

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

November 28, 2021

First Sunday of Advent



“ *I will raise up for David a just shoot;
he shall do what is right and just in the land.* ”
~ Jeremiah 33:15

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

Mass Schedule

Weekends & Friday at SJB MPR: Friday 8:15 am
Saturday 5 pm, Sunday 7, 9, 11 am, 5 pm
Weekdays Mon-Thurs in Annex 2: 8:15 am

Reconciliation

Fri 5-6 pm, Sat 8:30-9:30 am, in Annex 1

Upcoming Events

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

Monday, 11/29

8:15 am | Mass

Tuesday, 11/30

8:15 am | Mass
6:30 pm | JAM
6:30 pm | JOF
7 pm | Parish Rosary

Wednesday, 12/1

8:15 am | Mass

Thursday, 12/2

8:15 am | Mass

Friday, 12/3

8:15 am | Mass
9 am | Adoration
5 pm | Confession
7 pm | Benediction

Saturday, 12/4

8:30 am | Confession
10 am | Coping/Grief/Holiday
10 am | Womens Spirituality
5 pm | Mass

Mass Intentions

Sunday, 11/28/2021

7 am | Kenneth Kwilosz †
9 am | Guadalupe Benton †
11 am | Pete Sterkowitz †
5 pm | Darrell Henke †

M 11/29 | Hilda Ruiz (living)

Tu 11/30 | Gladys Misiewicz †

W 12/1 | Edward Henson †

Th 12/2 | Gloria Petras †

F 12/3 | Estela Bayawa Cistaro †

Sat 12/4 | Anna McClellan †





Liturgy & Administration

Scripture Readings

For This Week

Monday:	Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9;
11/29	Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday:	Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11;
11/30	Mt 4:18-22
	<i>(St. Andrew)</i>
Wednesday:	Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6;
12/1	Mt 15:29-37
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9,
12/2	19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday:	Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14;
12/3	Mt 9:27-31
	<i>(St. Francis Xavier)</i>
Saturday:	Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6;
12/4	Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday:	Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6;
12/5	Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6
	<i>(Second Sunday of Advent)</i>

Presider Schedule*

the Week of

Nov 29 - Dec 5, 2021

Monday	8:15 am - Fr. James
Tuesday	8:15 am - Fr. Manasseh
Wednesday	8:15 am - Fr. James
Thursday	8:15 am - Fr. Manasseh
Friday	8:15 pm - Fr. James
Saturday	5 pm - Fr. James
Sunday	7 am - Fr. Manasseh
	9 am - Fr. Manasseh
	11 am - Fr. Manasseh
	5 pm - Fr. James

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

Parish Contributions

A special thank you to those who are faithfully contributing

Regular Contributions for **October 2021**

(Contributions are recorded on a monthly basis per fiscal year: July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022)

Actual: \$ 80,271*

Budget: \$ 74,375

* Faith Direct Online: \$ 55,565

Cash Contributions: \$ 6,687

Check Contributions: \$ 18,019

“Living Our Faith, Building Our Home” Capital Campaign

As of October 2021

Campaign Pledges: \$ 3,548,859

Collected Campaign Pledges: \$ 2,573,511

Parish CDA Totals Nov 15, 2021

Number of Donors: 240

Number of Donors Goal: 300

Amount Donated: \$89,370

Donations Goal: \$85,000



A Reflection by Fr. Manasseh

“BE VIGILANT AT ALL TIMES AND PRAY THAT YOU HAVE THE STRENGTH TO ESCAPE THE TRIBULATIONS THAT ARE IMMINENT.....”

Welcome to the First Sunday of Advent and the beginning of “Year C,” the new Liturgical Year. The season of Advent begins the Liturgical Year and has its origins in the early Church as a short period of intense preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of the Lord, also known as Christmas. Advent slowly came to be structured into four Sundays with proper readings and prayers. It is now a season of devout and joyful expectation as we recall the first humble coming of the Lord at Bethlehem about two millennia ago. We are invited to prepare our spiritual selves in joyful expectation of Christ’s promised second coming in glory at the termination of time. This is well-expressed in the Scripture readings, in the prayers, and in the two parts into which Advent is divided.

From the beginning of the season until December 16, the liturgical focus is on the second coming of Jesus. This accounts for why in the First Reading this weekend, the prophet Jeremiah prophesizes about the fulfilment of God’s promise to restore righteousness, justice and peace in Israel through one “*who will be a shoot from the stock of David.*” In the Gospel Reading, Jesus (in whom Jeremiah’s prophecy finds perfect fulfilment) speaking about His second coming, predicts the distress and fear that would engulf the world. He advises His disciples, and by extension you and I, to stand ready and prepared in prayer so as to escape the horror of judgement day. We should strive to stay awake to the needs of those less fortunate than we are since charity is the standard by which we all shall be judged at the end of time.

From December 17 to 24, the focus shifts to the commemoration of the Holy event of the Nativity and emphasis is placed on our immediate and spiritual preparation to celebrate the Solemnity of Christ’s birth.

May Grace be granted us in abundance so we can adequately prepare to celebrate Christmas in truth and in spirit. May we spare no efforts in alleviating the pain and sufferings of others together with whom we await the redeemer’s arrival, and may the Judge of all nations find us ready when He comes.

Please be kind and may God bless you.

Fr. Manasseh

Parish Staff

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

Visiting Priest - Fr. Manasseh Iorchir, VC Ext 306
frmanasseh@stbenedict.org

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

Liturgy - Nikki Garza Ext. 311
nikkigarza@stbenedict.org

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

Youth Ministry - Clare Gisla Ext. 307
cgisla@stbenedict.org

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

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

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

Stewardship/Development - Jennifer Sentz Ext. 309
jsentz@stbenedict.org

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



Ministries and More

Parish Welcoming Event

Next weekend, on **Sunday, December 5**, the Parish Welcoming Event will take place in the St. John Bosco School courtyard outside of the MPR after the 9 am Mass.

Please join us as we enjoy a snack and meet some of the Parish Council members, Fr. James, staff members, and other parishioners. You will also find information about the future of our parish, ministries, school and more. Mark your calendar to attend and we look forward to seeing you!

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Wednesday, December 8 is The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary when we celebrate her sinlessness from the first moment of her conception. This year, the Feast day is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be celebrated at:

- 9 am (in the SJB MPR)
- Noon (in Annex 2)
- 6:30 pm (SJB MPR)



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be on **Friday, December 3** between the hours of **9 am and 7 pm** in **Annex 2**. Please sign up for a specific time slot at <http://signup.com/go/puKbjk>. This allows us to make sure that all the time slots are covered.



Blessing of the Advent Wreath

The use of the Advent Wreath is a traditional practice which has found its place in the Church as well as in the home. The blessing of the Advent Wreath takes place on the First Sunday of Advent. When this blessing is celebrated in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another member of the family.

All make the sign of the cross as the leader says:

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Response (R): Who made heaven and earth

Then the Scripture, Isaiah 9:1-2,5-6 is read. Then,

The Word of the Lord

R: Thanks be to God.

With hands joined, the leader says:

Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ: He is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples, He is the wisdom that teaches and guides us, He is the Savior of every nation.

Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation. May He come quickly and not delay. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R: Amen

The blessing may conclude with a verse from "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel."



Faith Formation and More

Celebrating Advent

The Season of Advent begins today! This is a joyful time of preparation, filled with opportunities for families to pray, celebrate, and prepare for the birth of Christ. There are many ways to make the days of Advent extra special for everyone. Even the simplest symbols and traditions alert our children to the importance of this time for our Church - a time of waiting and preparation for the coming of Christ. Here are a few fun ideas to celebrate Advent at home:

- Prepare an Advent wreath: Light a candle on the Advent wreath each night during dinner.
- Prepare an empty manger for Jesus: Place an empty manger in your home and invite family members to place a piece of straw inside the manger each time they make a loving sacrifice or do a kind deed. This symbolizes each of us preparing a special place in our heart for Jesus.
- Create a Jesse Tree: Each day, place a different ornament on the Jesse Tree which tells the story of Salvation History leading up to Christ's birth. This tradition comes from Isaiah 11, "There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots." There are many online sites with ornament templates for the figures on the Jesse Tree.
- Organize a night of Las Posadas with family and friends: Children can dress in nativity costumes and go from house to house asking for lodging but refused until the final house. There, they are welcomed into the "inn," with a celebration of food and carols. This is a popular tradition in Mexico and recalls the journey of Mary and Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem.
- Create a purple and rose-colored "paper chain" with 27 links. Each day, tear off a link and read one verse from Luke's Gospel about the birth of Jesus (Luke 2:1-20).

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word, typically on Sunday at the 9 am Mass, will not meet this weekend due to the Thanksgiving holiday. See you next Sunday!

Advent Prayer for Teens

Dear Jesus,

Please give me the grace this advent season to truly wait with anticipation for the celebration of your birth. Help my heart to grow so that I may love you more and more each day. Help me to focus on giving generously to my friends and family as God your Father gave you to us for our salvation. Finally, help me to experience a profound joy and peace on Christmas out of love for you and gratitude that you were born for our ransom.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel!

Amen.



Service Opportunity

We still have a few volunteer spots left for the *Feed My Starving Children* service opportunity on **Saturday, January 22** from 9 am to 10:45 am! Come pack meals for starving children all over the world at the *Feed My Starving Children* building in Mesa with your St. Benedict community. Reserve your spot today by emailing Clare Gisla at cgisla@stbenedict.org.

"To you, O Lord, I lift my soul!"
~ Psalm 25



Current Events & More

“Coping With Grief During the Holidays”

Family members who are mourning the loss of a loved one this past year are invited to join us at the “*Coping With Grief During the Holidays*” session on **Saturday, December 4**, from 10 am to 11:30 am in Annex 3. Facilitated by Kathy McCluskey and Terri Bauer. To register, please email Kathy at pastoralcare@stbenedict.org.

Advent Penance Service

This year the Communal Advent Penance Service will be on **Tuesday, December 21**, 7 pm at the St. John Bosco School MPR and courtyard. The evening will begin together with prayer and an examination of conscience, with individual confessions to follow. Priests from our neighboring parishes will be available to hear confessions.

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus are hosting a Parish Rosary on **Tuesday, November 30** at 7 pm in Annex 2. Please come and take part in this beautiful prayer to our Mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Remember to check out the Coats for Kids Program. Go to stbenedict.org and click on the banner link.

Attention: all men of the parish. If you are at least 18 years of age, become a Knight at: www.kofc.org/joinus. Enter code: TMOORE and Council 12246 for your first year of free dues.

Have a safe and blessed week.

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



St. Vincent de Paul



During construction of the new church, please take your donations to the worship space at St. John Bosco on weekends, or to the church lobby during the week. The following is what is needed at this time:

- Canned Fruit
- Canned Carrots
- Canned Chicken
- Chicken Noodle Soup
- Spam
- Jelly

Thank you for your donations! We appreciate it as do our less fortunate neighbors.

Women’s Spirituality

The next meeting will be **Saturday, December 4** at 10 am in Annex 1. Come and join us for an ornament exchange and a cookie exchange! Women of all ages are welcome.

We meet the first Saturday of each month for fellowship, discussion of topics that impact women’s spirituality today and, of course, snacks! The time commitment is approximately an hour - come and check it out! For additional information or questions please email events@stbenedict.org

Bingo Night!

Save the date for Bingo! **Friday, January 7** from 6 - 8 pm. If you didn’t make it last time you missed an all ages night full of pizza, baked goods, BINGO and over 100 prizes!

We are always looking for prizes, so if you have gift cards or new items you are not using, or you get a Christmas gift that’s not your style, donate them for BINGO prizes! Stay tuned for additional information! Please email events@stbenedict.org with questions or prize donations!



More

To Our Family and Friends of St. Benedict

Wow! We are still on cloud nine and amazed at how good God has been to us at St. Benedict and St. John Bosco. The recent groundbreaking ceremony with Bishop Olmsted and many of you is the culmination of hard work, your continued prayers, financial sacrifices and commitment to fulfilling our dream of a new place of worship. Father Bob must be smiling at all of us as he looks down from heaven.

Currently, our parish does not have monthly mortgage payments; however, the financial impact of the construction will be felt soon. As you may know, Giving Tuesday is a Global Day of Generosity that will take place next week on **November 30, 2021**. As a world-wide movement, this special day of giving reflects our Catholic values of selflessness, compassion, mercy and grace.

Hundreds of millions of people will come together on Giving Tuesday to share what they have with those in need – and on this special day of stewardship, we are asking if you would consider donating to the St. Benedict New Building Fund this year. There are multiple ways you can do this: (1) add a one-time gift through on-line giving, (2) drop extra check or cash in an envelope at Mass, or (3) drop a check in the mail or by the office. Please indicate “New Building” on whichever method you use.

Even in times of economic uncertainty, we each have a deep reserve of generosity and the ability to make a difference with our time, talent and treasure. We are encouraging everyone in our parish who can contribute, to consider doing so on **November 30**. Whether it’s helping in a ministry, advocating for those seeking justice, sharing your talent, or giving financially to the parish, every act of generosity counts! Your gifts and your participation would be a blessing to us.

May God bless you, love you and keep his arms firmly around you.

In his name we ask,

St. Benedict Finance Council

GIVINGTUESDAY

Ministry Contacts

Altar Servers... Dcn. Ed, edlinda@cox.net

Art & Environment... Carol, carolmengel@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... 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/Projector... Nick, 480.961.1610 ext. 312

Pastoral Care... Kathy, kathy.mccluskey@cox.net

Pastoral Council... Frank, azfrankp@cox.net

Refugee Resettlement... Dave, zabor@cox.net

Sacristans... Bette, blaatsch69@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul... Phil, 480.961.1610 ext. 315

Women’s Spirituality... Nora, nmphillips@cox.net

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*A ministry of the
Parish of St. Benedict*



A Note From The SJB Principal

Dear Parishioners,

I hope you had much to be grateful for this Thanksgiving and are ready for a peaceful and prayerful Season of Advent. As you read this, our students, faculty, and staff are enjoying the last few days of the holiday break and will return with renewed vigor before yet another holiday break. Although very joyful, this time of year can be a bit of a challenge for teachers to keep their excited students focused on learning while surrounded by the festive Christmas atmosphere.

A primary reason for the joyous ambience is the upcoming Christmas Program. Music Teacher Dr. Luis Rodriguez is busy organizing and choreographing this year's production, which will be unique in that it will be held outdoors due to the renovation of the church. The December night chill will add an aura of winter—something we can't often claim here in Phoenix!

Something we can claim this time of year is celebrating the Nativity of Our Lord in school. As a Catholic community, we often take it for granted that we wish each other Merry Christmas and sing ancient hymns to celebrate the season. But our children may not realize that this privilege is not afforded in all schools. It is indeed a blessing for our children to have the freedom to live their faith within their school community and not be concerned with separating their Christ-centeredness from their social lives.

Happy Advent!

Joyful Blessings,

Jamie Bescak, Principal



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