

#### St. Vincent de Paul

Thank you so much for your generosity to the SVdP onsite pantry. This week we are in need of personal care items:



- Feminine Hygiene
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Shaving Cream
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Body Wash
- Hand Soap

In March, we assisted 66 households with \$6,136 in financial help, and 152 bags of groceries. We are grateful for your support through Realm and the 5th Sunday collection donations.

If you are in need St. Vincent de Paul assistance or information, call the parish office at **480.961.1610 ext. 315**.

## Address/Email/Phone Changed?

If you have moved, changed your email address or phone number since registering with the parish, could you please send any updates to Amy in the office at *afletcher@stbenedict.org* or 480.961.1610 ext. 300. Thank you for helping to keep your records up-to-date!

## Save the Date: BINGO Night!

Save the date for BINGO on **Friday**, **July 12** from 6-8 pm in the St. John Bosco multipurpose room. Join us for a fun evening for all ages!

## **Ministry Contacts**

Audio-Visual... Scott, av@stbenedict.org
Altar Servers... Ken, dken-1@hotmail.com
Art & Env... Cathy, cathytempleton\_1@cox.net
Baptisms... Sr. Ruth, srruth@stbenedict.org
EMHCs... Russ, rustlespencer@gmail.com
Events/Helping Hands... Lani, events@stbenedict.org
Finance Council... Karen, karenmains@msn.com
Hospitality... David, davidjschenach@gmail.com
Knights of Columbus... Isauro, 480.748.1449

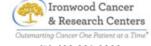
Lectors... Michele, micheleedison@aol.com
Legion of Mary... Ann Marie, 480.688.2096
Music/Choir... Phil A., 480.961.1610 ext. 311
Pastoral Care... Kathy, kathy.mccluskey@cox.net
Pastoral Council... Russ, pastoralcouncil@stbenedict.org
Porters of St. Joseph... security@stbenedict.org
Refugee Resettlement... Dave, zabordave@gmail.com
Sacristans... Larry, zbarblary@gmail.com
St. Vincent de Paul... Phil W., 480.961.1610 ext. 315
Women's Spirituality... Nora, nmphillips@cox.net



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## A Note From The SJB Principal

Dear Parishioners,

They did it again! Please join me in congratulating the 7th/8th-Grade Girls' Basketball Team on their recent CYAA Tournament Championship! This is their second championship in as many years and they will soon hang their new banner next to last year's in the MPR.



This year's team had a stellar regular season with a record of 9–0. Through the playoffs, the Bulldogs defeated Sts. Simon and Jude, St. Francis (twice), and St. Gregory. The girls lost a tough game to St. Gregory in the semi-final game but avenged themselves in the tournament final. They saved their best basketball for the year's biggest game and played a dominant second half to defeat St. Gregory 30–20 for the back-to-back championship.



Back Row:

Coach Joe Pezzuto, Coach Dennis Keane, A.D. Brett Caradonna

Middle Row:

Sophie Vaughan, Nathia Alvarez, Agnes Pezzuto, Aubrey Keane, Luisa Alonso, Preslie Odenberg, Ayjae Larson, Maddy Duvall, Theresa Gove

Front Row: Kailua Bowler

Congratulations to the 2024 Bulldogs and their dedicated volunteer coaches!

Joyful Blessings, Jamie Bescak, M.Ed. Principal 480.219.4848

**Employment Opportunities** 

Join Team Bosco! Our school is growing and we have a couple part-time openings:

Instructional Assistant and Preschool Instructional Assistant for the 2024-2025 school year.

For more information or to apply, please go to the Diocese of Phoenix Catholic School website or here: https://catholicschoolsphx.tedk12.com/hire/index.aspx