



# St. Benedict Catholic Church

*“where all are welcome”*

St. Benedict Catholic Church | [www.stbenedict.org](http://www.stbenedict.org)  
16223 S 48th St. Phoenix, AZ 85048 | 480.961.1610

St. John Bosco Catholic School | [www.sjbosco.org](http://www.sjbosco.org)  
16035 S 48th St. Phoenix, AZ 85048 | 480.219.4848

March 26, 2023

## Fifth Sunday of Lent

“  
**With the Lord there is mercy  
and fullness of redemption.**”

~ Psalm 130

### 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.

### Upcoming Events

For a complete calendar of events, please visit [stbenedict.org/calendar](http://stbenedict.org/calendar)

#### Monday, 3/27

8:15 am | Mass

#### Tuesday, 3/28

8:15 am | Mass  
6:15 pm | JAM  
6:15 pm | JOF

#### Wednesday, 3/29

8:15 am | Mass  
3:30 pm | Children's Choir  
7 pm | Parish Rosary

#### Thursday, 3/30

8:15 am | Mass  
6 pm | Choir Practice

#### Friday, 3/31

8:15 am | Mass  
5 pm | Confessions  
6 pm | Stations (SJB)

#### Saturday, 4/1

8:30 am | Confessions  
10 am | Women's Spirit.



### Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 am - 5 pm

Fridays 9 am - 3 pm

Closed Daily 12 pm - 1 pm

### Mass Schedule

Weekends and 8:15am Fridays at SJB MPR:

Saturday 5 pm, Sunday 7, 9, 11 am, 5 pm

Weekdays Mon-Thurs, St. Benedict Chapel: 8:15 am

### Reconciliation

Fri 5-6 pm, Sat 8:30-9:30 am, St. Benedict Chapel

### Mass Intentions

#### Sunday, 3/26/2023

7 am | Curt Major †  
9 am | People of the Parish  
11 am | Apolinar & Lucia Samin †  
5 pm | Kevin Day †

Th 3/30 | Julito Alcasid †  
F 3/31 | Cyrus Goldhair †  
Sat 4/1 | Cheryle Bechtold †

#### Sunday, 4/2/2023

M 3/27 | Nancy Thompson (lvg)  
Tu 3/28 | Kyle Pereria (lvg)  
W 3/29 | Alexander Gil (lvg)

7 am | Manuel Aguilar †  
9 am | Ernesto Lee †  
11 am | Parishioners  
5 pm | Christina Loh †

**Liturgy & Administration**

**Scripture Readings**

- Monday:** Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62;  
3/27 Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Jn 8:1-1
- Tuesday:** Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-18,  
3/28 19-21; Jn 8:21-3
- Wednesday:** Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52,  
3/29 53, 54, 55, 56; Jn 8:31-4
- Thursday:** Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-5, 6-7,  
3/30 8-9; Jn 8:51-59
- Friday:** Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-  
3/31 4, 5-6, 7; Jn 10:31-42
- Saturday:** Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-  
4/1 12abcd, 13; Jn 11:45-56
- Sunday:** Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14;  
4/2 Jn 12:1-11  
*(Palm Sunday)*

**Parish Contributions**

*A special thank you to those who are faithfully contributing*

Regular Contributions for  
**Feb 2023**  
*(Plate)*

**Actual: \$ 72,986\***

**Budget: \$ 71,230**

\* Faith Direct & Realm

Online: \$ 46,314

Cash/Check: \$ 26,672

*(Contributions are recorded on a monthly basis per fiscal year July 1, '22 to June 30, '23)*

**Construction Project**

*February 2023*  
*(Month End)*

**TOTAL COST: \$8,400,000**

Total Expenses

**Paid To Date: \$3,736,529**

Remaining

**Balance of Cost: \$4,663,471**

**TOTAL AMOUNT AVAILABLE**

(Cash on Hand &

Line of Credit): **\$4,026,325**

**Additional Funds**

**Need to Raise: \$637,146**

**Holy Week/  
Easter Schedule 2023**

**Holy Thursday, April 6**

- Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7 pm

**Good Friday, April 7**

- Divine Mercy Novena - 11 am
- Seven Last Words - 12 pm
- Stations of the Cross - 3 pm
- Good Friday Service - 7 pm

**Holy Saturday, April 8**

- Blessing of the Baskets - Noon
- Easter Vigil - 8 pm

**Easter Sunday, April 9**

- Masses - 6 am, 8 am, 10 am, 12 pm
- Easter Egg Hunt - 11 am

**St. Benedict Church  
Charity &  
Development Appeal  
Totals  
March 22, 2023**

Number of Donors: 174  
Amount Donated: \$91,872  
Donations Goal: \$85,000

**Parish Staff**

**Pastor - Fr. James Aboyi, VC** Ext. 302  
[fraboyi@stbenedict.org](mailto:fraboyi@stbenedict.org)

**Parochial Vicar - Fr. Manasseh Iorichir, VC** Ext 306  
[frmanasseh@stbenedict.org](mailto:frmanasseh@stbenedict.org)

**Office Manager - Mary Jane Livens** Ext. 304  
[mlivens@stbenedict.org](mailto:mlivens@stbenedict.org)

**Children's Formation - Heather Mooney** Ext. 308  
[hmooney@stbenedict.org](mailto:hmooney@stbenedict.org)

**Front Office/Admin. Asst. - Amy Fletcher** Ext. 300  
[afletcher@stbenedict.org](mailto:afletcher@stbenedict.org)

**Deacon - Ed Winkelbauer** Ext. 300  
[dcned@stbenedict.org](mailto:dcned@stbenedict.org)

**Dir. Music/Liturgy - Phil Arkfeld**, Ext. 311  
[parkfeld@stbenedict.org](mailto:parkfeld@stbenedict.org)

**Stewardship/Engagement - Maryola Fabilena** Ext. 309  
[mfabilena@stbenedict.org](mailto:mfabilena@stbenedict.org)

**Youth Ministry - Open**

**Contact the Parish Office at 480.961.1610.**

## A Reflection by Fr. Manasseh

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### “I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE.”

The Season of Lent is approaching its close and we are on the last of the trifacta of lengthy Gospel Readings from St. John in the Liturgical “Year A”. Next Sunday is Palm Sunday which will usher us into Holy Week, and as we draw closer to Easter, we find the Readings revolving around the theme of Death, Resurrection and Life.

The First Reading, taken from the Prophet Ezekiel, is God’s own interpretation of the “Dry Bones” vision; shown to the Prophet where Ezekiel was instructed to prophesy life to the vast army of dry bones which received restoration of flesh and came to life as soon as the Prophet did as he was instructed. Here (in the First Reading), God reveals to the Prophet the meaning of the preceding vision. God was going to terminate Israel’s hopelessness in exile and effect a restoration that would see Israel returned to her ancestral habitat. Israel’s exile is interpreted as some kind of death, so real that all that is left of her is a mass of disjointed skeletons. Through the power of God’s Word, God’s Spirit will resuscitate and restore Israel to her pre-exilic state where she enjoyed liberty on her own land. Through this, Israel shall know that God is the Lord.

In the Gospel passage, Jesus restored His friend Lazarus, brother of Mary and Martha, to life after he had spent four days buried in the tomb. By doing this, Jesus’ Divinity was made visible and many believed in Him. St. John reports that after assuring Martha and Mary that their brother would rise, and after declaring that He is the Resurrection and Life, Jesus approached the tomb and asked the sympathizers to “take away the stone.” They eventually did and, after saying a prayer of thanksgiving, Jesus called Lazarus to come out. The man who had died and had been buried for four days emerged from the tomb alive and Jesus directed the onlookers to “untie him and let him go.” It is instructive that Jesus allowed the active participation of the sympathizers in the restoration of Lazarus to demonstrate that God is able and willing to restore us to life if we are willing to do what we can and need to do first. We should be prepared to remove the obstacles that stand between us and the desirable life in the Spirit with Jesus if we truly want to be restored to righteousness. God requires of us the willingness to do what is in our power to do, so that He can do in our lives that which only He can do. For instance, if we want to be Holy, we should be willing to acknowledge our sins, renounce and confess them, and resolve to sin no more. Then God will grant forgiveness, have us reconciled to Himself, and restore us to righteousness. Again, like Lazarus, we come into and sometimes live in the world dead in the Spirit. Everyone needs Jesus, through the Holy Sacraments, to call us out of spiritual death into life in the Spirit with Christ. This is what our Catechumens are on the verge of receiving. This is what St. Paul reassures us in his Letter to the Romans when he says, *“but if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is alive because of righteousness.”*

May the Lord continue to restore spiritual life to us through the Holy Sacraments and may we be aided by Grace to remove every obstacle that clogs the wheel of our determined march towards heaven.

Please be kind and may God bless you.

Fr. Manasseh

Current Events and More



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Update on the Construction of Our New Worship Space

The weather continues to impact our outside work. Where is the sun and dry weather? This will allow the soil and the building block to dry out. The bell tower roof is being constructed on the south east side of our parking lot. Upon completion, it will be lifted up to the top of the bell tower. Our 10-foot cross will be anchored to the center pole on the rooftop. Framing in the Nave, the transepts and the ceiling of the Narthex continue. The duct work is progressing.

The entire building has been addressed with new air-conditioning. When the weather permits, we will pour concrete at the main entrance and the northeast side of the building. When this is complete the framers can frame the roof over the east walkway.

This week's photos:

|----->

\* The bell tower roof is being assembled on the ground and, when complete, will be lifted to the top of the tower. The center pipe in the photo will hold the ten (10) foot cross on top.

\* The bell tower is scheduled to be the first area for stucco. The weather has continued to be an issue.

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## Faith Formation and More

### Happenings in Children and Youth Faith Formation

**Sunday, March 26**

*Catechesis of the Good Shepherd*  
*9 am Children's Mass*  
*Children's Liturgy of the Word*  
*EPIC*

**Tuesday, March 28**

*JAM*  
*Journey of Faith*

**Sunday, April 2**

*Catechesis of the Good Shepherd*  
*Children's Liturgy of the Word*  
*EPIC*

**Tuesday, April 4**

*JAM*  
*Journey of Faith*

### What are "The Seven Last Words"?

*The Seven Last Words* are the words or phrases uttered by Jesus on the Cross on Good Friday, as recorded in the Gospels. On Good Friday, St. Benedict parish remembers these through the reflections of seven parishioners on each of these 'Words.' After each reflection some time will be given for personal meditation and reflection. Please join us on **Good Friday, April 7**, at noon in the St. John Bosco School MPR as we present *The Seven Last Words*.

### Easter Triduum



### Come to the Triduum (Trih-doo-um)

The summit of the Liturgical Year is the Easter Triduum -- from the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery. The single celebration of the Triduum marks the end of the Lenten season, and leads to the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord.

The liturgical services that take place during the Triduum are the Mass of the Lord's Supper (7 pm on Holy Thursday), the Good Friday service (7 pm on Good Friday), the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord (Vigil on Holy Saturday at 8 pm), and the Easter Sunday Masses at 6 am, 8 am, 10 am and 12 pm.

### Holy Land Collection on Good Friday

Once a year on Good Friday, parishes are called to support Christians in the Holy Land. As a pontifical collection, the annual Good Friday collection offers a direct link for parishioners to be witnesses of peace and to help protect the Holy Places. When you donate on Good Friday, you are supporting Christians in the Holy Land.

### Parish Holiday Office Hours

Please note that the parish office will be open until 12 pm on Holy Thursday, closed on Good Friday, and closed Easter Monday. If you have an emergency requiring a priest, call **480,961.1610 ext. 317**.

### Stations of the Cross

Please join us for Stations of the Cross this Friday, March 31, 6 pm at SJB, led by the St. Benedict Altar Servers. Afterwards, we have a Fish Dinner for \$10 per adult, \$5 per child.

### Divine Mercy Novena

The Sunday after Easter is Divine Mercy Sunday. To prepare for this, we have a 9-day Novena beginning at 11 am on Good Friday, April 7. Please join the Divine Mercy Prayer group on **Good Friday, April 7**, at 11 am in the St.



Benedict Chapel for the first day of the Novena. Each day afterwards the Novena will be said at 3 pm in the St. Benedict Chapel, up to and including Divine Mercy Sunday on April 16. For more information, contact Letty at [tish@alcasid.com](mailto:tish@alcasid.com)

## Ministries & More



Next weekend, after the Sunday 9 am Mass, you are invited to come to Welcoming Sunday where you can mix and mingle with our priests, members of the Pastoral Council, Staff and new parishioners in the St. John Bosco School courtyard. Questions will be answered, refreshments will be available. We look forward to seeing you there!

### Hey Kids! Come to the Easter Egg Hunt

On Easter Sunday we are having an Easter Egg Hunt! Actually, we are having two Easter Egg Hunts, one for ages Preschool - 2nd Grade, and the other for ages 3rd - 5th Grade.



The fun begins at St. John Bosco School after the 10 am Mass with the cost being \$10 per child, or \$30 per family with 3 or more children. You will get access to the Easter Egg Hunt, a keepsake bag, a raffle ticket, and a photo with the Easter Bunny. (Family photos are \$10 each.) Four raffle baskets are waiting to be won "Squishmallows", "Trucks & Dinosaurs", "Art Basket", and a Giant Stuffed Pink Bear.

Sign up today on the parish website at [stbenedict.org](http://stbenedict.org)

### Enter Raffle to Win a Basket or Fr. James' Bicycle!

The Events Committee is sponsoring a Raffle with the chance to win 1 of 5 items! We will have a "Glamping Basket," a "Gift Card Tree Basket," a "T-shirt Basket," and a "DIY Basket," and Fr. James' bicycle! Raffle ticket sales begin this weekend after Masses and are 5 for \$20, or \$5 each. The drawing will take place on Easter Sunday at the 8 am Mass. Email Lani at [events@stbenedict.org](mailto:events@stbenedict.org) with any questions and good luck!

### Ministry Contacts

Audio-Visual... Scott, [av@stbenedict.org](mailto:av@stbenedict.org)  
 Altar Servers... Dcn. Ed, [edlinda@cox.net](mailto:edlinda@cox.net)  
 Art & Env... Cathy, [cathytempleton\\_1@cox.net](mailto:cathytempleton_1@cox.net)  
 Baptisms... Linda, [edlinda@cox.net](mailto:edlinda@cox.net)  
 EMHCs... Val & Al, [eeotz1@gmail.com](mailto:eeotz1@gmail.com)  
 Events/Helping Hands... Lani, [events@stbenedict.org](mailto:events@stbenedict.org)  
 Finance Council... Debbie, [dsmith@stbenedict.org](mailto:dsmith@stbenedict.org)  
 Hospitality... Karen, [karenmains@msn.com](mailto:karenmains@msn.com)  
 Knights of Columbus... Isauro, 480.748.1449

### St. Vincent de Paul



We pray for God's continued blessings as we serve those in need. The pantry is in need of the following:

- Canned Fruit
- Dish Liquid Soap
- Top Ramen Noodles
- Liquid Hand Soap
- Pasta Sauce
- Toothpaste

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



### Try Nello's of Ahwatukee

Today (Sunday, March 26) we are having a restaurant fundraiser with Nello's of Ahwatukee! Join us for dine in or take out and, by saying you are supporting St. Benedict Church, 15% of your food and drink purchase will be donated to the St. Benedict Building Fund. Nello's is located at 4710 E. Warner Rd. (NW corner of Warner and 48th St.) and their number for take out is **480.893.8930**.

Lectors... Michele, [micheleedison@aol.com](mailto:micheleedison@aol.com)  
 Linens... Mary Jane, 480.961.1610 ext. 304  
 Music/Choir... Phil A., 480.961.1610 ext. 311  
 Pastoral Care... Kathy, [kathy.mccluskey@cox.net](mailto:kathy.mccluskey@cox.net)  
 Pastoral Council... Russ, [pastoralcouncil@stbenedict.org](mailto:pastoralcouncil@stbenedict.org)  
 Refugee Resettlement... Dave, [zabor@cox.net](mailto:zabor@cox.net)  
 Sacristans... Bette, [blaatsch69@gmail.com](mailto:blaatsch69@gmail.com)  
 St. Vincent de Paul... Phil W., 480.961.1610 ext. 315  
 Walking With Moms... Rama, [selena91907@hotmail.com](mailto:selena91907@hotmail.com)  
 Women's Spirituality... Nora, [nmphillips@cox.net](mailto:nmphillips@cox.net)

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St. Benedict Church, Phoenix, AZ

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## A Note From The SJB Principal

Dear Parishioners,

Looks like the word is out! Since St. John Bosco’s Open House during January’s Catholic Schools Week, I am delighted to report that our student enrollment is on a steep incline. We will be welcoming many more students in all grade levels for the 2023-2024 school year. As such, we have the wonderful opportunity to hire more staff! If you know of any talented individuals who would like to join our dynamic team, please let them know of the following position openings:

1. Part-time Maintenance/Janitor
2. Preschool Instructional Assistant
3. Summer Maintenance Employee



The following link contains more details and an application: <https://catholicschoolsphx.tedk12.com/hire/index.aspx>. Principal Jamie Bescak may be reached at [jbescak@sjbosco.org](mailto:jbescak@sjbosco.org) or 480.219.4848 for more information.

Joyful Blessings,

Jamie Bescak, M.Ed., Principal  
480.219.4848



## Enrolling Now!

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or email [admissions@sjbosco.org](mailto:admissions@sjbosco.org)

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