

March 17, 2024

## Fifth Sunday of Lent

*“where all are welcome”*

“ **Create a clean heart in me, O God.** ”

~ Ps 51

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

### 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](http://stbenedict.org/calendar)

#### Monday, 3/18

8:15am | Mass  
7 pm | Penance  
Service

#### Tuesday, 3/19

8:15 am | Mass

#### Wednesday, 3/20

8:15 am | Mass  
6 pm | Youth Choir

#### Thursday, 3/21

8:15 am | Mass  
4:30 pm | Legion Mary  
6 pm | Adult Choir

#### Friday, 3/22

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

#### Saturday, 3/23

8 am | Confessions  
5 pm | Mass

### Mass Intentions

#### Sunday, 3/17/2024

7 am | Marian Kratochuil †  
9 am | Ray Bechtold †  
11 am | Terry Taylor †  
5 pm | Margaret McDermott (lvg)

Th 3/21 | Madeline Cavolina †  
F 3/22 | Richard & Anna  
Morice †  
Sa 3/23 | Anna Boerio †

#### Sunday, 3/24/2024

M 3/18 | Christina Szlanta (lvg)  
Tu 3/19 | Larry & Barbara  
Koenen (lvg)  
W 3/20 | Judy Prust †

7 am | Parishioners  
9 am | John Slater †  
11 am | Brenda Diaz †  
5 pm | Agnes Schmiecher †

## Liturgy & Administration

### Scripture Readings

<b>Monday:</b> 3/18	Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11
<b>Tuesday:</b> 3/19	2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a (St. Joseph, Spouse of Mary)
<b>Wednesday:</b> 3/20	Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56; Jn 8:31-42
<b>Thursday:</b> 3/21	Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9; Jn 8:51-59
<b>Friday:</b> 3/22	Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42
<b>Saturday:</b> 3/23	Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10-13; Jn 11:45-56
<b>Sunday:</b> 3/24	Mk 11:1-10; Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24 (2a); Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1-15:47

### 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

**March 12, 2024**

**Number of Donors: 169**

**Amount Pledged: \$105,030**

**Donations Goal: \$85,000**

**We have exceeded our goal!**

**Thank you!**



### Live the Liturgy Inspiration for the Week

Jesus reminds us that the grain of wheat can never realize its potential without sacrifice. God has a plan for each one of us. May He give you strength to become who you were born to be.

©LPi

### Parish Staff

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

Parochial Vicar - Fr. Manasseh Iorchir, VC x 306  
[frmanasseh@stbenedict.org](mailto:frmanasseh@stbenedict.org)

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

Children's Formation - (Open)

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

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

Dir. Evangelization/Formation - Sr. Ruth de la Cruz, OP x 303  
[srruth@stbenedict.org](mailto:srruth@stbenedict.org)

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

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

Youth/Campus Ministry - Sr. Delia Obenza, OP x 307  
[srdelia@stbenedict.org](mailto:srdelia@stbenedict.org)

Contact the Parish Office at 480.961.1610

## *A Reflection by Fr. Manasseh*

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### **"I WILL MAKE A NEW COVENANT WITH THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL."**

In last weekend's reflection on the First Readings in the Holy Season of Lent "Year B," we noted how God's numerous initiatives to establish and sustain a covenant relationship with man led to the Noahic Covenant, the Abrahamic Covenant, and the Mosaic Covenant with the emerging nation Israel. The people, led by their princes and priests, deviated from the terms of this Covenant necessitating a response from God who is just and merciful. When it was obvious that the Old Covenant had failed as a result of Israel's notorious unfaithfulness, God decided to establish a New Covenant, this time not only with the nation of Israel but the whole of humanity. The First Reading this weekend recounts the promise, through the prophet Jeremiah, of a New Covenant which the Lord would make with Israel which would be different from the covenant He made with their ancestors in terms of its universality and content. This Covenant would be guided by a law which would not be written on tablets of stone like the Mosaic Covenant, but within their hearts. With this Covenant firmly written on the hearts of its adherents, it would be completely unnecessary for the people to require it to be taught to them; thus, the excuse of ignorance of its terms would be effectively eliminated. Through this Covenant, all will know the mercy of God and experience reconciliation with Him. The Lord God would therefore truly be their God and they would be His people. The First Reading is a message of hope not only to faltering humanity but to all who are able to accept the reality that their lives are not perfect, and to anyone who has perceived a deviation from Christian standards in their personal life and in the society. God loves us and He is merciful. If we realize our faults, return to him in repentance and resolve to make amends, the Lord shall restore us to righteousness, not by our merits but by His sacrifice of Christ the fullest expression of Divine Mercy. Christ, the Lamb of God through whom the promised Covenant would be established, would become *"the source of salvation for all who obey Him"* (Hebrews 5:9).

In the Gospel passage, Jesus makes allusions to the fulfillment of this promise of hope in His suffering of death. Some Greeks (Gentiles) had asked to see Him, demonstrating a fulfillment of the promised universality of His messiahship. After He was informed of their presence and request, Jesus saw this (His being wanted by foreigners) as a sign for the beginning of His time of "glorification." He therefore impressed on the Apostles the necessity of the sacrifice of self that He was going to offer in order to restore the world to a covenantal relationship with God. *"Unless a wheat grain falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit."* We should recall that, up to this point, the Apostles were yet to comprehend how and why their Lord, who was considerably popular and had great "potential," would have to endure the kind of suffering He was insinuating. They were scandalized by His lack of interest in political messiahship and His apparent "obsession" with the cross instead. Christ made it clear to them that the cross and all its accessories was the only way to reconciliation with God and salvation for the world. The cross would not be restricted to Him alone but would have to be carried by all who wish to pass through Him to the right relationship with the Father; *"and where I am, there also will my servant be."* When we are in a position where we have to sacrifice our time, talent and treasure, something of ourselves for life to be better both physically and spiritually for another, it is good to note that Christ has done this for us and has left a good example for us to follow.

Please be kind and may God bless you.

Fr. Manasseh





## Faith Formation and More

### Happenings in Children and Youth Faith Formation

#### Sunday, March 17

*Liturgy of the Word with Children*  
**NO Catechesis of the Good Shepherd**  
**NO EPIC**

#### Tuesday, March 19

**NO JAM**  
**NO Journey of Faith**

#### Sunday, March 24

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

#### Tuesday, March 26

**JAM**  
*Journey of Faith*

### Easter Egg Hunt

Calling All Kids and Tots thru 5th Grade! We are having a **FREE** Easter Egg Hunt at the St. John Bosco School after the 8 am Mass on Easter Sunday! It's going to be a blast! At this time we could use some help with donations - please click the QR Code to access the Amazon wishlist!



### Stations of the Cross

Join us for Stations of the Cross this Friday at 6 pm at the St. John Bosco School courtyard. Afterwards, we have a Fish Fry in the multipurpose room. You get two pieces of delicious fish, coleslaw, corn bread, chips, dessert and water for \$10. Join us for a fun time of food and fellowship. Save this (last) date:

March 22

### Our Seminarian News

Good news! Our Seminarian, Connor Companik, will be ordained to the Diaconate on **Sunday, May 26** at 9am at Ss. Simon and Jude Cathedral. He will be serving and preaching for the first time here at St. Benedict at the 5 pm Mass that same evening. Please save the date and keep Connor in your prayers!

### The Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary has begun meeting on a regular basis here at St. Benedict **every Thursday** beginning at 4:30 pm in Annex 1. Their main purpose is to give glory to God through prayer, service, and the spiritual development of its members. For more information contact Ann Marie at **480.688.2096**.

### Vocations

*"The Father will honor whoever serves me."*

Are you called to belong to serve Christ alone as a priest or through consecrated life? Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocations Office at **602.354.2004** or [dphx.org/vocations](http://dphx.org/vocations).

### Reflection: Be Holy, Be Merciful

The Season of Lent is a time to experience God's merciful love and compassion. Jesus is the face of mercy. His eyes are the eyes of mercy, His pierced hands are the hands of mercy. Yet in our world today we are afraid that receiving mercy will challenge us to become merciful.

Christ followers do not just tell other people they are loved by God, they show them through loving acts of mercy. Serving others with compassion and joy to bring to life the Gospel of truth.

We worry if we have nothing. We can become so full of ourselves, our attachments and personal concerns, but it is only when we have nothing that we can truly allow mercy to really shine through us.

God's mercy challenges us to be merciful, that we may be ready for others. We are all called to be sons and daughters of our merciful Father. He shows mercy and compassion when we repent our sins, He cares for us, even when we turn our back to him.

In this season of prayer, may we enter deeply into a closer relationship with Jesus and experience his mercy and compassion. ~ Sr. Ruth

## Ministries & More

### Knights of Columbus

The Catholic Church dedicates the entire month of March to St. Joseph and urges believers to pay special attention to his life and example. The following is a "Prayer for Workers:"

Blessed St. Joseph, I consecrate myself to your honor and give myself to you, that you may always be my father, my protector and my guide in the way of salvation. Obtain for me great purity of heart and a fervent love of the interior life. After your example, may I perform my actions for the greater Glory of God, in union with the Divine Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Pray for me, Saint Joseph, that I may experience the peace and joy of your holy death. Amen.

#### Announcements:

- Thank you to all the brother Knights who attended the St. Patrick's parade in Downtown Phoenix.

#### Events:

- March Madness Squares starts **Tuesday, March 19.**
- The Knights of Columbus State Raffle is ongoing until **Sunday, May 12, 2024.**
- Do not forget to sign up for an Officer position.
- Pray the Rosary schedule: **Wednesday, March 27, 2024** in the Chapel.

Join online to become a Knight of Columbus at [www.kofc.org/joinus](http://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](mailto:grandknight@kofc12246.org)

### Ministry Contacts

Audio-Visual... [Scott, av@stbenedict.org](mailto:Scott,av@stbenedict.org)

Altar Servers... [Ken, dken-1@hotmail.com](mailto:Ken, dken-1@hotmail.com)

Art & Env... [Cathy, cathytempleton\\_1@cox.net](mailto:Cathy, cathytempleton_1@cox.net)

Baptisms... [Sr. Ruth, srruth@stbenedict.org](mailto:Sr. Ruth, srruth@stbenedict.org)

EMHCs... [Russ, rustlespencer@gmail.com](mailto:Russ, rustlespencer@gmail.com)

Events/Helping Hands... [Lani, events@stbenedict.org](mailto:Lani, events@stbenedict.org)

Finance Council... [Karen, karenmains@msn.com](mailto:Karen, karenmains@msn.com)

Hospitality... [David, davidjschenach@gmail.com](mailto:David, davidjschenach@gmail.com)

Knights of Columbus... [Isauro, 480.748.1449](mailto:Isauro, 480.748.1449)

### St. Vincent de Paul



Thanks to the continued generosity of our parishioners. We, and those we serve, are grateful for your support. This week we are in need of the following items:

- Granola Bars
- Cookies
- Crackers
- Fruit Snacks
- Fruit/Pudding Cups
- Juice (all sizes)

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

### The Porters of St. Joseph

We are beginning a new ministry here in our parish community: *The Porters of Saint Joseph*. Named after St. Joseph, the protector of the Holy Family, the Porters of Saint Joseph is a volunteer ministry for men with the mission to provide a safe environment at our Church so our families can worship God in peace and security at Weekend masses. This is the perfect opportunity for men in this parish who have felt the call to get involved while at the same time, forming a bond of Christian brotherhood with like minded men.

Last weekend, Brian Easton spoke at Masses regarding this new ministry. Many thanks to all who showed interest in being part of our Porters of St. Joseph Ministry. For those who have not signed up, please prayerfully consider joining this great ministry.

There will be an Orientation and Q&A session on **Saturday, March 23** at the St. Benedict Annex 1 from 9 am to 12:30 pm. If you'd like to sign-up to join, or simply learn more, please email your name, phone number and best email address to [security@stbenedict.org](mailto:security@stbenedict.org).

Lectors... [Michele, micheleedison@aol.com](mailto:Michele, micheleedison@aol.com)

Legion of Mary... [Ann Marie, 480.688.2096](mailto:Ann Marie, 480.688.2096)

Music/Choir... [Phil A., 480.961.1610 ext. 311](mailto:Phil A., 480.961.1610 ext. 311)

Pastoral Care... [Kathy, kathy.mccluskey@cox.net](mailto:Kathy, kathy.mccluskey@cox.net)

Pastoral Council... [Russ, pastoralcouncil@stbenedict.org](mailto:Russ, pastoralcouncil@stbenedict.org)

Porters of St. Joseph... [security@stbenedict.org](mailto:security@stbenedict.org)

Refugee Resettlement... [Dave, zabordave@gmail.com](mailto:Dave, zabordave@gmail.com)

Sacristans... [Bette, blaatsch69@gmail.com](mailto:Bette, blaatsch69@gmail.com)

St. Vincent de Paul... [Phil W., 480.961.1610 ext. 315](mailto:Phil W., 480.961.1610 ext. 315)

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

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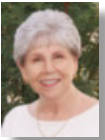
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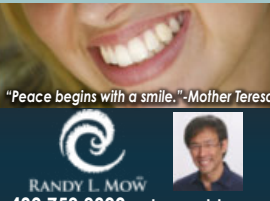
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HYGIENISTS:  
Michele King RDH  
Carmen Salaiz RDH  
Daisy DeSalmones RDH

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## A Note From The SJB Principal

Dear Parishioners,

I'm pleased to announce the BEST news! The votes are in, and for the first time, St. John Bosco took TOP HONORS for "Best Place to Work" and placed as "Reader Recommended" for "Best Preschool & Best Private School" in the Best of Ahwatukee survey. You will find detailed results in the March 13 edition of the Ahwatukee Foothills News.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to cast their votes and rally behind our beloved school. Your support means the world to us!



Joyful Blessings,  
Jamie Bescak, M.Ed.  
480.219.4848