



April 6, 2025
Fifth Sunday of Lent

“
**With the Lord there is
 mercy and fullness of redemption.**
 ”

~ Ps 130

“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 _____

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, 4/7 8:15 am Mass 6 pm Spanish Choir	Tuesday, 4/8 8:15 am Mass 6:15 pm JAM/JOF 7 pm Penance Service	Wednesday, 4/9 8:15 am Mass 6 pm Children’s Choir 6:30 pm Pastoral Council
Thursday, 4/10 8:15 am Mass 9 am Legion Mary 6 pm Adult Choir 6 pm K of C	Friday, 4/11 8:15 am Mass 5 pm Confession 6 pm Stations (Eng) 6:30 pm Fish Dinner 7 pm Stations (Sp)	Saturday, 4/12 8 am Confession 9:30 am Baptism Class 5 pm Mass

Mass Intentions _____

Sunday, 4/6/2025 7 am Marie L. Graller † 9 am Ernesto Lee † 11 am Robert Webster † 1 pm Robert Webster † 5 pm Hedwig Wenker †	Th 4/10 Cheah Siew Kim † F 4/11 Chris Euzarraga † Sat 4/12 Jaime & Pilar Gonzalez †
M 4/7 Valentina Tello (lvg) Tu 4/8 Peg Strachan † W 4/9 Carol Wenzel †	Sunday, 4/13/2025 7 am Helena C. Dayto † 9 am Doug Davaz † 11 am Giselle Alcasid † 1 pm Marie L. Graller † 5 pm Giselle Alcasid †

Liturgy & Administration

Scripture Readings

Monday:	Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-4/7 62/Ps 23:1-6/Jn 8:12-20
Tuesday:	Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 4/8 19-21/Jn 8:21-30
Wednesday:	Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/4/9 Dn 3:52-56/Jn 8:31-42
Thursday:	Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 4/10 8-9/Jn 8:51-59
Friday:	Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 4/11 5-6, 7/Jn 10:31-42 <i>(St. Stanislaus)</i>
Saturday:	Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-4/12 12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56
Sunday:	Lk 19:28-40/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:4/13 8-9, 17-20, 23-24/Phil 2:6-11/ Lk 22:14-23:5 <i>(Palm Sunday)</i>

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

Holy Week/ Easter Schedule 2025

Holy Thursday, April 17

- Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7 pm

Good Friday, April 18

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

Holy Saturday, April 19

- Blessing of the Baskets - Noon
- Easter Vigil - 8 pm

Easter Sunday, April 20

- Masses - 7 am, 9 am, 11 am, 1 pm (Sp)
- Easter Egg Hunt - 10:30 am

Lenten Penance Service

Come to the St. Benedict Lenten Penance Service this week on **Tuesday, April 8** at 7 pm. Please be prompt since the evening begins with a liturgical service and Act of Contrition. We will have a number of priests to hear confessions.

Parish Holiday Office Hours

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

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

Letting Go To Be Made New

Lent is a season of surrender- of letting go of what was, so we can receive what God is doing now. In today's readings, we hear a gentle but firm call to open our hearts to something new. Isaiah proclaims God's message: *"Remember not the events of the past... see, I am doing something new! Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"* (Isaiah 43:18-19). This is not a dismissal of the past, but an invitation to stop living under its shadow. God desires to lead us forward- to water our deserts and revive what feels barren in us.

St. Paul echoes this movement in Philippians, declaring, *"I consider everything as a loss because of the supreme good of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord... forgetting what lies behind but straining forward to what lies ahead"* (Phil 3:8, 13). Lent challenges us to loosen our grip on pride, fear, guilt, or past wounds, so that we may pursue the *"prize of God's upward calling"*- a deeper communion with Christ.

And then comes the Gospel- a story not of condemnation, but of transformation. A woman, caught in sin and dragged before a crowd, meets Jesus' gaze. Instead of judgment, she finds mercy. *"Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone,"* Jesus says (John 8:7). One by one, the accusers walk away. Finally, Jesus tells her, *"Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin anymore"* (John 8:11). This is the heart of Lent- not a cold reckoning, but a warm embrace of God's mercy that calls us to change.

St. Augustine once said, *"God has promised forgiveness to your repentance, but He has not promised tomorrow to your procrastination."* Lent is now. It is the moment to return to the Lord with our whole hearts (Joel 2:12), to receive His mercy, and to start walking in a new direction.

St. Teresa of Avila reminds us, *"Let nothing disturb you... all things are passing; God never changes."* Whatever burdens we carry- sins, regrets, shame- God is not bound by them. He can do something new. But we must meet Him with hearts open, willing to be reshaped by grace.

This week, let us come before the Lord in humility and hope, ready to release the past, embrace the present, and step forward into the newness of life He longs to give us.

Fr. Augustine Acheme, VC



Current Events and More

Easter Triduum



Come to the Triduum (Trih-doo-um)

The summit of the Liturgical Year is the Easter Triduum -- from the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery. The single celebration of the Triduum marks the end of the Lenten season, and leads to the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord.

The liturgical services that take place during the Triduum are the Mass of the Lord's Supper (7 pm on Holy Thursday), the Good Friday service (7 pm on Good Friday), the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord (Vigil on Holy Saturday at 8 pm), and the Easter Sunday Masses in English at 7 am, 9 am, 11 am, and a Spanish Mass at 1 pm.

Email and SCAM Alert

Some parishioners are receiving emails and text messages that suggest our priests, deacon or staff are requesting a favor, gift or gift cards. These are "SCAMS" and should be **immediately deleted**. Unfortunately, we have no way to restrict or stop these emails and texts.

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... Karla, 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

Divine Mercy Novena

The Sunday after Easter is Divine Mercy Sunday. To prepare for this, we have a 9-day Novena beginning at 11 am on Good Friday. Please join the Divine Mercy prayer group on **Good Friday, April 18**, at 11 am in the St. Benedict Chapel for the first day of the Novena. Each day afterwards the Novena will be said at 3 pm in the St. Benedict Chapel, up to and including Divine Mercy Sunday on April 27. For more information, contact Letty at tish@alcasid.com



What are "The Seven Last Words"?

The Seven Last Words are the words or phrases uttered by Jesus on the Cross on Good Friday, as recorded in the Gospels. On Good Friday, St. Benedict parish remembers these through the reflections of seven parishioners on each of these 'Words.' After each reflection some time will be given for personal meditation and reflection. Please join us on **Good Friday, April 18**, at noon in the Church as we present *The Seven Last Words*.

Crossed Arms in 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.



Holy Land Collection on Good Friday

Once a year on Good Friday, parishes are called to support Christians in the Holy Land. As a pontifical collection, the annual Good Friday collection offers a direct link for 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. Envelopes for this collection can be found near the parish doors.

Faith Formation and More

Happenings in Children and Youth Faith Formation

Sunday, April 6

Liturgy of the Word With Children
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
Teen Sacrament Prep
EPIC

Tuesday, April 8

JAM
JOF

Sunday, April 13

Liturgy of the Word With Children
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
Teen Sacrament Prep
EPIC

Tuesday, April 15

JAM
JOF

Stations of the Cross

This Friday evening we will have the last Stations of the Cross for Lent. Stations are at 6 pm (English) and 7 pm (Spanish).

We also have a Fish Dinner for you beginning at 6:30 pm in Annex 3...tickets are on sale in the parish lobby from 5:40 to 6:40 pm. Dinner consists of 2 pieces of fish, corn tortillas, coleslaw, chips, water and a dessert for only \$10 per person. It's a great opportunity for fellowship!

Blessing of the Baskets

On Holy Saturday, April 19, 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 tradition for many families here at St. Benedict on Holy Saturday.

Easter Flowers

We would like to invite you to help beautify our church for Easter Sunday by making a donation towards the purchase of Easter flowers this year. Any amount donated is appreciated. Envelopes can be found in the parish lobby. Thank you!



Living Stations of the Cross

Plan to join us on Good Friday, April 18 at 3 pm for the Living Stations of the Cross presented by the St. Benedict Youth. You won't want to miss this powerful Stations of the Cross that allows us to witness Jesus' suffering on his way to Crucifixion in the first person. A special thank you to all of the teens who are making this annual tradition possible once again this year!

Hey Kids! Come to the Easter Egg Hunt

On Easter Sunday we are having an Easter Egg Hunt! The fun begins on the St. Benedict grounds after the 9 am Mass. We will have three areas, one for Tots-PreK, one for K-2nd grade, and one for 3-5th grade. There will be more Golden Egg\$, Raffle baskets! Free Easter bag for the Easter Egg Hunt!

The event is free and no RSVP is required, however, donations of pre-filled plastic eggs are needed. Please scan the QR code for the Amazon Wish List. Looking forward to a great time!



St. Benedict Gala

You are cordially invited 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. Individual tickets are \$75, and reserved tables are \$1000. Both are available for purchase on the parish website at stbenedict.org. For question or for more information on Corporate Sponsorships, please call the Maryola in the Parish Office at 480.961.1610, ext. 309.

Ministries & More

Knights of Columbus

Just a reminder that we are having a meeting this coming **Thursday, April 10** at 6 pm in Annex 3. Please save the date and we will see you there!

The State Raffle tickets are still for sale after Masses or you can ask a Knight. \$5 for each ticket, \$20 for a book of five, and six books for \$100. We are hoping to have the \$10,000 winner from St. Benedict Church! Also, remember that the money is donated from the Knights to our St. Vincent de Paul Council here at the church to help provide for our neighbors in need for rental assistance, utilities, gas and food. Good luck!

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

St. Vincent de Paul



In today's Gospel, Jesus is the model of compassion and kindness. He shows us how to be merciful and nonjudgmental. When we give to the poor, God pours his love, peace and mercy into our hearts and into the hearts of those suffering in poverty. Please consider donating any of the following:

- Dish Soap
- Laundry Detergent
- Feminine Hygiene
- Deodorant/Tissues
- Toothbrush/Toothpaste
- Shampoo/Conditioner

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

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A Note From The SJB Principal



SPONSORS NEEDED!

We're still looking for more sponsors for this year's event! If you'd like to support Birdies Fore Bosco as a sponsor, SCAN the QR CODE in the ad to the right. You can also contact Mike Castro at **480.636.0405** or birdiesforebosco@sjbosco.org for sponsorships or to get involved in the event. Thank you in advance!

Joyful Blessings,
Jamie Bescak, M.Ed., Principal
480.219.4848



Comunidad Hispana Misionera

LA VOZ DEL PASTOR:

Dejar Ir para Ser Renovados

La Cuaresma es un tiempo de entrega, de soltar lo que fue para poder recibir lo que Dios está haciendo ahora. En las lecturas de hoy, escuchamos un llamado suave pero firme a abrir nuestro corazón a algo nuevo. Isaías proclama el mensaje de Dios: "No recuerden lo pasado, no piensen en lo antiguo; miren que realizo algo nuevo, ya está brotando, ¿no lo notan?" (Isaías 43:18-19). Esto no es un rechazo del pasado, sino una invitación a no vivir bajo su sombra. Dios desea guiarnos hacia adelante, regar nuestros desiertos y dar vida a lo que sentimos árido en nuestro interior.

San Pablo refuerza este mensaje en Filipenses, declarando: "Todo lo considero pérdida comparado con el bien supremo de conocer a Cristo Jesús, mi Señor... olvidando lo que queda atrás y lanzándome hacia lo que está por delante" (Fil 3:8,13). La Cuaresma nos reta a soltar el orgullo, el miedo, la culpa o las heridas del pasado, para que podamos alcanzar "el premio del supremo llamamiento de Dios" y entrar en una comunión más profunda con Cristo.

Y luego llega el Evangelio, no con una historia de condena, sino de transformación. Una mujer, sorprendida en pecado y arrastrada ante la multitud, encuentra la mirada de Jesús. En lugar de juicio, encuentra misericordia. "El que esté sin pecado, que le tire la primera piedra" (Juan 8:7), dice Jesús. Uno a uno, los acusadores se retiran. Finalmente, Jesús le dice: "Tampoco yo te condeno. Vete, y en adelante no peques más" (Juan 8:11). Este es el corazón de la Cuaresma: no un ajuste de cuentas frío, sino un cálido abrazo de la misericordia de Dios que nos llama al cambio.

San Agustín dijo una vez: "Dios ha prometido el perdón para tu arrepentimiento, pero no ha prometido el mañana para tu postergación." La Cuaresma es ahora. Es el momento de volver al Señor con todo el corazón (Joel 2:12), recibir Su misericordia y comenzar a caminar en una nueva dirección.

Santa Teresa de Ávila nos recuerda: "Nada te turbe... todo se pasa; Dios no se muda." Cualesquiera que sean las cargas que llevamos—pecados, remordimientos, vergüenza—Dios no está limitado por ellas. Él puede hacer algo nuevo. Pero debemos encontrarnos con Él con un corazón abierto, dispuesto a ser transformado por Su gracia.

Esta semana, acerquémonos al Señor con humildad y esperanza, listos para soltar el pasado, abrazar el presente y dar un paso hacia la vida nueva que Él anhela darnos.

Padre Augustine Acheme, VC

ANUNCIOS IMPORTANTES:

Les comunicamos que ya pueden llamar a la parroquia para solicitar bautismos, bodas, quinceañeras y funerales en español.

Llamado benéfico y para el desarrollo
Hemos llegado a nuestra meta y la hemos sobrepasado. Gracias a todos los que han participado hasta ahora. Por favor, sigamos contribuyendo a esta noble causa para así ayudar a los necesitados. Recuerda que de ahora en adelante el 30% de las contribuciones regresan a nuestra Iglesia. Usted puede aprender más en dphx.org/CDA.

AVISOS:

- a) La próxima reunión del ministerio hispano será el Miércoles 9 de Abril a las 7:00 de la noche. Los ministerios siguen creciendo pero necesitamos mas ayuda, 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 se llevo acabo esta semana pasada, gracias a nuestro líder, Martin Zavala y a todos los que participaron.
- c) El Vía Crucis en español se llevará a cabo todos los viernes de cuaresma a las 7:00 PM. También se esta sirviendo cena de pescado a las 6:30 PM. ¡No faltes!