



St. Benedict Catholic Church

“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

December 31, 2023

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

“ *The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.* ”

~ Ps 105

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

Monday, 1/1 New Years' Day/ Solemnity of Mary Office Closed 8:15 am Mass (MPR)	Tuesday, 1/2 8:15 am Mass	Wednesday, 1/3 8:15 am Mass 6:30 pm Pastoral Council
Thursday, 1/4 8:15 am Mass	Friday, 1/5 8:15 am Mass 9 am Adoration 5 pm Confessions 6 pm Benediction	Saturday, 1/6 8 am Confessions 10 am Women's Spirituality 5 pm Mass



Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 am - 5 pm
Fridays 9 am - 3 pm
Closed Daily 12 pm - 1 pm

Mass Schedule

Weekends at the St. John Bosco School MPR:
Saturday 5 pm, Sunday 7, 9, 11 am, 5 pm
Weekdays Mon-Thurs, St. Benedict Chapel: 8:15 am
Weekdays on Fri 8:15 am, St. John Bosco School MPR

Reconciliation

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

Mass Intentions

Sunday, 12/31/2023

7 am | Christiana Iorchir †
9 am | Parishioners
11 am | Special Intention
5 pm | Frank & Victoria Galvan †

Th 1/4 | Lidia Nunez †
F 1/5 | Evelyn Watson †
Sa 1/6 | Parishioners

Sunday, 1/7/2024

11:59 pm | Loretta Becka †
M 1/1/24 | Gallagher Family (lvg)
Tu 1/2 | Michelle Friedrichs (lvg)
W 1/3 | Albert Montez †

7 am | Gabi Flores (lvg)
9 am | Dorothy Rodarte †
11 am | Pete Sterkowitz †
5 pm | Yoshiro Minomo †

Liturgy & Administration

Scripture Readings

Monday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 1/1
8 (2a); Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
(Solemnity of Mary)

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; 1/2
Jn 1:19-28
(Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen)

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; 1/3
Jn 1:29-34

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; 1/4
Jn 1:35-42
(St. Elizabeth Ann Seton)

Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; 1/5
Jn 1:43-51
(St. John Neumann)

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11 1/6

Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12 1/7
(The Epiphany of the Lord)

Parish Contributions

A special thank you to those who are faithfully contributing

Regular Contributions for

November 2023

Actual: \$ 63,830*

Budget: \$ 78,352

** Realm*

Online: \$ 40,194

Cash/Check: \$ 23,636

(Contributions are recorded on a monthly basis per fiscal year

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

Construction Project

December 15, 2023

TOTAL COST: \$9,142,918*

Total Expenses

Paid To Date: \$7,324,794

Remaining

Balance of Cost: \$1,818,124

TOTAL AMOUNT

AVAILABLE

(Cash on Hand &

Line of Credit): **\$1,502,984****

Additional Funds

Need to Raise: **\$315,141**



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

** The 'Cash on Hand' is what we still have available to use from our \$4.5 million outstanding loan.

Parish Staff

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 - Heather Mooney x 308
hmooney@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

“THE LORD REMEMBERS HIS COVENANT FOREVER.”

The Sunday that falls within the Octave of Christmastide is dedicated to the celebration of the family, and so it is called “Holy Family Sunday.” This Sunday is meant to bring to the fore the blessing and merits of the institution of The Family which is so esteemed by the Church that she refers to it as the Domestic Church. What would the Church look like without the Family? The lukewarm state of the Church in our time, to my mind, is a direct reflection of the state of the family in today’s society. A society that has lost a part of the family is sure to experience the chaos that has become very visible among us today. That is why the Church sets aside a very significant weekend to celebrate the blessing that the Family is and to hold out the Holy Family, and the living example of each member of that family, as models for us.

The First Reading reminds us that the salvation of the world passes by way of the family. Even the Creator who made all things out of nothing had to channel salvation to us through the family of Abraham, Sarah and Isaac their son. The promises made to Abraham would be fulfilled by God through his son Isaac who would later be counted as an ancestor of Christ in the flesh. The Gospel passage shows how through the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, these promises were fulfilled in the lineage of Abraham. The Lord remembers His covenant forever.

Most of us have wondered why St. Joseph, husband of Mary and foster father of Jesus, a man saddled with the uniquely weighty responsibility of fathering the Son of God is given very limited “airtime,” is not quoted verbatim in the Gospels, and in fact, fissions away from the Gospel narrative after the finding of Jesus in the Temple when Christ was 12 years old. When Joseph is mentioned in the Gospels, he gets a mention mostly in reference to either Jesus or Mary as father or spouse. This is because the focus of the Gospels is Jesus the Son of God, so Joseph, descendant of David, is mentioned to show that Christ is also the Son of David through Joseph. The Gospel this Sunday is one of the few passages that brings to the fore Joseph’s responsible fatherhood as a lesson to families. He and his Spouse, Mary, took Jesus to the Temple to introduce Him to the practices of their Jewish faith, and in the process met Simeon and Anna who made prophetic utterances concerning Christ. Like Joseph, every Christian father is the roof that shelters and protects his family from the elements of this world. It is a duty given to parents in general and fathers in particular to shield their families from the storms of hunger, lack of foundation, opportunity and ignorance. The Catholic faith has also been demonstrated to be best handed on by parents in the family under the reliable guidance of a father when he is available. When this shield is lacking in most families, we are likely to end up with an inhumane society that is ungodly in character. Unfortunately, contemporary society has been plagued by too many people, who for no fault of their own, have been denied the natural right of the shield that family is and so immorality and ungodliness reigns in many hearts that could have been set on the path of righteousness; if only they had the safety, the protection, the moral compass that family in general and fathers in particular affords.

May God bless us with Holy families following the example of the The Holy Family of Nazareth and may families that are passing through difficult times experience respite through God’s Grace.

Please be kind and may God bless you.

Fr. Manasseh

Current Events and More

New Year's Eve Mass

Plan to attend the New Year's Eve Mass on **Sunday, December 31** at 11:59 pm! Welcome in 2024 by celebrating Mass that evening in the SJB MPR. (Regular Sunday Masses will also be celebrate that day.)

Holiday Office Hours

The parish office is closed until **Tuesday, January 2**. For emergencies requiring a priest, please call **480.961.1610 ext. 317**.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

In January, Adoration will be on **Friday, January 5** between the hours of **9 am and 6 pm** in the St. Benedict Chapel on the Church property. All are welcome to come by and spend some time with the Lord.

You can also sign up for a specific time slot at <http://signup.com/go/puKbjk>. Signing up allows us to make sure that all the time slots are covered.



Email and Text Alert

Some parishioners are receiving emails and text messages that suggest our priests, deacon or staff are requesting a favor or a gift. These are "spam" and should be immediately deleted. We would never send an email or text for these reasons. Unfortunately, we have no way to restrict or stop these emails or texts. Thank you for your understanding.

Free Catholic Movies and More

Where is there a great place to enjoy a wealth of resources for our Catholic faith in a variety of media? At **FORMED.org**! It's easy and free to use as a St. Benedict Church gift to you:

1. Visit **FORMED.org** and click "Sign Up" at the top
2. Enter "85048" and select St. Benedict
3. Enter your name and email address

Now you're ready to start exploring!

January Events and Activities

Fri Jan 5 - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
9 am to 6 pm, St. Benedict Chapel

Sat Jan 6 - Women's Spirituality, 10 am to 11:30 am
in the St. Benedict Conference Room

Sun Jan 7 - Welcoming Sunday, 10 am in the St. John Bosco School Courtyard

Sat Jan 13 - Infant Baptism Class, 9:30-11:30 am
St. Benedict Conference Room

Fri Jan 19 - BINGO Raffle Night, 6-8 pm in the St. John Bosco School Multipurpose Room

Sat Jan 20 - Dedication of the Church, 5 pm

Wed Jan 31 - Parish Rosary, 7 pm, location TBA

BINGO Night!

Save the date for BINGO on **Friday, January 19** from 6-8 pm in the St. John Bosco multipurpose room. Join us for a fun evening for all ages! We'll have pizza, baked goods, lots of BINGO and over 100 prizes!

We are always looking for prizes, so if you have gift cards or new items you are not using, donate them for BINGO prizes. For more information or to donate prizes, email events@stbenedict.org.

Welcoming Sunday Next Weekend

Next weekend, **January 7** 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. Refreshments will be available. We look forward to seeing you there!

Save the Date: Parish Picnic Sunday, February 20, 12:30 to 3 pm

Plan to attend the St. Benedict Parish Picnic at Desert Breeze Park and enjoy a day of food, fun and getting together with our fellow parishioners! Lawn games, music plus free hotdogs and hamburgers that our Knights of Columbus will grill for us. Bring your own picnic blankets and chairs to relax. RSVP coming soon!

If you would like to volunteer at this special event, please contact Lani at events@stbenedict.org

Faith Formation and More

Happenings in Children and Youth Faith Formation

Sunday, Jan 7

Liturgy of the Word with Children

Tuesday, Jan 9

NO Classes

Sunday, Jan 14

Liturgy of the Word with Children

EPIC

Tuesday, Jan 16

JAM

Journey of Faith

Sunday, Jan 21

Liturgy of the Word with Children

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

EPIC

Children: We Need Your Help!

Would you like to be involved in the monthly Children's Mass? Are you looking for a way to serve our St. Benedict community?

We are in need of additional children Lectors and Hospitality Ministers for the upcoming four Children's Masses in the Spring! Lectors proclaim the Word during Mass and Hospitality Ministers welcome parishioners, pass collection baskets, guide the Communion lines, and hand out bulletins after Mass. Training and support are provided!

Interested? Please contact Heather Mooney at hmooney@stbenedict.org

Baptism Class

The next Baptism Class at St. Benedict for parents and godparents is on **Saturday, January 13** from 9:30 am to 11:30 am in the St. Benedict Conference Room (Annex 1). (Restrooms available at the school.) To RSVP, contact Sr. Ruth at srruth@stbenedict.org.

A Family House Blessing Activity for the New Year

The New Year is the perfect time to gather your family together to ask God's blessing on your home and protection for all who live and visit within it. It is an invitation for Jesus to remain at the center of every home.

The Blessing can be done simply by using chalk to write over the door:

20 + C + M + B + 24

(The 20 + 24 represents the year and the C, M, B are twofold: They are the first initials of the three Magi, but also initials for the Latin blessing, *Christus mansionem benedicat*, meaning "Christ bless this house.")

Finally, offer the following prayer:

Oh blessed Lord, visit this home with the gladness of your presence.

Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love; and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch.

May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you. Guide, comfort and strengthen us in peace, Oh Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.



Ministries & More

Knights of Columbus

Happy New Year from all of us at the Fr. Bob Binta Council #12246 of the Knights of Columbus! Be safe out there!



Announcements:

- Thank you to all Brother Knights who helped at the Christmas Eve and Christmas Masses last week!
- Many thanks to all the Brother Knights who participated in the Adopt-A-Family program this year.
- Events:
- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday, January 5 between 9 am and 6 pm in the St. Benedict Chapel (Annex 2).

Join online to become a Knight of Columbus at www.kofc.org/joinus and enter "Council 12246" and code "GKWAP".

Vivat Jesus,

Isauro Amaro, Grand Knight
Fr. Bob Binta Council # 12246
480.748.1449
grandknight@kofc12246.org

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... Debbie, dsmith@stbenedict.org
Hospitality... Karen, karenmains@msn.com
Knights of Columbus... Isauro, 480.748.1449

St. Vincent de Paul



Happy New Year! We are grateful for the continued support of our parishioners throughout 2023. Because of your generosity in supporting our on-site pantry, we were able to help many families who are hungry. You helped us to help them and truly made a difference. Thank you!

- Cereal
- Chicken Noodle Soup
- Cookies
- Crackers
- Granola Bars
- Laundry Soap

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

New Parishioners

- Daniel & Ana Provenzano
- Michael Zickert



Lectors... Michele, 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
Pastoral Council... Russ, pastoralcouncil@stbenedict.org
Refugee Resettlement... Dave, zabordave@gmail.com
Sacristans... Bette, blaatsch69@gmail.com
St. Vincent de Paul... Phil W., 480.961.1610 ext. 315
Walking With Moms... Rama, selena91907@hotmail.com
Women's Spirituality... Nora, nmphilips@cox.net

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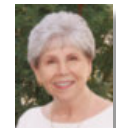


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A Note From The SJB Principal



Dear Parishioners,

Happy New Year (almost!)

The children, faculty, and staff return Tuesday, January 2 after a two-week Christmas break. Although it's always difficult to leave behind those lazy, stay-in-your-pajamas-all-day days, there's something about a routine that makes us feel productive and anchored; not to mention that kids will be very happy to see their classmates again!

And one of our favorite social events is on tap: SJB Trivia Night on January 20 at 7 pm. Grab seven of your smartest friends and start brushing up on useless knowledge. Teams of eight will compete in 10 rounds of 10 questions in one of the best nights of the year. Only \$10/player this year!

After that, the week-long celebration we all look forward to each new year: Catholic Schools Week, January 28-February 2. More to come on that.

Until then, wishing you a safe and Happy New Year's from all of us at St. John Bosco Catholic School!

Joyful Blessings,

Jamie Bescak, M.Ed., Principal

480.219.4848

A graphic for a preschool/Kindergarten Open House. It features a photo of four children in school uniforms. The text reads: "You're invited... to our Preschool/Kindergarten OPEN HOUSE. Come Discover St. John Bosco Catholic School. We are a community dedicated to academic excellence and inspire children to follow their dreams! CALL FOR DETAILS 480-219-4848 OR EMAIL admissions@sjbosco.org".

You're invited...

to our
Preschool/Kindergarten
OPEN HOUSE

Come Discover
**St. John Bosco
Catholic School**

We are a community dedicated to
academic excellence and inspire children
to follow their dreams!

CALL FOR DETAILS
480-219-4848
OR EMAIL
admissions@sjbosco.org

Wednesday, January 31, 2024 5:30 pm-7:00 pm
Thursday, February 1, 2024 9:00 am- 11:00 pm
Preschool/Kindergarten Open House

Due to the high demand for enrollment spots for the 2024-2025 school year, we are now accepting applications for those new to SJB in 2024-2025.