

BLESSED SAVIOR CATHOLIC PARISH

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 24 & 25, 2024

December 25, The Nativity of the Lord

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
Sr. Bernadette Kele, Business Manager
Barbara O'Donnell, Systems Coordinator
Marilyn Ratke, Interim Director of Music
Doyin Aderele, Administrative Assistant
Simon Biagui, Interim Faith Formation Coordinator
Priest in Residence: Rev. John Paul Otanwa, VC

Bulletin Deadline: Monday by Noon

Bulletin editor: Doyin Aderele
Email: parish@blessedsavior.org
Website: www.blessedsaviorparish.org
Webmaster: Bob Bracken III
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 for communion and/or anointing.

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 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:
Kevin Senfleben, Chair	Larry Kalbas, Treasurer
Steve Alioto, Vice-Chair	Christian Nwonye, Secretary
Bruce Mayer, Secretary	



THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

And the Word became flesh
and made his dwelling among us,
and we saw his glory,
the glory as of the Father's only Son,
full of grace and truth.
- Jn 1:14

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

Paula Dixson, 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, 12/21 Vigil of the 4th Sunday of Advent

Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

4:00pm † Robert Sbiral

Sunday, 12/22 4th Sunday of Advent

Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

9:00am † Rose Siga N'Dour & Emile Bass

Rosary at 8:15am

Monday, 12/23 St. John of Kanty, Priest

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66

9:00am † Clara & Bob Retzlaff

Tuesday 12/24 Christmas Vigil

Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

4:00pm Intention of our parishioners

Wednesday 12/25 Christmas Day

Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 (3c)/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

9:00am † John Pankratz

Parish office will be closed December 24th to 27th

Saturday, 12/28 Vigil of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 (see 5a)/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

4:00pm † Jessica Matuszak

Sunday, 12/29 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 (see 5a)/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

9:00am † Charles Carvalho & Helene Cabral

Rosary at 8:15am

Monday, 12/30

1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40

9:00am † Terry Knier

Tuesday 12/31 St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve

1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13/Jn 1:1-18

6:00 pm † Francis & Helen Brunner

Wednesday 1/1 Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

9:00am † Parishioners

Saturday, 1/4 Vigil of the Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-11

4:00pm † Cornelia & Wencel Bina

Sunday, 1/5 The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-11

9:00am † Joseph Minh Ly & Anna Ngoc Pham

Come and enjoy 15 mins of Christmas music before the Christmas masses!

There will be no Morning Mass during the month of January

Pastor's Sunday Reflection

Merry Christmas:

The lighting of the last Advent candle marks the conclusion of a journey we began four Sundays ago. Though Advent does not officially end until Christmas Eve, it feels great to light all four candles, completing the Advent circle. The Advent journey is both challenging and rewarding, and presents great opportunities for spiritual enrichment. With all four candles burning, we feel encircled by the light of Christ, with no dark corners of trepidation.

In ancient Greece, the winner of the Olympic race was not the first person who got to the finish line. At the start of a race, each runner received a lighted torch to carry for the duration of the race. The first person to get to the finish line with his light still burning wins the race. It was a novel idea intended to foster discipline and cut down on recklessness and irresponsible behavior.

We could also imagine Advent as a race of sorts where the runners are carrying lighted torches. The most important thing is not finishing the race, rather finishing with our torches still burning. Hence, the question is - are we still on fire with the love of God and neighbor? Are we still on fire with the spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation? Are we on fire with the desire for peace and justice?

The birth of Jesus re-establishes the channels of grace ruptured by the sins of our first parents, Adam and Eve. It also marks the beginning of a new epoch in human history permeated by divine love. Our response is one of humble gratitude to God for giving us a second chance. We are grateful to Jesus for his commitment to our salvation. He is the realization of the divine assistance long promised through the mouth of the prophets. We are also grateful to Mary for her willingness to embrace God's plan.

That Christmas is a very special time of the year is evident in the music, decorations, and the various festive celebrations but subdued the last couple of years due to the pandemic. However, we still celebrate in spite of the pandemic and everything else going in the world. As with every Christmas, there will be plenty of opportunities to encounter the secular characters of the season, namely, Santa Claus, Frosty the snowman, Rudolf the reindeer, and others. As we celebrate these characters, let us not forget the main character in this Christmas narrative, Jesus Christ Himself. Neither should we forget the major supporting characters, Mary and Joseph. Their openness to God's salvific plan made everything possible.

Christmas is not a merely secular holiday with some religious connotation as some claim, nor a baptized pagan celebration embellished with biblical meaning. The incarnation is at the root of our understanding of Christmas. Christmas gives us an opportunity to express gratitude to God for the extraordinary gift of his Son.

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One could say with impunity that Christmas gifts are token manifestations of God's generous initiative. The monetary value of a Christmas gift is not as important as what it symbolizes to both the giver and the receiver. As we unwrap our gifts this Christmas, we ought not forget the greatest gift of all - God's own Son. It is hard to imagine that a fragile baby born in a manger over two thousand years ago would accomplish so much. The hope and the future of humankind rested on his fragile shoulders, and he did not disappoint. We know, of course, that he was not merely human but also the second person of the Trinity. He is God incarnate and bears the invaluable gift of God's love for humankind and God's desire to save us from sin and death.

I pray that this Christmas will involve a gradual unwrapping of God's unconditional love for you and your loved ones this year and in the upcoming years.

Wishing Everyone Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Fr. Romanus

OPENING MASS

of the International Ordinary
Jubilee Year

Sunday, December 29 | 11 a.m.

CATHEDRAL OF SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST

Join Archbishop Jerome E. ListECKi as he solemnly
inaugurates the Ordinary Jubilee Year of 2025



"Hope Does Not Disappoint"
| ROMANS 5:5 |

Parish support Tax reminder

Those who make annual envelope contributions, please, be sure to send in your contributions before December 31. According to IRS regulations, all contributions must be received by December 31 to be considered donations in the 2024 calendar year.



May this Christmas end the present year on a cheerful note and make way for a fresh and bright New Year.

*We wish you a Merry Christmas
and a Blessed and Happy New Year!*

*Fr. Romanus,
Doyin, Sr. Bernadette, Marilyn, Barb, Simon and
Chuck*

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:

**Jantina Adriano , Jackie Ballering,
Gene Brunner, Rhey Clemente,
Catherine Felber, Katie Flynn, Robin Flynn,
Tom Glorioso, Gayle Hanus, Nadjah Hasan,
Diane Henry, Mike Hubbard, Gertrud Kaegler, Amber King,
Barb Moroder, Bob Oettinger, Jr.,
Allan & Lorraine Rischman,
Jeanne Rossner, Thomas Schmid,
Sharon Tym, Dale Verbanec,
Mary Frances Williams, Christine Lindstrum, Richard Piana,
Lucia Rivera, Kathy Zapfel**

*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.

2025 Parish Calendars are here

They are located in the front and back pews of the Church and on the round table in the Villard hallway. Take one calendar per household until every household gets a copy. Then, you will be welcome to take more copies.

Many thanks to Jelacic Funeral Home for sponsoring our calendars.

Saint Vincent DePaul's Food Pantry

For the weekend of **Dec. 28th and 29th** the Food Pantry could use your help filling the shelves with
Breakfast Cereal/Canned Fruit

Thank you for your support and prayers. May God bless you.

A message from your bulletin editor:



*Why was the snowman kicked out of
the grocery store?*

**Because they caught him picking his
nose.**