

September 1, 2024

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

“ *The one who does justice
will live in the presence of the Lord.* ”

~ Ps 15

“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

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 - 3 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

Monday, 9/2

Labor Day/Office Closed
8:15 am | Mass

Tuesday, 9/3

8:15 am | Mass

Wednesday, 9/4

8:15 am | Mass
6:30 pm | Pastoral Council

Thursday, 9/5

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

Friday, 9/6

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

Saturday, 9/7

8 am | Confession
10 am | Bereavement
Support Group
5 pm | Mass

Mass Intentions

Sunday, 9/1/2024

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

M 9/2 | Luigia Castellano †

Tu 9/3 | Jeanne Rogers †

W 9/4 | Loretta Simmons †

Th 9/5 | Steve and Maria
Westhoff (lv)

F 9/6 | Jeanne Rogers †

Sat 9/7 | Parishioners

Sunday, 9/8/2024

7 am | Paul Patrick Ramones †

9 am | Florencia Alcasid †

11 am | Rosie Brandenberger †

5 pm | Becky Altuna †

Liturgy & Administration

Scripture Readings

Monday: 1 Cor 2:1-5; Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 9/2 100, 101, 102; Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday: 1 Cor 2:10b-16; Ps 145:8-9, 9/3 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14; Lk 4:31-37
(St. Gregory the Great)

Wednesday: 1 Cor 3:1-9; Ps 33:12-13, 14-9/4 15, 20-21; Lk 4:38-44

Thursday: 1 Cor 3:18-23; Ps 24:1bc-2, 9/5 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 5:1-11

Friday: 1 Cor 4:1-5; Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 9/6 27-28, 39-40; Lk 5:33-39

Saturday: 1 Cor 4:6b-15; Ps 145:17-18, 9/7 19-20, 21; Lk 6:1-5

Sunday: Is 35:4-7a; Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9/8 9-10 (1B); Jas 2:1-5; Mk 7:31-37

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

The Pharisees did not understand that the law is more than an action to be carried out. We are called to be doers of the word and not hearers only. Let the law take root in your heart, and it will bear fruit in your works.

©LPI

Parish Staff

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

Parochial Vicar - Fr. Augustine Acheme, VC x 306
fraugustine@stbenedict.org

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

Children's Formation - Sr. Delia Obenza, OP x 307
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Front Office/Admin. Asst. - Amy Fletcher x 300
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Deacon - Ed Winkelbauer x 300
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Dir. Evangelization/Formation - Sr. Liza Sulit, OP x 308
srliza@stbenedict.org

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

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

Youth/Campus Ministry - Erin Fish x 303
efish@stbenedict.org

Contact the Parish Office at 480.961.1610

Scripture Reflection

Living from the Heart of the Gospel

This Sunday's readings challenge us to reflect on the authenticity of our faith and the importance of living out God's Commandments from the heart. Through the words of Moses, James, and Jesus, we are called to move beyond a mere external observance and embrace a faith that transforms us from within.

In the first reading, Moses instructs the Israelites to carefully observe the statutes and decrees of the Lord, emphasizing that these laws are a testament to their wisdom and intelligence as a people. "Observe them carefully," he says, "for thus will you give evidence of your wisdom and intelligence to the nations" (Dt 4:6). Moses highlights the close relationship between God and His people, a relationship that is evident in the just and righteous laws given to them. This passage invites us to consider how our adherence to God's Commandments reflects our identity as His people and our witness to the world.

The responsorial psalm further explores the theme of righteous living, declaring, "The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord" (Ps 15:1). The psalmist outlines qualities such as blamelessness, truthfulness, and integrity, which characterize those who dwell in God's presence. These qualities remind us that living justly is not merely about following rules but about embodying the values that draw us closer to God.

In the second reading, James calls believers to be "doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves" (Jas 1:22). He emphasizes that true religion is not about external rituals but about caring for those in need and keeping oneself "unstained by the world" (Jas 1:27). James challenges us to live out our faith in practical ways, demonstrating love and compassion to others, especially the vulnerable.

The Gospel presents a confrontation between Jesus and the Pharisees over the issue of ritual purity. The Pharisees criticize Jesus' disciples for eating with unwashed hands, a violation of traditional practices. Jesus responds by quoting Isaiah: "These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me" (Mk 7:6). He then teaches that it is not what goes into a person that defiles them, but what comes out from their heart - evil thoughts, unchastity, theft, and other sins. Jesus' words challenge us to examine the condition of our hearts and the sincerity of our worship.

These readings remind us that true faith is not about outward appearances or rigid adherence to traditions but about cultivating a heart that is aligned with God's will. Our actions should flow from a transformed heart, one that is rooted in love, justice, and humility.

This week, let us reflect on how we live out our faith. Are we merely going through the motions, or are we allowing God's word to shape our hearts and actions? Let us strive to be doers of the word, embodying the values of the Gospel in our daily lives. By doing so, we bear witness to the world that our faith is not just a set of rules, but a living relationship with God that transforms us from the inside out. Amen.

Fr. Augustine Acheme, VC

Current Events and More

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

This month, Adoration will be on **Friday, September 6** between the hours of **9 am and 6 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/puKbjk>. Signing up allows us to make sure that all the time slots are covered.



Children's Choir is In Session

"On the lips of children, O Lord, you have fashioned a hymn of praise." (Ps 8:2)

The St. Benedict Children's Choir for grades 3 through 8 has begun rehearsing on Wednesdays from 6 pm to 7 pm in the church choir loft. Our Catholic faith is reinforced in the praise offered up in song. A rewarding and fun-filled experience awaits our choir members. Come and join us! For more details, contact Phil Arkfeld at parkfeld@stbenedict.org or **480.961.1610 ext. 311**.

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/>**

Special Collection this Weekend

This weekend is the collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe to help meet the needs of rebuilding the Church there. It focuses on training seminarians and lay leaders, supporting service programs, youth ministry, pastoral and catechetical centers, schools, church construction and renovation, and evangelization through Catholic media. Thank you for your support.

Hand-Carved in Bethlehem



Please stop by the tables of religious wares (nativity sets, rosaries, statues, crucifixes, charms, and more) after all the Masses the weekend of **September 14 and 15**.

Ayman Khair represents about 180 Christian families from Bethlehem who are dependent upon sales of their hand-carved religious articles to tourists of the Holy Land. Due to the conflict in the Middle East and the Pandemic, tourism stopped almost completely. In order to survive, they have turned to Christian communities in the United States to purchase their articles.

These hand-carved religious articles are beyond description. Carved from wood of the sacred olive tree, this workmanship has been traditional for these families for hundreds of years. It is hoped that through the efforts of Mr. Khair, these families who have little income are able to survive in the Holy Land. Thank you, in advance, for your support.

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

Teen Sacramental Prep

Welcome Back!

As we approach the beginning of our classes next week, we want to thank you for the trust and confidence you have placed in us. Remember that we are partners in nurturing the minds and hearts of your child(ren) in this wonderful Catholic faith.

Please review the different schedules for our classes on the parish website (stbenedict.org), including Journey of Faith, JAM, EPIC, Teens Sacraments, CGS, and Children's Liturgy of the Word.

Faith Formation classes will enable the children to learn about the richness of our Catholic faith, encounter Jesus in prayer, celebrate His love and mercy, and prepare to receive the Sacraments of Initiation.

Children need to see a connection between what they learn in class and what they experience at home. Be assured that we are available to assist you in any way we can. We only ask in return for your active participation in the formation process by living your faith daily through good examples and by joining the parish community each Sunday for the celebration of Mass and the other sacraments. This is absolutely essential.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our volunteer Catechists for their commitment and dedication. They generously share their time and talent to assist in the faith formation of your child(ren) and are greatly appreciated.

Let us all pray that this year will be a fruitful one for all of us, especially for your child(ren). ~ Sr. Delia



Welcome!

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.

Office Hours

Beginning in September (until the end of May) the parish office hours return to the non-summer schedule:

Monday - Thursday 9 am to 5 pm

Friday 9 am to 3 pm

In addition, the office will be closed **Monday, September 2** for the Labor Day holiday.

Porters of St. Joseph

Our security ministry is looking for a few more good men to help oversee security during Mass. For more information or to volunteer, contact Greg Bedell at bedell_law@yahoo.com

Ministries & More

Knights of Columbus

But food does not bring us near to God, we are no worse, if we do not eat, and no better if we do. Be careful, however, that the exercise of your freedom does not become a stumbling block for the weak. (1 Cor 8:8-9)

Both Jesus and Paul emphasize that food and drink don't bring those closer to God or distance us from God. It's what comes from our hearts that make us clean or unclean. The teaching means that we have incredible freedom as to what we eat and drink under grace in Christ. Let's use our freedom, considerably, especially towards our new brothers and sisters in Christ. These new Christians need our encouragement - they already have enough stumbling blocks. Let's remember that whatever doesn't come from faith is likely going to lead us into sin.

Announcements

- Thank you to all the Knights who attended the Mass for Fr. Bob. I'm sure he was looking down on us with that beautiful smile of his.
- Thank you also to all the Knights who participated in our membership drive. I look forward to welcoming our new brothers into our Council.

Events

- CUF Degree on Sept 7 in the Chapel after the 5 pm Mass.

Join online to become a Knight of Columbus at 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
602.743.8015

Ministry Contacts

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

St. Vincent de Paul



The Gospel today hits home closer than we may think. What traditions do we blindly cling to? Is it enough for us to just go to Mass on Sunday? Do we keep the letter of the law and miss the spirit of the law? Interior righteousness means a heart turned to God. Purity of heart is expressed in righteous living: self-giving for the sake of others. As you give your gift to the poor through St. Vincent de Paul, in your heart you also will find the good news of God's love. Please help us to help others by donating the following:

- Chunky Soups
- Broth
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Canned Chicken
- Spam
- Cereal

Videographer Wanted

We're looking for a volunteer with experience in videography to help us develop instruction videos for our liturgical ministries. If interested in helping out, please contact Phil Arkfeld parkfeld@stbenedict.org, 480.961.1610 ext. 311.

St. Benedict Welcoming Sunday

Next weekend, after the 9 am Sunday Mass, members of the parish community will be gathering for the monthly Welcoming Sunday for fellowship and refreshments. Meet our priests, members of the Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils, Staff and other parishioners. Join us for fellowship and refreshments. It's always a lot of fun and we hope you will stop by after Mass!

Lectors... Michele, 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
Pastoral Council... Russ, pastoralcouncil@stbenedict.org
Porters of St. Joseph... security@stbenedict.org
Refugee Resettlement... Dave, zabordave@gmail.com
Sacristans... Larry, zbarblary@gmail.com
St. Vincent de Paul... Phil W., 480.961.1610 ext. 315
Women's Spirituality... Nora, nmphillips@cox.net

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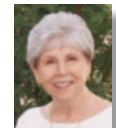
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A Note From The SJB Principal



Thank you for helping us sell out in record time!

Waitlist for tickets is available at www.sjbosco.org/gala

If you aren't able to attend in person, you can still participate in the online silent auction the night of September 28.

We Also Need Your Help!

It takes our whole community to make this event a success

We are actively seeking items for the Gala's live and silent auction. Do you, your friends, or family members:

- Own a business?
- Have a season sports ticket?
- Own a timeshare/vacation home?
- Know a celebrity?
- Have gift cards or gift certificates that you are not going to use?

Email theboscogala@sjbosco.org if you can help!

We are also graciously asking local businesses to help support the Gala by becoming a Sponsor.

Please email theboscogala@sjbosco.org if you have questions.

