

# How to match sauvignon blanc with foods

Sauvignon blanc in its multiple wine styles from the Loire Valley and the Graves region of France, together with those from California, make it the most versatile of white wines to match with food.

With some wines, the type of food is the most important focus. With sauvignon blanc, it is clearly more a function of the cooking method, the acid/sugar levels and the herbs used in the sauce that determine a good match.

Sauvignon blanc is a fine-edged wine. Before considering food complements, you have to determine whether the wine is grassy, bordering on weedy, or if it's melony with grapefruit characters and, lastly, whether it's sweet because the residual sugar is above 0.5 percent.

Because of the wine's fine edge, if you put fresh cilantro (coriander) or tarragon with it, wine flavors are destroyed, unless the wine is grassy and herbal.

But, works well if you don't choose the most pungent of its many hybrids. Raw, sweet basil used as the principle greens with a high-acid vinaigrette produces a salad that com-



## focus on wine

Eleanor and Ray Heald

plements sauvignon blanc because the acidity reduces any aggressive components.

A COLD, dilled potato salad served with a well-chilled sauvignon blanc will destroy the myth that vinegrettes don't match with wine. Certainly, white distilled vinegar doesn't complement, but vinegars made from quality wines and herb-flavored vinegars work well.

It's a question of balance. You have to experiment, know the flavors of the wine and adjust ingredient amounts. You can't do it directly from a recipe. That's the trick.

Bell pepperiness is frequently associated with sauvignon blanc so the natural tendency is to avoid their use. Peppers can complement the wine as long as you heighten the el-

rus character with fresh lime juice and chop the peppers rather than pureeing. Bell peppers roasted over high heat are also good. Tank-fermented sauvignon blancs with little or no wood aging do well here.

With more aggressive styles of sauvignon blanc, complementing it is not always the way to go because you're risking whether the magic will be there or not. In this case, contrasting is probably more interesting.

The more melony styles of sauvignon blanc pair well with grilled fish and a splash of fresh lemon juice. Acid crispness and a slight charcoal-burnt flavor on the fish playing against the rounder, softer, melony wine flavors are a duel on the palate.

There's a stimulation from one focus to the other. Here, the perfect match

is the foil.

**COMPLEMENTARY** Ingredients with high acidity and low sugar levels include: Michigan sun-dried cherries, fresh vegetables salsas, mustards, vinaigrettes, fruit relishes and chutneys.

They're called food and wine marriages, but frequently in marriages, it's the opposites that attract. Wine acidity causes two effects in the marriage of food and wine: 1. Food flavors induce a reaction with the wine on the palate that is pleasant; 2. The contrast of a smooth, creamy sauce and the wine's acidity create a challenge or curdling effect on the palate which is unpleasant.

Cream-based sauces are difficult matches with sauvignon blanc. Classical French creams with herb infusions get lost. The tongue becomes coated and the wine disappears.

However, soured, curdled or clotted creams will work; so do butter sauces. There must be a relatively high level of acid in the sauce in order to make it work with sauvignon blanc. Sauces that finish soft are lost with the wine.

## WINE SELECTIONS OF THE WEEK

**1988 Matanzas Creek Winery Sauvignon Blanc (\$15)** is a well-styled and focused wine. Its steely yet approachable character shouts, "Bring on the oysters." Melons, vanilla and a hint of grass highlight the nose. The wine is complex with bright acidity and a crisp, lengthy finish. Excellent.

You need firmer fish, like swordfish, red snapper or pike, to match textures with the wine in the mouth. Chicken, because of its low sugar, grainy mustard sauces, and mustards with a slight horseradish addition highlight textures.

Jamie Morningstar, resident chef at Inglenook-Napa Valley, is responsible for a food and wine program that markets wines through the image of sitting down and eating.

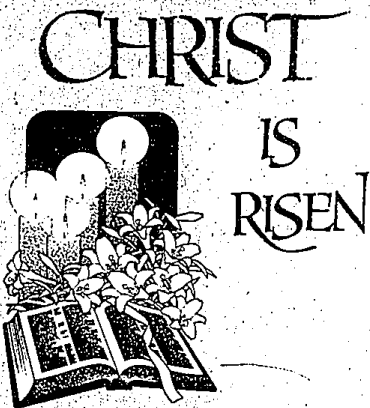
"PEOPLE HAVE different tastes and preferences, so I hesitate discussing what doesn't work and pre-

fer to emphasize what does," she says. "Because I'm opinionated, I must point out foods that I think don't work well with sauvignon blanc."

"Smoked foods come to mind immediately. They don't usually pair well with sauvignon blanc unless the wine has a smoky quality of its own. If the wine style is steely, smoked foods accentuate dryness and acidity and make the wine puckery in the mouth."

"Plain goat cheese becomes more pungent with sauvignon blanc, so if you like goat cheese, it's great. It works because of the acidic component in the goat cheese. The high butyric content of most cheeses coats the tongue and cancels the wine's finish. Herbed goat cheese emphasizes the herbal quality of sauvignon blanc and reduces the goaty character of the cheese."

Cajon and creole orientations work if they are not overly spicy and hot. Clean, plain, gutsy foods with good acidity do best. Defined food flavors along with clearly identifiable sauvignon blanc flavors can't miss.



**CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
43065 Joy Rd. - Canton - (313) 455-0022  
**Good Friday Service**  
12:30-1:00 p.m.  
**Easter Service**  
9:45 a.m. - Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. - Worship Service  
6:00 p.m. Praise Service  
Dr. David A. Hay, Senior Pastor

**AUGSBURG EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
24801 W. Chicago Rd.  
Redford, MI 48239  
(313) 534-5389  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

COME CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION WITH US!  
Continental Easter Breakfast, 9:15 a.m.  
WORSHIP SERVICE, 10:00 a.m.

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH** (Missouri Synod)  
20805 Middlebelt Rd., Farmington Hills  
Rev. Ralph E. Unger, Pastor

Maundy Thursday, April 12, Holy Communion - 7:00 p.m.  
Good Friday, April 13, Tre-Ore Worship 12 Noon-3:00 p.m.  
Stations of the Cross - 7:00 p.m.  
Holy Saturday, April 14, Easter Vigil - 6:00 p.m.  
Easter Sunday, April 15, Holy Communion 7:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

**ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC PARISH**  
11441 Hubbard Road  
Livonia, MI • 261-1455

COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION - April 9 & 11, 7:30 p.m.  
(Rite II - Sacramental Prayer Service)

INDIVIDUAL RECONCILIATION (confession)  
April 10, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

HOLY THURSDAY - Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7:00 p.m.  
Eucharistic Adoration until 11:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY - Who is Jesus Christ? 12:15 p.m.  
Solemn Liturgy, 1:15 p.m.  
Stations 7:00 p.m.

HOLY SATURDAY - Food Blessing 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.  
Vigil of Easter 7:00 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY - Masses 8:30, 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon

## Celebrate Easter

**Central Woodward Christian Church**  
3955 W. Big Beaver • Troy • 644-0512  
Easter Sunday  
Worship 11 am  
Church School 9 am  
Nursery Care

**Nativity Episcopal Church**  
21220 West 14 Mile Road  
(East of Labor Road)  
646-4100

7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday  
12:00 Good Friday Meditation  
**EASTER SUNDAY**  
8:30 a.m. Eucharist  
10:30 a.m. Festive Eucharist with Music  
The Rev. Richard C. Lindsay

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PLYMOUTH

Main and Church Streets  
Philip Rodgers Magee, Minister  
Leland L. Seese, Jr., Associate Minister  
**MAUNDY THURSDAY** - 7:30 p.m. Communion  
**GOOD FRIDAY** - 12:30 p.m. Community Service  
The Rev. Mr. Seese preaching on "The Glamour of Evil."  
**EASTER DAY** - 7:30 a.m. Communion Service  
Mediation by The Rev. Mr. Seese  
"On Our Way Rejoicing."  
9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Festival Services. The Rev. Mr. Magee preaching on "An Easter Sky."

## FIRST APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN CHURCH

26325 Halstead Rd. Farmington Hills, MI  
April 13  
Good Friday Worship 1:00 p.m.  
7:30 p.m.  
April 15  
Easter Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.  
2:00 p.m.  
7:00 p.m.

**ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
16500 Hubbard Rd. - Livonia • 421-8451  
Maundy Thursday Liturgy 7:30 p.m.  
Good Friday Liturgy Noon  
Easter Even - The Great Vigil of Easter 7:30 p.m.  
Easter Sunday 7:45 & 10:00 a.m.  
Holy Eucharist (No Candles)  
The Rev. Robert A. Clapp, Rector

Easter Cantata  
"Watch the Land" (Ray Bolz)  
April 13 & 15 - 7:00 p.m.

Easter Festival Services  
8:45 & 11:15 a.m.

**CLARENCEVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
28300 Middlebelt Road, Livonia  
474-5444

## ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

574 South Sheldon Road • Plymouth • 453-0190  
**HOLY WEEK**  
Mon. & Tues. 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross  
Wed. 6:00 p.m. Seder Dinner (Reservations only)  
Thurs. 8:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist & Tenebrae  
Good Friday 12:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross  
1:00 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy  
6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

**EASTER**  
6:00 a.m. Sunrise/Easter Vigil & Holy Eucharist  
9:00 a.m. Festival Holy Eucharist & Baptism (Nursery Care Available)  
11:00 a.m. Solemn Holy Eucharist & Baptism (Nursery Care Available)

## NEWBURGH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

36500 Ann Arbor Trail 422-0149  
**MAUNDY THURSDAY** - 7:30 p.m. Tenebrae Communion Service  
**GOOD FRIDAY** - 12:15-1:15 p.m.  
**EASTER SUNDAY** - 8:00 a.m. Sunrise Service  
Dramatic Presentation  
9:15 & 11:00 a.m. - Chancel, Youth, Church, Children's & Handbell Choirs  
Sunday School  
Nursery Provided at all Worship Services

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

9083 Newburgh Road, Livonia 591-0211  
The Rev. Emery F. Gravelle, Vicar  
**MAUNDY THURSDAY** 7:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist  
Joint Service at Resurrection Lutheran Church  
**GOOD FRIDAY** 12 Noon Prayer Book Liturgy  
7:30 p.m. TENEBRAE with Resurrection Lutheran  
**HOLY SATURDAY** 8:30 p.m. Holy Baptism & Great Vigil  
**EASTER DAY** 7:00 & 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
A Barrier Free Facility for the Handicapped

## First Baptist Church

45000 North Territorial Rd., Plymouth • 455-2400  
**MAUNDY THURSDAY** (April 12), Holy Communion 7:30 p.m.  
**GOOD FRIDAY** (April 13), United Worship 12:30 p.m.  
with First United Methodist Church at First Baptist Church  
General Public Welcome  
**EASTER SUNDAY**, Sunrise Worship 7:00 a.m.,  
Easter Breakfast 8:15 a.m., Sunday School 9:40 a.m.,  
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.,  
"A Lasting Victory," Message by Dr. Stahl

## GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

25630 Grand River  
Redford, MI • 532-2266  
**MAUNDY THURSDAY** - April 12,  
11:00 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.  
Holy Communion at both services

**GOOD FRIDAY** - April 13,  
1:00 p.m. & Tenebrae at 7:30 p.m.  
Holy Communion at 7:30 p.m. Service

**EASTER SUNDAY** - April 15,  
7:30, 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.  
"Easter's No Mores"  
Sunday School at 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.

Special Music at all Services

## ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

30450 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills, MI  
(Between 13 & 14 Mile Roads)  
626-3620

Pastors: Paul F. Blomquist  
James E. Greer II

Director of Music: Jan Brachel  
Christian Education: Sandra Prince

**MAUNDY THURSDAY - APRIL 12, 1990**  
24 Hour Prayer Vigil • 6 pm Maundy Thursday thru 6 pm Good Friday  
7:30 pm "The Galilean" Dramatic Presentation of the Lord's Last Supper  
Child Care available at 7:30 pm.

**GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 13, 1990**  
Continuation of Prayer Vigil until 6:00 pm. 12:15 pm Community Service  
with combined choirs at Covenant Baptist Church, Maple Road between  
Farmington and Orchard Lake Roads  
Speaker: Rev. James E. Greer II, Associate Pastor Orchard U. M. Church

**EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 15, 1990**  
7:30 am Sunrise Service followed by a continental breakfast.  
9:15 & 11:00 am Easter Celebration of the Empty Tomb