



St. Benedict Catholic Church

“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

February 26, 2023

First Sunday of Lent

“ **Have mercy on us sinners, O Lord.** ”
~ Psalm 51

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.

Upcoming Events

For a complete calendar of events, please visit stbenedict.org/calendar

Monday, 2/27 8:15 am Mass	Tuesday, 2/28 8:15 am Mass 6:15 pm JAM 6:15 pm JOF	Wednesday, 3/1 8:15 am Mass
Thursday, 3/2 8:15 am Mass 6 pm Choir Practice	Friday, 3/3 8:15 am Mass 9 am Adoration 5 pm Confessions 6 pm Stations (SJB)	Saturday, 3/4 8:30 am Confessions 10 am Women’s Spirituality 5 pm Mass



Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 am - 5 pm
Fridays 9 am - 3 pm
Closed Daily 12 pm - 1 pm

Mass Schedule

Weekends and 8:15am Fridays at SJB MPR:
Saturday 5 pm, Sunday 7, 9, 11 am, 5 pm
Weekdays Mon-Thurs, St. Benedict Chapel: 8:15 am

Reconciliation

Fri 5-6 pm, Sat 8:30-9:30 am, St. Benedict Chapel

Mass Intentions

Sunday, 2/26/2023

7 am | Marlene Gorski †
9 am | Tom Mowchan †
11 am | Parishioners
5 pm | Christina Loh †

F 3/3 | Sophia Mannino (lvg)
Sat 3/4 | Juliette Moore †

Sunday, 3/5/2023

M 2/27 | Iva Bennett †
Tu 2/28 | Evelyn Korczyk †
W 3/1 | Ray Bechtold †
Th 3/2 | Pat Perdue †

7 am | Thomas McGuigan †
9 am | Tom Mowchan †
11 am | Josephine Graf †
5 pm | Parishioners

Liturgy & Administration

Scripture Readings

Monday:	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 2/27 15; Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday:	Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; 2/28 Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday:	Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 3/1 18-19; Lk 11:29-32
Thursday:	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; 3/2 Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12
Friday:	Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; 3/3 Mt 5:20-26
Saturday:	Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 3/4 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48
Sunday:	Gn 12:1-4a; Ps 33:4-5, 3/5 18-20, 22; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9

Parish Contributions

A special thank you to those who are faithfully contributing

Regular Contributions for

Jan 2023

(Plate)

Actual: \$ 78,879*

Budget: \$ 89,038

* Faith Direct & Realm

Online: \$ 49,930

Cash/Check: \$ 28,949

(Contributions are recorded on a monthly basis per fiscal year July 1, '22 to June 30, '23)

Construction Project

January 2023
(Month End)

TOTAL COST: \$8,400,000

Total Expenses

Paid To Date: \$3,435,061

Remaining

Balance of Cost: \$4,964,939

TOTAL AMOUNT

AVAILABLE

(Cash on Hand &

Line of Credit): \$4,287,109

Additional Funds

Need to Raise: \$677,830

St. Benedict Annual Gala

You are cordially invited to join us on this festive evening, **Saturday, March 18** from 6 pm to 9 pm at the Hilton Hotel Grand Ballroom, 2929 West Frye Road, Chandler, Arizona 85224. Cocktail attire. Cocktails and plated dinner will be served. Featuring keynote speaker, Adria Renke, President of Brophy College Prep, raffles, & live auction. All proceeds benefit the St. Benedict Catholic Church Building Fund. For questions, please contact **480.961.1610, ext. 309**, or email mfabilena@stbenedict.org. This event is being sponsored by Double AA Builders, Ltd.



St. Benedict Church Charity & Development Appeal Totals Feb 22, 2023

Number of Donors: 114
Amount Donated: \$40,119
Donations Goal: \$85,000

Parish Staff

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

Parochial Vicar - Fr. Manasseh Iorchir, VC Ext 306
frmanasseh@stbenedict.org

Office Manager - Mary Jane Livens Ext. 304
mlivens@stbenedict.org

Children's Formation - Heather Mooney Ext. 308
hmooney@stbenedict.org

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

Deacon - Ed Winkelbauer Ext. 300
dcned@stbenedict.org

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

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

Youth Ministry - Open

Contact the Parish Office at 480.961.1610.

A Reflection by Fr. Manasseh

“GET AWAY, SATAN!”

With the reception of ashes on our foreheads, signifying repentance, renewal and a commitment to a more robust followership of Christ, we begin the Holy Season of Lent. Through fasting, prayer and almsgiving, we shall ascend to the Holy Mountain of Easter when we shall celebrate the triumph of our Lord Jesus Christ over sin and death and renew our hope in the resurrection of the body. Lent shall run from Ash Wednesday until the evening mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, which then begins the Sacred Paschal Triduum.

The First Reading on this First Sunday of Lent recalls when and how our first ancestors were tempted to disobey God and how evil, as a direct consequence of their disobedience, entered the world which was good when God created it. The serpent, who represents Satan the Tempter, approached Eve and managed to convince her to eat of the Tree of Knowledge against Divine prohibition. It is good to note that after Creation, the Creator had allowed man the liberty to eat of all the trees in the Garden except this one, and prior to their temptation, Adam and Eve had restrained themselves from eating of it. Notice, too, that the Tree of Knowledge became pleasant to their eyes and desirable to them only after the Devil had convinced them of the benefits of eating of it. *“The moment you eat of it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods who know what is good and evil.”* Although their disobedience was facilitated by a “suggestion” to sin, their desire for knowledge that would make them be like God, their search for independence and self-sufficiency that would exclude any need for God in their lives, conferred on them full responsibility for their disobedience. Temptation is never a compulsion, it is always a subtle suggestion to sin, an over-amplification of the perceived benefits of making a particular choice. However, the prerogative of choice-making is always ours, and this is why citing the severity of one's temptation can never remove culpability. The immediate and unintended consequence of Original Sin was that Adam and Eve realized that they were “naked,” a symbolic representation of a felt absence of God in their lives, and they made coverings out of fig leaves for themselves. Thus, through one man, Adam, sin entered the world, and through sin, death. Through the transgression of Adam, judgment and condemnation reigned on Earth. Similarly, through the obedience of Jesus Christ, grace and justification has been made abundant for all who believe.

What our first parents could not resist in the old dispensation, Jesus was able to triumph over in the Gospel passage for the First Sunday of Lent. Matthew recounts that in preparation for His eventual transition from His private life to His public ministry, Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness where he fasted for forty days and nights. This evokes the memory of the forty years Israel wandered in the desert before entering the promised land, and the forty days and nights spent in fasting by Moses on Mount Sinai after which he brought with him the decalogue. The Devil tempted Jesus with selfish pleasure (lust of the flesh), sensationalism (greed), and vainglory (pride), and Jesus quoted the Scriptures (specifically Deuteronomy Chapters 6, 7 and 8) to defeat temptation and to show His willingness, as the Son of God, to rely on God alone for nourishment, protection and safety.

Through fasting, prayer and almsgiving every Christian, like Christ, is invited to overcome the threefold concupiscence. Fasting mortifies lust of the flesh or desire for physical pleasure, almsgiving mortifies our greed or avarice, and prayer mortifies pride (the reason for the first fall) by acknowledging our dependence on God for everything.

May we be aided to be faithful to our Lenten observances and so mortify effectively the threefold concupiscence frequently used by the Devil to ensnare us.

Please be kind and may God bless you.

Fr. Manasseh

Current Events and More

Parish Office Staff Retreat

The parish office will be closed on **Friday, March 3** between noon and 3 pm for a Staff Lenten retreat. The office will reopen on **Monday, March 6** at 9 am.

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.

Stations of the Cross

Please join us for the Stations of the Cross gatherings outside in the St. John Bosco School courtyard. Each **Friday** at 6 pm during Lent a ministry or group will lead us through the Stations. Afterwards we are having a fish fry for \$10 per person, including fish, fries, colslaw and water.

	March 3	
	<i>Scouts</i>	
March 10		March 17
<i>Women's Spirituality</i>		<i>St. Vincent de Paul</i>
March 24		March 31
<i>St. John Bosco School</i>		<i>Altar Servers</i>

Update on the Construction of Our New Worship Space

The framers and the mechanical teams continue their work on the interior of the building. The plumbers are installing the sprinkler system in the Nave. Inspection of all beams was completed allowing the team to move forward.

This past week, work began on the construction of the bell tower roof. This is being constructed at ground level and, when complete, will be placed on top of the bell tower by a crane.

The upgrade to the offices and the existing restrooms continue. The church contingency fund, which was allocated within the project budget, will be utilized to cover this cost as this was not part of the project cost.

This week's photos:

1. Roofing beam above one of the walkways.
2. The sprinkler pipe above the Sanctuary. Look for the black pipe with the red cap along the ceiling.
3. Work continues in the Chapel. Compare this photo to when the Chapel will be completed



1



2



3

Faith Formation and More

Happenings in Children and Youth Faith Formation

Sunday, February 26
9 am Children's Mass
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
Children's Liturgy of the Word
EPIC

Tuesday, February 28
JAM
Journey of Faith

Sunday, March 5
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
Children's Liturgy of the Word
EPIC

Tuesday, March 7
JAM
Journey of Faith

New Children's Mass at 9 am Sunday

Exciting news! A new Children's Mass will be held once a month on the last Sunday of the month at 9 am beginning this **Sunday, February 26**.

We are looking for children in 3rd-8th grade interested in serving as Lectors, Hospitality Ministers/Ushers, Altar Servers and Choir Members! This is a wonderful opportunity for children to share their gifts with our St. Benedict community and be more engaged during Mass. Interested? Plan to attend an Informational Meeting & Ministry Training **Wednesday, March 8** at 6 pm in the St. John Bosco multipurpose room. For more information, please contact Heather Mooney at hmooney@stbenedict.org.

Baby Bottle Drive

Last weekend we heard about the Aid to Women Center and the resources and compassionate care they offer to those facing planned or unplanned pregnancies. Each person who walks through their doors is treated with the dignity and value that God bestows upon us all. Many are wounded, alone, being abused and haven't experienced compassionate care.

With your help, Aid to Women Center will be able to continue to serve more women-in-need and protect the unborn. Thank you for your generous support and prayers.

If you missed the baby bottle pick-up weekend, you can still drop your bottle with a donation to one of the ministers of hospitality or at the parish office.



Angry Crab Shack Fundraiser Sunday!

Friends and family - looking for a great place to get fish this Lent? Come to our dining fundraiser at the new Tempe location of the Angry Crab Shack (off Warner and Kyrene) is **Sunday, February 26**, anytime between 11 am and 10 pm. Mention St. Benedict to your server. All fundraising proceeds will go to the Building Fund. We look forward to seeing you there!



Missing Envelopes?

Our envelope company has been experiencing paper supply problems which has translated into missed envelopes, namely February. They have assured us that, beginning with the March envelopes onward, they will be delivered as usual. In the meantime, please use the "Welcome" envelopes for guests located at the back of the MPR, writing your name and address on the front of the envelope. Thank you.

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've raised \$40,119 from 114 families...we're almost halfway to our goal! Please know the good work accomplished through the CDA. You can learn more at dphx.org/CDA.



Ministries & More

Knights of Columbus

In the Gospel readings this weekend, Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert and was tempted by the devil. With every temptation, Jesus taught us how to respond. It is important to learn God's Word to help us resist temptation and better meet the challenges we face.

Announcements:

A big 'THANK YOU' to all of the Knights who helped with the Adopt-A-Street Clean Up, Parish Picnic, Monthly Rosary, Stations of the Cross, March for Life, Movie Night and the Fish Fry. You guys are terrific!

Thank you to all Brothers and parishioners who are supporting the State Raffle to support local charities. The Knights of the Fr. Bob Binta Council are dedicating all the proceeds to our chapter of St. Vincent de Paul.

Activities:

K of C State Raffle - The Knights will be selling tickets for their State Raffle from **Feb 4 through May 7, 2023**.

Officer's Meeting - **Thursday, March 2** beginning at 7 pm in the St. Benedict Conference Room (Annex 1).

Join online to become a Knight of Columbus at www.kofc.org/joinus and enter "Council 12246" and "GKWAP".

Vivat Jesus,
Isauro Amaro, Grand Knight
Fr. Bob Binta Council # 12246
480.748.1449
grandknight@kofc12246.org



St. Vincent de Paul



We pray for God's continued blessings as we serve those in need. The pantry is in need of the following:

- Flour (2 lbs.)
- Sugar (2 lbs.)
- Vegetable Oil (small)
- Packaged Milk
- Juice Packs
- Paper Towels

In January, we helped 64 families with 92 bags of groceries, \$850 in grocery cards for meat and \$6,362 in financial assistance thanks to your generous donations. If you would like to help us further, consider donating via Realm or the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box.

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

New Parishioners

- Martha Bates
- Veronica DeLeon
- Delia Rivera



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

In March, Adoration is on **Friday, March 3** between the hours of **9 am and 7 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/puKjbjk>.

Ministry Contacts

Audio-Visual... Scott, av@stbenedict.org
Altar Servers... Dcn. Ed, edlinda@cox.net
Art & Env... Cathy, cathytempleton_1@cox.net
Baptisms... Linda, edlinda@cox.net
EMHCs... Val & Al, eeotz1@gmail.com
Events/Helping Hands... Lani, events@stbenedict.org
Finance Council... Debbie, dsmith@stbenedict.org
Hospitality... Karen, karenmains@msn.com
Knights of Columbus... Isauro, 480.748.1449

Lectors... Michele, micheleedison@aol.com
Linens... Mary Jane, 480.961.1610 ext. 304
Music/Choir... Phil A., 480.961.1610 ext. 311
Pastoral Care... Kathy, kathy.mccluskey@cox.net
Pastoral Council... Russ, pastoralcouncil@stbenedict.org
Refugee Resettlement... Dave, zabor@cox.net
Sacristans... Bette, blaatsch69@gmail.com
St. Vincent de Paul... Phil W., 480.961.1610 ext. 315
Walking With Moms... Rama, selena91907@hotmail.com
Women's Spirituality... Nora, [nymphillips@cox.net](mailto:nmphillips@cox.net)

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St. Benedict Church, Phoenix, AZ

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A Note From The SJB Principal

Dear Parishioners,

I am delighted to share some very exciting news with all of you: St. John Bosco Catholic School was voted the BEST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN AHWATUKEE! And our SJB Preschool placed 2nd as BEST PRESCHOOL in Ahwatukee! Now everyone will know what we've known all along! We are thrilled with this vote of confidence from current and former school families and will continue to work hard to maintain our lofty standard of excellence.

I am also happy to announce our school Science Fair winners. Sophia Bernardez placed 1st with her project entitled, "Mighty Tiny Masked Heros—MealWorms and Face Masks." Sophia will represent SJB in the Diocesan Science Fair on February 28. Viana Vazquez placed 2nd with her project, "How Does Age Affect an Eyewitness Testimony?" Oliver Grandmont placed 3rd with, "Shape Strength—What Shape is the Strongest?" Honorable Mentions are Olivia Vaughan, "What Causes Algae Growth and How Can We Control It?" (for research on the environmental impact of algae) and Lucas Pagazani, "How Do Different Materials Affect the Strength of a WIFI Signal?" (for research on technology).

Congratulations to these students and all of our brilliant SJB students for their impressive displays of scientific concepts and research techniques. I am incredibly proud to be the Principal of the brightest students and BEST Elementary School in Ahwatukee! Thank you for your continued love and support.



Joyful Blessings,

Jamie Bescak, M.Ed., Principal

480.219.4848