

March 3, 2024

Third Sunday of Lent

“where all are welcome”

“ **Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.** ”

~ Ps 19

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, 3/4

8:15am | Mass

Tuesday, 3/5

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

Wednesday, 3/6

8:15 am | Mass
6 pm | Youth Choir
6:30 pm | Pastoral Council

Thursday, 3/7

8:15 am | Mass
6 pm | Adult Choir

Friday, 3/8

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

Saturday, 3/9

7 am | Rummage Sale
8 am | Confessions
5 pm | Mass

Mass Intentions

Sunday, 3/3/2024

7 am | Yolanda Skinner †
9 am | Marito Roque †
11 am | Parishioners
5 pm | Josephine Graf. †

Th 3/7 | Mary Curtin †
F 3/8 | Regina Brewer †
Sa 3/9 | Anna Boerio †

Sunday, 3/10/2024

M 3/4 | Consuelo Corona †
Tu 3/5 | Marie Holden †
W 3/6 | Emil Senn †

7 am | Yolanda Skinner †
9 am | Steven Jewusiak †
11 am | Jim Winkelbauer †
5 pm | Parishioners

Liturgy & Administration

Scripture Readings

Monday:	2 Kgs 5:1-15ab; Ps 42:2, 3; 3/4 43:3,4; Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday:	Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-5ab, 3/5 6, 7bc, 8-9; Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday:	Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15- 3/6 16, 19-20; Mt 5:17-19
Thursday:	Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 3/7 8-9; Lk 11:14-23
Friday:	Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc- 3/8 9, 10-11ab, 14, 17; Mk 12:28-34
Saturday:	Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 3/9 20-21ab; Lk 18:9-14
Sunday:	2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; 3/10 Ps 137:1-6 (6ab); Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21

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 26, 2024

Number of Donors: 140

Amount Donated: \$87,353

Donations Goal: \$85,000

**WE'VE REACHED OUR
GOAL!!**



Live the Liturgy Inspiration for the Week

Jesus was not afraid to confront iniquity wherever he encountered it, and his zeal for righteousness was so strong it looked like anger as he drove the moneychangers from the temple. Pray that, with that same devotion and care, he will cleanse our hearts from sin.

©LPI

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 - (Open)

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

“ZEAL FOR YOUR HOUSE WILL CONSUME ME.”

In every relationship that involves two or more persons, there are usually rules that define the basis of such a relationship, guide its progress and sometimes state what is prohibited for the continuous existence of such a relationship. The rules could be written, oral or simply left to the understanding of the parties involved. From the call of Abraham, God indicated that He intended to have a relationship with his descendants. When they crossed the Red Sea, Israel crossed not only from slavery to freedom, but also from a loose collection of tribes to a developing nation. Thus, it became necessary for the ground rules for their relationship with God to be codified into a brief, but effective, body of laws that would guide their covenant relationship with God and with each other. Although the decalogue did not cover every imaginable facet of life in the relationship between God and His people and their intra-national relationship, they formed the basis on which Israel's law was further elaborated. As Christians we need to understand the place of God's law in our lives. The law of the Lord is not intended to limit and constrain us, it is decreed by a loving Father to be the *“lamp to my feet and a light to my path”* (Psalm 119:105) that leads us to true freedom. The law of the Lord is a set of “family rules” that guide relationships within God's family, the free adherence to which leads to peace and fulfillment.

In the Gospel, Jesus insisted that the Temple should be used for the reason it was built and not a place for breaking the law of the Lord: “You shall not steal.” At that time, pilgrims were allowed to buy from the Temple area victims to be used as sacrifice. Technically, this was allowed by the law (Deut 14:24-26), but the religious authorities transformed this well-intended practice into a scandalously profitable business that took advantage of pilgrims leading to a serious infringement of the Law against stealing. Jesus, the fullest interpretation of the will of God and the “new lawgiver,” entered the Temple of God, abrogated the malpractices against God's Law and personally restored “best practices” to the Temple area. *“Take these out of here, and stop making my Father's house a marketplace!”* He said to those who sold doves. In Matthew's account of this same event, Jesus insisted that the purpose for His Father's house is “a house of prayer” and not a den of robbers (Matt 21:13). This is the purpose for which every physical Temple of God is built to serve. It is neither a charity house that deals strictly with cases of need nor a social center to meet and socialize with family and friends. When we enter any sacred space, we must go in with reverence to encounter God and share the joy of such an encounter with others. All are welcome to our Father's house, but everyone should come into His presence with the reverence that He deserves, charitably creating the enabling environment for those who wish to commune with God in prayer to do so without obstruction.

Spiritually, Christ does the same “spiritual sanitation” to our souls when we receive the sacraments in docility and faith, Christ enters and “cleans up” the Temple of the Holy Spirit which our bodies are. This takes place in a very profound manner when we let Him in through the sacrament of Reconciliation, the sacrament to which we should have frequent recourse, especially during this holy Season of Lent.

As we receive Christ in the Holy Eucharist on this Third Sunday of Lent, may He make our hearts more docile towards the law of the Lord and, where we have failed to respond positively to God's law and so acquired guilt, may His healing presence in our lives clean us as we look forward to participate in the paschal mystery in the state of grace.

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 fish, coleslaw, corn bread, chips and water for \$10. Join us for a fun time of food and fellowship. Save these dates:

March 8, 15, and 22

Rummage Sale

The Parish Rummage Sale is less than a week away on **Saturday, March 9** from 7 am to 1 pm at the St. John Bosco School courtyard and multipurpose room. Come and explore what we have available and benefit the church at the same time!

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: clothing, shoes, 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.

Questions? Contact Gayle at rummagesale@stbenedict.org.

Praying the Rosary

Pray the Rosary with fellow parishioners **Monday** through **Thursday** mornings at 7:45 am, before the regular morning Mass, in the Parish Chapel.

Later this month (and on the last Wednesday of every month) the Knights of Columbus will be hosting a parish Rosary on **Wednesday, March 27**, at 7 pm in the Parish Chapel.

Come and pray with us!

Lenten Reconciliation Services

All services begin at 7:00 pm.

Mon March 18 St. Benedict

Tues March 19 Our Lady Mt. Carmel

Lenten Retreat

Mark your calendar for our Parish Lenten Retreat coming up on **Saturday, March 16**, from 9 am to 4 pm in the church. The retreat will be directed by Fr. Clement Attah, VC. Fr. Clement belongs to the Via Christi Society, the same Religious Society as Fr. James and Fr. Manasseh. He is currently serving at Our Lady of Joy Parish in, Carefree, Arizona. More details to come!

Reveal Christ's Love

Next weekend is the Catholic Relief Services Collection which supports six Catholic agencies that touch more than 100 million lives around the world. The funds from this collection help provide food to the hungry, support to the displaced refugees, and Christ's love and respect to all people. Thank you for your support in helping reveal Christ's love.

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).

A cocktail hour and a plated dinner will be served. Raffle, Silent 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 our ministries and the mission of St. Benedict Catholic Church.

Faith Formation and More

Happenings in Children and Youth Faith Formation

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

Sunday, March 10

Liturgy of the Word with Children

NO *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd*

NO *EPIC*

Tuesday, March 12

NO *JAM*

NO *Journey of Faith*

Teen Retreat for First Communion and Confirmation



This weekend, on **Sunday, March 3**, we are offering 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.

Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendar for **Monday, June 10** through **Friday, June 14** when we DIVE into a week of faith and fun to explore an amazing undersea world at Vacation Bible School! All children currently in Kindergarten through 5th grade are welcome to participate. Stay on the lookout for more details and registration information coming later this Spring.

It takes many fins and flippers to make VBS possible so make a splash and become a volunteer - High school teens and adults of all ages are needed! Contact us at vbs@stbenedict.org.

Baptism Class

The next Baptism Class at St. Benedict for parents and godparents is after Lent on **Saturday, April 13** from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm in the St. Benedict Conference Room (Annex 1).



To RSVP, contact Sr. Ruth at srruth@stbenedict.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!

WAYS TO MAKE YOUR GIFT




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Ministries & More

Knights of Columbus

A message from Pope Francis: *"People abstain from things that please them during Lent, but they do not speak to their siblings or relatives, they do not visit their parents or take care of them. They do not share their food with those who need it most, they distance their children from their father/mother or grandparents, they criticize the lives of others, they abuse their partner, etc. A delicious BBQ or a well-grilled meat will not make you a "bad person", just like a fish fillet will not make you "a Saint." Better seek to have a good relationship with God by doing good to others. Let us be less arrogant and humbler of heart."*

Announcements:

- Thank you to all the parishioners who attended the monthly Rosary last Wednesday, February 28.
- Thank you to everyone who has purchased raffle tickets. We are at 27% of our goal for this year. Please remember to invite your friends and relatives to purchase one ticket for \$5, or a book of five for \$20.
- Thanks to everyone who took the time to join us at the Italian Dinner.

Events:

- Council Meeting **March 14** at 7 pm in Annex 1.
- March Madness squares starts **March 19, 2024**.

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... Karen, karenmains@msn.com

Hospitality... David, davidjschenach@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus... Isauro, 480.748.1449

St. Vincent de Paul



Thank you for your continued support in keeping our on-site pantry stocked! SVdP is truly blessed. This week we are in need of the following food items:

- Sugar (small)
- Canned Fruit
- Fruit Cups
- Juice
- Syrup
- Cereal

We are grateful for your poor box donations. We will send out donation acknowledgements quarterly to save funds on mailings.

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

New Parishioners

- Eric Bach & Marissa Sullivan-Bach
- Jorge and Elena Perez, Polyana and Polyana A. Burgos
- Nicole Richter
- Rosemarie Shaughnessy
- Joseph Zanetis



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, nmphillips@cox.net

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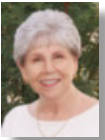
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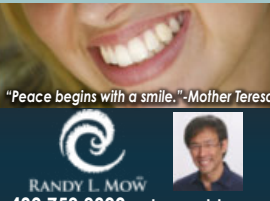
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Carmen Salaiz RDH
Daisy DeSalmones RDH

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A Note From The SJB Principal



Dear Parishioners,

Our SJB Choir recently participated in the American Federation Pueri Cantores Choral Festival & Mass at St. Mary's Basilica in Phoenix. They represented our school and performed admirably with choirs from other schools and parishes in our Diocese. This was their second appearance and they hope to make it an annual event.

Look carefully on the right-hand side of the photo (near the yellow flag) to find St. Benedict Choir Director Mr. Phil Arkfeld and SJB Choir Director Dr. Luis Rodriguez and their musically talented students.



Joyful Blessings,
Jamie Bescak, M.Ed.
480.219.4848