

March 2, 2025

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“where all are welcome”

“ **Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.** ”

~ Ps 92

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

Sat 5 pm, Sun 7, 9, 11 am, 1 pm (Spanish), 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, 3/3

8:15 am | Mass
6 pm | Spanish Choir

Tuesday, 3/4

8:15 am | Mass
6:15 pm | JAM
6:15 pm | JOF
6:30 pm | Bible Study

Wednesday, 3/5

Ash Wednesday
Masses: 6:30am, 8:15am,
5pm, 7pm (bi-ling)
Service with Ashes: Noon

Thursday, 3/6

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

Friday, 3/7

8:15 am | Mass
9 am | Adoration
5 pm | Confession
6 pm | Stations

Saturday, 3/8

7 am | Rummage Sale
8 am | Confession
9:30 am | Baptism Class
5 pm | Mass

Mass Intentions

Sunday, 3/2/2025

7 am | Giselle Alcasid †
9 am | Ray Bechtold †
11 am | Marito Roque †
1 pm | Marie L. Graller †
5 pm | Jon Novenski (lvg)

Th 3/6 | Emil Senn †

F 3/7 | Lisa Ghaly (lvg)

Sat 3/8 | Waldo & Virjean
Schinzel †

Sunday, 3/9/2025

M 3/3 | Helen Gersi †
Tu 3/4 | Giselle Alcasid †
W 3/5,
6:30 am | Larry Leabow (lvg)
8:15 am | Linda Kruse †
5 pm | Antonio Morales †
7 pm | Jon Hanna †

7 am | Susana Pentinio †

9 am | Margaret McDermott (lvg)

11 am | Camille O’Melia †

1 pm | Marie L. Graller †

5 pm | Peggy & Ed Finch †

Liturgy & Administration

Scripture Readings

Monday: Sir 17:20-24/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 3/3
6, 7/Mk 10:17-27

Tuesday: Sir 35:1-12/Ps 50:5-6, 7-8, 3/4
14, 23/Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 3/5
12-13, 14, 17/2 Cor 5:20-6:2/
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
(Ash Wednesday)

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 3/6
6/Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 3/7
18-19/Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/ 3/8
Lk 5:27-32

Sunday: Dt 26:4-10/Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 3/9
12-13, 14-15/Rom 10:8-13/
Lk 4:1-13

Parish Contributions

A special thank you to those who are faithfully contributing

Regular Contributions for
January 2025

Actual: \$ 67,822*

Budget: \$ 87,500

* Realm

Online: \$ 41,247

Cash/Check: \$ 26,575

(Contributions are recorded on a monthly basis per fiscal year July 1, '24 to June 30, '25)

Debt Reduction

Jan 31, 2025

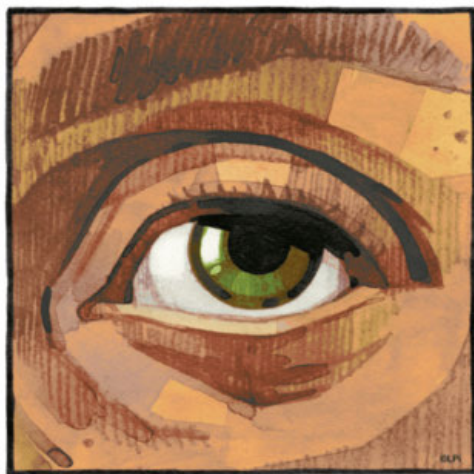
Church Construction Loan: \$4,500,000

Current Loan Balance: \$4,414,098

Monthly Mortgage Payment: \$21,076

Fiscal YTD Principal Paid: \$53,232

Fiscal YTD Interest Paid: \$108,625



Live the Liturgy

Remove the beam from your own eye, Jesus reminds us, before removing the splinter from your brother's. This doesn't mean we should not help each other to be holy. But holiness must come from within. If we don't have it, we can't share it. Are we looking hard enough at our own souls?

©LPi

Parish Staff

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

Parochial Vicar - Fr. Augustine Acheme, VC x 306
fraugustine@stbenedict.org

Parish Manager - Agustin Vizcarra, x 304
avizcarra@stbenedict.org

Children's Formation - Sr. Delia Obenza, OP x 307
srdelia@stbenedict.org

Front Office/Admin. Asst. - Amy Fletcher x 300
afletcher@stbenedict.org

Contact the Parish Office at 480.961.1610

Deacon - J. C. Gonzalez x 300
dcngonzalez@stbenedict.org

Deacon - Ed Winkelbauer x 300
dcned@stbenedict.org

Dir. Evangelization/Formation - Sr. Liza Sulit, OP x 308
srliza@stbenedict.org

Dir. Music/Liturgy - Phil Arkfeld x 311
parkfeld@stbenedict.org

Stewardship/Engagement - Maryola Fabilena x 309
mfabilena@stbenedict.org

Youth/Campus Ministry - Erin Fish x 303
efish@stbenedict.org

Scripture Reflection

Lent: A Journey of Transformation

Lent is not merely a season of giving things up; it is an invitation to transformation. It is a sacred journey that mirrors Christ's 40 days in the desert, calling us to deeper conversion through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. More than a time of restriction, Lent is a time of renewal- a chance to reorient our hearts toward God, stripping away distractions so that we may encounter Him more fully.

The essence of Lent is summed up in the words of Jesus: *"Repent, and believe in the Gospel."* (Mark 1:15). Repentance is not just about feeling sorry for our sins but about turning back to God with our whole being. It is a call to change, to let go of what binds us and embrace the life of grace that God offers. As St. Catherine of Siena reminds us, *"Nothing great is ever achieved without much enduring."* True conversion requires perseverance and willingness to allow God to work in us.

One of the greatest Lenten disciplines is fasting, not only from food but from anything that keeps us from God. St. Augustine beautifully describes fasting as a means to spiritual clarity: *"Fasting cleanses the soul, raises the mind, subjects one's flesh to the spirit, renders the heart contrite and humble, scatters the clouds of concupiscence, quenches the fire of lust, and kindles the true light of chastity."* Through fasting, we learn detachment, making room for God's presence in our lives.

Almsgiving, another pillar of Lent, is a reminder that our faith is not meant to be lived in isolation but in love and service to others. St. Gregory Nazianzen urges us, *"Give something, however small, to the one in need. For it is not small to one who has nothing. Neither is it small to God, if we have given what we could."* True charity is not measured by quantity but by the love with which it is given.

Lent is a season of stripping away, not to leave us empty, but to fill us with Christ. It is a time to rediscover what truly matters, to recognize our dependence on God, and to open our hearts to His mercy. As we embark on this sacred journey, may we embrace the grace of conversion, trusting that God, who calls us into the desert, will also lead us into the joy of resurrection. Let us walk this path with faith, knowing that each sacrifice, each prayer, and each act of love brings us closer to the heart of Christ.

Fr. Augustine Acheme, VC

Current Events and More

Ash Wednesday, March 5 Mass/Service Schedule

Mass with Ashes:

6:30 am, 8:15 am, 5 pm, 7 pm (bi-lingual)

Service with Ashes:

12 Noon

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration this month will be on **Friday, March 7** 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/puKbjk>. Signing up allows us to make sure that all the time slots are covered.



Ministry Contacts

Audio-Visual... Scott, av@stbenedict.org
 Altar Servers... Ken, dken-1@hotmail.com
 Altar Society... Sr. Liza, srliza@stbenedict.org
 Baptisms... Sr. Liza, srliza@stbenedict.org
 EMHCs... Russ, rustlespencer@gmail.com
 Events/Helping Hands... Lani, events@stbenedict.org
 Finance Council... Karen, karenmains@msn.com
 Gift Shop... Lisa, lhattula@outlook.com
 Hospitality... David, davidjschenach@gmail.com
 Knights of Columbus... John, jgarrity43@aol.com
 Lectors... Melissa, melissa729@gmail.com
 Legion of Mary... Heidi Hill, stblom@stbenedict.org
 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... Larry, zbarblary@gmail.com
 St. Vincent de Paul... Phil W., 480.961.1610 ext. 315
 Women's Spirituality... Nora, nmphilips@cox.net

Charity and Development Appeal

"A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good." (Luke 6:45)



Jesus teaches us that being His follower does not give us license to judge others. Rather, it provides an opportunity to show mercy toward ourselves and our own sinfulness and to others in their human frailty. And a way to act on this mercy is to support such initiatives as the Charity & Development Appeal, which brings God's light and love to people in our community who need it most. Join this incredible mission and make your gift today online give.dphx.org

Parish Lenten Retreat

Join us for a 3-Day Lenten Retreat **March 20-22, 2025** with Fr. Stephen Maria Lopez, OP. Fr. Stephen will be facilitating our retreat by taking us on a spiritual Lenten journey. Here is the schedule for the 3 days:

Day 1, Thursday, March 20 at 6:30-8 pm
 "Journey Through the Desert" Talk

Day 2, Friday, March 21 at 6:30-8 pm
 "Journey to Calvary" - Talk and Open Forum

Day 3, Saturday, March 22 beginning at 9 am
 "Journey to Heaven" Talk
 12 pm - Lunch Provided
 2-3:30 pm - Confession/Spiritual Direction
 5 pm - Mass

RSVP with Amy in the office, **480.961.1610 ext. 300.**

Stations of the Cross

Join us for Stations of the Cross in the Church every Friday during Lent, beginning this coming **Friday, March 7**. Stations are at 6 pm and 7 pm (Spanish).

We are also planning for a Fish Dinner beginning at 6:15 pm. Join us on the east side of the church under the arches for 2 pieces of fish, colslaw, chips, water and a dessert...all for \$10 per person!

Faith Formation and More

Happenings in Children and Youth Faith Formation

Sunday, March 2

Liturgy of the Word With Children

CGS

Teen Sac. Prep.

EPIC

Tuesday, March 4

JAM

JOF

Sunday, March 9

Liturgy of the Word With Children

NO CGS

NO Teen Sac. Prep.

NO EPIC

Tuesday, March 11

NO JAM

NO JOF



Welcoming Sunday

This weekend on **March 2** after the Sunday 9 am Mass, you are invited to come to Welcoming Sunday where you can mix and mingle with our priests, members of the Pastoral Council, Staff and new parishioners in the Narthex at the back of the church. Refreshments will be available. See you there!

Pastoral Care

Please remember in your prayers: **Amelia Romero, Foster and Patricia Sdao, Margaret "Peg" Strachan** and **Nicki Villa** who died recently. We pray that their families and friends will feel God's healing embrace through the prayers and support of our faith community.



High School "Rooted Retreat"

Sign up for the Rooted Retreat, **March 28-30** in Prescott! Join us for a weekend of spiritual renewal, prayer, and connection.

All expenses are included...transportation, meals, room and retreat for \$95 each. Scan the QR code or contact Erin Fish



in the parish office to reserve your place now. Limited number of spots available. Sponsorships are welcome!

Fasting & Abstinence During Lent

As Catholics we fast and abstain from certain foods during Lent. Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. In addition, All Catholics, 14-years and older, abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays during Lent.

Fasting means partaking of only one full meal. Some food (not equaling another full meal) is permitted at breakfast, around midday, or in the evening depending upon when a person chooses to eat the main or full meal. Abstinence forbids the use of meat, but not of eggs, milk products or butter.

Rummage Sale

Thank you for your donations! The Parish Rummage Sale is just around the corner on **Saturday, March 8** between the hours of 7 am and 2 pm at the St. John Bosco School courtyard and multipurpose room. You won't believe the prices...it's going to be a blast! Mark your calendar for this super fun event!

For more information or to volunteer, contact Gayle at **480.773.5300** or rummagesale@stbenedict.org.

Arriba Mexican Grill Fun-raiser

Save the date of **Sunday, March 23**, 12 pm to 4 pm! You are invited to enjoy some festive Mexican food and fun to benefit St. Benedict Church at Arriba Mexican Grill (4649 E. Chandler Blvd.). Arriba will donate 20% of all dine-in food purchases between the hours of Noon and 4 pm. (Please mention to the server you are there for the fundraiser.) Bring your friends and family!

Ministries & More

Knights of Columbus

Thank you to all the brothers that helped making our parish picnic a huge success. Food delivery, set up, chefs, servers and cleanup. Well done, gentlemen!

State Raffle tickets for sale after every Mass. 5 dollars each, 20 for a book of five and six books for \$100. Half the money is donated to our St. Vincent de Paul here.

- Events:** 3/6 - 2 pm Rummage Sale set up
 3/7 - 8 am Rummage Sale set up
 3/8 - 2 pm Rummage sale breakdown. Sign up list is out, please sign up.

Vivat Jesus,
 John Garrity, Grand Knight
 Fr. Bob Binta Council # 12246
jgarrity43@aol.com

St. Vincent de Paul



In today's Gospel, Jesus uses images in speaking to his disciples: "Can a blind man act as a guide to a blind man?... A good tree does not produce decayed fruit..." It is true that donations come to SVdP because good people produce goodness from the good in their heart. Please donate any of the following:

- Toilet Paper
- Tissues
- Deodorant
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Shaving Needs

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

<p>(602) 441-2744</p> <p>PARLOR DOUGHNUTS</p>	<p>Mon. Fri. 11- 8:30pm</p> <p>(480) 626-9295</p> <p>www.juanasrestaurant.com</p>	<p>MECHAM ORTHODONTICS</p> <p>16611 S. 40th St. Ste 110 • Phoenix (602) 805-8525 www.mechamortho.com</p>						
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A Note From The SJB Principal



Dear Parishioners,

The Lenten Season is just around the corner, beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 5. On that day, students will attend Mass to receive ashes and start their Lenten commitments. That same week also marks Read Across America Week, with our dedicated teachers planning a host of fun activities to celebrate the joy of reading.

In addition, on Friday, March 7, students will begin their spring break while teachers attend the Diocesan Spring Inservice. Classes will resume on March 17, which coincides with St. Patrick's Day. Later that week, our 7th- and 8th-graders will enjoy their traditional overnight field trip to SeaWorld.

With so many exciting events in March, we're just getting started as we approach the end of the school year—the final few months will fly by.

Our goal is to make these last months memorable and enriching for every learner. Together, we'll finish strong, celebrating each student's growth and achievements. A heartfelt thank you goes out to our faculty, staff, and parents for their unwavering support and active involvement in our school community.

Joyful Blessings,

Jamie Bescak, M.Ed., Principal

480.219.4848

Fr. Bob Binta Knights of Columbus 16th Annual Memorial Golf Tournament

Saturday, March 29, 2025 at Dobson Ranch Golf Course

In Memory of *Megan Elizabeth Holmes/Golembiewski*



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St. Vincent de Paul, Andre House, St. Joseph Youth Camp, Maggie's Place and More.

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