

September 22, 2024

## **Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

The Lord upholds my life.

~ Ps 54

#### "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.

Monday - Thursday 9 am - 5 pm Fridays 9 am - 3 pm

Office Hours ———

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, 9/23

8:15 am | Mass 6:30 pm | Bible Study Tuesday, 9/24 8:15 am | Mass 6:15 pm | JAM

6:15 pm | JOF

Thursday, 9/26

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

6 pm | Adult Choir

Friday, 9/27

8:15 am | Mass 5 pm | Confession Wednesday, 9/25

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

Saturday, 9/28

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

#### Mass Intentions—

Sunday, 9/22/2024

7 am | Denton Strayer † 9 am | Parishioners

11 am | Loretta Davenport †

5 pm | Mike Donahue †

M 9/23 | Alfred & Anita Gomez † 9 am | Ann Flemer †

Tu 9/24 | Marie Klingenbeck † W 9/25 | Al & Margie Gomez (lvg) 5 pm | Peggy Keefe †

Th 9/26 | Kayla Kidney (lvg)

F 9/27 | Christina Loh † Sat 9/28 | All Vincentians

Sunday, 9/29/2024

7 am | Jack Fink †

11 am | Parishioners

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## **Liturgy & Administration**

## **Scripture Readings**

Monday: Prv 3:27-34; Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-

9/23 4ab, 5; Lk 8:16-18

(St. Pius of Pietrelcina)

**Tuesday:** Prv 21:1-6, 10-13; Ps 119:1, 9/24 27, 30, 34, 35, 44; Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday: Prv 30:5-9; Ps 119:29, 72, 89,

9/25 101, 104, 163; Lk 9:1-6

**Thursday:** Eccl 1:2-11; Ps 149:1b-2, 9/26 3-4, 5-6a, 9b; Lk 9:7-9

**Friday:** Eccl 3:1-11; Ps 144:1b, 2abc,

9/27 3-4; Lk 9:18-22

(St. Vincent de Paul)

**Saturday:** Eccl 11:9—12:8; Ps 90:3-4, 5-6,

9/28 12-13, 14, 17; Lk 9:43b-45

**Sunday:** Nm 11:25-29; Ps 19:8, 10, 12-9/29 13. 14 (9a): Jas 5:1-6:

13, 14 (9a); Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

## 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 apostles argue, each one claiming to be the greatest of Christ's followers.

But Christ shows them who is truly the greatest — a child, one who has no thought of his own importance, one who has no ambition.

Let's seek to be like that child.

**©LPi** 

Pastor - Fr. James Aboyi, VC x 302 fraboyi@stbenedict.org Parochial Vicar - Fr. Augustine Acheme, VC x 306

fraugustine@stbenedict.org

Office Manager -

Children's Formation - Sr. Delia Obenza, OP x 307 srdelia@stbenedict.org

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

Deacon - Ed Winkelbauer x 300 dcned@stbenedict.org

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

Parish Staff

## Scripture Reflection

#### True Greatness in Humility and Service

This Sunday's readings call us to reflect on the true meaning of greatness in the eyes of God. Through the wisdom of Scripture, we are invited to move away from selfish ambition and towards a life of humility, service, and peace.

The first reading from the Book of Wisdom reveals the hostility that the righteous often face from the wicked. The just one is persecuted because his life stands in stark contrast to the ways of the world. The wicked say, "Let us beset the just one because he is obnoxious to us" (Wis 2:12). This passage reflects the reality that those who strive to live according to God's commandments may often find themselves opposed by those who reject divine wisdom. The reading challenges us to consider how we respond to injustice and persecution, reminding us that God is ultimately our defender.

The responsorial psalm echoes this theme of trust in God's protection: "The Lord upholds my life" (Ps 54:6b). The psalmist expresses confidence in God's saving power, even in the face of danger and opposition. This assurance allows us to stand firm in our faith, knowing that God hears our prayers and sustains us through all trials.

In the second reading, James addresses the destructive nature of jealousy and selfish ambition, which lead to disorder and conflict. He contrasts this with "the wisdom from above" which is "pure, then peaceable, gentle, compliant, full of mercy and good fruits" (Jas 3:17). James calls us to cultivate a life marked by peace and righteousness, rather than being driven by worldly desires. This reading reminds us that true wisdom and greatness come from living in harmony with God's will, seeking peace, and bearing good fruit in our actions.

The Gospel brings this message to its fullest expression in the teachings of Jesus. As He and His disciples journey through Galilee, Jesus tells them of His impending passion and resurrection. However, the disciples, preoccupied with their own concerns, argue about who among them is the greatest. Jesus responds by turning their understanding of greatness upside down: "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all" (Mk 9:35). To illustrate His point, He takes a child - symbolizing the lowly and dependent - and places the child in their midst, saying that whoever welcomes such a one in His name welcomes Him and the One who sent Him.

These readings challenge us to reevaluate our notions of greatness. In a world that often values power, status, and self-promotion, Jesus calls us to embrace humility and service. True greatness, according to Jesus, is found not in elevating ourselves above others but in lowering ourselves to serve others with love and compassion.

This week, let us reflect on how we can live out this call to humility and service. Are there areas in our lives where we seek recognition or hold onto selfish ambition? How can we instead follow Jesus' example of self-giving love, placing the needs of others before our own? By embracing this path of humble service, we align ourselves with the wisdom of God and participate in the true greatness of His kingdom.

Let us seek to serve others with the heart of a child, welcoming all in the name of Christ, and trusting that in doing so, we receive not only Him but also the One who sent Him. Amen.

Fr. Augustine Acheme, VC

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#### **Current Events and More**

## 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** 

### **Your Pastoral Council**

The Parish Pastoral Council is a group of 9 elected and appointed members that serve as an advisory group to the Pastor and acts as a communication link between the congregation and the governing body of the church. Each month they have a meeting on the 1st Wednesday at 6:30 pm (except in December).

We would like to invite you to attend as an observer. Please understand that this is an observation role only and not meant to detract from our normal business agenda. Also, although you are invited to attend and observe the entire meeting, there may be times when you will be asked to leave for us to consider topics of a proprietary nature. It is truly our desire to maintain an open and accessible link while furthering our true goal of gratifying the mission of the Church.

Space is limited and the next meeting is on **Wednesday**, **October 2** at 6:30 pm. If you are interested in observing at one of the meetings, or simply want more information, please contact Russ Spencer, Council President, at *pastoralcouncil@stbenedict.org*.



## **Children's Monthly Mass**

Join us next **Sunday**, **September 29** at 9 am as we restart the monthly Children's Mass. This Mass is led by our St. Benedict youth who joyfully serve as Lectors, Hospitality Ministers, Choir Members and Altar Servers.

If your child is interested in serving in one of these ministries during the monthly Children's Mass, please contact Phil Arkfeld for more information or to sign-up. Email *parkfeld@stbenedict.org* or call **480.961.1610** x**311**.

## **Blessing of the Animals**

On **Saturday**, **October 5** at 10 am on the north side of the church, we will be celebrating the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, the Patron Saint of animals. It is customary that, in remembrance of St. Francis' love of creatures, animals are led to the churches for a special blessing ceremony. (Please remember to have your pet on a leash or in a travel carrier.)

## **Anointing Mass**

The next St. Benedict Anointing Mass will be on Saturday, October 19 at 11 am. We invite those who are in need of healing in their lives - physical, emotional or spiritual. Please RSVP with the parish office at 480.961.1610 ext. 300.

#### **Pastoral Care**

Please remember in your prayers *Kathy Barlow* and *Patricia Manarin* who died recently. We pray that their families and friends will feel God's healing embrace through the prayers and support of our faith community.

#### Safe Environment Reminder

Safe Environment Training renewals for all volunteers are DUE by the end of September! If you need assistance, please email *safeenvironment@stbenedict.org* 

### Faith Formation and More

## Happenings in **Children and Youth Faith Formation**

Sunday, Sept 22 Liturgy of the Word with Children **CGS** Teen Sacramental Prep **EPIC** 

> Tuesday, Sept 24 JAM Journey of Faith

Sunday, Sept 29 9 am Children's Mass **CGS** Teen Sacramental Prep **EPIC** 

## **OCIA Meets Regularly on Sundays**

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a process where adults and children, seven years old or older, are prepared for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion. Adults in other faith traditions who have been baptized and are wanting to become Catholic, as well as adults who were baptized Catholic but have not received other sacraments, participate in this process as well. Classes are ongoing and meet on Sundays.

If you have questions, are interested in becoming Catholic, or if you would like to learn more about the Catholic faith, register for OCIA by contacting Sr. Liza at srliza@stbenedict.org or call 480.961.1610 ext. 308.





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#### Ministries & More -

## **Knights of Columbus**

For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "ABBA, Father." (Romans 8:15)

God is so holy, so mighty, so awesome, and yet he bids us to call him "Abba Father." Abba is a term of endearment, familiarity, dependency, and love used by Jewish toddlers to address their fathers. Through the incredible gift of his Holy Spirit to us, God has given us this ultimate gift of availability, love, companionship, protection, and mighty care. The eternal and Almighty God invites us to approach him as our "Abba Father." Our God, our Lord, the Sovereign ruler of heavens, armies, and creator of the universe, is also our Abba!

#### **Announcements**

- John Dolan received his CUF degree last weekend.
- Congratulations to Aaron Avila our Knight of the Month for September.

#### **Events**

- Fourth degree assembly meeting, 9/26.
- Rosary Sunday 10/27

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

### St. Vincent de Paul

We wish to extend a huge thank you to the Knights of Columbus for their assistance in facilitating the St. Vincent de

Paul food drive this past weekend. They bless us with their continued support! We appreciate their efforts and are grateful! Additionally, thank you, thank you to our parishioners for their continued support in helping us to help others. We collected over 135 bags of food that will be extremely helpful in feeding our less fortunate neighbors! We are blessed!

## **BBQ** and Boot Scoot

Save the date for this year's BBQ and Boot Scoot on **Saturday, November 16** from 6 to 9 pm at the St. John Bosco School Courtyard and Multipurpose Room. At this



time the St. Benedict Events Committee is seeking donations of wine, gift cards, event tickets and silent auction items for the event. Bring your donations to the Parish or School office or email *events@ stbenedict.org* for pick up.

## **Blood Drive This Weekend**

Please consider giving the gift of life at the Blood Drive this **Sunday**, **September 22** between 8 am and 1 pm. The Bloodmobiles will be at SJB and "Walk-Ins" are welcome.

## **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

Lectors... Michele, micheleedison@aol.com
Legion of Mary... Heidi Hill, stblom@stbenedict.org
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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## A Note From The SJB Principal



Dear Parishioners.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your overwhelming support of this year's 2024-25 St. John Bosco Catholic School Gala. A special thank you goes out to our Title Sponsors, Silver Sponsors, Casino Sponsors, and Community Sponsors whose generosity has been instrumental in making this event a resounding success. We're thrilled to announce that the gala is SOLD OUT! This is a testament to our school's incredible sense of community. For those unable to attend in person, families may still participate in the exciting silent auction from the comfort of their homes. Please visit our website at *sjbosco.org/gala* for further details on how to be a part of this wonderful evening.

Once again, thank you for your unwavering support. Together, we're making a profound difference in the lives of our students.

Joyful blessings, Jamie Bescak, M.Ed., Principal 480.219.4848



