



February 25, 2024

Second Sunday of Lent

“ *I will walk before the Lord,
in the land of the living.* ”

~ Ps 116

“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, Chapel: 8:15 am

Weekdays on Fri 8:15 am, Church

Reconciliation

Fri 5-6 pm, Sat 8-9 am

Upcoming Events

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

Monday, 2/26

8:15am | Mass

Tuesday, 2/27

8:15 am | Mass

6:15 pm | JAM

6:15 pm | JOF

Wednesday, 2/28

8:15 am | Mass

6 pm | Youth Choir

7 pm | Parish Rosary

Thursday, 2/29

8:15 am | Mass

4:30 pm | Legion of

Mary Meet/Greet

6 pm | Adult Choir

Friday, 3/1

8:15 am | Mass

9 am | Adoration

5 pm | Confessions

6 pm | Stations of
the Cross/Fish Fry

Saturday, 3/2

8 am | Confessions

10 am | Women's Spirit.

5 pm | Mass

Mass Intentions

Sunday, 2/25/2024

7 am | Hans Olsson †

9 am | Parishioners

11 am | Bernadette
Nittianandan †

5 pm | Frank Barrios †

Th 2/29 | Marie Holden †

F 3/1 | Cyrus Goldhair †

Sa 3/2 | Bill & Evy Bunda †

Sunday, 3/3/2024

7 am | Yolanda Skinner †

9 am | Marito Roque †

11 am | Parishioners

5 pm | Josephine Graf. †

M 2/26 | Jean-Vic Sala (lvg)

Tu 2/27 | Sharon
Cassavant (lvg)

W 2/28 | Loretta Becka †

Liturgy & Administration

Scripture Readings

Monday:	Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; 2/26 Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday:	Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 2/27 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday:	Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14-16; 2/28 Mt 20:17-28
Thursday:	Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6; 2/29 Lk 16:19-31
Friday:	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; 3/1 Ps 105:16-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday:	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-4, 3/2 9-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Sunday:	Ex 20:1-17; Ps 19:8-11; 3/3 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25

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)

St. Benedict Catholic Church Charity & Development Appeal Totals

February 20, 2024

Number of Donors: 109

Amount Donated: \$65,596

Donations Goal: \$85,000



Live the Liturgy Inspiration for the Week

The Transfiguration left the disciples with more questions than answers. What had they just seen? What had they just heard? They were confused, but they trusted Jesus. Let's follow in their example, trusting in God's care as we journey deeper into Lent.

©LPI

Parish Staff

Pastor - Fr. James Aboyi, VC x 302
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Parochial Vicar - Fr. Manasseh Iorchir, VC x 306
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srdelia@stbenedict.org

Contact the Parish Office at 480.961.1610

A Reflection by Fr. Manasseh

“THIS IS MY BELOVED SON. LISTEN TO HIM.”

The *fall of man* in the Garden of Eden was caused by the disobedience of Adam and Eve, when they could not sacrifice their inordinate desire to “be like God” and they ate the forbidden fruit in spite of the warning they had received from God. From that moment, man acquired the tendency to sin and so the “obedience test” became one of the necessary huddles every individual had to fulfill in order to establish and sustain a viable right relationship with God. Obedience requires sacrificing your own desires and opinions in order to be aligned with God’s supreme will. This explains why Abraham, who had answered God’s invitation to have a personal relationship with Him, was also required to pass the obedience test by sacrificing what was most precious to him in order to solidify his relationship with God. God did not need a confirmation of Abraham’s faithfulness and obedience, Abraham needed to be tested in order to know where and to what extent he stood with God. In addition, generations of Abraham’s children (beginning with Isaac who was about to be sacrificed), both in the flesh and in faith, would be able to derive from His faithfulness a lesson in obedience to God’s will even if His will seemed outrageously difficult and even impossible.

Abraham’s obedience was in no little measure assisted by the docility of Isaac who in the complete account of this particular story voiced out his suspicion about the Lamb of sacrifice. “The Lord shall provide” was certainly not a satisfactory answer to give to a young person who could see all the paraphernalia of sacrifice without seeing the Lamb to be sacrificed. Despite the availability of a reason to doubt, Isaac chose to trust his father and to enable his obedience to the Lord’s directive even at an enormous personal risk. By doing that, Isaac would later become a worthy beneficiary of the blessings that Abraham acquired as a direct consequence of His obedience in which he (Isaac) courageously participated. As we know, the Lord provided a ram in place of Isaac and blessed Abraham abundantly because of his faithful obedience. We are called to be obedient to the always good will of God even when we are required to make heavy sacrifices. The First Reading also reminds us that God rewards our obedience to His Holy will in a positively disproportionate manner. He gives to us much more than what we have sacrificed in obedience to His will, no reward for obedience is greater than the assurance of eternity with God the Lord of our longing.

The prophetic words of Abraham when he said “*God Himself will provide the Lamb for the Sacrifice*” (Genesis 22:8) found its fullest fulfillment in Christ. Knowing that His ministry was heading towards its peak and end, Jesus took three of His disciples to the mountain where they witnessed the transfiguration of His body and they saw Him conversing with Moses (the law giver) and Elijah (the greatest of the prophets). The Transfiguration was a consolation to strengthen the faith of the three primary Apostles as they undertook with Jesus His final march towards Jerusalem for His final Passover and Passion. The presence of Moses and Elijah signified the consummation of the authority of Prophecy and the Law in the person of Jesus Christ. Jesus would be both the lawgiver and the authority of prophecy in the New Testament, in effect, the fullness of Divine revelation in the New dispensation. The voice of the Father that was heard from Heaven adequately confirmed this.

As we continue with our journey in this Holy Season of Lent, let us pray that we may know Jesus for who He truly is and may we not seek to confine our knowledge of Jesus to the limits of particular places of worship. Instead, let us be blessed with the grace to take Him to the ends of our homes, places of work, our community and society so that Christ may be known and experienced by all to the ends of the earth.

Please be kind and may God bless you.

Fr. Manasseh

Current Events and More

Stations of the Cross

Join us for Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 6 pm at the St. John Bosco School courtyard. Afterwards, we are having a Fish Fry in the MPR. You will get two pieces of delicious fish, coleslaw, corn bread, chips and water for \$10. Join us for a fun time of food and fellowship. Save these dates:

March 1, 8, 15, and 22

Ideas for Lenten Devotions

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

- Go to Adoration on **Friday, March 1** anytime between 9 am and 6 pm.
- 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.

Baby Bottle Drive

The Aid to Women Center offers resources and compassionate care for those facing planned or unplanned pregnancies. This 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 the weekend of **March 9/10**. Thank you for your help and donation.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

In March, Adoration will be on **Friday, March 1** between the hours of **9 am and 6 pm** in the St. Benedict Chapel. 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/puKjbjK>. Signing up allows us to make sure that all the time slots are covered.

St. Benedict Gala

You are cordially invited to attend this festive evening on **Saturday, April 20** from 6 pm to 9 pm at The Marriott Phoenix/Chandler (1600 S. Price Rd., Chandler 85286).

Gala

A cocktail hour and a plated dinner will be served. Raffle, Silent & Live Auction items will be available along with music entertainment. Individual tickets and reserved tables will be available for purchase. Ticket sales begin soon. If you would like information on Corporate Sponsorships, please call the Parish Office at **480.961.1610, ext. 309**, or email mfabilena@stbenedict.org.

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

Lenten Reconciliation Services

All services begin at 7:00 pm.

Thurs Feb 29 Corpus Christi

Mon March 18 St. Benedict

Tues March 19 Our Lady Mt. Carmel



Faith Formation and More

Happenings in Children and Youth Faith Formation

Sunday, Feb 25

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

Tuesday, Feb 27

JAM
Journey of Faith

Sunday, March 3

Liturgy of the Word with Children
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
Teen Sacramental Prep
EPIC

Tuesday, March 5

JAM
Journey of Faith

Teen Retreat for First Communion and Confirmation



On **Sunday, March 3**, get ready for 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. Contact: Sr. Delia at **480.961.1610 ext. 307**.

Children's Monthly Mass

This weekend, at the Sunday 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 in the future for the monthly Children's Mass, please call the parish office at **480.961.1610, ext. 300**.

Rummage Sale

The Parish Rummage Sale is quickly approaching on **Saturday, March 9** from 7 am to 1 pm at the SJB courtyard and MPR. Here are some details on how to donate:

- Bring your donated items in boxes (if possible) to the mobile mini trailers either before or after weekend Masses.
- For large items, you can request a pick up at **480.773.5300**.
- Bring your items to the school on March 8th between 9 am and 4 pm.
- Items accepted: small appliances, books, furniture, CDs, DVDs, electronics, jewelry, housewares, bedding, games, tools, toys, working refrigerators and freezers.
- NOT accepted: child car seats, large appliances such as dishwashers, stoves, or old model TVs.

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

The "Desert Nun Run"

The Poor Clare Nuns invite you to participate in the 15th Annual Nun Run on **Saturday, March 2** at Kiwanis Park in Tempe. They are offering a 10K, 5K Run/Walk, and a 1-mile Walk. Registration is \$40 for adults.

To learn more about the Poor Clare Nuns and to register or donate, please visit their website at desertnunrun.com. Thank you!

The Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary is reforming here at St. Benedict Church. Their main purpose is to give glory to God through prayer, service, and the spiritual development of its members.

They will be having a "Meet & Greet" on **Thursday, February 29** between 4:30 pm and 5:30 pm in Annex 1. For more information contact Ann Marie at **480.688.2096**.

Women's Spirituality... [Nora, nmphillips@cox.net](mailto:nmphillips@cox.net)

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A Note From The SJB Principal



Dear Parishioners,

As we conclude the Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences, it has been an exceptional opportunity to collaborate closely with both parents and teachers, ensuring we address the needs of every learner effectively. With only three months left in the school year, it's remarkable to anticipate the continued learning and enjoyment ahead.

"Read Across America Week" is on the horizon, beginning the first week of March. Our dedicated teachers have planned a variety of activities to celebrate the joy of reading, promising an engaging week for our students. Spring Break, scheduled for March 8-15, is soon approaching. We find it a valuable time for our students to recharge and return revitalized, ready to embark on the next phase of their spiritual and academic journey.

Our collective goal is to make these final months of the school year memorable and enriching for all our learners. Together we will strive to finish strong and celebrate the growth and accomplishments of each student. A heartfelt thank you goes out to our faculty, staff, and parents for their unwavering support and active involvement in our school community.



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