

March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

“ **My God, my God,
why have you abandoned me?** ”

~ Ps 22

“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, 3/25
8:15am | Mass

Tuesday, 3/26
8:15 am | Mass
6:15 pm | JAM
6:15 pm | JOF

Wednesday, 3/27
8:15 am | Mass
5 pm | Finance Council
7 pm | Parish Rosary

Holy Thursday
4:30 pm | Legion Mary
7 pm | Mass of the
Lord's Supper

Good Friday
11 am | Divine Mercy
12 pm | 7 Last Words
3 pm | Living Stations
5 pm | Confession
7 pm | Good Friday Svc

Holy Saturday
8 am | Confessions
12 pm | Blessing Baskets
3 pm | Divine Mercy
7:30 pm | Easter Vigil

Mass Intentions

Sunday, 3/24/2024

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

Th 3/28 | Alexander Gil (lvg)
F 3/29 | (Good Friday,
No Mass)
Sa 3/30 | Joan Specchio †

M 3/25 | Julito Alcasid †
Tu 3/26 | Apolinar & Lucia
Samin †
W 3/27 | Maria & Jonathan
Dingwall (lvg)

Sunday, 3/31/2024

6 am | Dwight Bare †
8 am | Parishioners
10 am | Darel Williams †
12 pm | Danielle Kumpf †

Liturgy & Administration

Scripture Readings

Monday: 3/25	Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1-3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11
Tuesday: 3/26	Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15, 17; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
Wednesday: 3/27	Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34; Mt 26:14-25
Thursday: 3/28	Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12- 13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Cor 11: 23-26; Jn 13:1-1 (<i>Holy Thursday</i>)
Friday: 3/29	Is 52:13-53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12- 13, 15-17, 25; Heb 4:14-16, 5:7-9; Jn 18:1-19:42 (<i>Good Friday</i>)
Saturday: 3/30	Gn 1:1-2:2; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12-14, 24, 35; Gn 22:1-18; Ps 16:5, 8-11; Ex 14:15-15:1; Ex 15:1-6, 17-18; Is 54:5-14; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13; Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4; Ps 19:8-11; Ez 36: 16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4; Rom 6:3-11; Mk 16:1-7 (<i>Holy Saturday</i>)
Sunday: 3/31	Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-9 (<i>Easter Sunday</i>)

Parish Contributions

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

Regular Contributions for
February 2024

Actual: \$ 80,575*

Budget: \$ 78,352

* Realm

Online: \$ 41,398

Cash/Check: \$ 39,177

(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 18, 2024

Number of Donors: 172

Amount Pledged: \$105,665

Donations Goal: \$85,000

**We have exceeded our goal!
Thank you!**

Live the Liturgy Inspiration for the Week

The crowds of Jerusalem beautified the
path of Jesus as he came into the city,
offering their own cloaks in homage. Let us
make way in our hearts for the King as we
enter into Holy Week.

©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

“TRULY THIS MAN WAS THE SON OF GOD!”

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord ushers us into Holy Week, the Week during which we shall commemorate the Passion, Death and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Palm Sunday begins with the proclamation of Jesus' triumphal entrance into Jerusalem where He taught for awhile before the commencement of His passion and death which He endured in order as the perfect Lamb of Sacrifice (Gen 22:8) in order to reconcile all people to God and to restore the world to righteousness. There are two Gospel passages read at the Liturgy on Palm Sunday. The First passage recounts Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem accompanied by His disciples and the people of the city who lauded Him as “The Son of David,” one of the titles of the promised Messiah. It is very probable that the same crowd that “hailed Him as the blessed who comes in the name of the Lord” also transformed into the mob that shouted “crucify Him, crucify Him” when Jesus stood before the authorities for judgment. As we commemorate Christ's triumphant entry into His own city, let us ensure that our rendering of “hosanna in the highest” in the luxury of our worship space is actually consistent with our activities in life, family and community.

The second Gospel passage, which is called the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ, tells the story of Jesus' final discourses with His Disciples, the institution of the Sacraments of the Holy Eucharist and the Holy Orders, Jesus' agony in the garden of olives and His arrest, His judgment and condemnation, His suffering and death as well as the final confession by the centurion, probably a non-Jewish Roman, that “truly this man was the Son of God.” The first thing that strikes me is the extent to which God is willing to go in order to have us reconciled to, and enjoy a covenant relationship with Him. God is willing to provide the lamb whose blood seals the supreme and universal covenant, He loves the world so much that He gave His only Son so that anyone who believes in Him may not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16). The love of the Son for us is such that He willingly accepts in humility to share in our humanity, to suffer and die a despicable death on the cross in order to purchase us for righteousness (1 Cor 6:20). As we reflect on this sacrificial love, let us pause to ask what our individual response to this amazing love has been. Have we realized that Divine blood was the price that was paid for us and as such we are not our own and ought not to do things “my way” but God's way?

We may also like to note how we (represented by Pilate, the Jewish authorities and the mob) conveniently found excuses to be “unjust” to God the Son when we had our only opportunity to place Him on trial. We should also note how His closest allies betrayed and deserted Him, how his friend Judas preferred 30 pieces of silver to Christ and misused a kiss (a sign of love) to betray the only person who never gave up on him,. how He was scoffed probably by beneficiaries of His numerous miracles, and how the mob chose a taker of life over the giver of life. On the flip side, we ought to note the efforts of Pilate to expose the hypocrisy and vile of Jesus' accusers, the consistency of His mother Mary's presence around Him at His trying moment, the faithfulness of Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus, the nocturnal disciple, and the devotion of Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus. These good examples of charity and devotion demonstrate to us that our human nature is originally good and that even in the midst of overwhelming evil, one can dare to be different, to be Holy as our heavenly Father is Holy.

May the passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ cause a revival of sacrificial love within and among us to the greater glory of God.

Please be kind and may God bless you.

Fr. Manasseh

Current Events and More

Holy Week Schedule 2024

Holy Thursday

- Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7 pm

Good Friday

- Divine Mercy Novena - 11 am
- Seven Last Words - 12 pm
- Living Stations of the Cross - 3 pm
- Confession - 5 to 6 pm
- Good Friday Service - 7 pm

Holy Saturday

- Blessing of the Baskets - 12 pm
- Divine Mercy Novena - 3 pm (Chapel)**
- Easter Vigil & Reception - 7:30 pm

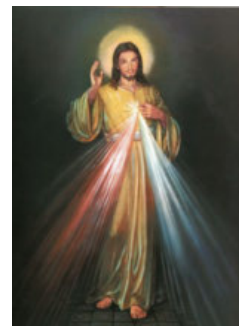
Easter Sunday

- Mass - 6 am, 8 am, 10 am, 12 pm
- Divine Mercy Novena - 3 pm (Chapel)**

** The Divine Mercy Novena continues each day at 3 pm, with the last day being Saturday, April 6.

Divine Mercy

The Sunday after Easter is Divine Mercy Sunday. Jesus told St. Faustina that this feast of mercy would be a very special day when "all divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened." (Diary 699) Our Lord made a great promise to all souls, that he "would grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My Mercy." (Diary 1109)



Jesus asked that the Feast of the Divine Mercy (April 7, this year) be preceded by a Novena which begins on Good Friday. There is an intention to pray about on each day of the Novena.

Please join the Divine Mercy Prayer group on **Good Friday, March 29**, at 11 am in the Church for the first day of the Novena. Each day the Novena will be said at 3 pm in the Chapel until Divine Mercy Sunday. Prayer guides are available in the church. (This Novena may also be prayed at home if you cannot attend in person.) Questions: Letty at Phoenix@Alcasid.com

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 take a look at the wishlist on Amazon: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/VS9CP5GHJ6MM/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_2



Living Stations of the Cross

On **Good Friday, March 29** at 3 pm in the church, the St. Benedict Youth Ministry will lead us through the Living Stations of the Cross. This reflection is a powerful and inspirational retelling of Jesus' passion and death and helps to remind us of the cost of our faith. Please join us.

Blessing of the Baskets

On **Saturday, March 30**, at noon, St. Benedict families will bring a collection of special foods that their family and friends will feast on Easter Sunday, lovingly assembled in a large wicker basket, brought to the church for the traditional Blessing of the Baskets. Some of these special foods include breads, lamb-shaped butter, meat, decorated eggs, horseradish, wine, chocolates and more. It's a Catholic ritual for many families here at St. Benedict on Holy Saturday. Please feel free to join us.

Good Friday Collection: Holy Land

Once a year on Good Friday, parishes are called on to support Christians in the Holy Land. As a pontifical collection requested by our Pope, the annual Good Friday collection offers a direct link for the parishioners to be witnesses of peace and to help protect the Holy Places. When you donate on Good Friday, you are supporting Christians in the Holy Land. Thank you for your help.

Faith Formation and More

Happenings in Children and Youth Faith Formation

Sunday, March 24

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

Tuesday, March 26

JAM
Journey of Faith

Easter Sunday

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

Tuesday, April 2

NO JAM
NO *Journey of Faith*

Crossed Arms in the Holy Communion Line

Some people cross their arms in the Holy Communion line signifying that the person is not properly disposed to receive Communion, for whatever reason, and wishes to receive a blessing instead. Possible reasons might be that the person is not Catholic, they are not in a state of grace, and the like. Please feel free to tell your non-Catholic Easter Mass guests that they are welcome to come up to receive a blessing during Communion by crossing their arms in front of themselves.



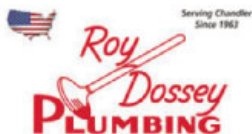
Parish Office Hours for Easter

Please note that the parish office will be open until 12 pm on Holy Thursday, closed on Good Friday, and closed Easter Monday. For an emergency requiring a priest, please call **480.961.1610 ext. 317**.

Thank you to the
Rummage Sale
Committee, Rummage
Sale Sponsors, everyone
who donated gift cards
and food, all the
volunteers and everyone
who donated or
purchased!!



Total Raised – just over \$12,000!!!



Ministries & More

Knights of Columbus

Palm Sunday is the Christian feast that falls on the Sunday before Easter. The feast commemorates Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, an event mentioned in each of the four canonical Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John). Its name originates from the palm branches, a symbol of victory, triumph, peace and eternal life, waved by the crowd to greet and honor Jesus as he entered the city. Palm Sunday marks the first day of Holy Week which is the last week of the Season of Lent, preceding Eastertide, when the focus is on celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Announcements:

- Thank you to all the brother Knights who are active in ministries.

Events:

- The Chrism Oil Mass is on **Monday, March 25** at St. Thomas Aquinas in Avondale at 4 pm.
- 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 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



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:

- Catsup
- Mayonnaise
- Salad Dressing
- Mustard
- Canned Fruit
- Applesauce

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



Tickets on
Sale
Soon!

Save The Date

St. Benedict Annual Gala!

Saturday, April 20, 2024
The Marriott Chandler
6 – 9 p.m.

All proceeds
benefit the
General
Fund!

Sponsorship Opportunities Available

Cocktail Reception
Plated Dinner
Silent Auction/Raffle
Live Music
DJ and Dancing

Questions? Call the office or
email
mfabilena@stbenedict.org

Lectors... Michele, micheleedison@aol.com

Legion of Mary... Ann Marie, 480.688.2096

Music/Choir... Phil A., 480.961.1610 ext. 311

Pastoral Care... Kathy, kathy.mccluskey@cox.net

Pastoral Council... Russ, pastoralcouncil@stbenedict.org

Porters of St. Joseph... security@stbenedict.org

Refugee Resettlement... Dave, zabordave@gmail.com

Sacristans... Bette, blaatsch69@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul... Phil W., 480.961.1610 ext. 315

Women's Spirituality... Nora, nmphillips@cox.net

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A Note From The SJB Principal

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Palm Sunday! As a Catholic school, St. John Bosco admin, faculty, and staff naturally embrace our faith and have delighted in offering a plethora of Lenten activities since Ash Wednesday. Following a delicious meat-free Friday soup and bread luncheon hosted by our PTO, our own Sr. Delia Obenza, O.P. led a spiritual and peaceful retreat for the combined staff of St. Benedict Parish and St. John Bosco School. There's nothing like a joint gathering of parish and school to strengthen the bonds of our ministries!

In addition to our regular Lenten activities of class-led Stations of the Cross, the school-hosted Family Stations of the Cross/Fish Fry, and the Holy Thursday class retreats and 6th Grade performance of the Passion Play, the annual 8th-grade-led Living Stations of the Cross is particularly stirring. Well-trained by teachers Mrs. Rafford, Mrs. Pratt, and Mrs. Harvey, the students take charge of the entire production — narrating, still-posing the 15 stations, and ushering the huge wooden cross throughout classes seated in the church so that every student and family may lay hands on it. Following the heart-rending narration of each station, the various classes interspersed throughout the church stood and chanted beautiful hymns associated with each station. It is a most poignant production and one well worth experiencing each Lent. It is especially moving in the dramatic space of our new church.

Many more Lenten school activities are planned as we embark on Holy Week. Our students will be dismissed early on Holy Thursday to enjoy a blessed Triduum and joyous Easter with their families. Wishing the same for all of you — our beloved parishioners.

Joyful Blessings,
Jamie Bescak, M.Ed.
480.219.4848

