



August 25, 2024

## Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

*“where all are welcome”*

“ *Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.* ”

~ Ps 34

St. Benedict Catholic Church | [www.stbenedict.org](http://www.stbenedict.org)  
16223 S 48th St. Phoenix, AZ 85048 | 480.961.1610

St. John Bosco Catholic School | [www.sjbosco.org](http://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 - 12 pm  
Closed Daily 12 pm - 1 pm

### Mass Schedule

Saturday 5 pm, Sunday 7, 9, 11 am, 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](http://stbenedict.org/calendar)

#### Monday, 8/26

8:15 am | Mass  
7 pm | Sacristan Mtg

#### Tuesday, 8/27

8:15 am | Mass

#### Wednesday, 8/28

8:15 am | Mass  
6 pm | Children’s Choir  
7 pm | Parish Rosary

#### Thursday, 8/29

8:15 am | Mass  
4:30 pm | Legion  
of Mary  
6 pm | Adult Choir

#### Friday, 8/30

8:15 am | Mass  
5 pm | Confession

#### Saturday, 8/31

8 am | Confession  
5 pm | Mass

### Mass Intentions

#### Sunday, 8/25/2024

7 am | Becky Altuna †  
9 am | Jan & Maria  
Michalski †  
11 am | John Gore +  
5 pm | Darel Williams †

F 8/30 | Gino Vanguardia †  
Sat 8/31 | Kristi Hogen  
Schwartz †

M 8/26 | Stephanie Moore (lvg)  
Tu 8/27 | Nancy Allen †  
W 8/28 | Rosemarie Schwindt †  
Th 8/29 | Asuncion Magbanua †

#### Sunday, 9/1/2024

7 am | Errol Pinto †  
9 am | Taryn Gilmore †  
11 am | Ron Sroka †  
5 pm | Parishioners

## Liturgy & Administration

### Scripture Readings

**Monday:** 2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12; Ps 96:1-8/26  
2a, 2b-3, 4-5; Mt 23:13-22

**Tuesday:** 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17; Ps 96:8/27  
10, 11-12, 13; Mt 23:23-26  
*(St. Monica)*

**Wednesday:** 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18; Ps 128:8/28  
1-2, 4-5; Mt 23:27-32  
*(St. Augustine)*

**Thursday:** 1 Cor 1:1-9; Ps 145:2-3, 8/29  
4-5, 6-7; Mk 6:17-29  
*(The Passion of St. John the Baptist)*

**Friday:** 1 Cor 1:17-25; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 8/30  
10-11; Mt 25:1-13

**Saturday:** 1 Cor 1:26-31; Ps 33:12-13, 18-8/31  
19, 20-21; Mt 25:14-30

**Sunday:** Dt 4:1-2, 6-8; Ps 15:2-5 1a; 9/1  
Jas 2:1-5; Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

### Parish Contributions

*A special thank you to those who are faithfully contributing*

Regular Contributions for  
**July 2024**

**Actual: \$ 73,104\***

**Budget: \$ 80,000**

\* Realm

Online: \$ 42,158

Cash/Check: \$ 30,946

*(Contributions are recorded on a monthly basis per fiscal year July 1, '24 to June 30, '25)*

### Construction Project

June 2024

Current Estimated Construction Costs: \$9,280,886\*\*

Donations/Fundraising: (\$4,717,907)

Line of Credit/Debt: (\$4,500,000)

Additional Funds to Raise: \$63,979

\*\* Includes building permits not previously included, change orders and fluctuating costs of FF&E.



### Live the Liturgy Inspiration for the Week

Many followers of Jesus could not accept his teachings. To those that remained, he posed a simple question: *“Do you also want to leave?”* He asks us the same, every moment of every day. Let us answer with confidence, in all that we do: *“Only you have the words of eternal life.”*

©LPi

### Parish Staff

Pastor - Fr. James Aboyi, VC x 302  
[fraboyi@stbenedict.org](mailto:fraboyi@stbenedict.org)

Parochial Vicar - Fr. Augustine Acheme, VC x 306  
[fraugustine@stbenedict.org](mailto:fraugustine@stbenedict.org)

Office Manager - Mary Jane Livens x 304  
[mlivens@stbenedict.org](mailto:mlivens@stbenedict.org)

Children's Formation - Sr. Delia Obenza, OP x 307  
[srdelia@stbenedict.org](mailto:srdelia@stbenedict.org)

Front Office/Admin. Asst. - Amy Fletcher x 300  
[afletcher@stbenedict.org](mailto:afletcher@stbenedict.org)

Deacon - Ed Winkelbauer x 300  
[dcned@stbenedict.org](mailto:dcned@stbenedict.org)

Dir. Evangelization/Formation - Sr. Liza Sulit, OP x 308  
[srliza@stbenedict.org](mailto:srliza@stbenedict.org)

Dir. Music/Liturgy - Phil Arkfeld x 311  
[parkfeld@stbenedict.org](mailto:parkfeld@stbenedict.org)

Stewardship/Engagement - Maryola Fabilena x 309  
[mfabilena@stbenedict.org](mailto:mfabilena@stbenedict.org)

Youth/Campus Ministry -

Contact the Parish Office at 480.961.1610

## Scripture Reflection

---

---

### Choosing to Follow Christ

This Sunday's readings present us with a profound challenge: the decision to follow God wholeheartedly, even when His teachings are difficult to accept. Through the words of Joshua, Paul's instructions, and Jesus' discourse in the Gospel of John, we are called to make a deliberate and conscious choice to remain faithful to the Lord.

In the first reading, Joshua gathers all the tribes of Israel and challenges them to decide whom they will serve: "If it does not please you to serve the LORD, decide today whom you will serve... As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD" (Jos 24:15). The people respond by affirming their commitment to the Lord, recalling His mighty works in delivering them from slavery in Egypt. This moment of decision emphasizes the importance of choosing to serve God, not out of compulsion, but from a place of recognition and gratitude for His deeds in our lives.

The responsorial psalm echoes the theme of trusting in God's goodness, inviting us to "Taste and see the goodness of the Lord" (Ps 34:9). The psalmist highlights God's faithfulness in delivering the just and comforting the brokenhearted, reminding us that in choosing to follow God, we find refuge and strength in His unfailing love.

In the second reading, Paul addresses the Ephesians, urging them to live in love and mutual respect within their marriages, mirroring the relationship between Christ and the Church. Paul's words remind us that our commitment to God should be reflected in our relationships with others, especially within the family. The love and sacrifice demonstrated by Christ for the Church serve as the model for our interactions, calling us to live in a manner that honors God and strengthens the bonds of unity and love.

The Gospel brings us to a pivotal moment in Jesus' ministry. After teaching about the necessity of eating His flesh and drinking His blood to have eternal life, many of His disciples find His words too difficult to accept and abandon Him. Jesus then turns to the Twelve and asks, "Do you also want to leave?" Peter's response is a powerful declaration of faith: "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life" (Jn 6:68). This exchange underscores the challenge of discipleship—choosing to follow Christ even when His teachings are hard to understand or accept. It calls us to trust in Jesus' words and remain steadfast in our commitment to Him, knowing that He alone offers the path to eternal life.

These readings compel us to reflect on our own faith journey. Are we willing to make the choice, like Joshua, to serve the Lord with all our hearts? Can we, like Peter, declare our unwavering trust in Jesus, even when faced with challenging teachings? Following Christ requires a deliberate choice, one that we must renew daily as we navigate the complexities of life.

This week, let us recommit ourselves to following Christ, embracing His teachings with faith and trust. Let us choose to serve the Lord in all aspects of our lives, reflecting His love in our relationships and trusting in His promise of eternal life. In making this choice, we affirm that, indeed, He is the Holy One of God, and His words are Spirit and life. Amen.

Fr. Augustine Acheme, VC

## Current Events and More

### Children's Choir

Give your child the gift of music. The St. Benedict Children's Choir (for grades 3 through 8) will begin on **Wednesday, August 28** with a parent meeting plus a choir rehearsal. Regular rehearsals will be on Wednesdays from 6 pm to 7 pm in the Choir Loft. Our Children's Choir sings once a month and will, again, participate in a nationally-recognized choral festival. For more details, contact Phil Arkfeld at [parkfeld@stbenedict.org](mailto:parkfeld@stbenedict.org) or 480.961.1610 ext. 311.

### Praying the Rosary

Pray the Rosary with fellow parishioners **Monday** through **Thursday** mornings at 7:45 am, before the regular morning Mass, in the Parish Chapel.

Later this month (and on the last Wednesday of every month) the Knights of Columbus will be hosting a parish Rosary on **Wednesday, August 28**, at 7 pm in the Parish Chapel.

Come and pray with us!

### Employment Opportunity

The St. Benedict Church is in need of an energetic and enthusiastic individual for the position of a full-time Coordinator of Youth and Campus Ministry. This person will be responsible for implementing the JAM and EPIC programs to the parish youth grades 6-12. For more information and job description, go to the parish website at [stbenedict.org](http://stbenedict.org).

#### WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP PLAN PARISH EVENTS?

Please join us at the Events Committee Meeting  
Monday, August 26, 2024, 4 p.m. in Annex 1  
We will be discussing the event dates for 2024 and 2025

#### Committees forming for Upcoming Events:

- Annual BBQ and Boot Scoot - Saturday, November 16, 2024
- Parish Picnic - Sunday,
- Annual St. Benedict Gala - Saturday, May 3, 2025

Email Lani Gore at [events@stbenedict.org](mailto:events@stbenedict.org) with questions

### Elevate at Notre Dame Fed. C.U.

Did you know that you can raise funds for St. Benedict just by speaking to a Notre Dame Federal Credit Union (NDFCU) representative or opening an account and using the debit/credit card for regular expenses? **Elevate** is a program that allows NDFCU customers to raise funds for a non-profit of their choice. Thank you to some of our parishioners who already participate in this program and choose St. Benedict as their non-profit organization.

Here are 3 ways you can help raise funds for St. Benedict (Remember to tell them you are from St. Benedict Church):

#### ELEVATE \$150

Set up a 30-minute financial checkup with the NDFCU team and \$150 will be donated to St. Benedict regardless of whether or not you open an account.

#### ELEVATE Auto

Mention ELEVATE when you open a new auto loan and NDFCU will donate 1% of the total loan amount to St. Benedict.

#### ELEVATE Card

With the ELEVATE debit or credit card, St. Benedict will earn a 1% rebate on all signature transactions.

For more information. **Please visit <https://notredamefcu.com/elevate-fundraising/>**

### Arizona Rosary Celebration 2024

Save the date for the 49th Annual Arizona Rosary Celebration on **Sunday, October 27** from 2 pm to 4:15 pm at the Phoenix Convention Center (33 S. 3rd St. Phoenix, South Building, Halls F and G). Doors open at noon for confession, adoration and exhibits.

### Baptism Class

The next Baptism Class for parents and godparents will be on **Saturday, September 14** from 9:30 am to 11:30 am in Annex 1. For questions or to RSVP, contact Sr. Liza at [srliza@stbenedict.org](mailto:srliza@stbenedict.org).





## Faith Formation and More

### Happenings in Children and Youth Faith Formation

**September 8**

*Liturgy of the Word with Children*

**Tuesday, September 10**

JAM

Journey of Faith

**Sunday, September 15**

*Liturgy of the Word with Children*

CGS

EPIC

### Faith Formation News

We can't wait to welcome your children and teens to Faith Formation for 2024-2025! Registration for Journey of Faith, CGS, JAM, and EPIC (K-12th grade) is underway. Sign up today!

Wondering why your teen or child should attend faith formation at St. Benedict? Here are five reasons:

1. I want my child or teen to have a personal relationship with Jesus.
2. I want my child or teen to better understand the beauty of Liturgy and the Sacraments.
3. I want my child or teen to develop healthy peer relationships with friends who share Christian values.
4. Knowing my child or teen is gaining knowledge of their faith and a deeper understanding of God is a gift to my own spirituality.
5. Catechesis promotes a missionary spirit that prepares my child or teen to be an active and service-minded Christian in society.

### R.E. Registration

Give your children and teens the gift of faith formation where they grow closer to Christ, become more rooted in their Catholic faith, meet new (and old) friends, and have fun! Register online for all of the St. Benedict Faith Formation programs.

Faith Formation and Youth Ministry Sessions begin in September and meet most weeks through April 2025. For a complete schedule, visit our parish website at [www.stbenedict.org](http://www.stbenedict.org)

- **EPIC YOUTH MINISTRY (Grades 9th-12th):**  
Sundays from 3 pm to 4:45 pm
- **JAM MIDDLE SCHOOL (Grades 6th-8th)**  
Tuesdays from 6:15 pm to 7:30 pm
- **JOURNEY OF FAITH (Grades K-5th)**  
Tuesdays from 6:15 pm to 7:30 pm
- **\*CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD:**  
Sundays from 9 am to 10:15 am Level I (3-6 years)  
Sundays from 10:15 am to 11:30 am Level II  
(6-9 years with Level I experience)

\*Limited space is available for both CGS sessions.

REGISTRATION COSTS for 2024-2025 per child:

\$75 - Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Journey of Faith & JAM Middle School

\$75 - EPIC High School Youth Ministry

All families with multiple children have a maximum total registration cost of \$140 regardless of program. Financial assistance and scholarships are available for any family in need. We never want cost to prevent your child from participating in faith formation programs or youth ministry events. Contact Sr. Delia in the parish office for assistance or questions at **480.961.1610 ext. 307.**



## Ministries & More

### Knights of Columbus

*Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw a star in the east and have come to worship him. (Matt2:1-2)*

God is looking for leaders who recognize the signs of their times. Such was the case of the three wisemen who were so in tune with their times they were able to pinpoint when the long awaited Messiah was born. They recognized God has come in their midst. These three men were philosophers, priest, or astronomers who live chiefly in Persia and Arabia. They came from professional ranks in society and was sorted out by the kings of the nation. They would be the authorities in their field of expertise. Like them, men of Issachar, who understood the times and knew what Israel should do, these three wisemen knew what they were to do because they were aware of God's activities in their times. Are you recognizing God's activity in your time?

#### Announcements

- A membership drive was held last weekend and we have four new brothers signed up and three transfers into our Council. We welcome you and hope to see you at our next meeting.

#### Events

- Council meeting at 7 pm on **Thursday, September 12.**

Join online to become a Knight of Columbus at [www.kofc.org/joinus](http://www.kofc.org/joinus) and enter "Council 12246" and code "blessedmcgivney".

Vivat Jesus,

John Garrity, Grand Knight  
Fr. Bob Binta Council # 12246  
[grandknight@kofc12246.org](mailto:grandknight@kofc12246.org)  
602.743.8015

### Ministry Contacts

Audio-Visual... Scott, [av@stbenedict.org](mailto:av@stbenedict.org)  
Altar Servers... Ken, [dken-1@hotmail.com](mailto:dken-1@hotmail.com)  
Altar Society... Sr. Liza, [srliza@stbenedict.org](mailto:srliza@stbenedict.org)  
Baptisms... Sr. Liza, [srliza@stbenedict.org](mailto:srliza@stbenedict.org)  
EMHCs... Russ, [rustlespencer@gmail.com](mailto:rustlespencer@gmail.com)  
Events/Helping Hands... Lani, [events@stbenedict.org](mailto:events@stbenedict.org)  
Finance Council... Karen, [karenmains@msn.com](mailto:karenmains@msn.com)  
Hospitality... David, [davidjschenach@gmail.com](mailto:davidjschenach@gmail.com)  
Knights of Columbus... John, [grandknight@kofc12246.org](mailto:grandknight@kofc12246.org)

### St. Vincent de Paul



Jesus asks in today's Gospel, "Do you also want to leave?" We must ask ourselves if we really want to hear the Good News of His love for us and for others. Is the work of God able to break into our consciousness, change us and call us to hear the cries of the poor? Our SVdP conference is grateful for the continued support of our less fortunate neighbors through generous donation of food and resources. Your assistance helps us to help others! Please consider helping us help others by donating the following:

- Taco Kits
- Salsa/Hot Sauce
- Enchilada Sauce
- Baked Beans
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Diced Tomatoes

Lectors... Michele, [micheleedison@aol.com](mailto:micheleedison@aol.com)  
Legion of Mary... Heidi Hill, 480.528.6929  
Music/Choir... Phil A., 480.961.1610 ext. 311  
Pastoral Care... Kathy, [kathy.mccluskey@cox.net](mailto:kathy.mccluskey@cox.net)  
Pastoral Council... Russ, [pastoralcouncil@stbenedict.org](mailto:pastoralcouncil@stbenedict.org)  
Porters of St. Joseph... security@stbenedict.org  
Refugee Resettlement... Dave, [zabordave@gmail.com](mailto:zabordave@gmail.com)  
Sacristans... Larry, [zbarblary@gmail.com](mailto:zbarblary@gmail.com)  
St. Vincent de Paul... Phil W., 480.961.1610 ext. 315  
Women's Spirituality... Nora, [nmphillips@cox.net](mailto:nmphillips@cox.net)



Catholic Company



**AirTime**  
COOLING & HEATING LLC


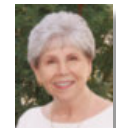
480-776-7993 Free Service Call with Repair  
\*20% OFF FOR PARISHIONERS\* \*SOME RESTRICTIONS MAY APPLY




Ironwood Cancer & Research Centers  
*Outsmarting Cancer One Patient at a Time*<sup>SM</sup>

(P) 480.821.2838  
www.ironwoodcrc.com


Christopher M. Kellogg, MD  
Board Certified Medical Oncology & Hematology  
Deacon

LOCALITY  
REAL ESTATE

**MICHELE M. EDISON**  
Certified Residential Specialist  
Associate Broker

Professional! (602) 418-8696  
Dedicated!  
Experienced!




**LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS**

Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

**CONTACT ME**  
Mike McAleer

mmcaleer@4LPi.com • (800) 477-4574 x6307

**DOES YOUR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION NEED A NEWSLETTER?**



Engaging, ad-supported print and digital newsletters to reach your community.

Visit [Ipicommunities.com](http://Ipicommunities.com)

Professional! (602) 418-8696  
Dedicated!  
Experienced!




RED LINE  
ELECTRIC & SOLAR, LLC

www.IAmRedline.com  
480-750-7541



CONNECTED HEALTH CENTERS

480-256-1421

**\$21 NEW PATIENT SPECIAL**

MENTION ST. BENEDICT CHURCH & GET A 1HR MASSAGE FOR ONLY \$30

**INSURANCE ACCEPTED**

4647 E CHANDLER BLVD, STE 8  
PHOENIX, AZ 85048

Dr. Sydney Briner  
Family Chiropractor



HOSPICE of the VALLEY

Your not-for-profit hospice serving all in need since 1977

(602) 530-6900  
hov.org



**Eye Priority, P.C.**  
... providing quality optometry for Ahwatukee-Foothills families since 1991.

Kelly de Simone, OD  
Parishioner

Monica Sawitzke, OD

15725 S. 46th Street, Ste.112

Eye Exams  
Contact Fittings  
Vision Therapy  
**(480) 893-2300**



PlumbSmart  
Plumbing Heating & Air

602.767.1028

**\$49**  
Drain Cleaning  
Parishioner Specials

**\$99**  
Sewer Camera Inspection

OUR EXPERIENCE • OUR COMMITMENT • YOUR RESULTS

**injectables / laser treatments**  
**skin treatments / body treatments**

Call 480-893-2228 today for FREE Consultation  
New Clients get **\$100 off any purchase of \$250 or more**

SPORTS MEDICINE, PHYSICAL THERAPY & HAND THERAPY




**SPOONER**


HELPING THE AHWATUKEE COMMUNITY  
**MOVE BETTER & FEEL BETTER SINCE 2003!**

SPOONER AHWATUKEE  
16611 S 40th St Suite 130, Phoenix, AZ 85048  
480.706.1199

LEARN MORE AND SCHEDULE TODAY AT [WWW.SPOONERPT.COM](http://WWW.SPOONERPT.COM)



"Peace begins with a smile." -Mother Teresa



RANDY L. MOW  
480.759.9300 • [drmwdds.com](http://drmwdds.com)  
Mountain Park Dentistry, LLC  
15215 SOUTH 48TH STREET,  
BLDG. 7, SUITE 175

*the name of the future in dentistry*

Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!

Instantly create and purchase an ad with





4lpi.com/adcreator

**catholicmatch**<sup>®</sup>  
Arizona

CatholicMatch.com/AZ



1(480)7096259



**MAC'S**  
COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR

**15% OFF**  
Any service or repair up to \$150 to our Catholic Church community

6948 W. Chandler Blvd., • Chandler, AZ



SUNRISE  
SENIOR LIVING

Assisted Living & Memory Care  
5757 West Chandler Blvd, Chandler  
**(480) 786-4998**




YOUR COMMUNITY MUSIC ACADEMY<sup>®</sup>

480.706.1224 | REGISTER AT [MMWAZ.COM](http://MMWAZ.COM)



JANET EUZARRAGA DDS  
cosmetic • family dentistry

2016-2022  
BEST DENTIST

READER RECOMMENDED:  
BEST CUSTOMER SERVICE  
BEST PLACE TO WORK  
BEST MOM & POP



Ahwatukee  
BEST OF  
2017-2022  
AHWATUKEE  
FOOTHILLS  
NEWS  
1st Place



Going the "Extra Smile" for Ahwatukee!

**JANET EUZARRAGA DDS**  
cosmetic • family dentistry

Quality, Personalized Care  
FREE Second Opinion

HYGIENISTS:  
Michele King RDH  
Carmen Salaiz RDH  
Daisy DeSalmones RDH

480-494-2435



DrFamilyDental.com



Ahwatukee Foothills  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



BNI



## A Note From The SJB Principal



Dear Parishioners,

I am pleased to announce the completion of our 2024-2028 St. John Bosco Strategic Plan, a vision that will guide us over the next five years. A special thank you to Mr. Hogan Macdonald, Mrs. Krissy Bileski, Mrs. Theresa Harvey, Mrs. Jena Gump, Mrs. Kelly Rafford, Mrs. Seann Richardson, and Mr. Sam Root for their input and for bringing this plan to life.

I am also extremely proud to share the results from our 2024 IOWA Spring assessments, showcasing SJB's ranking in the top 6 for all grade levels amongst the 29 Phoenix Diocese Catholic Schools. Further, last year's 8th-grade class ranked #2 and placed at a college-level grade-equivalent average of all subjects.

This impressive data is a testament to our highly-trained faculty, attentive staff, administrative vision, diligent students, and caring, involved parents – it truly takes a village to produce these results.

Joyful blessings,

Jamie Bescak, M.Ed., Principal

480.219.4848

