

Blessed Savior Catholic Parish

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2020

Blessed Savior Parish Worship Site: 8545 W. Villard Ave., Milwaukee, WI. 53225

Office Center (mailing address): 8607 W. Villard Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53225

Phone: 414-464-5033 Fax: 414-464-0079

Mass Times: SATURDAY 4PM, SUNDAY 9AM

Rev. Romanus N. Nwaru, Pastor

Email: blessedsavior@archmil.org

Weekdays Masses are suspended for now.

Email: frromanus@gmail.com



Parish Staff:

Rev. Romanus N. Nwaru, Pastor

Email: frromanus@gmail.com

Eileen Heck, Administrative Assistant

John Henry, Finance Director

Christy Presser, Director of Music

Penny Kannall, Bookkeeper

Bulletin Deadline: Monday by Noon

Carol Spychalski, Bulletin Editor

Email: blessedsavior@archmil.org

Website: www.blessedsaviorparish.org

Parish Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8am - 4pm

Closed Fridays

Join us on Facebook: [@blessedsaviorparish](https://www.facebook.com/blessedsaviorparish)

Download our App:

For iPhone Text: ParishAppl 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 - Suspended for now.

Individual - Call the parish office.

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

Confessions: Call the parish office.

Communal: Seasonal as announced.

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 Officer: Parish Trustees:

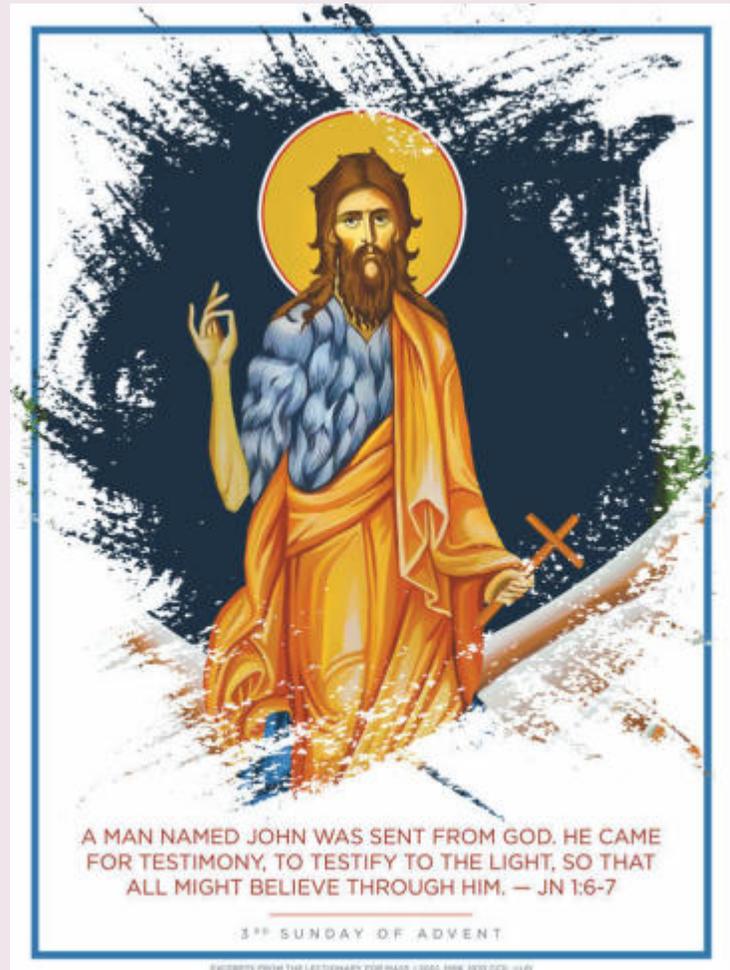
Yolanda Coly, Chair

Julia Atkinson, Treasurer

Simon Biagui, Vice-Chair

Mark Kuchta, Secretary

Denise Wesserle, Secretary



School Website: www.blessedsaviorcatholicsschool.org

East Campus

5140 N. 55th Street, 53218

414-438-2745

Barbara O'Donnell, Principal

West Campus

8545 W. Villard Ave., 53225

414-464-5775

Sarah Radiske, Principal

South Campus

4059 N. 64th Street, 53216

414-463-3878

Nadia Pope, 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.

STEWARDSHIP OF PRAYER

SATURDAY, 12/12 - VIGIL OF 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

4:00pm † Lorraine Schmidt
Rosary at 3:15pm



SUNDAY, 12/13 - 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

9:00am † Terry Leack
Rosary at 8:15am

SATURDAY, 12/19 - VIGIL OF 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

4:00pm † James Engel
Rosary at 3:15am

SUNDAY, 12/20 - 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

9:00am † Julius Machulak
Rosary at 8:15am



Dear Parishioners,

Sunday Reflection:

This is the third Sunday of Advent, commonly referred to as the *Gaudete* Sunday. The *Gaudete* Sunday resembles the fourth Sunday in Lent known as *Laetere* Sunday. On both Sundays, the *Gloria*, the *alleluia*, exuberant music and flowers usually restricted during these liturgical seasons are permitted. Rose-colored vestments symbolizing the celebratory disposition of these Sundays are suggested in place of the seasonal purple or violet. In the Anglican Church and some Lutheran Churches, the rose color replaces the Advent color of saron blue. You will also observe that on *Gaudete* Sunday, the third candle of the Advent wreath is rose in color.

Gaudete Sunday got its name from the introit of the Mass for the third Sunday in Advent, which states; “*Gaudete in Domino semper: iterum dico, gaudete,*” which means “Rejoice in the Lord always: Again, I say, rejoice.” On *Gaudete* Sunday, the Church calls on her members to celebrate the presence of God’s kingdom among us, though not yet fully realized. The renowned Catholic priest and professor, Henri Nouwen, states that there is difference between being happy and being joyful. He said that while happiness is dependent on external conditions, joy is the experience of knowing that you are unconditionally loved and that nothing including sickness, failure, emotional distress, oppression, war, or even death can take that love away.

As we get closer to Christmas, the air is saturated with joy and anticipation of Christmas that is felt by everyone. We hope the pandemic and the misery associated with it will not diminish the joy associated with Christmas. In some cases, people may have to dig deep to find the strength to overcome the pain and misery caused by this pandemic. That strength can only come through faith in God. Apart from the pandemic, true Christian joy could be diminished by sin and its effects. Hence, as we enter the third Sunday of Advent, we hear that familiar voice of John the Baptist reminding us of his role as a witness and calling us to turn from darkness to light. One should never underestimate the power of a witness. In our litigious American system, witnesses often make the difference between conviction and acquittal, life and death.

John states unequivocally that his role was “to testify to the light so that all might believe through him.” It is interesting that one needs to testify to the light. Ordinarily, the presence of light is self-evident and needs no further testimony or commentary. Light makes its presence known by doing what light does, that is, shine and illuminate. Witnessing to the light is essentially for the sake of the spiritually blind who are incapable of seeing the difference between light and darkness. Like John, we are called to witness to the light of Christ.

John’s testimony erases any doubts about the true light. When forced to disclose his identity, he admitted he was neither the Christ nor Elijah nor the Prophet. In the mind of his questioners, all three identities point to the same person – the Messiah. John was not denying that he was “a prophet” but rather denying that he was “the Prophet.” We know that John was possibly the greatest prophet of the new dispensation, but he never claimed to be the Messiah. When pressed further by his adversaries, John identified himself as “the voice of one calling out in the desert to make straight the way of the Lord.”

As to why he was baptizing, John replied that he was only baptizing with water for repentance, but the Messiah, who was already in their midst, will baptize with fire. He went further to say that he was unworthy to untie the strap of his sandal. Untying the strap of sandals was a role reserved for the lowly servants in a household. John says he was not even deserving of that role in relation to Christ. Talk of humility!

Have a great week!

Fr. Romanus



Our Deepest Sympathy

Fr. Romanus, staff and Blessed Savior parishioners express our sympathy to the families of

Bob Koch,
husband of Pat Koch
and
Mike Harack and
Dora Henderson, father-in-law and sister of
our west campus custodian
Andrew Anderson

May they find peace and happiness with our Lord Jesus in heaven. May God comfort those who mourn them and may their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen



ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE
BLESSED SAVIOR PARISH,
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16 @ 6:00PM



If you had your photo taken for our new photo directory, your copy is available at the Parish Office. Call Eileen at 414-464-5033 for your directory.

Publication dates for our bulletin change with the holidays.
Announcements for the 12/27 bulletin are due by noon on 12/14.

Announcements for the 1/3/21 bulletin are due by noon on 12/23.

Adopt a Bill Giving Tree

The Finance Council has set up an "Adopt a Bill" Giving Tree in the back of church. Your donations will help with heating, snow removal and liturgical supply costs. Please take an ornament from the tree with the suggested donation for that budgeted item. Return the ornament and your donation in an envelope and place it in the collection basket. Thank you for your generous support to Blessed Savior.



- **OBEY COVID GUIDELINES WHEN PICKING ORNAMENTS.**
- **ONLY 2 PEOPLE AT THE TREE AT A TIME. SANITIZER WILL BE AVAILABLE INDIVIDUALS MUST SANITIZE THEIR HANDS BEFORE PICKING AN ORNAMENT.**



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:

Amber Anderson, Jackie Ballering,
Bernetta, Stanley Bruskwicz,
Anna Emmerich, Nadjah Hasan, Diane Henry,
Mike Hubbard, Mary Ann Janke,
Ray & Gertrud Kaegler, Larry Kenny, Amber King,
Karla Klaybor, Marie Mirenda, Barb Moroder,
Ginny & Donald Naegele, Allan & Lorraine Rischman,
Anton Schleiss, Sharon Tym, Joseph Valent
Mary Frances Williams

Lord Jesus, You 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.

Names remain on the Sick List for 4 weeks and then are given to the Prayer Circle. For names to be removed sooner, call the parish office.

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



Thank you from Human Concerns Commission

Despite the problems of the world this year Blessed Savior parishioners once again showed how much they care for their

brothers and sisters who are less fortunate.

Each of the groups we donated gifts to, took bags of beautifully wrapped presents that will be enjoyed by all of their recipients.

Thank you everyone for your generosity. We are a very blessed parish.



Stewardship Pledge – Growing Our Faith Through Generosity

Just a reminder, if you haven't already done so, please remember to return your stewardship pledge card by mail to the parish office.

Christmas Gift Suggestions

To your enemy, forgiveness.
To an opponent, tolerance.

To a friend, your heart.
To a customer, service.

To all, charity.
To every child, a good example.
To yourself, respect.



ST. VINCENT de PAUL PANTRY

Food Drive for the weekend of **DECEMBER 19 & 20**. We could use everything to make a great Christmas dinner.

Thank you for your continued generosity

Thank you Human Concerns for all the wonderful gifts and for including the St Vincent de Paul Pantry in the Advent Giving Tree Collection



Fish Fry Dinner: December 18, \$13

Includes fries, coleslaw, rye roll, butter, tartar sauce

Dessert available for \$1 each:
Red Velvet cake



A message from your bulletin editor:
The world has turned upside down. Old folks are sneaking out of the house & their kids are yelling at them to stay indoors!

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