

February 18, 2024

First Sunday of Lent

“
Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth
to those who keep your covenant.”

~ Ps 25

“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

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.

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 am - 5 pm

Fridays 9 am - 3 pm

Closed Daily 12 pm - 1 pm

Mass Schedule

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. Benedict Church

Reconciliation

Fri 5-6 pm, Sat 8-9 am

Upcoming Events

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

Monday, 2/19

President's Day
(Office Closed)
8:15am | Mass

Tuesday, 2/20

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

Wednesday, 2/21

8:15 am | Mass
6 pm | Youth Choir

Thursday, 2/22

8:15 am | Mass
6 pm | Adult Choir

Friday, 2/23

8:15 am | Mass
5 pm | Confessions
6 pm | Stations of
the Cross

Saturday, 2/24

8 am | Confessions
5 pm | Mass

Mass Intentions

Sunday, 2/18/2024

7 am | Parishioners
9 am | Eugene Laatsch †
11 am | Jim Winkelbauer †
5 pm | Carmen Brinkley †

M 2/19 | Darel Williams †
Tu 2/20 | Souls of Religious
in Purgatory †
W 2/21 | Marie Holden †
Th 2/22 | Darel Williams †

F 2/23 | Charles Perdue †
Sa 2/24 | Eugene Laatsch †

Sunday, 2/25/2024

7 am | Hans Olsson †
9 am | Parishioners
11 am | Bernadette
Nittianandan †
5 pm | Frank Barrios †

Liturgy & Administration

Scripture Readings

Monday: 2/19	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday: 2/20	Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday: 2/21	Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32
Thursday: 2/22	1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19 (<i>The Chair of St. Peter, Apostle</i>)
Friday: 2/23	Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8; Mt 5:20-26
Saturday: 2/24	Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48
Sunday: 2/25	Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10, 15-19; Rom 8:31b- 34; Mk 9:2-10

Parish Contributions

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

Regular Contributions for
January 2024

Actual: \$ 80,960*

Budget: \$ 78,352

* Realm

Online: \$ 53,119

Cash/Check: \$ 27,841

(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



Live the Liturgy Inspiration for the Week

In the desert, Jesus endured forty days of hardship and temptation. But he did not endure it alone: "the angels ministered to him," the Gospel tells us. Remember that you do not face Lent alone. God is beside you in your journey to the desert.

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Parish Staff

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

Parochial Vicar - Fr. Manasseh Iorchir, VC x 306
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Children's Formation - (Open)

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Dir. Music/Liturgy - Phil Arkfeld x 311
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Stewardship/Engagement - Maryola Fabilena x 309
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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

“REPENT AND BELIEVE IN THE GOSPEL.”

Welcome to the Season of Lent! The Season of Lent is a season of grace when through the tripartite holy practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, we strive to climb and arrive at the glorious mountain of Easter, the season of renewal. The Lenten Season, which runs between Ash Wednesday until the Mass of the Lord's Supper exclusive on Holy Thursday, has a double character, namely to prepare both Catechumens and the faithful to celebrate the Paschal Mystery. The Catechumens, both with the Rite of Election and Scrutinies, and by catechesis, are prepared for the celebration of the sacraments of Christian initiation; the faithful, ever more attentive to the Word of God and prayer, prepare themselves by Penance for the renewal of their Baptismal promises. During Lent we shall “retire” the “Alleluia” and the “Gloria,” wear mostly purple vestments, desist from adorning the Altar with flowers and musical instruments shall be played only to give necessary support to the singing. All these are aimed towards enabling a reflective liturgical environment for preparation for the glorious Season of Easter.

As noted above, one of the characteristics of Lent is the preparation of Catechumens for the Sacraments of Christian initiation: Baptism, Holy Eucharist and Confirmation. It is in view of enlightening the Catechumens on the history of salvation that the First Reading dwells on the saving Grace of God that brought about regeneration after the flood that came as a consequence of human disobedience of Divine will. In the First Reading, both Catechumens and faithful are reminded that, through the waters of the flood (as in the waters of Baptism), God regenerates a new world and makes a covenant with Noah (at this point a type of Adam) and the survivors of the cleansing flood. The flood illustrates a pattern in the history of salvation where God's mercy is always greater than His Justice. Although God justly could have brought about the complete end of the history of man and the earth with the flood, He had mercy on man and other animals by sparing each kind and making a solemn commitment to never again punish the whole earth the same way. We can see how the cleansing of the earth through the flood prefigures the regeneration of “a new creation” brought about by the cleansing waters of Baptism. We can also note how Noah's ark, which acted as a vehicle that safely conveyed the saved to the “new earth,” prefigures the Church as a safe ark willfully instituted by Christ for the salvation of souls. These are the sentiments echoed by St. Peter in the Second Reading.

In the relatively short Gospel passage, Jesus is led by the Spirit to the desert where He is tempted by Satan and ministered to by the angels, a subtle reminder that although we too may be tried by the powers and ideals of this world, Divine help is always assured us. Whereas the first Adam failed to be faithful in the garden of Eden, the “New Adam” (Jesus) was able to triumph over temptation and sin through knowledge and obedience to the will of God, setting for humanity a perfect example. After He got news of John's arrest, Jesus began the proclamation of the Gospel with greater urgency and His message was a simple but insistent call for repentance and belief in the Gospel. Repentance, turning away from the lure of evil and seeking God with urgency is the message of the Season of Lent. We pray that God will pour upon us the abundance of Grace we require to do this well.

Please be kind and may God bless you.

Fr. Manasseh

Current Events and More

Parish Picnic

The St. Benedict Parish Picnic at Desert Breeze Park in Chandler is this weekend on **Sunday, February 18** from 12:30 pm to 3 pm (enter at the south side of the park and meet us at the ramadas). Enjoy a day of food, fun and getting together with our fellow parishioners! Lawn games, music and more. Free hotdogs and hamburgers that our Knights of Columbus will grill up for us. Bring your own picnic blankets and chairs to relax. It's going to be a terrific afternoon!

Stations of the Cross

Join us for Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 6 pm in the church. Afterwards, we are having a Fish Fry in Annex 1 and 2. You will get two pieces of fish, coleslaw, chips and water for \$10. Join us for a fun time of food and fellowship. We hope to see you there!

Ideas for Lenten Devotions

Here are some ideas of things to do to nurture and grow in your spirituality during Lent:

- Attend Daily Mass as often as possible.
- Read Scripture for 10 minutes every day.
- Pray the Seven Penitential Psalms (Psalm 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130 and 143).
- Spend some time in quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.
- Abstain from meat for an extra day or two each week.
- Listen to spiritual music or a spiritual speaker.
- Keep a Lenten journal with your spiritual insights, special intentions, people you want to pray for, hurts and disappointments that you want to offer up, and progress reports on your Lenten resolutions.

FAQ: Why Should I Register at Saint Benedict Catholic Church?

1. A sense of belonging and identity within a parish community.
2. It is a commitment to practice your faith.
3. Registration enables the parish pastor and staff to get to know you better, to welcome you and to minister to you, in good times and in bad.
4. Registration helps you stay connected with your parish and helps your parish stay connected with you. Also, if you use offertory envelopes or online giving, you will have a statement for income tax purposes.
5. Registered active members are eligible to be sacramental sponsors and godparents.
6. Census numbers may determine how many priests are assigned to a parish and how many Masses and enrichment programs are planned and scheduled.
7. Children are considered members with their parents until they turn 18 years old. Once they are 18, it is their responsibility to join a church family, participate in the Mass and register as a member independent of their parents.

Where Do I Register?

You can register online at stbenedict.org. Registration forms can be also be found in the parish lobby.

Baby Bottle Drive

The Aid to Women Center offers resources and compassionate care for those facing planned or unplanned pregnancies. Next weekend we will hear about their efforts and they will distribute empty baby bottles to fill with a donation (cash or check) for us to return on March 9th and 10th.

President's Day Holiday

The parish office will be closed on **Monday, February 19** in observance of the President's Day holiday. For an emergency requiring a priest, call **480.961.1610 ext. 317**.

Faith Formation and More

Happenings in Children and Youth Faith Formation

Sunday, Feb 18

Liturgy of the Word with Children
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
EPIC

Tuesday, Feb 20

JAM
Journey of Faith

Sunday, Feb 25

Liturgy of the Word with Children
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
EPIC

Tuesday, Feb 27

JAM
Journey of Faith

Teen Retreat for First Communion and Confirmation



On **Sunday, March 3**, there will be a Spiritual Retreat for our teens (grades 6-12) who are preparing to receive the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. This will be a wonderful time for our candidates to encounter Jesus in a much deeper way. The Retreat begins at 10:30 am in Annex 2. The session includes attending Mass at 11 am and concludes at 3 pm. Lunch will be provided. Please do not miss this great opportunity!

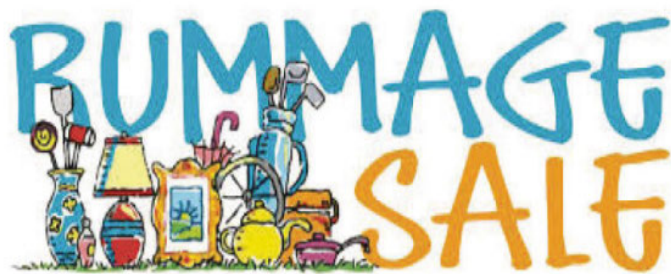
Children's Monthly Mass

Next weekend, at the **Sunday, February 25**, 9 am Mass, we will have the monthly Children's Mass. This Mass is led by our St. Benedict youth who joyfully serve as Lectors, Hospitality Ministers, Choir Members and Altar Servers.

If your child is interested in serving in one of these ministries during the monthly Children's Mass, please call the parish office at **480.961.1610, ext. 300**.

Rummage Sale Sponsors Needed

Do you have a business? Would you like to advertise your business on the mobile minis and help offset the cost of these storage containers? Then maybe you would like to be a sponsor for the Rummage Sale? You will get a 2'x4' banner for only \$200 through to March 9. To find out more, email Gayle and Denny at rummagesale@stbenedict.org.



Rummage Sale

The Parish Rummage Sale is on **Saturday, March 9** between the hours of 7 am and 1 pm at the St. John Bosco School courtyard and MPR. Mark your calendar for this super fun event! If you are considering a spring clean, please save the good stuff for us! Bring your donated items to the mobile mini trailers either before or after weekend Masses. We gladly accept small appliances, books, furniture, CDs, DVDs, electronics, jewelry, housewares, bedding, games, tools, toys, etc.

We cannot accept child car seats, large appliances such as dishwashers, stoves, or old model TVs; however, working refrigerators and freezers will be accepted.

Also needed are many volunteers! Contact Gayle at rummagesale@stbenedict.org.

St. Benedict Gala

Gala

Proceeds from this event will support the mission of St. Benedict Catholic Church.

- Body Wash
- Laundry Detergent
- Tissues
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Feminine Hygiene

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

- Victoria Daniel
- Jessica Doescher
- Joseph & Betina Frisone
- Lisa Hattula
- Timaira Magnaye
- Roman Miranda
- Ivan Mora
- Zachary Plichta
- Mariah Quilon
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 Altar Servers... **Ken**, dken-1@hotmail.com
 Art & Env... **Cathy**, cathytempleton_1@cox.net
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 EMHCs... **Russ**, rustlespencer@gmail.com
 Events/Helping Hands... **Lani**, events@stbenedict.org
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 Hospitality... **David**, davidjschenach@gmail.com
 Knights of Columbus... **Isauro**, 480.748.1449

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 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, zabor@cox.net
 Sacristans... Bette, blaatsch69@gmail.com
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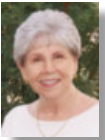
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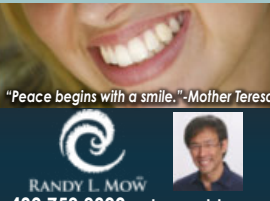
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A Note From The SJB Principal



Dear Parishioners,

I am happy to announce our school Science Fair winners. Sophia Bernardez placed 1st with her project entitled, "The Potential of Using Artificial Intelligence in Studying for Reading Comprehension Tests." Sophia will represent SJB in the Diocesan Science Fair on February 21 again this year. Lucas Pagazani placed 2nd with her project, "AI vs. Humans: When Driving a Car, Who is Faster in Hitting the Brakes?" Madison Minnitti placed 3rd with, "Soil: The Future of Power" and "Salt: Soil's Power Booster. Congratulations to these students and all our brilliant SJB students for their impressive science project displays. Thank you for your continued love and support!

Open Enrollment is now available for the general public and has attracted a substantial number of new students for the upcoming year. We are eager to introduce these newcomers to the excitement at SJB, and we're confident they will thoroughly enjoy being part of our SJB family!



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