



March 9, 2025  
**First Sunday of Lent**

“ **Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.** ”  
 ~ Ps 91

“where all are welcome”

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** \_\_\_\_\_

Sat 5 pm, Sun 7, 9, 11 am, 1 pm in 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](http://stbenedict.org/calendar)

<b>Monday, 3/10</b> 8:15 am   Mass 6 pm   Spanish Choir	<b>Tuesday, 3/11</b> 8:15 am   Mass 6:30 pm   Bible Study	<b>Wednesday, 3/12</b> 8:15 am   Mass 6 pm   Children's Choir 6:30 pm   Pastoral Council
<b>Thursday, 3/13</b> 8:15 am   Mass 9 am   Legion Mary 6 pm   Adult Choir 6 pm   K of C	<b>Friday, 3/14</b> 8:15 am   Mass 5 pm   Confession 6 pm   Stations (Eng) 6:30 pm   Fish Dinner 7 pm   Stations (Sp)	<b>Saturday, 3/15</b> 8 am   Confession 5 pm   Mass

**Mass Intentions** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Sunday, 3/9/2025</b> 7 am   Susana Pentinio † 9 am   Margaret McDermott (lvg) 11 am   Camille O'Melia † 1 pm   Marie L. Graller † 5 pm   Peggy & Ed Finch †	Th 3/13   Bob Bechtold † F 3/14   Kieran Gallagher (lvg) Sat 3/15   Patrice Nettescheim †
<b>Sunday, 3/16/2025</b> 7 am   Wayne Peterson † 9 am   Carlos Garcia † 11 am   Bernadette Nitti † 1 pm   Marie L. Graller † 5 pm   Steve Huddleston (lvg)	M 3/10   Steven Jenusiak † Tu 3/11   Jan Michalski † W 3/12   Sylvia Zavala †

## Liturgy & Administration

### Scripture Readings

<b>Monday:</b> 3/10	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mt 25:31-46
<b>Tuesday:</b> 3/11	Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/Mt 6:7-15
<b>Wednesday:</b> 3/12	Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/Lk 11:29-32
<b>Thursday:</b> 3/13	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/ Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/ Mt 7:7-12
<b>Friday:</b> 3/14	Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/Mt 5:20-26
<b>Saturday:</b> 3/15	Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48
<b>Sunday:</b> 3/16	Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14/Phil 3:17– 4:1/Lk 9:28b-36

### Parish Contributions

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

Regular Contributions for  
**February 2025**

**Actual: \$ 69,608\***

**Budget: \$ 87,500**

\* Realm

Online: \$ 40,706

Cash/Check: \$ 28,902

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

### Debt Reduction

Feb 28, 2025

Church Construction Loan:	\$4,500,000
Current Loan Balance:	\$4,408,716
Monthly Mortgage Payment:	\$21,088
Fiscal YTD Principal Paid:	\$58,614
Fiscal YTD Interest Paid:	\$124,331



### Live the Liturgy

Jesus is desperately hungry when the devil tells him to turn stone into bread. But his divine will is stronger than the weakness of his human body, and he resists the devil. In this season of fasting and self-denial, let's remember Jesus' strength.

©LPi

### Parish Staff

Pastor - Fr. James Aboyi, VC x 302  
[fraboyi@stbenedict.org](mailto:fraboyi@stbenedict.org)  
Parochial Vicar - Fr. Augustine Acheme, VC x 306  
[fraugustine@stbenedict.org](mailto:fraugustine@stbenedict.org)  
Parish Manager - Agustin Vizcarra, x 304  
[avizcarra@stbenedict.org](mailto:avizcarra@stbenedict.org)  
Children's Formation - Sr. Delia Obenza, OP x 307  
[srdelia@stbenedict.org](mailto:srdelia@stbenedict.org)  
Front Office/Admin. Asst. - Amy Fletcher x 300  
[afletcher@stbenedict.org](mailto:afletcher@stbenedict.org)  
Contact the Parish Office at 480.961.1610

Deacon - J. C. Gonzalez x 300  
[dcngonzalez@stbenedict.org](mailto:dcngonzalez@stbenedict.org)  
Deacon - Ed Winkelbauer x 300  
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Dir. Evangelization/Formation - Sr. Liza Sulit, OP x 308  
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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 - Erin Fish x 303  
[efish@stbenedict.org](mailto:efish@stbenedict.org)

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## Scripture Reflection

### Strength in the Desert

The First Sunday of Lent brings us to a defining moment in Jesus' life- the temptation in the desert (Luke 4:1-13). Led by the Spirit, Jesus fasts for forty days and is then confronted by the devil, who tempts Him with comfort, power, and self-glory. Each time, Jesus responds with the Word of God, rejecting the false promises before Him. This passage offers us a profound lesson on the nature of temptation, the power of God's Word, and the strength that comes from total dependence on the Father.

The devil's first temptation appeals to Jesus' hunger: *"If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread."* In our own lives, we too experience temptations that target our needs and desires. Yet, Jesus' response, *"One does not live on bread alone,"* reminds us that physical sustenance is not enough- we need the nourishment of God's Word. When we rely only on what is tangible, we risk forgetting that our deepest fulfillment comes from God alone.

The second temptation is one of power and control: *"I shall give to you all this power and glory... if you worship me."* How often are we tempted by the desire for success, influence, or recognition? But Jesus' reply is clear: *"You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve."* Lent invites us to reexamine our priorities- do we seek God first, or are we focused on the world's fleeting rewards?

The final temptation challenges Jesus to test God: *"Throw yourself down... for it is written: He will command his angels concerning you."* Here, the devil distorts Scripture to manipulate Jesus, but He stands firm: *"You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test."* This reminds us to trust God's plan rather than demanding proof or immediate intervention. Faith is not about forcing God's hand; it is about surrendering in trust.

The first reading from Deuteronomy recalls Israel's journey through the wilderness, a time of testing that revealed God's faithfulness. The Israelites were called to remember God's saving power, just as we are called to trust in His providence. Paul, in the second reading (Romans 10:8-13), reinforces that true salvation comes from belief in Christ: *"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."*

As we begin Lent, Jesus' example in the desert challenges us to confront our own temptations. How do we respond to trials? Do we rely on God's Word, or do we give in to quick fixes? This season is a time to grow in spiritual strength, fasting from what distracts us and deepening our dependence on God. Let us walk this Lenten journey with Christ, trusting that in every desert, God provides the grace we need to remain faithful.

Fr. Augustine Acheme, VC

## Current Events and More

### Stations of the Cross

Join us for Stations of the Cross in the Church every Friday during Lent. Stations are at 6 pm (English) and 7:30 pm (Spanish).

We are also planning for a Fish Dinner beginning at 6:30 pm. Join us on the east side of the church under the arches for 2 pieces of fish, corn tortillas, coleslaw, chips, water and a dessert...all for \$10 per person!

### 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.

### Ministry Contacts

Audio-Visual... Scott, [av@stbenedict.org](mailto:av@stbenedict.org)  
 Altar Servers... Ken, [dken-1@hotmail.com](mailto:dken-1@hotmail.com)  
 Altar Society... Sr. Liza, [srliza@stbenedict.org](mailto:srliza@stbenedict.org)  
 Baptisms... Sr. Liza, [srliza@stbenedict.org](mailto:srliza@stbenedict.org)  
 EMHCs... Russ, [rustlespencer@gmail.com](mailto:rustlespencer@gmail.com)  
 Events/Helping Hands... Lani, [events@stbenedict.org](mailto:events@stbenedict.org)  
 Finance Council... Karen, [karenmains@msn.com](mailto:karenmains@msn.com)  
 Gift Shop... Lisa, [lhattula@outlook.com](mailto:lhattula@outlook.com)  
 Hospitality... David, [davidjschenach@gmail.com](mailto:davidjschenach@gmail.com)  
 Knights of Columbus... John, [jgarrity43@aol.com](mailto:jgarrity43@aol.com)  
 Lectors... Melissa, [melissa729@gmail.com](mailto:melissa729@gmail.com)  
 Legion of Mary... Heidi Hill, [stblom@stbenedict.org](mailto:stblom@stbenedict.org)  
 Music/Choir... Phil A., 480.961.1610 ext. 311  
 Pastoral Care... Kathy, [kathy.mccluskey@cox.net](mailto:kathy.mccluskey@cox.net)  
 Pastoral Council... Russ, [pastoralcouncil@stbenedict.org](mailto:pastoralcouncil@stbenedict.org)  
 Porters of St. Joseph... [security@stbenedict.org](mailto:security@stbenedict.org)  
 Refugee Resettlement... Dave, [zabordave@gmail.com](mailto:zabordave@gmail.com)  
 Sacristans... Larry, [zbarblary@gmail.com](mailto:zbarblary@gmail.com)  
 St. Vincent de Paul... Phil W., 480.961.1610 ext. 315  
 Women's Spirituality... Nora, [nmphilips@cox.net](mailto:nmphilips@cox.net)

### Charity and Development Appeal

Results are beginning to come in for the Charity and Development Appeal. Thank you to all who have participated so far. We have raised \$41,701 from 131 families with our goal being \$97,274. At this time we are 43% there! Please know the good work accomplished through the CDA. You can learn more at [dphx.org/CDA](http://dphx.org/CDA).



### Parish Lenten Retreat

St. Benedict Church is having 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**.

### 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!





## Faith Formation and More

### Happenings in Children and Youth Faith Formation

**Sunday, March 9**

*Liturgy of the Word With Children*

**NO CGS**

**NO Teen Sac. Prep.**

**NO EPIC**

**Tuesday, March 11**

**NO JAM**

**NO JOF**

**Sunday, March 16**

**NO Liturgy of the Word With Children**

**NO CGS, Teen Sac. Prep, or EPIC**

**Tuesday, March 18**

**NO JAM**

**NO JOF**

### High School “Rooted Retreat”

Attention teens! 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!



### Communications Collection Next Week

The mission of this collection is to contribute to the process of evangelization by television, radio, internet, and other media. Next weekend envelopes will be located in the parish lobby and near the doors. Thank you for your generosity.

### St. Benedict Gala

Save the date to attend this festive evening on **Saturday, May 3** 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 and Silent Auction items will be available along with musical entertainment. Tickets on sale soon. For information on Corporate Sponsorships, please call Maryola at **480.961.1610, ext. 309**.



### Family Promise

The Family Promise Program vows to keep children, parents – and even their pets – together. They help families facing homelessness secure stable housing through safe shelter, caring connections, and building a community of support.

Once again we are hosting families over at the St. John Bosco School Multipurpose Room from **March 9 through March 16**. Volunteers are always welcome! Go to the parish website at [www.stbenedict.org](http://www.stbenedict.org) and click on the banner to help out.

### Ideas for Lenten Devotions

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

- 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.

**Ministries & More**

**Knights of Columbus 16th Annual Memorial Golf Tournament**

Join us on **Saturday, March 29** at the Dobson Ranch Golf Course. This year's Tournament is in memory of **Megan Elizabeth Holmes/Golembiewski**.

We are looking for Sponsors!

- COPPER - \$100
- SILVER - \$200
- GOLD - \$500



We are also in need of donations for Raffle Prizes: gift cards, golf equipment, etc. This is a GREAT OPPORTUNITY to advertise your business!

For more information, contact Isauro Amaro at [isauroamaro@yahoo.com](mailto:isauroamaro@yahoo.com)

**St. Vincent de Paul**



In today's Gospel, Jesus overcomes the temptations to wealth, power and esteem. As we begin the Season of Lent, may we open our hearts to the grace of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Your gift in the SVdP poor box or pantry bin helps the poor celebrate the grace of God's love. Please consider donating any of the following:

- Catsup
- Mustard
- Mayonnaise
- Salad Dressing
- Jam
- Ramen

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

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<p><b>Eye Priority, P.C.</b> ... providing quality optometry for Ahwatukee-Foothills families since 1991.</p> <p><b>Kelly de Simone, OD</b> Parishioner <b>Monica Sawitzke, OD</b> 15725 S. 46th Street, Ste.112</p> <p>Eye Exams Contact Fittings Vision Therapy <b>(480) 893-2300</b></p>	<p>• Crowns &amp; Bridges • Dentures • Root Canals • Implant Dentistry • Tooth Extractions • Cosmetic Dentistry</p> <p><b>FREE EMERGENCY EXAM OR SECOND OPINION</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td><b>0%</b> PAYMENTS/MOST CREDIT PROFILES ACCEPTED*</td> <td><b>\$2,798</b> SINGLE IMPLANT PLUS RESTORATION*</td> <td rowspan="2"><b>NEW PATIENT SPECIAL</b> *Offer valid through 10/31/2024 <b>\$49</b> CLEANING, EXAM &amp; X-RAYS</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Starting at <b>\$878</b> ZIRCONIA CROWN*</td> <td><b>\$49</b> EXAM X-RAYS &amp; CLEANING*</td> </tr> </table> <p>4530 East Ray Road, Suite 170 Phoenix, AZ 85044 <b>(480) 573-7675   WWW.TRUSMILENOW.COM</b></p>		<b>0%</b> PAYMENTS/MOST CREDIT PROFILES ACCEPTED*	<b>\$2,798</b> SINGLE IMPLANT PLUS RESTORATION*	<b>NEW PATIENT SPECIAL</b> *Offer valid through 10/31/2024 <b>\$49</b> CLEANING, EXAM & X-RAYS	Starting at <b>\$878</b> ZIRCONIA CROWN*	<b>\$49</b> EXAM X-RAYS & CLEANING*	<p><b>SHORT STAFFED?</b></p> <p>Place an ad here to find new local talent for your business.</p> <p><b>CALL 800-950-9952</b></p>
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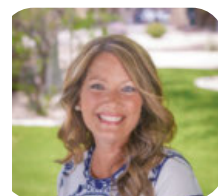
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## A Note From The SJB Principal

Dear Parishioners,

We are so proud of our Academic Decathlon team, the SJB Decadogs! They are 8th graders **Kyle Andersen, Lucas Mandarin, Noah Raso, Jorge Rodriguez, and Shelby Savoy**, as well as 7th graders **Quinn Boggs, Wilson Dinglasan, Sally Salloum, and Elizabeth Villalba**, and 6th grader **Grayson Bileski**.

These students came to school on a Saturday morning and competed virtually in a regional event that included schools in and outside of Arizona. Overall, our school placed 3rd in the Logic Quiz. Our students also took home individual medals! Eighth-grader Lucas took 3rd place in the religion category, 7th-grader Sally took 2nd place in the literature category, and 7th-grader Wilson took 1st place in mathematics and will represent SJB at the national level! We are so proud of this team for the hard work they put into preparing for this competition!

I am also humbled and pleased to announce the BEST news! The votes are in: St. John Bosco took TOP HONORS for "**Best Private School**" and, for the first time, "**Best Leader/Principal**" and placed in the TOP 3 as "**Reader Recommended**" for "**Best Preschool & Best Place to Work**" in the Best of Ahwatukee survey. You will find detailed results in the upcoming March 12 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., Principal

480.219.4848

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## Comunidad Hispana Misionera

LA VOZ DEL PASTOR:

Un mensaje breve de bienvenida del Padre James que puede quedarse fijo varias semanas.

ANUNCIO IMPORTANTE:

Martin Zavala ha aceptado ser nuestro coordinador del Ministerio Hispano. También les comunicamos que ya pueden llamar a la parroquia para solicitar bautismos, bodas, quinceañeras y funerales en español.

AVISOS:

- a) La próxima reunión del ministerio hispano será el jueves 13 de Marzo a las 7:00 de la noche. Sigamos avanzando y si no te has inscrito para servir te esperamos este día. Queremos crear más y nuevos grupos y ministerios.
- b) La primera Gran Misión cuaresmal será del 31 de Marzo al 2 de abril. !No vayas a faltar! Ve programándote e invitando a todos los que puedas pues va a ser de gran bendición.
- c) El Via Crucis en español se llevará a cabo todos los viernes de cuaresma a las 7 PM.