

SACRED HEART - SAINT LUKE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

SACRED HEART, Spring Valley †
N108 Sabin Avenue

SACRED HEART, Elmwood †
106 West Wilson Avenue

SAINT LUKE, Boyceville
919 Center Street

OUR PASTOR

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OUR STAFF

Central Office

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Our Mass Schedule for This Week

Monday (9/15).....8:00 AM at Elmwood
+John Feuker (Jim and Ruth Michaelson)
Tuesday (9-16).....6:30 PM Mass at Spring Valley
+Viola Krings (Romanus and Eileen Hagel)
Wednesday (9-17)...7:30 PM Mass at Elmwood
+Amy and Ross Crain (Jeff and Sue Pittman)
Thursday (9-18).....8:00 AM Mass at Spring Valley
+ Gen Ducklow (Barry and Mary Anderson)
Friday (9-19).....8:00 AM *Communion Service* at Spring Valley
1:30 PM Mass at Heritage of Elmwood NH
+James Bates (Juanita Bates)

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday (9-20).....8:00 PM VIGIL Mass at Elmwood
+Loren Leehe (Marge Leehe)
Sunday (9-21).....8:30 AM Mass at Boyceville
Missa pro populo
10:30 AM Mass at Spring Valley
+Brody Sotona and Billy Anderson (Sotona Family)

BRIEFLY NOTED

Our **deepest sympathy and assurance of prayers** are extended to the family and friends of **Albert Lecheler** of Elmwood who was buried last week. "O God, who alone are able to give life after death, free your servant Albert from all sins, that he who believed in the Resurrection of your Christ, may, when the day of resurrection comes, be united with you in glory" (Funeral Mass, Collect).

Congratulations to Aubrey Jo Bechel infant daughter of Ben and Megan Bechel who is reborn in the **Sacrament of Baptism** at Elmwood. "Remember, Lord, Aubrey who through Baptism has been joined to your family, that she may follow Christ, your Son, with a generous heart and a willing spirit" (Roman Missal, 974).

St. Luke's Fall Dinner News: We are in need on clean plastic containers to be used for the sale of food from the Fall Dinner. Please drop off the containers in the kitchen. To donate items for baskets for the silent auction, contact Lois Johnson 715-643-7242 or Sue Anderson 715-455-1404.

Spring Valley CCD Program: is looking for a Snack Coordinator and a 3rd and 5th grade teacher during the Wednesday afternoon CCD sessions. If you are interested, please contact Cindy Schlegel at 715-684-3324 or Anne Helmer at 715-778-4883.

CONFESSIONS

Tuesday 6:00-6:30 PM
Spring Valley
Saturday 7:00-7:45 PM
Elmwood
Sunday 7:45-8:15 AM
Boyceville

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM
Boyceville
Thurs. 5 PM to Friday 8 PM
Spring Valley

St. Luke's Altar Society: will meet on **Wednesday, September 24 at 9:30 a.m.** in the church dining hall. St. Jessica Circle will meet immediately following the Altar Society meeting.

Fall Deanery Meeting: is **Tuesday, September 23, 2014 at 7pm** at St. Francis in Ellsworth. All women of the parish and guests are invited to attend.

Spring Valley Quilting: Quilting will start on **Wednesday, September 24** at 9AM at the CCD Center. Anyone interested is welcome to come and join us!

Spring Valley Cemetery: Thank you to Ellen Rominski for watering the flowers at the cemetery all summer!

Sacred Heart Centennial Committee: Thanks Catholic Financial Life Eau Galle Chapter 191 for the matching funds gift of \$500.00 for our centennial celebration. Thank You!

Elmwood Cemetery: Please remember that it is the families' responsibility to remove all flowers and decorations from the cemetery before October 1st. Thank you.

Elmwood Altar and Rosary: Would like to thank the family of Albert Lecheler for their generous donation. May our dear friend rest in the peace of the Lord.

VISIT US ON THE WEB

www.svecatholic.org

I have long admired **Cardinal Francis George, the Archbishop of Chicago**, for his witness to Christ in suffering as well as his faith-filled and penetrating analyses of our contemporary world. **His September 7 column** in the archdiocesan newspaper is a must read in its entirety. The Cardinal writes: “Once upon a time there was a church founded on God’s entering into human history in order to give humanity a path to eternal life and happiness with him. **The Savior that God sent, his only-begotten Son, did not write a book but founded a community, a church, upon the witness and ministry of twelve apostles. He sent this church the gift of the Holy Spirit, the spirit of love between Father and Son, the Spirit of the truth that God had revealed about himself and humanity by breaking into the history of human sinfulness.** This church, a hierarchical communion, continued through history, living among different peoples and cultures, filled with sinners, but always guided in the essentials of her life and teaching by the Holy Spirit. She called herself ‘Catholic’ because her purpose was to preach a universal faith and a universal morality, encompassing all peoples and cultures. This claim often invited conflict with the ruling classes of many countries. **About 1,800 years into her often stormy history, this church found herself as a very small group in a new country in Eastern North America that promised to respect all religions because the State would not be confessional; it would not try to play the role of a religion.**”

“This church knew that it was far from socially acceptable in this new country. One of the reasons the country was established was to protest the king of England’s permitting the public celebration of the Catholic Mass on the soil of the British Empire in the newly conquered Catholic territories of Canada. He had betrayed his coronation oath to combat Catholicism, defined as ‘America’s greatest enemy,’ and protect Protestantism, bringing the pure religion of the colonists into danger and giving them the moral right to revolt and reject his rule. Nonetheless, many Catholics in the American colonies thought their life might be better in the new country than under a regime whose ruling class had penalized and persecuted them since the mid-16th century. They made this new country their own and served her loyally. The social history was often contentious, but **the State basically kept its promise to protect all religions and not become a rival to them, a fake church. Until recent years.**”

“**There was always a quasi-religious element in the public creed of the country.** It lived off the myth of human progress, which had little place for dependence on divine providence. It tended to exploit the religiosity of the ordinary people by using religious language to co-opt them into the purposes of the ruling class. Forms of anti-Catholicism were part of its social DNA. It had encouraged its citizens to think of themselves as the creators of world history and the managers of nature, so that no source of truth outside of themselves needed to be consulted to check their collective purposes and desires. But **it had never explicitly taken upon itself the mantle of a religion and officially told its citizens what they must personally think or what ‘values’ they must personalize in order to deserve to be part of the country. Until recent years.**”

“In recent years, society has brought social and legislative approval to all types of sexual relationships that used to be considered ‘sinful.’ Since the biblical vision of what it means to be human tells us that not every friendship or love can be expressed in sexual relations, the church’s teaching on these issues is now evidence of intolerance for what the civil law upholds and even imposes. **What was once a request to live and let live has now become a demand for approval. The ‘ruling class,’ those who shape public opinion in politics, in education, in communications, in entertainment, is using the civil law to impose its own form of morality on everyone.** We are told that, even in marriage itself, there is no difference between men and women, although nature and our very bodies clearly evidence that men and women are not interchangeable at will in forming a family. Nevertheless, **those who do not conform to the official religion, we are warned, place their citizenship in danger.**” “When the recent case about religious objection to one provision of the Health Care Act was decided against the State religion, the *Huffington Post* (June 30, 2014) raised ‘concerns about the compatibility between being a Catholic and being a good citizen.’ This is not the voice of the nativists who first fought against Catholic immigration in the 1830s. Nor is it the voice of those who burned convents and churches in Boston and Philadelphia a decade later. Neither is it the voice of the Know-Nothing Party of the 1840s and 1850s, nor of the Ku Klux Klan, which burned crosses before Catholic churches in the Midwest after the civil war. It is a voice more sophisticated than that of the American Protective Association, whose members promised never to vote for a Catholic for public office. This is, rather, **the self-righteous voice of some members of the American establishment today who regard themselves as ‘progressive’ and ‘enlightened.’**”

(To be continued...)

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us! Saint Luke, pray for us! *Very Rev. Kevin C. Louis, STL*

