

# Blessed Savior Catholic Parish

## 3rd Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2018

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 Email: [blessedsavior@archmil.org](mailto:blessedsavior@archmil.org)



### Parish Staff

Rev. Romanus N. Nwaru, Pastor  
Email: [rromanus@gmail.com](mailto:rromanus@gmail.com)  
Eileen Heck, Administrative Assistant  
John Henry, Finance Director  
Christy Presser, Director of Music  
Penny Kannall, Bookkeeper  
Dave Liccione, Director of Faith Formation  
Email: [dliccione@stmmp.org](mailto:dliccione@stmmp.org)

Website: [www.blessedsaviorparish.org](http://www.blessedsaviorparish.org)  
Join us on Facebook: [@blessedsaviorparish](https://www.facebook.com/blessedsaviorparish)  
Download our App: For iPhone Text: bspmke1 to 555888  
For Android Text: bspmke2 to 555888

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

Mass Times: SATURDAY 4PM-SUNDAY 9AM  
Weekdays: Mon., Tues., Wed. 9am in the Chapel

Bulletin Deadline: Monday by NOON  
Carol Spychalski, Bulletin Editor

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

Sacrament of Christian Marriage: Arrangements are to be made at least one year in advance by calling the parish office.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Individual: Any time by appointment  
Communal: Seasonal as announced

Sacrament of Baptism: Contact the parish office to set up an appointment.

### Anointing of the Sick (Communal - Monthly)

Individual: Any time and also by appointment.

### Ministry to the Sick

When a parishioner or family member is hospitalized, homebound, or in a nursing home, please call the parish office to have someone bring them Communion or visit.

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry: 5558 N. 69 St.  
414-464-3817—Open Monday, Tuesday, Friday 8-10am  
Interfaith Older Adult Programs: 414-466-8858

Pastoral Council Officers — Parish Trustees  
Yolanda Coly, Chair Julia Atkinson, Treasurer  
Simon Biagui, Vice-Chair Mark Kuchta, Secretary  
Denise Wesslerer, Secretary



### Rejoice

Today is Gaudete Sunday, a Sunday for joy as we continue the season of Advent preparing our hearts and minds for Christ's coming. Our readings remind us to prepare for the Lord by practicing deeds of justice and mercy.

This journey leads us on the path that Jesus took through preaching and example - the path of diligent love for neighbor. Advent calls us to reflect on our weaknesses, to change direction and choose a path of righteousness to guide our lives.

In our daily challenges to balance home, school, family, careers and more, let us remember that God doesn't ask us to give more than we are capable of. He asks us to be faithful in small things, one at a time. Today, let us keep our minds focused on whatever work God is calling us to do with joy – one small thing at a time.

### East Campus

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

Barbara O'Donnell, Principal

### South Campus

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

Nadia Pope, Principal

### West Campus

8545 W. Villard Ave.,  
53225

414-464-5775

Sarah Radiske, 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, 12/15 - VIGIL OF 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT***Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18*

4:00pm † Terry Leack

Rosary at 3:15pm

**SUNDAY, 12/16 - 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT***Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18*

9:00am † Faustino G. &amp; Eliza Piana

Rosary at 8:15am

**MONDAY, 12/17 - ADVENT WEEKDAY***Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17*

9:00am In Thanksgiving from Rosina Vungo

6:30pm Filipino Catholic Ministry Mass

**TUESDAY, 12/18 - ADVENT WEEKDAY***Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25*

9:00am † Deceased Members of the Parish

**WEDNESDAY, 12/19 - ADVENT WEEKDAY***Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25*

9:00am Parishioners

**THURSDAY, 12/20 - SCHOOL MASS, WEST CAMPUS***Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38*

9:00am Intention of the Priest

**SATURDAY, 12/22 - VIGIL OF 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT***Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45*

4:00pm † John &amp; Lois Van Derven

Rosary at 3:15pm

Anointing of the sick after Mass in the Chapel

**SUNDAY, 12/23 - 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT***Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45*

9:00am † Debbie Wendal

Rosary at 8:15am

**GOSPEL MEDITATION:** In Christianity, we hear often about the "Good News." We might often associate it with Jesus' compassion to the poor, his healings and miracles, and the salvation he won for us. In today's Gospel, we read of John the Baptist. "Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people." Yet as we examine the rest of the reading, we see examples of John's preaching. If you have two cloaks, give one away. Don't cheat others out of their money, extort, or lie. And, of course, the warning that the Messiah is on the move and "his winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Merry Christmas? Not only do John's listeners enjoy his message, but they seem to think he might be the awaited Messiah! To understand today's Gospel, it's important to understand the Jewish people. For most of their history, God's chosen people had been under someone else's heel. They were slaves in Egypt. Their kingdoms were ravaged first by the Assyrians, then the Babylonians. Now they were under the yoke of the Roman Empire. Familiar with being strangers in a strange land, welcoming the stranger, caring for the vulnerable, and enacting justice was incredibly important to them as a people. While John's words may seem odd or strong to our modern ears, this call to justice was welcome, even if it was directed at the hearer.

The truth is, no one is exempt from John's call to repentance. We all have further to go in the Christian life. We can all grow in virtue and love our neighbors more generously. The Church gives us the Advent season to examine our own hearts. Did any of John's warnings resonate with you? That could be a great thing to bring to Jesus this week!

*Liturgical Publications***Everyday Stewardship**

I wish I were a better steward. I would like to think I am a pretty generous person, and I do work hard to cultivate the characteristics of a good Everyday Steward in my life. However, stewardship is about more than giving. It is also about prudence and wise planning. It is about storing up grain for the lean years and making sure there is enough oil to light your lamps when the power goes out. If I were a better steward, I would have that \$1,000 emergency fund to dip into when I need a car repair. I would save more for retirement and vacation. I would have more food in the garage freezer because I bought more on sale and prepared for when money was a little tighter. In a nutshell, I would be prepared for whatever comes my way, good or bad. Advent is a time of preparation. We not only prepare for Christmas, but for the day when Jesus Christ returns again. Unfortunately, we too often act like this is the only time to prepare for such events. We should be preparing all throughout the year.

If we only focus on our spirituality at Advent and Lent, then we are poor stewards of our time the rest of the year. The wise steward is always cultivating their faith and working to improve their relationship with God. They know that they need to be prepared for anything at any time. They stand ready, waiting for the call of their God.

*Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS*

This week's School Mass is Thursday, December 20, 9am at the WEST Campus. Enter through the east side door of the church. Parishioners are welcome to attend.

**"Adopt a Bill" Giving Tree**

in the back of church.



Your donations will help with heating, snow removal and liturgical supplies. We ask you to consider an extra gift to Blessed Savior in your gift giving during the Advent and Christmas seasons. Please take an "ornament bill" from the tree with the suggested donation for that budgeted item. Feel free to be as

generous as you can. Please put the ornament and your donation in an envelope and return it in the collection basket. You can also use Faith Direct and indicate an additional donation.

Thank you for generous support.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE BLESSED SAVIOR PARISH,  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19 @ 6:30PM



**TAX REMINDER...**According to IRS regulations, all contributions must be received by December 31 to be considered donations in the 2018 calendar year. Parish Office will be closed Dec. 24, 25, 31 & Jan.1



Just a friendly reminder...

The Multicultural Commission and the Filipino Catholic Ministry of the Milwaukee Archdiocese invite you to participate in the evening Mass on Monday, December 17th at 6:30 p.m. Fellowship to follow.



### WE'RE STILL LOOKING FOR HELP

Do you enjoy the various breads & other goodies at the Bread Table each weekend? We need your help in preparing the breads each Saturday & Sunday morning before we put them out on the tables. YOU will have a fun time with a great group of people and at the same time get an extra blessing. If we don't get some help soon we may have to cut back.

Call Lynne@ 262-649-3267 if you would like to help.

### Save Those Box Tops for Education Labels & Empty Ink Cartridges for the Parish and School.

Many food and beverage containers have a Box Tops for Education label. When you cut out those labels and donate them to Blessed Savior, we earn money! Each label is worth 10 cents or more and for each ink cartridge we receive \$2. It's that easy! You can drop off your saved labels and empty ink cartridges in the BOX TOP & CARTRIDGE box on the round table in the Villard hallway. Thank you.



Blessed Savior Parishioners,



Thank you very much for your generous financial donations for our ministry at the Thanksgiving Eve Mass. And another big thank you for helping stock our Pantry shelves with food for Thanksgiving and Christmas meals.

Once again, you chose to share some of your resources with the poor at a time of the year when you have many other uses for your money. We are truly grateful for that and for your ongoing support and prayers throughout 2018. Christ's peace to you and those you love this Christmas and in the coming year. Gratefully, *St. Vincent de Paul Ministry*



Once more the Blessed Savior Parishioners have shown true generosity to the needy of the neighborhood. The agencies were so appreciative of all the gifts that were given to them.

We would also like to thank all of you who stepped forward and helped us put the gifts into bags and boxes so they could be easily distributed. Have a Blessed Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year. *Human Concerns Commission.*

Thank You

*John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." - Lk 3:16*

**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: Elaine Ballering, Stanley Bruskiwicz, Helen Hauser, Diane Henry, Ray & Gertrud Kaegler, Sue & Bob Mielke, Ginny & Donald Naegele, Mary Lou Neuzil, Allan & Lorraine Rischman, Anton Schleiss, Joe & Joan Trinkl, Mary Frances Williams *Lord, You invite all who are burdened to come to you, May Your healing Hand restore them to health.*

If you wish to add someone to the prayer list with their permission, please call the parish office @ 414-464-5033. **The name will remain on the list for 4 weeks and then go to the prayer circle. If you wish to have it on longer please call the parish office.**

Blessed Savior Parishioners and friends.

Thank you to all for your prayers and good wishes for Calvin. Your prayers gave us strength and we are blessed to have friends like you.

*Julia and Calvin Atkinson*

**OPLATKI** - This year we are once again selling Christmas Oplatki Wafers. The cost is \$2.25 for a packet of 4 wafers. They are available for purchase after Mass. See an Usher for help. They are also available at the Parish Office.



**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS** ~ In your monthly envelope pack for December, there is a special Christmas flower envelope. Extra envelopes are also on a table in the back of church.

**2019 CALENDARS** are available during Advent. You can find them in the pews in the front & back of church. Please help yourself.



Thank you **JELACIC FUNERAL HOME** for being our sponsor.



**Christmas Day Mass** on local radio and TV stations, for homebound Catholics unable to attend Mass at their respective parishes: Relevant Radio – 100.1 FM/1640 AM, 6:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.—WCGV-TV, Channel 24, 7 a.m. WISN, Channel 12, 12 a.m. (Midnight Mass at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Milwaukee, with closed captioning) The Big 920 AM, 8 a.m. Fox6 TV, Channel 6, 7 a.m. Mass can also be accessed via the internet by visiting [www.HeartoftheNation.org](http://www.HeartoftheNation.org).



A message from your bulletin editor:  
I was thinking about how people seem to read the Bible a whole lot more as they get older. Then it dawned on me. They were cramming for their finals. As for me, I'm just hoping God grades on the curve.

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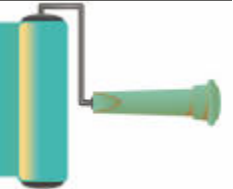
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