



February 2, 2025

## The Presentation of the Lord

“ **Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!** ”

~ Ps 24

“where all are welcome”

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 - 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](http://stbenedict.org/calendar)

#### Monday, 2/3

8:15 am | Mass

#### Tuesday, 2/4

8:15 am | Mass  
6:15 pm | JAM  
6:15 pm | JOF

#### Wednesday, 2/5

8:15 am | Mass  
6 pm | Children's Choir  
6:30 pm | Pastoral Council

#### Thursday, 2/6

8:15 am | Mass  
9 am | Legion Mary  
6 pm | Adult Choir

#### Friday, 2/7

8:15 am | Mass  
9 am | Adoration  
5 pm | Confession  
7 pm | "The Well"

#### Saturday, 2/8

8 am | Confession  
9:30 am | Baptism Class  
5 pm | Mass  
6 pm | Valentine's Dance

### Mass Intentions

#### Sunday, 2/2/2025

7 am | Paul Ramones †  
9 am | Megan Holmes †  
11 am | Jessica Senn †  
5 pm | Dcn. Doug Davaz †

F 2/7 | Femio Arce †

Sat 2/8 | Carlos Garcia †

#### Sunday, 2/9/2025

M 2/3 | Gilbert Gomez (lvg)  
Tu 2/4 | Rosa Patterson †  
W 2/5 | Foster Sdao †  
Th 2/6 | Christina Loh †

7 am | Steve McWilliams †

9 am | Janette Bechtold †

11 am | Chris Euzarraga †

5 pm | Theresa Cuprak †

## Liturgy & Administration

### Scripture Readings

**Monday:** Heb 11:32-40/Ps 31:20, 21, 22, 2/4  
 Heb 11:32-40/Ps 31:20, 21, 22, 23, 24/Mk 5:1-20

**Tuesday:** Heb 12:1-4/Ps 22:26b-27, 28, 2/5  
 Heb 12:1-4/Ps 22:26b-27, 28, 30-32/Mk 5:21-43

**Wednesday:** Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/Ps 103:1-2, 2/6  
 Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a/Mk 6:1-6  
*(St. Agatha)*

**Thursday:** Heb 12:18-19, 21-24/ 2/7  
 Heb 12:18-19, 21-24/  
 Ps 48:2-3-4, 9-11/Mk 6:7-13  
*(St. Paul Miki & Companions)*

**Friday:** Heb 13:1-8/Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 2/8  
 Heb 13:1-8/Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc/Mk 6:14-29

**Saturday:** Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Ps 23:1- 2/9  
 Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mk 6:30-34

**Sunday:** Is 6:1-2a, 3-8/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 2/10  
 Is 6:1-2a, 3-8/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8 (1c)/1 Cor 15:1-11/  
 Lk 5:1-11

### Parish Contributions

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

Regular Contributions for **December 2024**

**Actual: \$ 96,276\***

**Budget: \$ 87,500**

\* Realm

Online: \$ 55,426

Cash/Check: \$ 40,850

*(Contributions are recorded on a monthly basis per fiscal year*

*July 1, '24 to June 30, '25)*

### Debt Reduction

Dec 31, 2024

Church Construction Loan: \$4,500,000

Current Loan Balance: \$4,434,292

Monthly Mortgage Payment: \$20,913

Fiscal YTD Principal Paid: \$33,037

Fiscal YTD Interest Paid: \$92,929



### Live the Liturgy

Anna and Simeon saw greatness and glory in the face of a tiny babe. Jesus was insignificant in the eyes of others who looked for the Messiah in the gilded halls of kings. But Anna and Simeon recognized God when they saw him. Do we?

©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)

Parish Manager - Agustin Vizcarra, x 304  
[avizcarra@stbenedict.org](mailto:avizcarra@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)

Contact the Parish Office at 480.961.1610

Deacon - J. C. Gonzalez x 300  
[dcngonzalez@stbenedict.org](mailto:dcngonzalez@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 - Erin Fish x 303  
[efish@stbenedict.org](mailto:efish@stbenedict.org)

## Scripture Reflection

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### The Presentation of the Lord

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ,

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, a profound moment of encounter and revelation. Mary and Joseph bring their child, Jesus, to the temple, obedient to the Law of Moses. Yet, what unfolds is far beyond a simple ritual—it is the fulfillment of God’s promises and a moment of transformation for all who behold Him.

We are drawn to the figures of Simeon and Anna, two faithful servants who waited patiently for the coming of the Messiah. Simeon’s words echo with joy and profound trust: *“My eyes have seen your salvation.”* This proclamation captures the essence of our faith: encountering Christ changes everything. In the fragile form of an infant, Simeon and Anna saw the light of the world. This teaches us that God often reveals Himself in ways we least expect—through humility, silence, and simplicity.

The presentation of Jesus is also a moment of offering. Mary and Joseph, in their poverty, offer two turtle doves, a humble gift that points to the sacrificial love of Christ. This moment invites us to reflect on our own offerings to God. What do we bring before the Lord? Like Mary and Joseph, we are called to give what we have, no matter how small, with hearts full of faith and trust.

As we hold this sacred moment in our hearts, let us remember that Christ is the light who dispels the darkness of fear, sin, and despair. Just as the light shone in Simeon’s arms, it now shines within us. But this light is not meant to be hidden. We are called to carry it into the world, illuminating the lives of others with acts of kindness, love, and faithfulness.

Today, as we reflect on this feast, let us ask ourselves: Have we allowed Christ, the light of the world, to shine fully in our hearts? Are we, like Simeon and Anna, willing to wait patiently and faithfully for His revelation in our lives? And are we ready to share this light with a world longing for hope?

May the Lord grant us the grace to recognize His presence, to offer our lives to Him in humility, and to proclaim His salvation with joy. Amen.

Fr. Augustine Acheme, VC

## Current Events and More

### Welcoming Sunday

This weekend on **February 2** after the Sunday 9 am Mass, you are invited to come to Welcoming Sunday where you can mix and mingle with our priests, members of the Pastoral Council, Staff and new parishioners in the Narthex at the back of the church. Refreshments will be available. We look forward to seeing you there!

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration this month will be on **Friday, February 7** 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.

### St. Benedict Security Ministry

The Porters of St. Joseph are looking for a few more good men to help oversee security during Masses, especially the new Spanish Mass. For more information or to volunteer, contact Greg Bedell at [security@stbenedict.org](mailto:security@stbenedict.org)

### 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)  
 Gift Shop... Lisa, [lhattula@outlook.com](mailto:lhattula@outlook.com)  
 Hospitality... David, [davidjschenach@gmail.com](mailto:davidjschenach@gmail.com)  
 Knights of Columbus... John, [jgarrity43@aol.com](mailto:jgarrity43@aol.com)  
 Lectors... Melissa, [melissa729@gmail.com](mailto:melissa729@gmail.com)  
 Legion of Mary... Heidi Hill, [stblom@stbenedict.org](mailto:stblom@stbenedict.org)  
 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](mailto: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, [nmphilips@cox.net](mailto:nmphilips@cox.net)

### Charity and Development Appeal

The theme this year is "Hope Does Not Disappoint." Get ready for CDA coming up the weekend of February 15/16!

### Pastoral Care

Please remember in your prayers **Evelyn Smith**, **Jim Vande Putte** and **Stephen Wieczorek** 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.

### Rummage Sale

Save the date for the parish Rummage Sale on **Saturday, March 8** between the hours of 7 am and 2 pm at the St. John Bosco School courtyard and MPR. If you are considering a spring clean, please save the good stuff for us! We will be storing items in Annexes 1 and 2

We gladly accept small appliances, books, furniture, CDs, DVDs, electronics, jewelry, housewares, clothes, bedding, games, tools, toys, holiday decor, etc.

We cannot accept any car seats or large appliances such as dishwashers, stoves, or old model TVs; however, working refrigerators and freezers will be accepted.

Also needed are many volunteers!

For more information, contact Gayle at 480.773.5300 or [rummagesale@stbenedict.org](mailto:rummagesale@stbenedict.org).

Join us for a

**LENTEN**  
**MISSION RETREAT**

**March 20-22, 2025**

FR. STEPHEN MARIA LOPEZ, OP - Facilitator

Details for the schedule will be posted soon.



## Faith Formation and More

### Happenings in Children and Youth Faith Formation

Sunday, Feb 2

Liturgy of the Word With Children

CGS

Teen Sacrament Prep.

EPIC

Tuesday, Feb 4

JAM

JOF

Sunday, Feb 9

Liturgy of the Word With Children

CGS

Teen Sacrament Prep.

EPIC

Tuesday, Feb 11

JAM

JOF

### Welcome to "The Well"

Join us for *The Well* on Friday, February 7, an evening dedicated to Adoration, Praise, Worship, and an inspiring talk, designed for adults. Doors open at 7 pm. For more information contact Erin Fish at [efish@stbenedict.org](mailto:efish@stbenedict.org) or call 480.961.1610 ext. 303.



We look forward to coming together in worship and seeking God's presence at The Well.



# ADULT FAITH FORMATION BIBLE STUDY

TUESDAY @ 6:30 PM

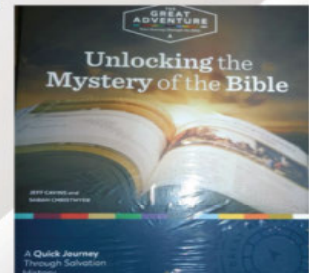
St. John Bosco, Art Room

Save the dates

February 4, 11, 25

March 4, 25

April 1, 8, 15



## Thank you!!



- Thank you to everyone who attended the In Person Bingo Raffle! We had record attendance and a great time was had by all!
- Thank you for your generosity and we'll see you at the next In Person Bingo Raffle in July 2025!!
- See the St. Benedict Instagram or Facebook for all the photos!

Special thanks to Karen and Eamonn Ahearn!



### Blessing of the Throats



This Monday is the Memorial of St. Blaise who was a physician, bishop and martyr.

One of the miracles he performed during his life involved the curing of a boy suffering from a fish bone in his throat. From this event, and because Blaise had been a physician, the belief was created that St. Blaise could cure most illnesses, but especially those of the throat. Thus began the blessing of the throats. Catholics believe that through this special blessing we are not only freed from disease, but from everything keeping us from God.

Please join us on **Monday, February 3** at the 8:15 am Mass in the parish Chapel for a blessing of the throats.

## Ministries & More

### Knights of Columbus

*"My eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples."* (Luke 2:30-31)

**Events:** Valentine's Day Dance on **Saturday, February 8**, \$70 per couple. Tickets are available after each Mass.

Monthly meeting on **Thursday, February 13** at 6 pm in Annex 3.

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  
[jgarrity43@aol.com](mailto:jgarrity43@aol.com)

### St. Vincent de Paul



In this Sunday's Gospel, we learned of the first sword in Mary's heart - the knowledge of her Son's pending death. Mary found the courage to carry on in her faith in the Lord. Your gifts to the poor can help them overcome their fears and doubts of food and security. Please consider donating the following this weekend:

- Hair Products
- Dish Soap
- Toilet Paper
- Deodorant
- Shaving Products
- Feminine Hygiene
- Laundry Detergent

If you are in need of St. Vincent de Paul assistance or information, call the parish office at **480.961.1610** ext. 315.

**(602) 441-2744**

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### A Note From The SJB Principal

Dear Parishioners,

What a fantastic week we had! Our entire community came together to celebrate Catholic Schools Week through a variety of engaging events. We sincerely thank our dedicated SJB families, faculty, and staff for investing their time and effort to make the week extraordinary for our students. The teamwork among teachers, staff, parents, and students shows that St. John Bosco is much more than a school – it’s a thriving community.

It was wonderful to see so many familiar faces at the Open House admiring the students’ impressive art and science displays and enjoying the choir’s performance. Special thanks to our School Advisory Board Members and Campus Ambassadors who provided campus tours for prospective families. Watching our seventh and eighth graders – not long ago preschool students – now confidently guiding tours and sharing their own St. John Bosco experiences was truly a proud moment.

Open Enrollment is now accessible to the general public, and we’ve already welcomed a sizable number of new students for the coming year. We can’t wait to introduce them to all that SJB has to offer and we’re certain they’ll love being part of our SJB family!

Thank you!

Jamie Bescak, M.Ed., Principal  
480.219.4848

**2025-26 APPLICATIONS OPEN**

**Preschool-8th grade**

We are a faith community dedicated to academic excellence and inspire children to follow their dreams!

St. John Bosco Catholic School [www.sjbbosco.org/admissions](http://www.sjbbosco.org/admissions) 480-219-4848

**SUNDAY – FEB 23rd**  
**12:30 – 3:00**  
**DESERT BREEZE PARK**

**RSVP now on the Parish website!**

**JOIN US for the Parish Picnic!**

**IT'S FREE!**

**Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Dessert, Games, Raffle Baskets and everyone’s favorite Lip Sync Battle!**

Sunday, February 23, 2025 12:30 - 3:00 at Desert Breeze Park  
660 N. Desert Breeze Blvd East, Chandler, AZ 85226  
Chandler, AZ 85226 (South side of Park, enter off Chandler Blvd)

Questions or to volunteer email Lani at [events@stbenedict.org](mailto:events@stbenedict.org)

Beginning Feb 1, 2025  
Drop off your donations at Annex 2!  
Saturdays - after 5 pm Mass  
Sundays - after 9 am, 11 am, 5 pm Masses

**St. Benedict Rummage Sale**  
March 8, 2025 7am to 2 pm  
in the SJB MPR

for more info email [Rummagesale@stbenedict.org](mailto:Rummagesale@stbenedict.org)

or call Gayle at 480-773-5300