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

May 17, 2020

Sixth Sunday of Easter

> ***"I will ask the Father, and he will give you . . . the Spirit of truth."***
> ***~ John 14:16–17***

Parish Mission Statement

We are a vibrant and welcoming Catholic faith 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 - 3 pm
Friday 9 am - 3 pm
Closed Daily 12 pm - 1 pm

Mass Schedule

Weekends: Saturday 5 pm
Sunday 9 am
Weekdays: M - F 8:15 am

Reconciliation

Sat 3:30-4:30 pm, in church

Upcoming Events

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

Monday, 5/18
8:15 am | Mass

Tuesday, 5/19
8:15 am | Mass

Wednesday, 5/20
8:15 am | Mass

Thursday, 5/21
8:15 am | Mass

Friday, 5/22
8:15 am | Mass

Saturday, 5/23
3:30 pm | Reconciliation (in the Church)

Mass Intentions

Sunday, 5/17/2020
9 am | Henry Curtin †
Doris & Joe VanDen Broeck †
Joseph & Rosemary D'Souza †

M 5/18 | People of the Parish
Tu 5/19 | People of the Parish
W 5/20 | Jean Magill †
Th 5/21 | Daniela Fimbres (living)
F 5/22 | People of the Parish
Sat 5/23 | Natasha Eastman (living)

Liturgy & Administration

Scripture Readings

For This Week

Monday: 5/18	Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Jn 15:26—16:4a
Tuesday: 5/19	Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Jn 16:5-11
Wednesday: 5/20	Acts 17:15, 22—18:1; Ps 148:1-2, 11-14; Jn 16:12-15
Thursday: 5/21	Acts 18:1-8; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 16:16-20
Friday: 5/22	Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47:2-7; Jn 16:20-23
Saturday: 5/23	Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-10; Jn 16:23b-28
Sunday: 5/24	Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9; Eph 1:17- 23; Mt 28:16-20 ***(Ascension of the Lord)***

Presider Schedule*

for the Livestreaming of Masses
the Week of
May 18 - 24

Monday 8:15 am - Fr. James

Tuesday 8:15 am - Fr. Wilfred

Wednesday 8:15 am - Fr. James

Thursday 8:15 am - Fr. Wilfred

Friday 8:15 am - Fr. James

Saturday 5 pm: Fr. James

Sunday 9 am: Fr. Wilfred
(for all of Sunday's Mass Intentions)

**Please note: this schedule is subject to change without notice.*

Parish Contributions

Regular Contributions - Week of May 4-10, 2020

*Weekly Plate - **Actual:** **$ 7,704** Weekly Plate - **Budget:** **$ 9,200**

*Last week of the month includes *Faith Direct* online giving totals.

LIVING *our* FAITH | BUILDING *our* HOME

As of April 2020

Campaign Pledges: $ 3,548,859

Collected Campaign Pledges: $ 2,072,509

A Letter from Fr. James

Dear Friends,

Words alone cannot describe my joy and excitement of seeing our parish community resume our public celebrations of Masses this "Homecoming Weekend!" I thank God for his blessings and protection through this time of crisis. I know it is not over yet, but I am glad we can now see the light at the end of the tunnel. I thank you too for your faithfulness and prayers through this trying time of nearly two months. I hope you have found time to read the email I sent to you during the week which explains the first phase of our full return to parish life, including what will be permitted during Masses this weekend and our responsibilities to help keep you safe. Please let me know if you have not been receiving email messages and announcements from me.

In the Gospel today, Jesus promised the Apostles that he would send them the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, to lead and guide them to the end. Jesus has remained faithful to his promise. The Holy Spirit is always alive and fully present in the world, leading and guiding the Church through good as well as challenging times like those we are experiencing right now. In what direction is the Holy Spirit leading us as we emerge from this crisis? May we truly open our hearts and minds to God in prayer, so we can discern what the Holy Spirit is saying to each of us and to the universal church, especially at this time of uncertainty.

Thank you and remain blessed,

Fr. James

Parish Staff

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

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

Dir. Faith Formation - Sr. Colleen Braun *Ext. 308*
srcolleen@stbenedict.org

Children's Formation - Heather Mooney *Ext. 303*
hmooney@stbenedict.org

Coord. Liturgy - Luis Rodriguez *Ext. 311*
lrodriguez@stbenedict.org

Parochial Vicar - Fr. Wilfred Yinah, VC *Ext. 306*
fryinah@stbenedict.org

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

Dir. Music - Nick Garza *Ext. 312*
ngarza@stbenedict.org

Youth Ministry - David Rees *Ext. 307*
drees@stbenedict.org

Admin. Assistant - Amy Fletcher *Ext. 300*
afletcher@stbenedict.org

Faith Formation & More

Liturgy of the Word for Children AT HOME

In this week's Gospel, we are introduced to the Holy Spirit, when Jesus promises his disciples that he will send them an Advocate so they can continue to do the work of Jesus even when he is gone. *(John 14: 15-21)*

To help better imagine how the Holy Spirit works in our own lives, have children hold a defalted balloon. The balloon represents us. Without air inside, the balloon cannot travel far, it cannot serve its purpose or provide the gift of joy to others. However, once it is filled with air (the Holy Spirit), the balloon is lifted up, can travel far, provides joy and can serve its many purposes. The Holy Spirit is our Advocate and friend for life. When we are filled with the Spirit, we are able to live fully with God. Children thrive when they feel a connection to others and a sense of belonging. Think of how much easier it is to do good work and make good choices with even just one person standing by our side.

Even though living as Christians can sometimes be difficult, remind children that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit so that we would never be alone or have to make decisions without him.

For more on the Mass Readings each week, visit Magnifikid online free through May! ***https://us.magnificat.net/home/magnifikid***

Prayer to End a School Year

God of wisdom,

We thank you

for all the gifts you have given us

throughout this school year.

We praise you for giving us life,

for saving us in Christ

and for choosing us to be your people.

As we come to the end of this school year,

we voice our gratitude

for the good things you have done in us,

and we praise you

for all who have shared

in the work of this school.

We ask you to bless them

in your love and give them

refreshment and peace.

We praise you, God,

through Jesus Christ, our Lord,

who lives and reigns forever and ever.

Amen.

Source: Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers

Faith Formation and More

Song of the Week
By David Rees

I love praise and worship music. Ever since my first retreat back in 2005, I have found praise and worship music to be incredibly peaceful, uplifting, and transcendent. In the following weeks, I would like to share with you all some of my favorite Christian praise and worship songs!

This week's song is *"Indescribable"* by Chris Tomlin. Not only was this the theme song on my very first youth ministry retreat, but it was also the closing song at my wedding. The chorus proudly proclaims, *"Indescribable, uncontainable, you placed the stars in the sky and you know them by name. You are amazing, God. All powerful, untameable, awe-struck we fall to our knees as we humbly proclaim. You are amazing, God."* Another uplifting verse states, *"You see the depths of my heart and you love me the same. You are amazing, God."* This song highlights the power and majesty of God while at the same time reveals His love and mercy towards us. If you haven't heard this song before, or haven't listened to it in a while, I strongly encourage you to check it out and pray the lyrics whole-heartedly.

R.E. Ended for 2019-2020 School Year

Our RE programs have officially come to a close for the year. Although our last two months were not ideal, we are grateful that we were able to connect virtually and continue faith formation through activities online. The support among our parish family has been strong and we look forward to the day when we can gather together again in person.

We hope to begin all RE Programs in the Fall as planned, but will wait to open registration until it is safe for everyone to do so. Watch the bulletin for details! Stay safe and have a wonderful summer!

Verse to Remember - May 17

"Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope." - 1 Peter 3:15.

Have you ever witnessed someone exude joy in the midst of suffering? One who has hope is a beam of inspiration to those around them. As Catholics, we find so much hope and joy in the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. What a beautiful example of how suffering can be redemptive and how death is never the end for those who believe in God. With this hope in our hearts, never be afraid to joyfully proclaim the Good News to those around you.

Steubenville West Cancelled

The Life Teen Steubenville West conference has been cancelled. Life Teen felt that their conference, scheduled for July 17-19, was too big of an event to secure the safety and well-being of participants, given the current state of COVID-19. Questions? Please contact David Rees, at ***drees@stbenedict.org***.

Sacrament of Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation has been moved to the fall. We will announce the date when it is confirmed with the diocese. Other sacraments will resume when we return to public Mass and, of course, abide by social distancing requirements. Please keep all those who are patiently waiting to receive sacraments in your prayers.

Current Events & More

Memorial Day and the Summertime Morning Mass

The office will be closed **Monday, May 25**, in observance of Memorial Day.

Also, this summer the daily morning Mass will remain in the church for more quality live-streaming efforts on YouTube.

Vocations

"Those who love me will keep my word."

Is your love for the Lord leading you to grow in holiness as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Please contact the Vocation Office at **602.354.2005** or ***dphx.org/vocations.***

Knights of Columbus

The Knights were especially busy this past week, cleaning and re-painting the floor of the church! Just in time for our "Homecoming"! Be sure to thank a Knight for the wonderful job they did!

Our members make all the Knights' charities possible—now and in the future. Membership in the K of C makes men better Catholics, better husbands, better fathers and citizens. To sign up to be a Knight, go to ***www. kofc.org/joinus***

Vivat Jesus!

Doug Gasser
Grand Knight #12246
480.270.2370
douggasser2@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul

Please know that we at SVdP are here to serve **YOU** as well as our less fortunate brethren. If you or your neighbors are struggling, especially in this COVID19 setting, please call us here at St. Benedict's at **480.961.1610** extention #315.

Our motto is to ***"Feed, Clothe, House, and Heal."***

Family Promise Program Returns

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, June 21** through **Sunday, June 28** when we host Family Promise!

*** Attention: Covid-19 may affect this hosting commitment. ***

The Family Promise Program feeds and shelters approximately four homeless families for one week. During the week they are given the tools and training they need to help them become self-sufficient again. Because there is a shortage of emergency shelter for homeless families in the Valley, faith communities help provide meals and overnight lodging to families who have been accepted into this rigorous program.

Because of Covid-19, St. Benedict may not host families at St. John Bosco School, but we will still be needed to provide families with daily dinners and grocery items. Food donations/dinner volunteers will meet in the SJB parking lot at 5:30 each evening, and the Host Coordinator will transport all food/grocery items to the Day Center where the families will be staying.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Tracy Ryan at ***tracyryan18@cox.net***

Family Promise®

More

Water Drive Has Started Back Up

The temperatures have been creeping up, so we have started collecting 12-16 oz. bottles of water for the homeless and less fortunate at the St. Vincent de Paul dining room in Mesa.

Please bring your much appreciated donations of water to the parish lobby between 9 am and 3 pm, Monday through Friday. Thank you for your help!

Summer Vacation & Faith Direct

Planning your summer vacation? Consider enrolling in eGiving through *Faith Direct* so that your weekly gift can reach us even when you cannot. Visit ***faithdirect.net*** and use our church code: **AZ582**. Your gifts through *Faith Direct* will help stabilize our parish finances through the busy (but beautiful) summer months.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family with your time and talents, as well as treasure!

Feast of The Ascension of the Lord

Please remember that the Feast of The Ascension of the Lord will be celebrated on **Sunday, May 24**. Boston, Hartford, New York, Newark, Omaha and Philadelphia are the only provinces in the United States who have retained the celebration of the Feast on the proper Thursday (May 21).

"Let all the earth cry out to God with joy!"

~ Psalm 66

Saint Rita of Cascia Friday, May 22

If you're ever in Philadelphia on May 22, forget parking anywhere near Saint Rita's shrine. Cars line streets and fill medians as throngs pack a candlelight vigil and six Masses, honoring this patroness of lost causes, hopeless situations, and — as her statue in countless churches built by twentieth-century immigrants testifies — difficult marriages, troubled homes, and alienated children.

Wise people warn, be careful what you pray for. "Divine Savior," Rita prayed, "let me suffer like you!" Obedient to parents who refused her wish to become a nun, Rita married a man who returned her devotion with twenty years of abuse. When enemies murdered him, Rita's two sons swore revenge. Paintings depict her pointing the angry boys toward Christ crucified, whom she begged to restrain them. Within the year, both sons died. Alone now, Rita went to the convent but was refused. The nuns feared violence, since one of them was related to the murderer. Rita arranged peace between the families, made vows, and became much sought after as a counselor and intercessor for forty years on earth

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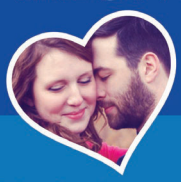

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St. Benedict Parishioners

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Poetry Contest Winners

Congratulations to fourth-grader Phoebe Wolfort for her winning submission to the poetry writing contest and to Kindergartner Jillian Vanderzyl for her winning video for the poetry recitation for kindergarten through third grade, and Sophia Bernardez for her winning video for fourth through eighth grade. These students have been very creative while quarantined at home. Not to be outdone, our talented fifth and sixth grade students wrote wonderful haikus poems.

We encourage everyone to follow St. John Bosco Catholic School on Facebook and/or Instagram to stay up to date on all the wonderful happenings at our school and in our virtual classrooms.

Facebook: @stjohnboscocatholicschool

Instagram: @sjbbulldogs

"Bike Riding"

by Phoebe Wolfort

Down the winding path I go,
Riding, riding, to and fro!
Learning to ride is so much fun,
At the park in the morning sun.
Pedaling, Pedaling, faster, faster,
Heat is like a warming blaster.
I go too fast, I start to fall,
I really do not care at all!
Scraped my knee, who cares, have fun
Pedaling in the morning sun.
I keep going, on and on.
Wake up, go again at dawn!

New Student Enrollment

If you have a child who will be joining us for the 2020-2021 school year, you may begin to enroll them now! Go to our website and click on Admissions. Under the Admissions page will be an "Apply Now" button. Follow the instructions and ensure the application is "Submitted." Our Preschool programs fill up early, so apply now to secure your child's spot. If you are interested in learning more about St. John Bosco, we encourage you to call **480.219.4848** or email ***admissions@sjbosco.org*** today for a **private virtual tour**.

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