

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

Rev. Kevin C. Louis, STL

Residence 715.639.2741
114 West Wilson Avenue Mobile 715.505.3870
Elmwood, WI 54740-8603 **pastor@svecatholic.org**

DEACON – Kevin Ray

Residence 715.778.5519
S105 Sabin Avenue P.O. Box 456 Mobile 608.498.1060
Spring Valley, WI 54767-0456 **deacon@svecatholic.org**

OUR STAFF

Central Office

S105 Sabin Avenue P.O. Box 456 Spring Valley, WI 54767-0456
Administrative Assistant: Ms. Rebecca Schmitt 715.778.5519
admin@svecatholic.org

Boyceville Secretary: Mrs. Karen Adams 715.643.3081
boyceville@svecatholic.org

Our Mass Schedule for This Week

Monday (12/1).....8:00 AM Mass at Elmwood
+Walter Allen (Tom Mavis)
Tuesday (12-2).....6:30 PM Mass at Spring Valley
+Leo and Frances Huebel (Julie and Dave Ducklow)
Wednesday (12-3).....7:30 PM Mass at Elmwood
+Fr. James Binkowski (Binkowski Family)
Thursday (12-4).....8:00 AM Mass at Spring Valley
+Duane Kelley (David and Rosalie Sowatzke)
10:00 AM Mass at Spring Valley Heath Care Center
+Viola Krings (Larry and Diane Wiskerhan)
Friday (12-5).....8:00 AM *Communion Service*
1:30 PM Mass at the Heritage of Elmwood NH
+Arlene Geraets (Greg Fesenmaier)

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday (12-6).....8:00 PM VIGIL Mass at Elmwood
+Albert Lecheler (Don and Mary Schmitz)
Sunday (12-7).....8:30 AM Mass at Boyceville
+Alice Adams (Joe and Karen Adams)
10:30 AM Mass at Spring Valley
Missa pro populo

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Sunday (12-7).....8:00 PM Mass at Elmwood
+Leo Binkowski (Binkowski Family)
Monday (12-8).....8:00AM Mass at Spring Valley
Missa pro populo
6:00PM Mass at Boyceville
+Dean Hedlund (Dewayne and Helen Hedlund)

BRIEFLY NOTED

Elmwood Altar and Rosary Christmas Meeting: Thursday December 11 at 7:00PM in church basement and hosted by St. Ann's group. We will have installations of new officers. There are still openings for treasurer and St Rita's co-chair. No gift exchange, but remember to bring food shelf donations. Thank You, Kathy Geraets, president.

Elmwood: Altar & Rosary will again decorate the Church Altar for Christmas with flowers in memory of your loved ones. You may send donations to PO Box 54, Elmwood or put in the A & R drop box in the church basement. Be sure to mention your loved ones name. Thank you, Altar & Rosary.

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: St. Joan of Arc Circle will meet on at 9AM. on Saturday, December 6 at the Downing Cafe.

Notice: If you have Kelly Johnson's copy of "Rome Sweet Home" please call her at 715-778-4335. Thanks.

Elmwood Cemetery

Groundskeeper Wanted: Sacred Heart Elmwood is in need of a groundskeeper for the Farm Hill cemetery. Duties include lawn mowing and hedge trimming. If anyone is interested please contact Tom Weber at 639-3322.

Spring Valley CCD: Due to the date change of the SV Elementary Holiday Program, **there WILL be CCD classes in the afternoon on Wednesday, December 10th.** Any questions, please call Cindy Schlegel 715-684-3324. Thank you.

Catholic Relief Services:

Help Catholic Relief Services contain the spread of Ebola and assist afflicted communities in West Africa. To donate, visit www.crs.org or the diocesan website at www.diolc.org.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Items must be received at the Central Office by **Tuesday at 3:00 PM.**

VISIT US ON THE WEB

www.svecatholic.org

Earlier this week **I was notified by Bishop Callahan that he intended to appoint me to the Presbyteral Council of the Diocese of La Crosse.** My peers put me forward for service in this so-called “Bishop’s Senate” and the Bishop accepted their recommendation. This Council of Priests represents the *presbyterium* (that is, the college or body of priests of the Diocese) and assists the Bishop in the governance of the Diocese. Church law specifies that it is the only “Senate” of the Bishop in a Diocese and is “an institutional manifestation of the communion between the Bishop and the Priests who collaborate with him, based on union in the ministerial priesthood and in mission. It expresses the fraternity that exists amongst the Priests” (*Code of Canon Law Annotated*, 495-500). Practically speaking, this will mean more frequent trips to La Crosse for the ordinary meetings of the Council as well as fulfilling various tasks between meetings as assigned by the Bishop and Council. Besides this new responsibility, I retain my duties as Pastor of our three parishes, Dean of the Durand Deanery and member of the College of Deans, Director of Spiritual Formation in the Permanent Deacon Formation Program, member of the Seminary Admissions Board, and Priest Mentor in the Teaching Parish Program of the University of Saint Thomas Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity. Thank you for your continued prayerful support!

Today, a new Church year begins with the **Season of Advent.** In the pagan world of the ancient Greeks and Romans, *epiphaneia* (the Greek word from which we get our English “epiphany”) or *adventus* (the Latin word from which we get our English “advent”) meant “coming.” These terms were used to refer to the annual coming of gods into their temples to visit their devotees. In the court of the Roman Emperors these words also signified the first official visit of the Emperor (or other important officeholder) to a city. Our ancestors in the faith – the first Christians – transformed the usage and meaning of these terms applying them to Jesus Christ. Thus, in a twofold sense they spoke of **Christ’s epiphany or advent**, namely: (1) **His coming among us as a man** sharing fully our human nature being born of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and (2) **His coming and manifestation in glory** – He who is Lord and Savior – as judge of the living and the dead at the end of time. The Preface of the Eucharistic Prayer for today’s Mass of the First Sunday of Advent reflects this ancient theology.

Developing from this double understanding of the coming of Christ, the word “advent” eventually came to be applied to the liturgical season of preparation at the head of the Church’s year. Thus, the Season of Advent is a **time for our preparation** (1) **for the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord** (Christmas), and (2) **to meet the Lord upon His coming in glory.**

Our Advent is the season of the coming of Christ. At the time of the Birth of Jesus of Nazareth and during the course of His earthly life, how many people **saw Him with their eyes but did not see Him for who He is** – truly God and truly man? And how many people were **not even watching for the Savior and missed Him altogether?** Christ will come again in glory at a time known only to the Father. Jesus Himself in today’s Gospel (Mark13:33-37) exhorts us: **“Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come!”** In an extended sense, **Christ already comes to us each and every day.** Yet, like the people at the time of Jesus’ earthly ministry, we do not always perceive Him in the persons and events of the drama of our lives. And how many people in our day are not even looking for Him?

In this Season of Advent, let us beg the Lord to **sharpen our sense of faith**, our ability to perceive His coming in our midst, our preparedness for His glorious return. And let us ask Christ to **remove any obstacles** we may have erected in our lives and that may prevent us from perceiving His presence or make us unready for whenever He calls us to Himself. These may be accomplished this Advent (1) by our **life of prayer** allowing God to draw us closer to Himself, coming to know Him as one knows a friend and confidant; (2) by our **frequent and worthy reception of the Sacraments**, especially Penance (Confession) and the Holy Eucharist; (3) by **living an upright life according to the Commandments** as we beg the Lord for “the resolve to run forth to meet . . . Christ with righteous deeds at His coming” (Collect, First Sunday of Advent); and, finally, (4) by **living faithfully our vocation** – to the dedicated single life, the priesthood, the consecrated religious life, or the married life. Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us! Saint Luke, pray for us! Very Rev. Kevin C. Louis, STL

Stewardship for November 22-23

“How shall I make a return to the Lord for all He has -done for me?” (Psalm 116:12)

	Adult Envelopes	Offertory	Immaculate Conception
Spring Valley	\$1285	\$174	\$5
Elmwood	\$1110	\$68.25	
Boyceville	\$661	\$95	

BRIEFLY NOTED

DAA Pledges: Please send in your pledge for the appeal if you haven’t yet. **If you have already pledged and sent in your pledge card but have received letters from the Diocese in the last two weeks regarding the appeal, please disregard those letters.** Your first payments have been received and processed. A mailing error occurred at the Diocese. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Central Office.

Ladies of Sacred Heart Parish Elmwood: Jan. 1st my term is up as Altar & Rosary treasure. I have held this office for 10 years and feel it is time for me to step down. Please feel free to call me so we can discuss the responsibilities. God Bless you and may He help you make the choice to volunteer and help this truly wonderful organization. Thank you, Sharon Weber – 639-3322.

Elmwood CCD Reminder: All students were provided a copy of the “Act of Contrition” prayer and should practice it for the upcoming Reconciliation program on Wednesday, December 10 in Elmwood. Students will be required to sign in for confessions. Father Louis will be available from 6:30 to 7:45 pm to hear confessions that evening. Students may come and go for confession at their leisure or may choose to stay for 8PM Mass.

