Blessed Savior Catholic Parish 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Blessed Savior Parish Worship Site: 8545 W. Villard Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53225Parish Office/Center (mailing address): 8607 W. Villard Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53225Phone: 414-464-5033 Fax: 414-464-0079Mass Times: Saturday, 4PM, Sunday, 9AMWeekdays: Mon. through Wed. 9am in the Chapel

February 23, 2020





7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." - Mt 5:44

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 3pm 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 Download our App: For iPhone Text: ParishApp1 to 555888 For Android Text: ParishApp2to 555888

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

Anointing of the Sick (Communal - Monthly) Individual: Any time and also by appointment.

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

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

Communal Penance: Seasonal as announced.



Representative LaKeshia Myers, Wisconsin State Assembly 12th District, attended Mass at Blessed Savior Fr. Romanus (presider) and Fr. Bernard (concelebrant)

Funerals: Please 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.

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

Pastoral Council Officers: Yolanda Coly, Chair Simon Biagui, Vice-Chair Denise Wesserle, Secretary

5140 N. 55th Street, 53218

Barbara O'Donnell, Principal

4059 N. 64th Street, 53216

Nadia Pope, Principal

East Campus

414-438-2745

South Campus

414-463-3878

Parish Trustees: Julia Atkinson, Treasurer Mark Kuchta, Secretary

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.

Blessed Savior Catholic Parish

Stewardship of Prayer

Saturday, 2/22 - Vigil of the 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time *Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 [8a]/ 1 Cor 3:16-23/Mt 5:38-48* 4:00pm † Francis and Helen Brunner Rosary at 3:15pm

Sunday, 2/23 - 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 [8a]/ 1 Cor 3:16-23/Mt 5:38-48 9:00am † Marge Wesling Rosary at 8:15am

Monday, 2/24 - Weekday Jas 3:13-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [9a]//Mk 9:14-29 9:00am † James Engel

 Tuesday, 2/25 - Weekday

 Jas 4:1-10/Ps 55:7-8, 9-10a, 10b-11a, 23 [23a]/Mk 9:30-37

 9:00am
 † Tom Schimmels

 † Steven Lehman

 Wednesday, 2/26 - Ash Wednesday

 Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17 [cf. 3a]/

 2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

 9:30am
 All School Mass - East Campus

 Intention of the Priest

 6:30pm
 Parishioners

Saturday, 2/29 - Vigil of First Sunday of Lent Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 [cf. 3a]/ Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11 4:00pm † Frances and Edward Kupkowski Rosary at 3:15pm Anointing of the sick in the chapel after Mass

Sunday, 3/1 - First Sunday of Lent Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 [cf. 3a]/ Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11 9:00am † Martin and Anna Minik Rosary at 8:15am

This week's All School Mass is <u>Ash Wednesday</u>, February 26, <u>9:30am at the East Campus</u>. Enter through the front center door of the church. Parishioners are welcome to attend this Mass and receive ashes.

At 6:30pm on Ash Wednesday, we will have Mass at Blessed Savior Church with ash distribution. If you minister to sick or homebound parishioners, envelopes with blessed ashes and a prayer card will be available in a basket near the baptismal font. Please consider taking one or more envelopes to distribute ashes and pray with them at the beginning of their Lenten journey.

> Anointing of the sick will be in the chapel on Saturday, February 29 after the 4pm Mass.

GOSPEL MEDITATION: The Gospels continue to challenge us to the core. This is especially true in the way our social relationships have developed. Feeling safe and secure in the world are not things that come easily these days. Actually, we may find ourselves feeling more reservation, caution, reluctance, and fear than ever before. In a moment's notice, life can drastically change. When someone has been intentionally and violently hurt, especially someone we love, we can all too easily find ourselves very attracted to the Old Testament philosophy of "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth."

Intellectually, we know this is not what Jesus wants us to do. But on some level it just seems to make practical or even political sense. After all, why should we allow someone to get away with a heinously violent act? Yet, Jesus cannot be any clearer than he is with this! Offer no resistance to one who is evil. Turn the other cheek as well. When pressed into service, go two miles. Do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow. Love your enemies. Now, take a moment to reflect on all of this. Consider a horrible act of violence committed against someone you love. Listen. Think. Be honest. Can you do as Jesus directs?

We want to be holy. But we are more comfortable with a definition of holiness that can keep us saying our prayers and on our knees in church. We are not comfortable with a definition of holiness that has something to say about how we react to and negotiate life. We like to keep a sharp and strong line between the secular and the sacred. In fact, we would prefer that the doors between them be kept closed. God wants us to be holy as He is holy. If God sees this one way and we see it another, then where does this leave us on our journey to God?

Our minds like the practical, worldly, and secular answers to things. They are more black and white and at first glance appear to make more sense. Holiness wells up from our souls and is beyond reason. It cannot be explained. It is something we just simply know comes as a result of deep prayer. The truly contemplative eye knows inwardly that what Jesus asks is true and then willingly does it. It may not be easy.

Liturgical Publications

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP: So often in life, people are concerned about the minimum requirements. What is the minimum I must do to get a certain grade? What is the minimum I need to do to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation? What exactly do I have to do to make my boss happy?

This concern does not stop with everyday life but continues into our relationship with God. What exactly is required of me for salvation? How much time, talent, and treasure are enough? Jesus does not call us to this way of life, but instead to a life of unbounding generosity and surrender. Jesus said, "If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles." The minimum requirement is one mile; however, we are not to be disciples of minimum requirements and checking off boxes. We are to go the extra mile because that is how we bear witness to the transforming power of Jesus Christ. That is how we change lives and share the grace and love we have received in abundance. Nothing ever changes by doing the minimum. There is no real glory given to God by responding to His call with the minimum.

Imagine a world where all of us good stewards give without ceasing and go far beyond the minimum requirements. Our world would be a very different place. So, what is stopping us?

The Disciple Maker Index Survey

As pastor of Blessed Savior Catholic Parish, my primary responsibility is to help you grow as disciples of Jesus and to equip you to go and make disciples of others. I am excited to share with you that our parish is going to participate in a parish survey conducted by Catholic Leadership Institute. The *Disciple Maker Index (DMI) Survey* allows parishioners to reflect on their own spiritual growth and discipleship and identify the ways in which the parish effectively supports that growth.

The web-based survey will be available online at <u>www.disciplemakerindex.com</u> from **Sunday**, **February 23**rd to Monday, March 23rd.

There are also opportunities to complete the survey after daily and Sunday Mass, and you can obtain a paper copy in the Parish Office or by contacting Eileen Heck, Administrative Assistant.

At the completion of the 10-15 minute survey, our parish will receive an aggregate report of the results. We will NOT have access to individual survey responses. This survey offers us a unique and important opportunity to learn about issues of importance to families in a confidential and professional way. We will use these results to 1) look at opportunities to support parishioner growth in discipleship and 2) create goals and action plans to achieve that growth.

Fr. Romanus



Since Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 26, there are certain dietary considerations to be kept in mind that are meant to help us keep the spirit of the season. Fast and abstinence are the traditional considerations. We are strictly speaking obliged to keep the order of the

abstinence (no meat) on two days, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. If people choose to abstain on other Fridays during Lent, that is considered commendable, not necessarily obligatory. In preparing other meals during the season, they need to be meals that will sustain your strength and your health particularly if you are working, if you are elderly, or under a doctor's care.

Remember, it's the spirit of Lent we want to participate in so that we remember those who have harder lives than ourselves, have less food than ourselves, and who struggle day by day. Consider fasting from criticism and gossip. Consider fasting from negative thinking. Consider fasting from selfishness. Consider fasting from complaining, whining and impatience. Consider fasting from your ego and pride.

Isaiah says, "To rend your hearts, not your garments. That is the fasting that I seek, says the Lord."

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:

Jackie Ballering, Stanley Bruskiewicz, Nadjah Hasan, Diane Henry, Mike Hubbard, Mary Ann Janke, Ray & Gertrud Kaegler, Karla Klaybor, Pat Lathrop, Ginny & Donald Naegele, Allan & Lorraine Rischman, Anton Schleiss, Rusty Tym, 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.

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



On Sunday, February 23, at the 9am Mass we will celebrate the Rite of Acceptance and Welcome for *Anthony Hugh Burns and Avery Matthew Rosa*, who will be welcomed

Addent Market into the Church as fully initiated members at the Easter Vigil Mass on Saturday, April 11. Please pray for them on their spiritual journey. Blessed Savior Parish joyfully welcomes them and prays for God's blessings during this time of formation.

Come pray the Stations of the Cross and offer yourself as a living sacrifice like Christ. Every Friday during Lent, 6:30-7pm, starting on February 28. Enter through the West side door of church.



CRS Rice Bowl – Catholic Relief Services

During Lent, our parish will participate in CRS Rice Bowl, a faith-in-action program that invites us to encounter the needs of the world with the hope of Resurrection. Contribution envelopes will be available in the March 15 bulletin. If you prefer to use a "Rice Bowl Box" during Lent, they are available on the round table in the Villard hallway, along with some free Lenten reading resources.

Our next Talk About is on Saturday, February 29 (one day only). Gisele N'Dour, a member of our choir and physical therapist, will show us chair exercises to help us stay limber during the cold weather! We meet in the Parish Hall after the 4pm Mass. Snacks will be available. See you there!

Fish Fry/Shrimp Dinner: Friday, February 28, 4-7:30pm. St. Bernadette Parish, 8200 W. Denver Ave. (3 blocks south of Good Hope). Handicap accessible. Carry-outs available. 414-358-4600 or www.stweb.com.



God doesn't give us what we can handle. God helps us handle what we are given.



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