



**Blessed Savior Catholic Parish**  
**4th Sunday of Advent December 22, 2019**  
**December 25, 2019 The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)**

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)

Mass Times: Saturday, 4PM, Sunday, 9AM

Weekdays: Mon. through Wed. 9am in the Chapel

STEWARDSHIP OF PRAYER

**SATURDAY, 12/21 - VIGIL OF 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Is 7:10-14/ Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [7c, 10b]/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

4:00pm † Marge Wesling

Rosary at 3:15pm



**SUNDAY, 12/22 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Is 7:10-14/ Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [7c, 10b]/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

9:00am † Mary Lou Neuzil

Rosary at 8:15am

Anointing of the sick after Mass in the Chapel

**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 † Paul & Adeline Krizan

**TUESDAY, 12/24 - VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14

4:00pm Intention of the Children of our Parish & Neighborhood

10:00pm Intention of the Parishioners & their Families



**WEDNESDAY, 12/25 - THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

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

9:00am Intention of Fr. Romanus & Family

**SATURDAY, 12/28 VIGIL OF THE HOLY FAMILY**

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/ Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

4:00pm † Lorraine Staniszewski

Rosary at 3:15

**SUNDAY, 12/29 - THE HOLY FAMILY**

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/ Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

9:00am † Faustino G. & Eliza V. Piana

Rosary at 8:15am

*From all of the Parish Staff,  
Fr. Romanus, John, Eileen, Christy,  
Penny, Chuck and Andrew.*

*May you experience  
the light and warmth  
of the true Christmas with all those  
you love and may Christ's  
love remain in you forever.*



**OUR PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON TUESDAY, DEC 24, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25., FRIDAY, DEC. 27, TUESDAY, DEC. 31 2019 & WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1, 2020.** If you have an emergency please call 414-464-5033, someone will get back to you asap.



Dear Parishioners,

The lighting of the last Advent candle marks the conclusion of the journey we began four Sundays ago. Though Advent does not officially end until Christmas Eve, it feels great finally to light all four candles to complete 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 at an Olympic game 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 won the race. It was a novel idea intended to cut down on recklessness and irresponsible behavior during the race.

Advent is a race of sorts where we, the runners, are carrying lighted torches. The most important thing is not to finish the race, rather to finish 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 various spiritual and temporal activities of Advent help to keep the flame alive in our hearts. Certainly, we thank God for the strength and requisite determination to finish the race with our torches still burning.

If we prepared well for Christmas, the baby Jesus will find us at peace and glowing with joy at his birth. Christmas is the most memorable birthday in human history. It is a special moment when the divine and the human natures come together. As John's gospel states in the Christmas day gospel, "the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us." The incarnation ushered in a new epoch in human experience. The birth of Jesus made a transcendent God immanent and broke down the immense barrier between God and humans. Jesus made it possible for us to feel comfortable in God's presence without the overwhelming sense of fear and shame associated with sin and guilt.

As we unwrap gifts this Christmas, we should not forget the greatest gift of all – God's gift of his Son to the world. Christmas often highlights the inequalities in our society. While some receive tons of gifts, others are lucky to receive a single gift. Some spoiled children showered with gifts on Christmas have little time to spend on any particular gift. They hurriedly unwrap a gift, take a quick glance at it, toss it aside and move on to the next package. They are overwhelmed rather than ungrateful. On the contrary, we should take time unwrapping God's special gift of His Son this Christmas.

One of the most striking aspects of Christmas is the very idea of divine vulnerability. It is humbling to see the second person of the Trinity lying helplessly in a manger. As a fully human baby, Jesus lay defenseless in a manger and radically dependent on the nurturing love of his human parents, Mary and Joseph. Just think about it. That the most powerful God among us in the form of a baby blows the mind. The very idea of a Baby-God is one of the things that make Christianity unique among religions. Christmas makes God more relatable.

Christmas is a celebration of love. It is a celebration of God's unconditional love for us in sending his Son for human salvation. It is an invitation to love God back and to love one another. Hence, where hatred reigns we strive to overcome with the power of love. This demands understanding, forgiveness and reconciliation. Christmas presents opportunity for growth as we reflect on the power of love and make resolutions for the New Year.

*Wishing everyone Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

*Fr. Romanus*



MINISTRY TO THE SICK — Please pray for the following parishioners and others with health problems.

Jackie Ballering, Stanley Bruskiwicz,  
Nadjah Hasan, Diane Henry, Mary Ann Janke,  
Ray & Gertrud Kaegler, Karla Klaybor,  
Ginny & Donald Naegele, Allan & Lorraine Rischman,  
Carol Runnigen, Anton Schleiss, Rusty Tym,  
Mary Frances Williams

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

Wishing you a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

The Blessed Savior app has been upgraded to improve performance and reliability. While the old app will still function, it will no longer be updated or improved. For more information on downloading the upgraded app, please see the resources/app website page ([www.blessedsaviorparish.org](http://www.blessedsaviorparish.org)) or contact Jack Heck through the parish office.

Jack Heck, Blessed Savior Webmaster

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 4 & SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2020**



Please share a plate of bakery with your fellow Parishioners and celebrate Epiphany. Christmas cookies, fruit cake, bar cookies OR maybe you would like to bake or purchase some muffins or cinnamon buns. Whatever you would like to share, please place on a disposable plate and bring to the church hall before Mass. If you make something GLUTEN FREE, or that contains p-nuts/p-nut butter PLEASE MARK THE PLATE AS SUCH. Maybe a few of our young people would be willing to help serve and clean up. Lets all get together and have a good time so we will be able to continue this tradition.

**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.

2020 Calendars are available during Advent. You can find them in the pews in the front of church & on the side tables in back of church or on the round table in the Villard hallway. Please help yourself.

Thank you JELACIC FUNERAL HOME for being our sponsor



The "Adopt a Bill" Giving Tree is located in the back of church. Your donations will help with heating, snow removal and liturgical supply costs. We ask you to consider an extra gift to Blessed Savior in your gift giving during the Christmas season. Return the ornament and your donation in an envelope and place it in the collection basket. Thank you for generous support.

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  
Bulletin Deadline: Monday by 3PM  
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Website: [www.blessedsaviorparish.org](http://www.blessedsaviorparish.org)  
Parish Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 8am - 4pm  
Closed Fridays

Join us on Facebook: @blessedsaviorparish

Download our App:

For iPhone Text: ParishApp1 to 555888

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Confessions: 3rd Saturday in church, 3:15-3:45pm and by appointment

Communal Penance: Seasonal as announced.

Funerals: Please call the Parish Office in the event of the death of a loved one.

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry: 5558 N. 69 St.  
414-464-3817

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

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.*



**TAX REMINDER...** According to IRS regulations, all contributions must be received by December 31 to be considered donations in the 2019 calendar year. Parish Office will be closed Dec. 24, 25, 27, 31 & January 1.

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE**

Announcements for the January 5, 2020 bulletin are due by noon on Monday 12/23. Merry Christmas, Happy New Year



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PANTRY**

Food Drive for the weekend of **DECEMBER 28 & 29**:  
We can use packaged mashed potatoes.

*We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year and thank you for your generous donations through the year.*



Carol your bulletin editor, the Church Mouse and all the office volunteers of Blessed Savior wish you a Merry Christmas and all God's Blessings in 2020.

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