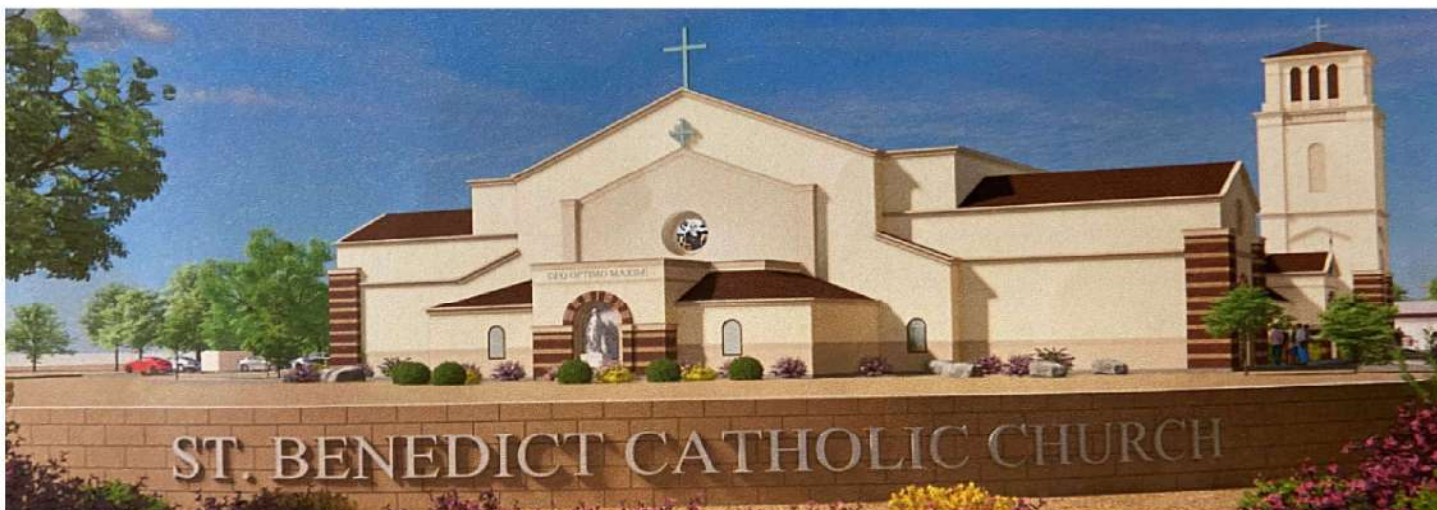




October 4, 2026  
**27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

“ ***The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.*** ”  
 ~ Is 5:7a

**“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 celebrates the presence of God in all creation through 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**

Sat 5 pm, Sun 7, 9, 11 am, 1 pm-Spanish, 5 pm  
 Weekdays Mon-Thurs, Chapel: 8:15 am  
 Friday, Chapel: 8:15 am

**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)

|                                                                                                        |                                                            |                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday, 10/5</b><br>8:15 am   Mass                                                                  | <b>Tuesday, 10/6</b><br>8:15 am   Mass                     | <b>Wednesday, 10/7</b><br>8:15 am   Mass<br>5:30 pm   Legion of Mary<br>6:30 pm   Pastoral Coun.                |
| <b>Thursday, 10/8</b><br>8:15 am   Mass<br>6 pm   Adult Choir<br>6:30 pm   Span Choir<br>7 pm   K of C | <b>Friday, 10/9</b><br>8:15 am   Mass<br>5 pm   Confession | <b>Saturday, 10/10</b><br>8 am   Confession<br>9:30 am   Baptism Class<br>11 am   Anointing Mass<br>5 pm   Mass |

**Mass Intentions**

**Sunday, 10/4/2026**

7 am | Parishioners  
 9 am | Joe J. Lopez †  
 11 am | Ethyl Faye Morrison †  
 1 pm | Victoria Galvan †  
 5 pm | Michelle Sanchez †  
 M 10/5 | Marcia Jean Hayes †  
 Tu 10/6 | Michael De Dios (lvg)  
 W 10/7 | Mary Zuzich †  
 Th 10/8 | Ken Maciula †

F 10/9 | Lloyd Klofanda Jr. †  
 Sat 10/10 | Ignacio Mena †

**Sunday, 10/11/2026**

7 am | Frances Abel (lvg)  
 9 am | John & Bunny Perrero †  
 11 am | Frank Galvan †  
 1 pm | Parishioners †  
 5 pm | Hisayoshi Ushijima †

## Liturgy & Administration

### Scripture Readings

|                   |                                                                                 |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday:</b>    | Gal 1:6-12/Ps 111:1b-2, 7-9,<br>10/5 10c/Lk 10:25-37                            |
| <b>Tuesday:</b>   | Gal 1:13-24/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-<br>10/6 15/Lk 10:38-42                             |
| <b>Wednesday:</b> | Gal 2:1-2, 7-14/Ps 117:1bc, 2/<br>10/7 Lk 11:1-4<br>(Our Lady of the Rosary)    |
| <b>Thursday:</b>  | Gal 3:1-5/Lk 1:69-75/<br>10/8 Lk 11:5-13                                        |
| <b>Friday:</b>    | Gal 3:7-14/Ps 111:1b-2, 3-4,<br>10/9 5-6/Lk 11:15-26                            |
| <b>Saturday:</b>  | Gal 3:22-29/Ps 105:2-7/<br>10/10 Lk 11:27-28                                    |
| <b>Sunday:</b>    | Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-<br>10/11 4, 5, 6/Phil 4:12-14, 19-20/<br>Mt 22:1-14 |

### Parish Contributions

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

Contributions for  
August 2026

**Actual: \$ 96,081\***

**Budget: \$ 92,000**

**Aug. Mortgage Support:  
\$ 23,722**

\* Realm

Online: \$ 43,556

Cash/Check: \$ 52,525

(Contributions are recorded  
on a monthly basis  
per fiscal year  
July 1, '26 to June 30, '27)

### Debt Reduction

As of August 31, 2026

|                            |             |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| Church Construction        |             |
| Loan:                      | \$4,500,000 |
| Current Loan Balance:      | \$4,019,819 |
| Monthly Mortgage Payment:  | \$ 21,682   |
| Fiscal YTD Principal Paid: | \$ 36,943   |
| Fiscal YTD Interest Paid:  | \$ 27,586   |



**St. Benedict**  
Catholic Church

## Ways to Give



#### SCAN THE QR CODE

Open your phone's camera and scan the QR code to give online.



#### TEXT TO GIVE

Text **STBEN** to **73256**

This number will never send unsolicited texts to you. To cancel further messages, text **STOP**. If you need assistance with text giving, text **HELP**. Standard text message and data rates may apply.

#### GIVE ONLINE

Visit our secure giving page:

**[onrealm.org/stbenedict/give/now](https://onrealm.org/stbenedict/give/now)**



For easier giving and to view your giving records, sign up for a Realm account at **[onrealm.org/stbenedict](https://onrealm.org/stbenedict)**

### Parish Staff

Pastor - Fr. Manasseh Iorchir, VC x 300  
[frmanasseh@stbenedict.org](mailto:frmanasseh@stbenedict.org)

Parochial Vicar - Fr. Emmanuel Ogla, VC x 300  
[fremmanuel@stbenedict.org](mailto:fremmanuel@stbenedict.org)

Parish Manager - Mary Larson x 304  
[mlarson@stbenedict.org](mailto:mlarson@stbenedict.org)

Children's Formation - Sr. Novie Omictin, OP x 307  
[srnovie@stbenedict.org](mailto:srnovie@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 - Joseph Ramos x 300  
[dcn.joseph@stbenedict.org](mailto:dcn.joseph@stbenedict.org)

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

Dir. Evangelization/Formation - Sr. Ana 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)

## Gospel Reflection

### CREATION IS GOD'S GIFT; CARING FOR IT IS PART OF OUR CHRISTIAN RESPONSIBILITY



My Brothers and Sisters In Christ,

Today the Church invites us to look at something we sometimes take for granted: God's Creation. We wake up to the light of the sun, breathe the air, drink water, eat food, see trees and flowers, hear birds singing, and yet we can easily forget that all these are gifts. Creation is not simply something around us; it is God's work and a gift entrusted to us.

The first reading from the Book of Wisdom tells us that people can look at the beauty and power of creation and recognize the one who made it. The stars, the oceans, the wind, the mountains, the flowers and the human person all tell us something about God. Creation is therefore like a book written by God. When we destroy creation carelessly, we are not simply damaging nature; we are failing to respect a gift that reveals God's wisdom and goodness. This is why caring for creation is important. We care for creation because we love the Creator. We care for the earth because it does not belong to us absolutely. It has been entrusted to us.

In the second reading, St. Paul gives us an even deeper reason. He says: *"In Him were created all things in heaven and on earth... all things were created through Him and for Him."* Everything belongs ultimately to God. Then Paul says something beautiful: *"In Him all things hold together."* This means that creation is not a collection of unrelated things. Human beings, animals, plants, water, land and the atmosphere are interconnected. When we pollute rivers, destroy forests, waste resources, poison the soil or treat animals and other living things irresponsibly, the consequences do not remain isolated. They eventually affect human beings especially the poor and vulnerable who often depend most directly on the land and natural resources. This is where Christian responsibility becomes very practical. Caring for creation is also caring for our brothers and sisters.

In today's Gospel, Jesus directs our attention to creation to *"Learn from the birds of the sky and the way the wildflowers grow."* Jesus teaches us to look at creation and discover God's providence. The birds and flowers remind us that God cares for what He has made. But Jesus is not telling us to become careless or irresponsible. He is teaching us not to become slaves to our possessions, excessive consumption and material accumulation. This gives us an important question: How much is enough? Sometimes we take more than we need, waste what others lack, consume without thinking about tomorrow, and treat the earth as though it exists only for our convenience. Jesus tells us instead: *"Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness."* When God comes first, we begin to use creation differently. This will be likened to how children learn to use resources in the home. We teach them not to be wasteful but to acknowledge God's blessings and know that there are a lot of homeless and hungry people. By this, we become grateful rather than wasteful, responsible rather than careless, and generous rather than selfish. What happens when we do not care for creation? When creation is neglected, the consequences eventually come back to us and environmental degradation can place greater burdens on people who are already vulnerable. But there is also a spiritual consequence. We can lose our sense of gratitude. We begin to see creation merely as something to consume rather than a gift to receive and protect. Pope Francis reminds us in *Laudato Si'* that, *"The earth itself, burdened and laid waste, is among the most abandoned and maltreated of our poor."* Dear friends in Christ, be reminded that creation is God's gift, and a gift that comes with responsibility.

So let us ask ourselves: What can I do differently? Can I waste less water? Can I avoid unnecessary waste? Can I keep my surroundings clean? Can I plant and protect trees? Can I use God's gifts more responsibly? Can we teach our children to respect creation? We do not need to save the whole world by ourselves. We begin with what is in our hands. Let us remember: God created the earth, Christ holds it together, and we have been entrusted with its care. When we care for creation, we give glory to the Creator and leave a healthier world for those who will come after us. May God help us to be more caring. Amen.

Fr. Emmanuel Ogla, VC

## Current Events and More

### Welcoming Sunday

This Sunday, **October 4**, after the 9 am Mass and the 1 pm Spanish Mass, you are invited to come to the Parish Welcoming. Here 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.

### Gospel of Life Collection

This weekend, **October 3/4**, we will have the Gospel of Life Collection. The goal of this appeal is to collect funds so that the Diocese of Phoenix can continue its mission to uphold the right-to-life of all people from conception to natural death. Envelopes will be located in the parish lobby and by the south doors to the church.

### Pastoral Care

Please remember in your prayers **Sarah Barney**, **Violet Byron** and **Angel Claudio** 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.

### Blessing of the Animals

We celebrate the life of St. Francis of Assisi on **Saturday, October 3**, at 9 am when we do a blessing of the animals here at St. Benedict! Come to the church, under the bell tower, with your pet on a leash or in a carrier for a special blessing.

### Anointing Mass

Our next Anointing Mass will be held on **Saturday, October 10** at 11 am in the church. We invite those who are in need of healing in their lives - physical, emotional or spiritual. Please RSVP with Amy in the parish office at **480.961.1610 ext. 300**.

### EMAIL AND TEXT ALERT

Some parishioners are receiving emails and text messages that suggest Fr. Manasseh, our deacons or staff are requesting a favor or a gift. These are "**SPAM**" and should be **immediately deleted**. We would never send an email or text for these reasons. Unfortunately, we have no way to restrict or stop these emails or texts. Thank you for your understanding.

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**ST BENEDICT CATHOLIC CHURCH**



**FALL**  
**Fiesta!** **FUNdraiser**  
**FUN FOOD ENTERTAINMENT**

**Saturday, November 14, 2025 6:00 p.m.**  
**Held at SJB MPR**

**TICKETS ON SALE SOON!**  
 ~ Adult Tickets: \$20.00  
 ~Children 12 & Under: \$10.00  
 ~ Family cap \$60.00

**SILENT AUCTION   RAFFLE   ALCOHOL PULL   LIVE MUSIC**

**\*AUTHENTIC MEXICAN DINNER \***

All proceeds go toward the St. Benedict ministries and outreach programs  
 Email [events@stbenedict.org](mailto:events@stbenedict.org) for more information



## Faith Formation and More

### Children and Youth Faith Formation

**Sunday, Oct 4**

**NO** Catechesis of the Good Shepherd  
**NO** Children's Liturgy of the Word  
 Teen & Young Adult Mass  
 LifeTeen (MS & HS)

**Tuesday, Oct 6**

**NO** Journey of Faith  
**NO** Teen Sacramental Prep

**Sunday, Oct 11**

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd  
 Children's Liturgy of the Word  
 Teen & Young Adult Mass  
 LifeTeen (MS & HS)

**Tuesday, Oct 13**

Journey of Faith  
 Teen Sacramental Prep

**Saint Benedict Youth Ministry Fundraiser**



**Scan me**



**Catholic T-SHIRT CLUB** SCAN THE QR CODE & OUR GROUP RECEIVES 20% OF ANY ORDER!

**IMPORTANT!** You **MUST** scan this QR code to access the site for our parish to get credit for your order.

|                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <p>We want to make a difference through our ministry, and this is where you can help!</p> |  <p>Purchase apparel through our QR code to support our mission and share the faith wherever you go!</p> |  <p>Orders will be shipped directly to you within 3-5 business days! Thank you for your support!</p> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**DEADLINE**  
10/17/26

Catholic T-Shirt Club is a small family business we're excited to partner with as we raise funds! A simple T-shirt can spark a conversation, inspire someone, and plant a seed of faith. Go out and preach the Gospel at all times. Use shirts when necessary.

## Vocations

*"The stone that the builders rejected  
 has become the cornerstone."  
 (Matthew 21:42)*

Jesus, the cornerstone, calls us to build His Church. In holy matrimony, couples become cornerstones of love and faith for a family. Have you talked to your children about their vocation? Pray with them and walk alongside them as they discern how God may be calling them to build up God's Church.

If you would like more information about the priesthood or consecrated life, reach out to the Vocation Office at the Diocese of Phoenix at **602.354.2000**. You can also go to the website at <http://dphx.org/vocations>.

## Children's Liturgy at 9 am Mass

Are you looking for a great way to have your child be more engaged at Mass?

Liturgy of the Word with Children happens during the 9 am Mass (on most Sundays) through May 2027. Children in Kindergarten through 3rd grade are invited to listen to God's Word and participate in the Liturgy in a way that helps them understand the importance and sacredness of Mass. No fee is required, but children do need to be registered for everyone's safety. Go to the parish website and click on the link on the banner titled "R.E. Registration."

Would you like to volunteer for this rewarding ministry? Both Leads and Assistants are needed. Time commitment varies: give as little or as much as you can share. Contact Sr. Novie in the parish office at **480.961.1610 ext. 307** or [snovie@stbenedict.org](mailto:snovie@stbenedict.org).

## Ministries & More

### Knights of Columbus

Thank you to the St. Benedict Community, Brother Knights, and families.

Knights in Action:

- Visited a Brother Knight
- Hosted and served dinner to Life Teen
- Led the Parish Rosary
- Assisted with Adoration sign-ups
- Hosted the Soccer Challenge at SJB

Reminders:

- Knights Potluck: **Saturday, October 3**, from 6–10 pm in Annexes 1 & 2
- Next Meeting: **Thursday, October 8**, at 7 pm in Annex 1
- We are excited to announce the start of our Women's Auxiliary for the Knights of Columbus at St. Benedict. The first meeting will also be on **Thursday, October 8** at 7 pm in Annex 2.

Thank you for your continued support,

Vivat Jesus,

Luis Acosta, Grand Knight

Fr. Bob Binta Council # 12246

*"Once a Knight, always a Knight of Columbus"*

[Luisacosta0821@yahoo.com](mailto:Luisacosta0821@yahoo.com)



### Getting Back on Track

Feeling the stress of life's changes? Struggling with behavior problems? Having relationship issues? Coping with the loss of a loved one? Catholic Charities Community Services is here to support you. The trained counseling staff provides understanding, compassionate support to strengthen families and assist those in crisis. They help set goals, overcome barriers, access resources, and help people better understand themselves, their abilities and their potential. Fees are on a sliding scale.

For more information, please call 602.997.6105.

### St. Vincent de Paul



The good news of this weekend's Gospel is that all we need to do is to let God tend us in order for us to produce good fruit. All we need to do is to be faithful; God will take care of the rest. Please help SVdP bring the love and mercy of Jesus to those who feel left out and abandoned. Please consider donating any or all of the following:

- Taco Kits
- Canned Chicken
- Canned Soup
- ChefBoyRDee Meals
- Hamburger Helper
- Pasta Sauce

As always, if you find yourself in need of St. Vincent de Paul assistance or information, please call the parish office at 480.961.1610 ext. 315.



Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Pray for Us!

#### GUEST SPEAKERS:



**Most Reverend  
Artur Bubnevych**  
Bishop of the Holy Protection  
of Mary Byzantine Catholic  
Eparchy of Phoenix



**Monsignor  
James Patrick Shea**  
President of the University of Mary  
Bismarck, North Dakota

## Arizona Rosary Celebration

*Bring family, friends, and  
your heartfelt prayer petitions.*

**Sunday  
October 18, 2026**

**2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

Doors open at noon for  
adoration, confession, exhibits.

#### Phoenix Convention Center

South Building, 33 S. 3rd St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Visit: [AzRosary.net](http://AzRosary.net)  
E-mail: [info@AzRosary.net](mailto:info@AzRosary.net)

**Free  
Admission**



**Knights of  
Columbus**



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF PHOENIX



**Let's Pray the Rosary, Arizona!**

## Ministries & More

### Gift Shop

Thank you for your continued support of our St Benedict Gift Shop.

We offer a wonderful selection of faith-filled gifts and devotional items. Bibles, jewelry, rosaries, prayer items and the new 2027 Missal!

Please remember to stop by after Mass to see all of our new arrivals.



### Ministry Contacts

Annulments... [nullity@stbenedict.org](mailto:nullity@stbenedict.org)  
 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... Marianne, [mbiegler@cox.net](mailto:mbiegler@cox.net)  
 \* EOHSJ... Rudy, [rcavolina@gmail.com](mailto:rcavolina@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, [giftshop@stbenedict.org](mailto:giftshop@stbenedict.org)  
 Hispanic Ministry... Dcn. JC, 480.961.1610 ext. 300  
 Hospitality... David, [davidjschenach@gmail.com](mailto:davidjschenach@gmail.com)  
 Knights of Columbus... Luis, [luisacosta456@gmail.com](mailto:luisacosta456@gmail.com)  
 KofC Auxiliary... Teresita, [teresita.amaro@outlook.com](mailto:teresita.amaro@outlook.com)  
 Lectors... Melissa, [melissa729@gmail.com](mailto:melissa729@gmail.com)  
 Legion of Mary... Luz, [stblom@stbenedict.org](mailto:stblom@stbenedict.org)  
 Music/Choir... Phil A., 480.961.1610 ext. 311  
 Pastoral Care... Terri, [pastoralcare@stbenedict.org](mailto:pastoralcare@stbenedict.org)  
 Pastoral Council... Pam, [pastoralcouncil@stbenedict.org](mailto:pastoralcouncil@stbenedict.org)  
 Porters of St. Joseph... Greg, [security@stbenedict.org](mailto:security@stbenedict.org)  
 Prayer Blanket... Shannon, [smdurham65@gmail.com](mailto:smdurham65@gmail.com)  
 Refugee Resettlement... Dave, [zabordave@gmail.com](mailto:zabordave@gmail.com)  
 Sacristans... Larry, [zbarblary@gmail.com](mailto:zbarblary@gmail.com)  
 St. Padre Pio Prayer... Roman, [stpadrepio@stbenedict.org](mailto:stpadrepio@stbenedict.org)  
 St. Vincent de Paul... Alex, 480.961.1610 ext. 315  
 Sanctity of Life... Julie, [life@stbenedict.org](mailto:life@stbenedict.org)  
 Women's Spirituality... Nora, [nmphillips@cox.net](mailto:nmphillips@cox.net)  
 \* Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem

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### Sanctity of Life Ministry

Please join us on **October 15, 2026** as we pray the Pro Life Rosary with the women and men at Clearwater Senior Living Center.

You'll recognize these prayer warriors as the beautiful and faithful parishioners who sit in the front row at the 11 am Mass on Sunday. We meet the third Thursday of every month at Clearwater Senior Living from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm.

Please contact Julie at [Life@stbenedict.org](mailto:Life@stbenedict.org) for more information.

## Reflexión sobre las Escrituras

### LA CREACIÓN ES UN REGALO DE DIOS; CUIDARLA FORMA PARTE DE NUESTRA RESPONSABILIDAD CRISTIANA



Hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

Hoy la Iglesia nos invita a fijarnos en algo que a veces damos por sentado: la Creación de Dios. Nos despertamos con la luz del sol, respiramos el aire, bebemos agua, comemos, vemos árboles y flores, oímos cantar a los pájaros y, sin embargo, podemos olvidar fácilmente que todo ello son dones. La Creación no es simplemente algo que nos rodea; es obra de Dios y un don que se nos ha confiado.

La primera lectura, tomada del Libro de la Sabiduría, nos dice que las personas pueden contemplar la belleza y el poder de la creación y reconocer a quien la creó. Las estrellas, los océanos, el viento, las montañas, las flores y el ser humano nos hablan a todos de Dios. La creación es, por tanto, como un libro escrito por Dios. Cuando destruimos la creación de forma imprudente, no solo estamos dañando la naturaleza, sino que estamos faltando al respeto a un don que revela la sabiduría y la bondad de Dios. Por eso es importante cuidar de la creación. Cuidamos de la creación porque amamos al Creador. Cuidamos de la tierra porque no nos pertenece de forma absoluta. Nos ha sido confiada.

En la segunda lectura, san Pablo nos da una razón aún más profunda. Dice: «En Él fueron creadas todas las cosas, en el cielo y en la tierra... todas las cosas fueron creadas por medio de Él y para Él». En última instancia, todo pertenece a Dios. A continuación, Pablo dice algo hermoso: «En Él se mantienen unidas todas las cosas». Esto significa que la creación no es un conjunto de cosas inconexas. Los seres humanos, los animales, las plantas, el agua, la tierra y la atmósfera están interconectados. Cuando contaminamos los ríos, destruimos los bosques, malgastamos los recursos, envenenamos el suelo o tratamos a los animales y al resto de seres vivos de forma irresponsable, las consecuencias no se limitan a un ámbito aislado. Acaban afectando a los seres humanos, especialmente a los pobres y vulnerables, que a menudo son quienes dependen más directamente de la tierra y de los recursos naturales. Es aquí donde la responsabilidad cristiana adquiere un carácter muy práctico. Cuidar de la creación es también cuidar de nuestros hermanos y hermanas.

En el Evangelio de hoy, Jesús dirige nuestra atención hacia la creación para que «aprendamos de las aves del cielo y de cómo crecen las flores del campo». Jesús nos enseña a contemplar la creación y a descubrir la providencia de Dios. Las aves y las flores nos recuerdan que Dios cuida de lo que ha creado. Pero Jesús no nos está diciendo que seamos descuidados o irresponsables. Nos enseña a no convertirnos en esclavos de nuestras posesiones, del consumo excesivo y de la acumulación material. Esto nos plantea una pregunta importante: ¿cuánto es suficiente? A veces tomamos más de lo que necesitamos, desperdiciamos lo que a otros les falta, consumimos sin pensar en el mañana y tratamos a la Tierra como si existiera únicamente para nuestra comodidad. Jesús, en cambio, nos dice: «Buscad primero el Reino de Dios y su justicia». Cuando Dios ocupa el primer lugar, empezamos a utilizar la creación de otra manera. Esto se puede comparar con la forma en que los niños aprenden a utilizar los recursos en casa. Les enseñamos a no ser derrochadores, sino a reconocer las bendiciones de Dios y a ser conscientes de que hay muchas personas sin hogar y que pasan hambre. De este modo, nos volvemos agradecidos en lugar de derrochadores, responsables en lugar de descuidados y generosos en lugar de egoístas. ¿Qué ocurre cuando no cuidamos de la creación? Cuando se descuida la creación, las consecuencias acaban recayendo sobre nosotros, y la degradación medioambiental puede suponer una carga aún mayor para las personas que ya se encuentran en situación de vulnerabilidad. Pero también hay una consecuencia espiritual: podemos perder nuestro sentido de la gratitud. Empezamos a ver la creación simplemente como algo que consumir, en lugar de como un regalo que hay que recibir y proteger. El papa Francisco nos recuerda en *Laudato Si'* que «la propia tierra, agobiada y devastada, se cuenta entre los más abandonados y maltratados de nuestros pobres». Queridos amigos en Cristo, recordad que la creación es un regalo de Dios, y un regalo que conlleva una responsabilidad.

Preguntémonos, pues: ¿Qué puedo hacer de otra manera? ¿Puedo desperdiciar menos agua? ¿Puedo evitar los residuos innecesarios? ¿Puedo mantener limpio mi entorno? ¿Puedo plantar y proteger árboles? ¿Puedo utilizar los dones de Dios de forma más responsable? ¿Podemos enseñar a nuestros hijos a respetar la creación? No tenemos por qué salvar el mundo entero por nuestra cuenta. Empezamos por lo que está en nuestras manos. Recordemos: Dios creó la tierra, Cristo la sostiene, y a nosotros se nos ha confiado su cuidado. Cuando cuidamos de la creación, damos gloria al Creador y dejamos un mundo más saludable para quienes vendrán después de nosotros. Que Dios nos ayude a ser más solidarios. Amén.

Fr. Emmanuel Ogla, VC

## Ministerio hispano y más

### Misa de unción

La próxima misa de unción se celebrará el sábado 10 de octubre a las 11:00 h en la iglesia. Invitamos a todas aquellas personas que necesiten sanación en sus vidas, ya sea física, emocional o espiritual. Por favor, confirma tu asistencia con Amy en la oficina parroquial, llamando al 480.961.1610, ext. 300.



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**De 2:00 p.m. a 4:30 p.m.**

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### Domingo de bienvenida

Este domingo, 4 de octubre, tras la misa de las 13:00 h, os invitamos a asistir a la recepción parroquial. Allí tendréis la oportunidad de charlar y conocer a nuestros sacerdotes, a los miembros del Consejo Pastoral, al personal y a nuestros nuevos feligreses en el nártex, situado en la parte trasera de la iglesia. Se servirán unos aperitivos ligeros. ¡Esperamos veros allí!

### San Vicente de Paúl



La buena noticia del Evangelio de este fin de semana es que lo único que tenemos que hacer es dejar que Dios nos cuide para que podamos dar buenos frutos. Lo único que tenemos que hacer es ser fieles; Dios se encargará del resto. Por favor, ayuda a SVdP a llevar el amor y la misericordia de Jesús a quienes se sienten excluidos y abandonados. Por favor, considera la posibilidad de donar cualquiera o todos los siguientes elementos:

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Si usted se encuentra en necesidad de asistencia o información de San Vicente de Paúl, por favor llame a la oficina parroquial al 480.961.1610 ext. 315.



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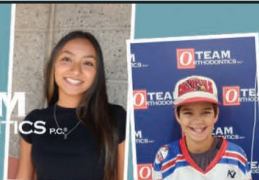
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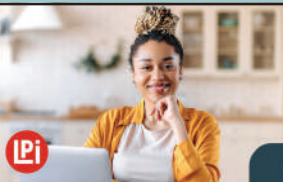
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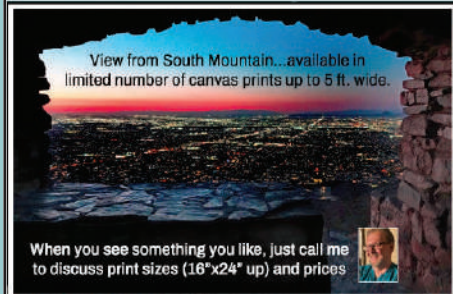
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## A Note From The SJB Principal

Dear St. Benedict Parishioners,



Please join us for this annual family-friendly evening celebrating all things fall. After a long Arizona summer, this is the night to gather, breathe a little easier, and enjoy one another.

Harvest Fest is a joint celebration of St. Benedict Catholic Church and St. John Bosco Catholic School. Come in costume and bring the whole family for an evening of fellowship, food, games, and community spirit.

Planned for all ages: carnival games, a pumpkin scavenger hunt, dunk tank, pie-eating contest, petting zoo, costume contest, lip sync battle, raffle baskets, and food for purchase.

Tickets and a full evening timeline will be available soon. We hope to see our parish and school families there!

Joyful Blessings,  
Jamie Bescak, M.Ed., Principal  
St. John Bosco Catholic School  
480.219.4848