



*"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

September 18, 2022

## Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**“ God . . . wills everyone to be saved  
and to come to knowledge of the truth. ”**

~ 1 Timothy 2:4



### 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.

### Upcoming Events

For a complete calendar of events, please visit [stbenedict.org/calendar](http://stbenedict.org/calendar)

#### Monday, 9/19

8:15 am | Mass

#### Tuesday, 9/20

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

#### Wednesday, 9/21

8:15 am | Mass

#### Thursday, 9/22

8:15 am | Mass  
6 pm | Choir Practice

#### Friday, 9/23

8:15 am | Mass  
5 pm | Confessions

#### Saturday, 9/24

8:30 am | Confessions  
10 am | Bereavement Support Group  
5 pm | Mass

### Office Hours

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

Closed Daily 12 pm - 1 pm

### Mass Schedule

Weekends and 8:15am Fridays at SJB MPR:  
Saturday 5 pm, Sunday 7, 9, 11 am, 5 pm

Weekdays Mon-Thurs in Annex 2 Chapel: 8:15 am

### Reconciliation

Fri 5-6 pm, Sat 8:30-9:30 am, in Annex 1

### Mass Intentions

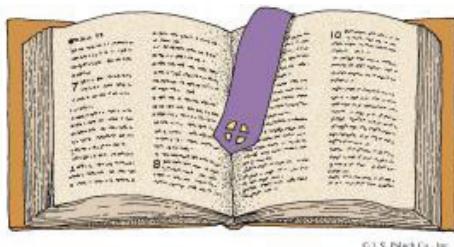
**Sunday, 9/18/2022** Th 9/22 | Ignacio Gil †  
7 am | Lamberto Sanchez † F 9/23 | Maria Gil †  
9 am | Emil Senn † Sat 9/24 | Ben & Evelyn  
11 am | Parishioners Korczyk †

**Sunday, 9/25/2022** M 9/19 | Joyce Perdue †  
Tu 9/20 | Ben & Evelyn  
Korczyk † W 9/21 | Emil Senn †  
7 am | Ladislao Ramirez †  
9 am | Emil Senn †  
11 am | Bunny Bessler †  
5 pm | Parishioners

## Liturgy & Administration

### Scripture Readings

- Monday:** Prv 3:27-34; Ps 15:2-5;  
9/19 Lk 8:16-18
- Tuesday:** Prv 21:1-6, 10-13; Ps 119:1,  
9/20 27, 30, 34, 35, 44; Lk 8:19-21  
*(Ss. Andrew Kim Tae-gon &  
Paul Chong Ha-sang)*
- Wednesday:** Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Ps 19:2-5;  
9/21 Mt 9:9-13  
*(St. Matthew)*
- Thursday:** Eccl 1:2-11; Ps 90:3-6, 12-14,  
9/22 17bc; Lk 9:7-9
- Friday:** Eccl 3:1-11; Ps 144:1b, 2abc,  
9/23 3-4; Lk 9:18-22  
*(St. Pius of Pietrelcina)*
- Saturday:** Eccl 11:9 – 12:8; Ps 90:3-6,  
9/24 12-14, 17; Lk 9:43b-45
- Sunday:** Am 6:1a, 4-7; Ps 146:7-10;  
9/25 1 Tm 6:11-16; Lk 16:19-31



### “Living Our Faith, Building Our Home” Capital Campaign As of August 2022

Campaign Pledges: \$ 3,548,859  
Collected Campaign Pledges: \$ 2,679,521

### Presider Schedule\*

- the Week of  
September 19-25, 2022*
- Monday** 8:15 am - Fr. James
- Tuesday** 8:15 am - Fr. James
- Wednesday** 8:15 am - Fr. Manasseh
- Thursday** 8:15 am - Fr. Manasseh
- Friday** 8:15 am - Fr. Manasseh
- Saturday** 5 pm - Fr. James \*\*  
9 am - Fr. Manasseh \*\*  
11 am - Fr. Manasseh \*\*  
5 pm - Fr. James \*\*

*\*Please note: this schedule is subject to change without notice.*

*\*\*Dcn. Ed - Homily*

### Parish Contributions

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

#### Regular Contributions for August 2022

(Contributions are recorded on a monthly basis  
per fiscal year: July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023)

Actual: \$ 56,246\*

Budget: \$ 71,230

\* *Faith Direct & Realm Online: \$ 37,271  
Cash Contributions: \$ 4,362  
Check Contributions: \$ 14,313*

## A Reflection by Fr. Manasseh

---

### “YOU CANNOT SERVE GOD AND MAMMON.”

The Readings this weekend prescribe for us the right attitude a Christian should have towards the acquisition of, and the disbursement of, wealth. The Prophet Amos, one of the champions of social justice in the Old Testament, offers a descriptive rendition of prevailing dishonest, arrogant and oppressive attitudes of the wealthy towards the needy. The prophet reveals that the wealthy in Israel regard religious practices like the Sabbath rest as an irritable impediment to profit. He accused them of measuring out less and charging more by tempering with the scales. He warned that if the oppressed had no way of seeking redress, God would certainly not let social injustice of such magnitude slide.

The level of social injustice in our time, and sometimes around us, is almost palpable. The pursuit of earthly happiness through money and other forms of wealth has robbed many of compassion, a constitutive feeling common to all human beings. The goal of many seems to be to rake in the money at all cost without caring if people's lives are negatively affected or damaged in the process. In addition, we seem to have forgotten that the observance of the Sabbath rest is still part of the Ten Commandments and obligatory for all Christians. The Prophet Amos reminds us that God is the giver of time and wealth and that a lifestyle of self-indulgence and indifference to the living condition of the less fortunate is a sure way to attract Divine wrath.

In the Gospel passage, Jesus told the parable of the astute servant who, upon discovery that he was about to lose his lucrative stewardship, set upon reducing the debts owed his master by debtors in order to pre-qualify himself for their goodwill when he would eventually lose his present employment. Note that his master did not in any way praise or encourage his dishonesty; rather, he commended his astuteness. The world encourages an attitude in which we can “use people to gain things.” Jesus reversed this: “use things to gain people.” Pagan religions seem to suggest that we sacrifice people in order to gain material wealth; Christianity refutes this erroneous claim, and instead holds that we ought to sacrifice material goods in order to gain spiritual wealth. Charity, a virtue which the possession of earthly goods allows us to practice, can truly open the gate of Divine Mercy.

May we be aided by Divine Grace to always choose God over the lure of mammon.

Please be kind and may God bless you.

Fr. Manasseh

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

**Parochial Vicar - Fr. Manasseh Iorchir, VC** Ext 306  
[frmanasseh@stbenedict.org](mailto:frmanasseh@stbenedict.org)

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

**Children's Formation - Heather Mooney** Ext. 308  
[hmooney@stbenedict.org](mailto:hmooney@stbenedict.org)

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

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

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

**Youth Ministry - Clare Gisla** Ext. 307  
[cgisla@stbenedict.org](mailto:cgisla@stbenedict.org)

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

## Ministries and More



The September Welcoming event is this weekend, **Sunday, September 18**, after the 9 am Mass. Meet Fr. James, members of the parish Pastoral and Finance Councils, staff and more. It's always a lot of fun and we hope you will plan to attend!

### Hand-Carved in Bethlehem

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



### Welcoming the Stranger

The Refugee Resettlement Ministry at St. Benedict has recently completed its commitment to assist a family from Guatemala. We are looking for more volunteers to help assist a new family — perhaps from Afghanistan or Ukraine. Volunteers primarily work with a family on learning English, but also with things like setting up a budget and navigating systems such as shopping, health care, transportation, school, and other aspects of American culture. The commitment from our volunteers is fairly short-term, and is very flexible based on the work and school schedules of the refugees and the choice of the volunteers. Volunteers are required to obtain fingerprint clearance cards and criminal background checks prior to working with refugees. If you are able to spend two hours every week or two to support a family recently granted asylum, please consider this ministry. Previous volunteers have invariably remarked how much the experience has enriched their lives. For more information, please contact Dave Zabor at **480.889.4676**.

### Update on the Construction of Our New Worship Space

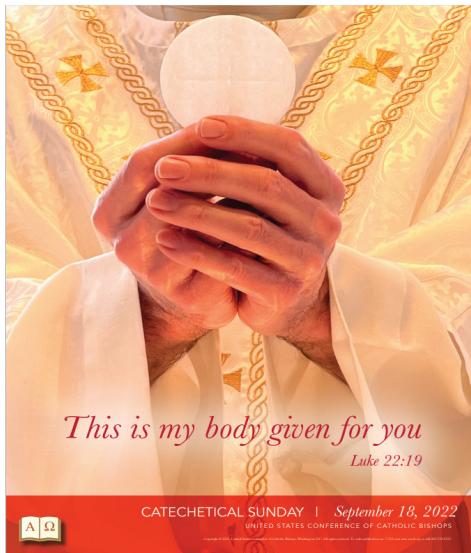
The ABC stone will be spread next week in preparation for pouring of the slabs. Concrete has been ordered for next Wednesday for pouring the slabs. Workers will be saw-cutting the east and west walls for the i-beams that will support the loft. The choir loft decking is 4 to 6 weeks out which may impact the pouring of the west slab. We need to allow the heavy equipment access to construct the loft infrastructure. The masonry on the north and south side of the buildings will commence after the slabs are poured. We will see the walls starting to go up.

Photos: The Sacristies ~ The Sanctuary work is waiting for choir loft steel ~ The ABC stone is delivered



## Faith Formation and More

---



Each year, the Catholic Church in the United States designates the third Sunday in September as “Catechetical Sunday”—a day to celebrate and pray for the Church’s mission to share the Gospel with all people. This year’s theme is, “*This is my body given for you.*”

This weekend we commission and send forth all of our St. Benedict Catechists who, by virtue of their Baptism, play a significant role in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Each of them has answered God’s call to share the gift of faith with others as they deepen their own faith. May they be inspired and guided by the Holy Spirit.

**Catechists for St. Benedict Catholic Church 2022-2023**  
*(Ministries of Baptism preparation, RCIA, Journey of Faith,  
 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, JAM, EPIC and Children’s Liturgy)*

Luis Acosta	Elsa Aguayo	Jamie Bescak
Marianne Biegler	Dewayne Byrnes	Lance Cordell
Julie Edwards	Bobbie Frink	Ken Garcia
Margie Gomez	Laura Guild	Stephanie Herring
Veronica Hoffman	Charity Hollywood	Mary Jane Livens
Robin Madrigal	Marilyn Nemecek	Christina Nordvall
Natalie Petersen	Nora Phillips	Nolan Pollio
Nazario Prieto	Sean Rodriguez	Tracy Randolph
Vickie Schmitz	Audra Sein	Katie Skvarce
Stephanie Sommers-Stout	Russ Spencer	Jennifer Swenson
Cecilia Trevizo	Amy Vaughan	Ed Winkelbauer
Linda Winkelbauer	Alice Harbeke	Marie Zawtocki

*Loving Father, we pray today for our Catechists.*

*We thank you for their gift of ministry in your Church. Grant them your wisdom that they may grow in the understanding and teaching of your Word. Grant them also your love that they may be fruitful heralds of your Word and lead others to love you.*

*We pray this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

## Current Events & More

### Knights of Columbus

Fifty-two years ago on September 3, 1970, Vince Lombardi lost his battle with cancer. On his deathbed, he said he was not afraid to die, although he regretted that he could not have accomplished more in life. In a speech to the Agonis Club at Suttmiller's Restaurant in Dayton, Ohio the year before he died, he said in part:

"The difference between a successful man and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather a lack of will because the character rather than education is man's greatest need and man's greatest safeguard because the character is higher than the intellect. The difference between men is in energy, in the strong will, in a singleness of purpose, and an invincible determination. But the great difference is in sacrifice, in self-denial, in love and loyalty, in fearlessness and in humility, in the pursuit of excellence and in the perfectly disciplined will, because this is not only the difference between men, this is the difference between great and little men."

#### Announcements:

Congratulations to David Portillo, *Knight of the Month*, and to Mike Low and his family for *Knights of Columbus' Family of the Month*.

#### Activities:

- Annual Soccer Challenge - SJB fields on September 24 (Contact: Luis, [luisacosta0821@yahoo.com](mailto:luisacosta0821@yahoo.com))

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

Vivat Jesus,

Isauro Amaro, Grand Knight

Fr. Bob Binta Council # 12246

480.748.1449

[grandknight@kofc12246.org](mailto:grandknight@kofc12246.org)



### St. Vincent de Paul

We are in need of continued donations in our SVDP pantry due to increased neighbor usage. Please consider donating.

Thank you!



- Spam
- Mustard
- Snacks
- Catsup
- Mayo
- Salad Dressing

Thanks to your generous donations, in August 2022 we helped 75 families with 130 bags of food and \$8,559 in shelter, utilities and other assistance. Please consider donating via Realm or the Poor Box to allow us to continue helping those in need.

### New Parishioners

- Jomarie Bradt
- Ana Gonzalez
- Anthony LaRocca
- Daniel Manzo
- Melanie Sala
- Mark Wilson



### Lay Dominican Information Night

Do you want to live your Catholic life in a spiritually profound way? Come learn about following Jesus as a Lay Dominican. There are currently 69 canonized Dominican Saints. Dominicans are a religious order of the Catholic Church and live a life dedicated to preaching, community, study and prayer. Our information night is in the Old Chapel at Holy Spirit Church on **Monday, October 3** at 6 pm. Brochures are at the back table of the MPR. Please contact Syndee Pokora at **602.909.3750** for more information.

**More**

## Arizona Rosary Celebration

The Catholic Diocese of Phoenix would like to extend an invitation to you to attend the 47th Annual Arizona Rosary Sunday Celebration 2022 from 2 to 4:15 pm at the Phoenix Convention Center located on Jefferson and 3rd Street.

This event is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, and being held this year on **Sunday, October 16**, dedicated to *Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians, Pray for Us!* Please prayerfully consider placing this event on your calendars and spending the afternoon with your family, friends, fellow parishioners and Knights praying the Rosary with the Bishop.

This is a colorful, spirit-filled event where over 6,000 have attended in previous years from around the state. In the past, participation for St. Benedict has been in the form of a Parish Rose Family, Parish Ministry Group(s), and our KofC Council 12246 with Banners for the procession. We have also had some of our wonderful Altar Servers who were previously selected to lead the Bishop in order to begin the event.

We hope you will consider this invitation to attend this spiritual event and maybe even participate in it. Sign up for transportation provided by the Knights after Masses or in the parish office. For more information, contact Ken at **480.250.1814**.

## Ministry Contacts

Audio-Visual... Scott, [av@stbenedict.org](mailto:av@stbenedict.org)

Altar Servers... Dcn. Ed, [edlinda@cox.net](mailto:edlinda@cox.net)

Art & Env... Cathy, [cathytempleton\\_1@cox.net](mailto:cathytempleton_1@cox.net)

Baptisms... Linda, [edlinda@cox.net](mailto:edlinda@cox.net)

EMHCs... Val & Al, [eeotz1@gmail.com](mailto:eeotz1@gmail.com)

Events/Helping Hands... Lani, [events@stbenedict.org](mailto:events@stbenedict.org)

Finance Council... Debbie, [dsmith@stbenedict.org](mailto:dsmith@stbenedict.org)

Hospitality... Karen, [karenmains@msn.com](mailto:karenmains@msn.com)

Knights of Columbus... Isauro, [480.748.1449](tel:480.748.1449)

## Pastoral Care

Please remember in your prayers **Arlene Barcia** and **Kent Howard** 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.

## Calling All Lectors

We are excited to have a special Lector Workshop presented by Steve Raml on **Wednesday, September 28**, at 6:30 pm in the St. John Bosco Chapel. Steve has an extensive background in television and radio, and has done a number of workshops throughout the Diocese of Phoenix. The title of the upcoming workshop is "Prayerful Proclamation: Preparation and Presentation." You won't want to miss this exciting event. Be sure to mark your calendars. Lector workbooks will be handed out at this event.

For more information contact Michele Edison at [micheleedison@aol.com](mailto:micheleedison@aol.com).

## Legion of Mary

Thank you for your interest in the Legion of Mary. Please "Save the Date" when we will have another Meet & Greet in late October. For more information, contact Theresa at **520.240.8713** or Ann Marie at **480.688.2096**, email [annieg7477@cox.net](mailto:annieg7477@cox.net).



Lectors... Michele, [micheleedison@aol.com](mailto:micheleedison@aol.com)

Linens... Mary Jane, [480.961.1610](tel:480.961.1610) ext. 304

Music/Choir/Projector... Phil A., [480.961.1610](tel: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)

Refugee Resettlement... Dave, [zabor@cox.net](mailto:zabor@cox.net)

Sacristans... Bette, [blaatsch69@gmail.com](mailto:blaatsch69@gmail.com)

St. Vincent de Paul... Phil W., [480.961.1610](tel:480.961.1610) ext. 315

Walking With Moms... Rama, [selenaj91907@hotmail.com](mailto:selenaj91907@hotmail.com)

Women's Spirituality... Nora, [nmphillips@cox.net](mailto:nmphillips@cox.net)

# INVEST LOCALLY



**Targeting local business makes good "Cents" –  
Get your name out there by advertising in local  
parish bulletins. Contact us today for your next  
advertising move and we will work with you for  
your next "AD THAT WORKS!"**

**Check us out at [www.jspaluch.com](http://www.jspaluch.com)**



**Grow Your Business, Advertise Here.**

**Support Your Church & Bulletin.**

**Free professional ad design & my help!**



email: [bordersc@jspaluch.com](mailto:bordersc@jspaluch.com)

[www.jspaluch.com](http://www.jspaluch.com)

**Call Claudia Borders**

**800.231.0805**

**ONE PARISH**

Grow in your faith,  
find a Mass, and  
connect with your  
Catholic Community  
with OneParish!



Download Our Free App or Visit  
[www.MY.ONEPARISH.com](http://www.MY.ONEPARISH.com)

## If You Live Alone You Need MDMedAlert!

**24 Hour Protection at HOME and AWAY!**

- ✓ Ambulance Solutions as Low as **\$19.95** a month
- ✓ Police ✓ Fire
- ✓ Friends/Family **FREE Shipping**
- FREE Activation**
- NO Long Term Contracts**



"I have peace of mind...  
Mom remains independent."

**CALL NOW! 800.809.3352**

**MDMedAlert**

Safe-Guarding America's Seniors Nationwide!



This Button SAVES Lives!  
As Shown GPS,  
Lowest Price Guaranteed!

**GPS Tracking w/Fall Detection**

Nationwide, No Land Line Needed

**EASY Set-up, NO Contract**

**24/7 365 Monitoring in the USA**

**catholicmatch®  
Arizona**



**CatholicMatch.com/myAZ**

**Protecting Seniors  
Nationwide**



**Medical Alert System**

**\$29.95/Mo. billed quarterly**

- One Free Month
- No Long-Term Contract
- Price Guarantee
- Easy Self Installation



**Call Today! Toll Free 1.877.801.8608**



**dr E**

**JANET EUZARRAGA DDS**  
cosmetic + family dentistry

**Get your best smile with Dr. E!**

**480.494.2435 | drEfamilydental.com**

4206 E. Chandler Blvd., Suite 20 | Phoenix, AZ 85048

017984 St Benedict Church (B)



**Ahwatukee Foothills  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Building Business, Building Community



For Ads: J.S. Paluch Co., Inc. 1-800-231-0805

[www.jspaluch.com](http://www.jspaluch.com)



**FEATURING...**

Restoration for:  
Veneers - Crowns  
All-on-4 Implants  
Smile Makeover

**HYGIENISTS:**

Michele King RDH & Carment Salai RDH

## LIVING TRUSTS & WILLS



*Preserve Your Legacy.*



**Call Today 480.346.0361**  
[rjpestateplanning.com](http://rjpestateplanning.com)

Schedule your **FREE** consultation  
or attend a workshop.

- Ask for Parishioner Discount
- Catholic Owned & Operated

**FINDaPARISH.com**

**Check It Out Today!**

**The Most Complete  
Online National  
Directory of  
Catholic Parishes**



**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**

# Please Patronize

The Sponsors Who Appear On This Bulletin. It Is Through  
Their Support That This Bulletin Is Made Possible.  
Business Owners Interested In Advertising Please Call



**J.S. Paluch**  
**1-800-231-0805**

Catholic Cruises and Tours and The Apostleship  
of the Sea of the United States of America  
Take your FAITH ON A JOURNEY.  
Call us today at 860-399-1785 or email  
[eileen@CatholicCruisesandTours.com](mailto:eileen@CatholicCruisesandTours.com)  
[www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com](http://www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com)

(CST 2117980-70)



MICHELE M. EDISON

*Certified Residential Specialist*

Associate Broker

*Professional! (602) 418-8696*

*Dedicated!*

*Experienced!*



**Get this  
weekly bulletin  
delivered by  
email - for FREE!**

Sign up here:

[www.jspaluch.com/subscribe](http://www.jspaluch.com/subscribe)

Courtesy of J.S. Paluch Company, Inc.



**See  
Your Ad  
in COLOR**

**Call J.S. Paluch Today!**

**1.800.231.0805**

**ZAWTOCKI LAW OFFICES, PLLC**

**Rich Zawocki**  
Attorney

*Personal Injury — Family Law — Guardianships*

**Office: 480-655-0733**

**Email: office@zawtockilaw.com**

**Marie Zawocki**  
Attorney

*Personal Injury — Family Law — Guardianships*

[www.zawtockilaw.com](http://www.zawtockilaw.com)

*Se habla español*

**Consider  
Remembering  
Your Parish in  
Your Will.**

For further information,  
please call the Parish Office.



### WHY IS IT

A man wakes up after sleeping  
under an ADVERTISED blanket  
on an ADVERTISED mattress  
and pulls off ADVERTISED pajamas  
bathes in an ADVERTISED shower  
shaves with an ADVERTISED razor  
brushes his teeth  
with ADVERTISED toothpaste  
washes with ADVERTISED soap  
puts on ADVERTISED clothes  
drinks a cup  
of ADVERTISED coffee  
drives to work

### WHY IS IT?

Please Cut Out This "Thank You Ad"  
and Present It The Next Time You  
Patronize One of Our Advertisers

# Thank You

Thank you for advertising in  
our church bulletin.  
I am patronizing your business  
because of it!

[www.jspaluch.com](http://www.jspaluch.com)

**CITADEL®**  
**LAW FIRM**

### ESTATE PLANNING

**Trusts • Wills • POAs**

**Preserve Assets for  
Spouse & Children**  
[www.CLFUSA.com](http://www.CLFUSA.com)



**FREE Consultation**  
**(480) 565-8020**

For Ads: J.S. Paluch Co., Inc. 1-800-231-0805



## A Note From The SJB Principal

Dear Parishioners,

For the many of you that have longed to send your children to Catholic school but thought it was financially out of reach, you will be happy to know that movement is afoot for the universal Empowerment Scholarship Account (ESA) program. We are hoping that the new legislation passed and signed into law this summer will allow many more families to secure tuition funding. Although we are cautiously optimistic, we were advised to sit tight and wait to see what happens after September 24, as the opposition to this new legislation has until then to gather enough signatures to halt the new legislation and place it on an upcoming ballot. If enough signatures are obtained, there will most likely be legal maneuvering to determine how a referendum will appear on a particular ballot (either this November or in 2024).

The Diocese of Phoenix Catholic Schools Office and the Arizona Catholic Conference have teamed up to provide a short but informative webinar to help families understand the new universal ESA program. A group of experts on ESA and Arizona tuition tax credits ("STOs") has been assembled to review what an ESA is, what the new ESA legislation entails, cautionary notes about the new legislation, and several areas of consideration when choosing to accept an ESA versus an STO scholarship. The link to this webinar is below or may be accessed directly on the homepage of our website ([www.sjbosco.org](http://www.sjbosco.org)) under "Notes from the Principal."

ESA Webinar: <https://vimeo.com/745491391/4e3932ea61>

We pray that this webinar is helpful to families considering the universal ESA program. Once the September 24 deadline passes, and we know if the new ESA legislation takes effect, SJB and the Catholic Schools Office will provide additional helpful information to families.

Joyful Blessings,

Jamie Bescak, M.Ed., Principal

480.219.4848