

Blessed Savior Catholic Parish

5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 28, 2024

Blessed Savior Parish Worship Site
8545 W. Villard Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53225
Parish Office/Center (mailing address)
8607 W. Villard Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53225
Phone: 414-464-5033

Rev. Romanus N. Nwaru, Pastor
Email: frromanus@gmail.com
Mass Times: Saturday, 4pm and Sunday, 9am
Morning Mass: Monday and Wednesday, 9am in the Chapel

Parish Staff:

Rev. Romanus N. Nwaru, Pastor
Email: frromanus@gmail.com
Barbara O'Donnell, Systems Coordinator
Christy Presser, Director of Music
Simon Biagui, Interim Christian Formation Coordinator
Priest in Residence: Rev. John Paul Otanwa, VC

Bulletin Deadline: Monday by Noon

Bulletin editors: Fr. Romanus, Isabel M. Piana
& Paulette Wymbs

Email: parish@blessedsavior.org

Website: www.blessedsaviorparish.org

Parish Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8am-4pm

Download our App:

For iPhone Text: ParishApp1 to 555888

For Android Text: ParishApp2 to 555888

Sacraments: Preparation for all sacraments are made through the parish office.

Ministry to the Sick: When a parishioner or family member is hospitalized, homebound, or in a nursing home, please call the parish office.

Anointing of the Sick:

Communal - Last Sunday of the month

Individual - Any time and also by appointment.

Baptisms: Call the parish office to set up an appointment.

Confessions: Call the parish office.

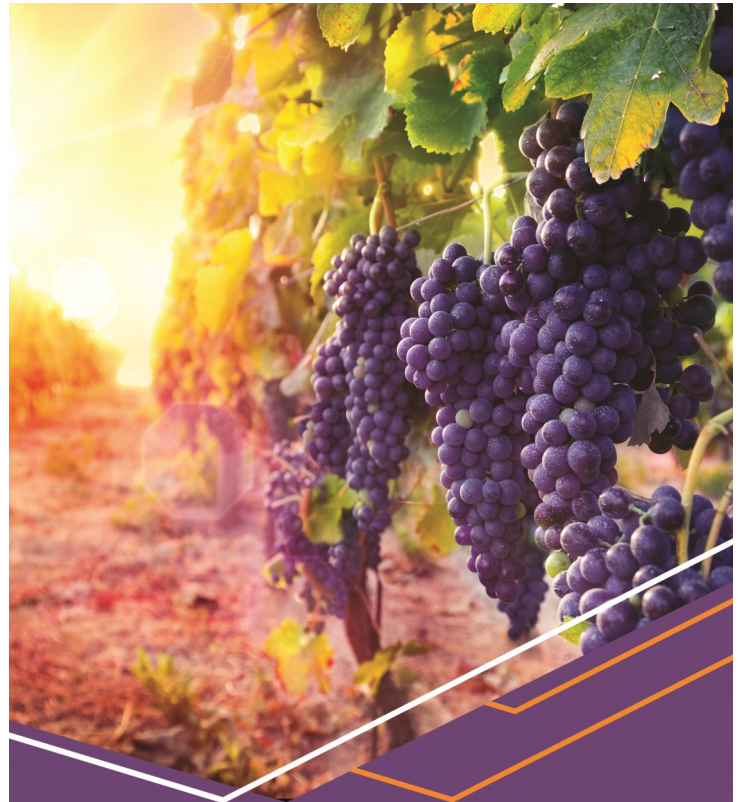
Communal Penance: Scheduled in Lent and Advent.

Funerals: Call the parish office in the event of the death of a loved one.

Weddings: Arrangements are to be made at least one year in advance by calling the parish office.

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry: 5558 N. 69 St.
414-464-3817. Open Monday, Tuesday, Friday, 8-10am

Pastoral Council Officers:	Parish Trustees:
Paul Bina, Chair	Curt Kandel, Treasurer
Steve Alioto, Vice-Chair	Christian Nwonye, Secretary
Mahalia Malone, Secretary	



5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit." - Jn 15:1-2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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School Website: www.blessedsaviorcatholicsschool.org

West Campus

8545 W. Villard Ave., 53225
414-464-5775

Natalie Galloway, Principal

East Campus

5140 N. 55th St., 53218
414-438-2745

Erin O'Donnell, Principal

South Campus

4059 N. 64th St., 53216
414-463-3878

Renee Manikham, Principal



Mission Statement

Blessed Savior Catholic Parish, a welcoming open community of diverse disciples of Christ, affirms a way of life through prayer, service, and sharing.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, 4/27 Vigil of 5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 (26a)/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

4:00pm Parishioners

Sunday, 4/28 5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 (26a)/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

9:00am † Marcella & Walter McCormick

Rosary at 8:15 am

Monday, 4/29 St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26

9:00am † Harvey & Merle Anderson

Wednesday, 5/1 St. Joseph the Worker

Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122: 1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Jn 15:1-8

9:00am † Joe Bajurny, Anna Bajurny, Helen Konrad

Saturday, 5/4 Vigil of 6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98: 1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

4:00pm † Bibiana Angafor
† Pa-Richard Angafor

Sunday, 5/5 6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98: 1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

9:00am † David Angafor

Rosary at 8:15 am

Mass Intentions for 2024



We are still taking Mass Intentions for 2024. If you wish to have Mass offered for a loved one, call the parish office, 414-464-5033. The stipend for Mass remains at \$10.

Money given for Mass intentions is a beautiful way to remember the goodness and generosity of those who have died. An offering for Mass is a gift for the community who prays it, whether family is present or not.



Anointing of the sick will take place in the chapel this Sunday, April 28, after the 9am Mass.

Anointing may also be done any time or by appointment. Please call the parish office. We also remember in our prayers those who are sick and cannot attend Mass.

Sunday Gospel Reflection:

In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus says that He is the 'true vine,' and his Father the 'vine grower' who prunes the trees to make them more fruitful. He also described those who belong to him as 'already pruned.' By describing himself as the 'true vine,' Jesus separates himself from false vines. It is another way of telling us that he is the true source of life. It is a cautionary note to those who might be inclined to pin their hope on earthly life, incapable of offering enduring happiness and fulfillment. Jesus is telling us that he is the source of real life that endures and leads to real happiness and fulfillment.

Jesus further describes himself as 'the vine' and his followers as 'the branches.' He is not 'a' vine but 'the' vine. It is another way of separating himself from other vines. For the branches to be fruitful, they have to be attached to the vine. Just as a branch cut off from the tree dries up and dies, those cut off from Jesus have no claim to life. To stay alive, one needs to remain attached to Jesus, the True Vine. From him we draw essential nourishment for life. Jesus nourishes us through the church's sacraments, especially the Holy Eucharist where we are nourished with his word, body and blood.

The theologian, Hans Urs Von Balthasar states that "The parable of the vine conveys a marvelous sense of assurance." It means that we are not "dependent solely on our fragile selves," but united with Jesus, "we can lead a useful and meaningful existence." He goes on to say that along with that assurance is the requirement, "Remain in me, as I remain in you" as we heard in today's gospel. This mandate is so urgent that one who does not remain in him withers and is pruned off and burned. The latter is a very scary thought for those who exercise their freedom by walking away from the church or abandoning their relationship with God.

— Fr. Romanus

Additional Reflection:

My friend and fellow pastor, Father Paul, noticed unsightly, overgrown trees near his parish church. He asked the maintenance crew to cut back the growth, which they happily did, telling him the trees would be much healthier and even fuller after a good pruning. A few days later, Father Paul received a letter from an irate man in the neighborhood who wrote, "Jesus would never prune trees like that. He loves trees, unlike you."

I suspect that the neighbor was not familiar with this week's Gospel in which Jesus says of his Father, "He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit" (John 15:2) I don't mean to pick too much on that fellow. He was perhaps ignorant of arboriculture. But I'd wager his main confusion was the pruning and removing quality of God's love. That confusion afflicts us all to some degree, doesn't it? It is just so darn easy to react negatively when God cuts something out of our lives and assume it's not his work at all. In the moment, all we see is the loss, and not the loving desire for future flourishing.

The cross is the great pruning of Christ's body. Jesus' rising is the brand-new growth. It is God's promise to us that all the painful pruning in life is leading us somewhere beautiful. What has been cut back or out in your life? A friend, an opportunity, a sense of certainty, a job, health, a relationship? This week, offer those dry branches to the one who lovingly prunes us in order to make our lives burst with verdant growth.

— Father John Muir

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You Are Invited!

FINAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING WITH

**MOST REVEREND
JEROME E. LISTECKI**

11TH ARCHBISHOP OF MILWAUKEE

Join us for a Mass of Thanksgiving in gratitude to God for the bond between Archbishop Jerome E. ListECKI — our shepherd for the past 14 years — and his flock, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Come wish Archbishop ListECKI well at a reception following this special Mass at our Mother Church as he prepares for retirement.

Sunday, June 9, 2024, 11 a.m.
*Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist,
Milwaukee*

Learn more about Archbishop ListECKI's retirement and details about the regional Masses at www.archmil.org/ListECKI



ARCHDIOCESE of MILWAUKEE



**Please join us for an evening of Eucharistic
Encounter to deepen our love and under-
standing of the Holy Eucharist**

**Saturday, May 4, 2024
After the 4:00pm Mass**

MINISTRY TO THE SICK

Please pray for the following parishioners and others with health problems and for all those in nursing homes and those with continuing health concerns:

**Judy Adrian, Jackie Ballering,
Gene Brunner, David Cheever, Rhey Clemente,
Catherine Felber, Katie Flynn, Robin Flynn,
Tom Glorioso, Gayle Hanus, Nadjah Hasan,
Diane Henry, Mike Hubbard,
Mary Anne Janke, Gertrud Kaegler, Amber King,
Karla Klaybor, Ellen Malloy, Barb Moroder,
Bob Oettinger, Jr., Wayne Ring,
Allan & Lorraine Rischman, Jeanne Rossner,
Thomas Schmid, Sharon Tym, Dale Verbanec
Mary Frances Williams**

*Lord Jesus, who went about doing good and healing all,
we ask you to bless our friends who are sick. Give them
strength in body, courage in spirit, and patience with pain.*

If you wish to add someone to the Sick List with their permission, call the parish office at 414-464-5033.

**Remember to pray for all the intentions in the book of
"Joys and Concerns" and all those who wrote them.**

Mark Your Calendars!

**May 11 and May 12, Mother's Day Blessings at
both Masses**

May 12, 9:00 a.m. First Holy Communion

**May 12, May Crowning of the Blessed Virgin,
Mother of God, inside of church after the 9:00 a.m. Mass**

**May 11 and May 12, Rose Sale \$3.00 each, sponsored by the
Human Concerns Commission, proceeds benefit Life Wisconsin
Right to Life.**



St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Food Drive

For the weekend of 5/4 & 5/5, the Food Panty could use your help filling the shelves with Spaghetti Sauce and Spaghetti Noodles.

**Thank you for your support and prayers.
May God bless you in return.**



Layette Collection continues this weekend and next weekend: 04/27—04/28, and 05/4 & 05/5.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support.



A message from your bulletin editors:

*When you are dog tired at night, it may be
because you growled all day!*