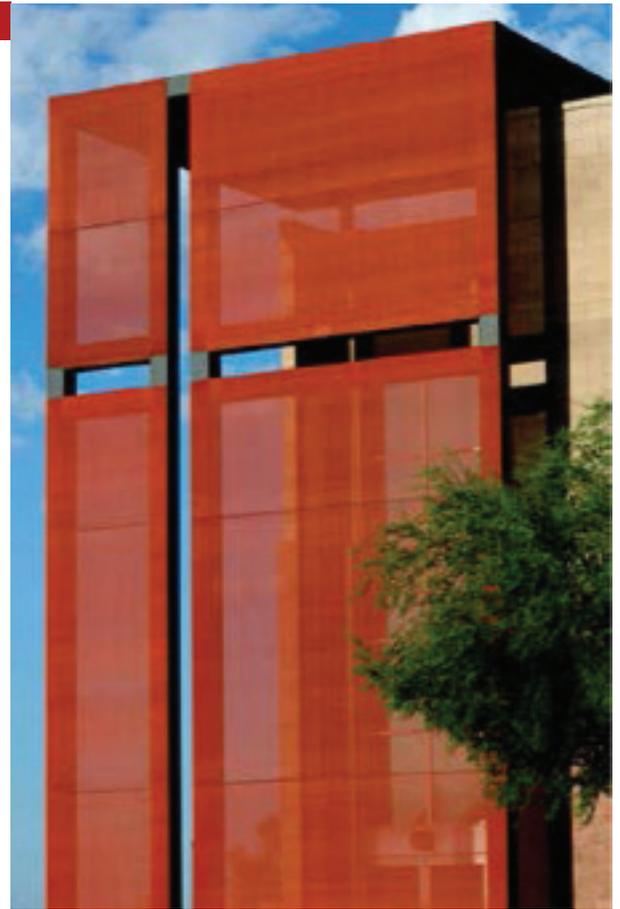


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January 3, 2021

The Epiphany of the Lord



**“ All kings shall pay him homage,
all nations shall serve him. ”**
~ Psalm 72:11

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 - 4 pm
Friday 9 am - 3 pm
Closed Daily 12 pm - 1 pm

Mass Schedule

Weekends: Saturday 5 pm
Sunday 9 & 11 am, 5 pm
Weekdays: M - F 8:15 am

Reconciliation

Fri 5-6 pm, Sat 3:30-4:30 pm, in Church

Upcoming Events

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

Monday, 12/28
8:15 am | Mass

Tuesday, 12/29
8:15 am | Mass

Wednesday, 12/30
8:15 am | Mass

Thursday, 12/31
New Years Eve
8:15 am | Mass
11:59 pm | Vigil Mass

Friday, 1/1
New Years Day
Solemnity of Mother of God
10 am | Mass
11 am | Adoration
12 pm | Benediction

Saturday, 1/2
3:30 pm | Reconciliation
5 pm | Mass

Mass Intentions

Sunday, 12/27/2020

9 am | Dobson Family (living)

11 am | Special Intention

5 pm | Katie Bauer †

M 12/28 | Fr. Robert Mathewson, SJ †

Tu 12/29 | Clark Frederick †

W 12/30 | Joseph Arthur Alcasid (living)

Th 12/31, 8:15 am | Ernie Toscano †

11:59 pm | Clark Frederick †

F 1/1, 10 am | Larry Nunas †

Sat 1/2 | Bernie & Debbie Korczyk (living)



Liturgy & Administration

Scripture Readings

For This Week

Monday:	1 Jn 3:22–4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 1/4 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25 (<i>St. Elizabeth Ann Seton</i>)
Tuesday:	1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; 1/5 Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday:	1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 1/6 12-13; Mk 6:45-52
Thursday:	1 Jn 4:19–5:4; Ps 72: 1-2, 1/7 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a
Friday:	1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 1/8 19-20; Lk 5:12-16
Saturday:	1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; 1/9 Jn 3:22-30
Sunday:	Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11; 1/10 Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10

Presider Schedule*

the Week of

Jan 4 - Jan 10, 2021

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. Wilfred
Saturday	5 pm - Fr. Wilfred
Sunday	9 am - Fr. James 11 am - Fr. James 5 pm - Fr. Wilfred

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



A Reflection by Fr. James



Today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, meaning the revelation of God to the gentiles. Epiphany, commonly known as the story of the “Wise Men,” is one of the most popular stories in the Bible. We are told that the three wise men, also known as the “Magi” or “Three Kings of Orient,” traveled a long distance from the Eastern part of the world to Jerusalem, following the guidance of a star in search of the newborn King, Jesus. One question many people ask is, “Why do we call them wise men if they were pagans?” They are generally considered wise men because they were able to search for Jesus using common sense and natural science; they embarked on a journey in search of God as pagans but when they found the Baby Jesus, they worshipped him and then returned as missionaries and believers in God.

Matthew indicates in the Gospel today that when the guiding star got to Jerusalem, its light failed and the magi had to consult the scripture scholars to direct them to Bethlehem. This is important because over and above the natural light of the star, the magi still needed the supernatural light of the scripture to lead them to Jesus. Their experience is in contrast to that of the scripture scholars and the wise people surrounding King Herod. They had the light of the scriptures but they failed to find Jesus, while the magi who followed a simple natural light were able to find him.

We learn from this story that it is one thing to possess the light of truth, it is another thing to follow it. As we reflect, the challenge is that we Catholics believe that our religion possesses the fullness of truth. But what does that benefit us if we do not walk in the truth? Even non-believers who follow a dim light of natural reason may find Jesus before we do. Do you own a Bible yet have not opened it once this year? Can you read and write but have not read any spiritual books this year? Do you have doubts and questions about faith but have not made an attempt to read the Bible, books about our Catholic faith, or talked with others to find answers? If so, you may consider including that in your New Year’s resolutions.

Thank you and remain blessed,

Fr. James

Parish Staff

Pastor - Fr. James Aboyi, VC Ext. 302

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Children’s Formation - Heather Mooney Ext. 303

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Youth Ministry - David Rees Ext. 307

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Dir. Music/Media & Comm. - Nick Garza Ext. 312

ngarza@stbenedict.org

Front Office/Admin. Asst. - Amy Fletcher Ext. 300

afletcher@stbenedict.org



Current Events & More



Free Catholic Movies and More

Where is a great place to enjoy a wealth of resources for our Catholic faith in a variety of media? There are movies, books, videos and more....**FORMED.org!** It's easy and free to use as a St. Benedict Church gift to you:

1. Visit **FORMED.org** and click "sign up"
2. Select "I Belong to a Parish or Organization"
3. Find "St. Benedict" and enter your email.

*"Lord, every nation on earth
will adore you!"
~ Psalm 72*

Verse(s) to Remember

"Arise! Shine, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you. Though darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds, the peoples, upon you the Lord will dawn, and over you his glory will be seen."

~ Isaiah 60:1-2

God loves His children. Although we may feel lost in despair and darkness, the Lord wants to shine His light upon us. Through prayer, we come before God and can ask Him to shine His light upon us and to lift us out of our moments of despair. By receiving the light of Christ and illuminating the darkness of our hearts, we then have the power to share God's light with others.

Take some time this week asking God to bring His light to places of darkness in your life and to inspire you to be a light to others.

A Family House Blessing Activity for Epiphany

The Feast of Epiphany is a perfect day to gather your family together to ask God's blessing on your home and for all who live and visit within it. It is an invitation for Jesus to remain at the center of every home throughout the new year.

The Blessing can be done simply by using chalk to write over the door:

21 + C + M + B + 20

(The 21 + 20 represents the year and the C, M, B are twofold: They are the first initials of the three Magi, but also initials for the Latin blessing, *Christus mansionem benedicat*, meaning "Christ bless this house.")

Offer the following prayer:

*Oh blessed Lord, visit this home with the gladness of your presence.
Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love; and grant
that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch.
May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you. Guide, comfort
and strengthen us in peace, Oh Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.*

Faith Formation and More



Children's Liturgy Of the Word

This Sunday we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord. In today's Gospel (Matthew 2:1-12), Matthew tells the story of the Magi, or the Wise Men, who traveled a far distance to find newborn Jesus so they could bring him gifts and honor him as King and Savior. The Magi represent our own search for Jesus and, ultimately, our journey for salvation. The Magi gave the world a beautiful message: they taught us that Jesus Christ was born for all people of all nations. Their story is one of promise and hope! The Magi were guided across a dark and rough landscape by remaining focused on the bright star of Bethlehem. Today, Jesus remains our Light and our Guide.

The best gifts aren't always things. They can be our words, our actions, or even our time. Like the Magi, we have gifts to share. What are some gifts you have to honor Jesus that show your love for God? How might your gifts help others see or feel the Light of Christ?

~ By Heather Mooney

Youth Ministry XLT

EPIC and JAM will be kicking off their Spring semesters with XLT, a night of praise and worship! All high school and middle school families are invited to join us **Sunday, January 17** for upbeat Christian music, an inspiring message, and Eucharistic Adoration. This is a great way to grow your faith and encounter the living Jesus Christ!

Face masks and social distancing will be in place to promote health and safety regulations. To RSVP, email David Rees at drees@stbenedict.org

Youth Ministry Calendars

Our EPIC and JAM calendars for the Spring semester are now available! Printed calendars may be picked up in the lobby and digital calendars can be received by emailing David Rees at drees@stbenedict.org

All middle school and high school teens are encouraged to join us this semester as we grow in our relationship with Jesus Christ and one another! Having a firm foundation of faith is the surest way to a life of peace, joy, love, and fulfillment. New teens are always welcome!

For more information on our programs and how to get involved, contact David Rees at drees@stbenedict.org

AmazonSmile and Fry's Rewards

Did you know you can support St. Benedict Church by simply shopping? Here are two ways that do not cost you anything, but greatly benefit our parish!

You may already be an *Amazon.com* customer. If so, consider linking your account to our AmazonSmile profile. When you shop in this way, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the parish. It does not cost you anything extra and it is incredibly easy.

You can also use your Fry's VIP card to support St. Benedict. The key to this program is making sure to re-register annually on their website. Go to <https://www.frysfood.com/account/communityrewards/>

Vocations

"Rise up in splendor! Your light has come."

Is Christ calling you to serve Him in others as a sister, brother, deacon or priest? Please contact the Vocation Office at 602.354.2004 or dphx.org/vocations/contact



Current Events & More

Marriage Encounter

*"They prostrated themselves
and did him homage."*



As we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord, let us give homage to the presence of God in our marriages by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next virtual weekend is on **January 16/17, 2021**. Early registration is highly recommended.

For more information or to register for a weekend, go to www.wmearizona.com

January Blood Drive

The St. Benedict Knights of Columbus are partnering with Vitalant to host a Blood Drive on **Sunday, January 24**. The event will take place in Annex 1 and 2, from 8 am to 1 pm, and anyone 16 years and older is eligible to donate. Register online at bloodhero.com and use the code "stbenedict" to reserve the time that works best for you.

Knights of Columbus:

From all of the Brother Knights of The Fr. Bob Binta Knights of Columbus Council at St. Benedict Catholic Community to our Brother Knights, Fr. James and Fr. Wilfred, to all ministries, to all families, people and administrators of the parish:

**"Wishing you a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year!"**

Please be safe in all you do.

May Our Lord and Savior Jesus Bless You.

Vivat Jesus,
Rudy Cavolina, Grand Knight
Fr. Bob Binta Council 12246
GK@kofc12246.org
480.747.8000



St. Vincent de Paul

From all of us Vincentians at the St. Benedict Chapter of St. Vincent de Paul, we would like to thank you for being consistently there for us through your non-perishable food donations and financial support. Wishing you a very Happy New Year in 2021!



Peace of Mind with Faith Direct

With the busy times behind us, enrolling in Faith Direct is still a great way to ensure your gifts of treasure to St. Benedict are received. No worry about envelopes or where the checkbook might be. Please consider enrolling online at faith.direct/AZ582. Thank you in advance for your support!

Angel Tree Thank You!

A huge **thank you** to everyone who participated in the Angel Tree this year! It was another wonder-filled year of giving with a total of **508 gifts** donated for the five groups we sponsored:

- Boost-A-Foster Family
- Diocese of Phoenix Prison Ministry
- Oakwood Creative Care
- Refugee Resettlement Ministry
- St. Anthony's Indian Mission
- St. Francis of Assisi Ak-Chin



More

Feast of Faith: “The Liturgy of Emmanuel”

The assembly has gathered from near and far, on foot, by bus, by car, by subway, singly and by twos and threes: single people, couples, families. Now that movement is ritualized and made visible in the liturgy’s entrance procession.

We are not alone on this journey; Christ is with us. The procession is led by the cross, with the image of Christ upon it. Candles, signs of a living presence, are carried around the cross. Candles also accompany the Book of the Gospels, another sign of Emmanuel, God-with-us. The priest presider is likewise a sign of Christ’s presence in our assembly; he will act in persona Christi, in the person of Christ, who presides at every Eucharist.

As the procession begins, we stand and sing together in our first act as a community. The joining of our voices begins to turn many into one. We may feel that we can’t sing well, but “Christ always invites us to enter into song, to rise above our own preoccupations, and to give our entire selves to the hymn of his Paschal Sacrifice” (USCCB, Sing to the Lord, 14).

~ Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Fun Fact

The Pope is protected by the Swiss Papal Guard. Wearing uniforms designed by Michelangelo and commonly armed with halberds, they are capable of using heavier weapons if needed. Each member is Catholic, male, and Swiss, and must complete military training in Switzerland. They must demonstrate good conduct and be at least five-foot-eight in height. Those who are chosen are granted a private audience with the pope along with their families. In extreme circumstances, they are expected to guard the Holy Father with their lives. The Swiss Papal Guard is the oldest active military unit in continual existence since 1506.



Source: catholic.org/news

Welcome New Parishioners!

- Douglas and Kathryn Hunt
- John and Laura Strem

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Ministry Contacts

Altar Servers... Dcn. Ed, edlinda@cox.net
 Art & Environment... Carol, carolmengel@cox.net
 EMHCs... Val & Al, eeotz1@gmail.com
 Events Committee... Lani, lanifgore@gmail.com
 Finance Council... Debbie, dsmith@stbenedict.org
 Hospitality... Karen, karenmains@msn.com
 Knights of Columbus... Rudy, rcavolina@gmail.com
 Lectors... Michele, micheleedison@aol.com
 Linens... Mary Jane, **480.961.1610 ext. 304**

Magnificat Moms... Molly, mb_barlow@me.com
 Music/Choir... Nick Garza, **480.961.1610 ext. 312**
 Pastoral Care... Kathy, kathy.mccluskey@cox.net
 Pastoral Council... Jay, jayiole@iolenet.com
 Projector... Nick Garza, **480.961.1610 ext. 312**
 Refugee Resettlement... Dave, zabor@cox.net
 Sacristans... Bette, blaatsch69@gmail.com
 St. Vincent de Paul... Phil, **480.961.1610 ext. 315**
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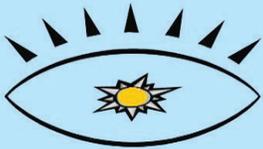


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A Note From The Principal

Dear Parishioners,

Happy New Year! I don't think anyone is sorry to see 2020 in the rearview mirror. All of us here at St. John Bosco Catholic School are looking forward to seeing our students back on campus on January 4th. That's our plan as of this writing -- to welcome all students back for in-person instruction. We will continue to offer virtual instruction for those not comfortable with returning to campus, of course.

The pandemic has challenged the educational landscape in ways never imagined. But it has also provided the opportunity to realize that solutions are possible when we work together. We have an amazing team of educators and dedicated staff members who have remained flexible as curveballs are thrown at us without a moment's notice. It helps to have a recently upgraded infrastructure -- provided by our awesome Dads' Club's fundraising efforts -- and a brilliant IT specialist to train us and troubleshoot.

Of course, our resilient students and supportive parents have been right there with us as we waded through these unprecedented challenges. God has definitely blessed us and we are most grateful. We will persevere with his providence.

Blessings to all for a healthy and prosperous 2021.

Anita Petitti, Principal

Scrip Shop News

Happy New Year! We will be back in the office January 4 to again provide physical gift cards. As before, our window hours are MWF, 8:30-9:30am. Of course you may conveniently order electronic gift cards 24/7 from the comfort of your home (or wherever you are!). If you haven't signed up yet for **Shopwithscrip.com**, you'll need the SJB enrollment code: **C65D27248227**. Once enrolled, you may use the RaiseRight app, which is super quick while you're out shopping! Thank you so much for supporting our school by using Scrip. It's so easy to do and doesn't cost a penny...a win-win. Please reach out to us if you have any questions. Thank you so much for using Scrip!

Wanda Wiscombe & Katie Savoy, St. John Bosco Catholic School Scrip Office, **480.219.4846**