

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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Boyceville Secretary: Mrs. Karen Adams 715.643.3081
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Our Mass Schedule for This Week

Monday (1-4).....NO MASS
Tuesday (1-5).....6:30PM Mass at Spring Valley
+Jeanne Mountin (John and Nancy Ellingson)
Wednesday (1-6)7:30PM Mass at Elmwood
+Dick Conway (John and Barb Schneider)
Thursday (1-7).....8:00AM Mass at Spring Valley
+William Geenen
10:00AM Mass at Spring Valley Healthcare Center
+Judith Schmitt
Friday (1-8).....8:00AM Communion Service at Spring Valley
1:30 PM Mass at Heritage of Elmwood Nursing Home
+Joanne Schwebach (Knights of Columbus Council #6599)

The Baptism of the Lord

Saturday (1-9).....8:00PM VIGIL Mass at Elmwood
+Eileen Bevins (John and Barb Schneider)

Sunday (1-10).....8:30AM Mass at Boyceville
Missa Pro Populo

10:30AM Mass at Spring Valley
+Homebound, Nursing Home Residents, Military & Religious People

BRIEFLY NOTED

Congratulations to **Logan and Karen (Trott) Lea** who were joined in the **Sacrament of Matrimony at Spring Valley** and to **Nathan and Lisa (Lecheler) Sorenson** who were also joined in the **Sacrament of Matrimony at Elmwood**. "Strengthen, we pray, in the grace of Marriage, Logan and Karen Lea and Nathan and Lisa Sorenson, whom you have brought happily to their wedding day, that under your protection these couples may always be faithful in their lives to the covenant they have sealed in your presence" (*Roman Missal*, 1027).

Spring Valley Altar Server training: will be held 3:30-4:30pm on **Wednesday, January 13, 2016** in the church. Any student wishing to serve should bring the parental permission slip with them. The forms are available at CCD as well as in the back of church.

Elmwood Altar and Rosary Soup and Sandwich Dinner: Please join us on Saturday, Jan 23rd for Parish event sponsored by Altar & Rosary Sacred Heart Elmwood. Mass will be held at **4:00pm**. Soup and Sandwich will be served from 5:00pm-7:00pm (free will offering). We also invite you to try your luck at **bingo** from 5:00 pm-7:00pm.

CONFESSIONS

Tuesday 5:45-6:15 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. 8 AM to Friday 8AM
Spring Valley

Elmwood Prayer Circle: Elmwood Sacred Heart updated prayer circle is posted on bulletin boards at 3 church entrances. Prayer circle members will receive updated lists. Please note the changes made in the person you call. Thank you.

Mass Requests: If anyone wishes to have a mass celebrated for a loved one they may place their request in a clearly marked envelope in the collection basket at mass or mail it to the Central Office. Mass stipends are \$10 a mass.

St. Luke's: Anyone interested in attending a Friday Mass once a month at St. Luke's, please email or call Karen at the church.

Year of Mercy Diocesan Website:

The Diocese has provided a website with material on the Year of Mercy. Visit <http://sites.dioc.org/mercy/> for information on corporal and spiritual works of mercy, a list of pilgrimage churches in our diocese, devotional resources and much more!

DOWNLOAD OUR APP

Go to your app store and search for "myParish-Catholic Life". Follow the installation prompts, select your parish and stay connected with current parish events and mass times.

VISIT US ON THE WEB

www.svecatholic.org

Epiphany

Today we hear the last part of the Christmas story. But the message of these last twelve days is **more** than the sum of its parts. For instance, God speaks in a language especially suited to each. Think about it: to a young, pregnant woman, how better for divine **assurance** to come than in the comforting presence of an elderly relative? Surely, the carpenter Joseph, as a child, learned the stories of the earlier Joseph who, by listening to dreams, delivered the Hebrews from famine. Kings, on the other hand, are used to receiving important information from foreign ambassadors, so Herod first learns of Jesus’ arrival from alien dignitaries in exotic dress. Finally, the Magi themselves find the road via a star, a most friendly way for news to reach those **whose work it is** to scan the skies. Connect the dots, as in a puzzle book, and a pattern appears. God, it seems, chooses a voice to fit the ears of each who would welcome His word.

A couple of weeks ago I saw the Wizard of Oz on TV again and I was reminded of what a **great story** it is. A storm sweeps Dorothy up and deposits her in a strange land where, with three companions, she seeks out the Wizard who can supply what they want and, there are wants aplenty! The Scarecrow seeks a brain, the Tin Man a heart and the Cowardly Lion seeks courage. From malicious apple trees to sleep inducing poppies their path is strewn with obstacle but it’s the journey itself and not actually **reaching OZ** that wins the prize.

Don’t you remember, it’s the tears of the allegedly heartless Tin Man--not the rain--that has the others reaching for the oil can. When Dorothy is trapped in the Wicked Witch’s castle, it is the supposedly **brainless** scarecrow who comes up with the plan, and the Cowardly Lion who leads the charge. At the end, the Wizard explains, what the observant viewer has already noted, that each has already acquired the gift they sought on the journey. Here, entertainment becomes insight.

Things like compassion, wisdom and courage come to us, not ahead of time, but only when we take steps toward them. And faith is no different. It is handed, prepackaged only to the few: the shepherds, for instance. For the rest of us, like the astrologers, faith entails a hard journey. Not because God plays hide-and-seek but because faith, like any muscle, grows only in the face of resistance. Thankfully, as Catherine of Sienna said, “All the way to God...is God.”

The decisive difference, then, is not between shepherd and astrologers **but** between seekers and non-seekers, those who will step out on the road and those who wait for things to be delivered. When he grows up this baby will promise, “Everyone who seeks will find.” So today’s Good News can be summed up in these three things, these things that are for sure. God will come to us in a voice that will fit our ears, all the way to God is God and, all who truly seek the Lord **will** find him. *Deacon Kevin Ray*

Stewardship for December 26-27 2015				
<i>“How shall I make a return to the Lord for all He has -done for me?” (Psalm 116:12)</i>				
	Adult Envelopes	Offertory	Christmas	Retirement for Religious
Spring Valley	\$3,161	\$460.90	\$3,954	\$10
Elmwood	(numbers will appear next week)			
Boyceville	\$550	\$168	\$782	

Diocese of La Crosse Guidelines for Reporting Instances of Child Abuse:

The Diocese of La Crosse, through its policies and procedures, seeks to provide a prompt, appropriate and compassionate response to reporters of sexual abuse of a child by a priest or deacon. Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to Bishop William P. Callahan at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. The form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse, Office for Clergy; or on the diocesan website at: www.dioceseoflacrosse.com. **Individuals are also encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities.** Copies of the diocesan policy are available through your local parish and on the diocesan website. If you have any questions about the Diocese of La Crosse and the implementation of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, please contact Monsignor David Kunz, Vicar for Clergy, Diocese of La Crosse, at (608) 791-2679; or dkunz@diolc.org

Gospel of John and the Miracles of Jesus: On Wednesday evening, January 20th, Msgr Mark Pierce will be speaking at St. Joseph School in Prescott on the Gospel of John and the Miracles of Jesus. There will be a supper at 5 pm and the presentation at 5:30 pm. \$10 fee per person. Msgr Pierce is a very knowledgeable and entertaining speaker on the Bible. Interested persons may contact Barbara Schneider for more information and/or ride share: 715-647-2122 Certification credit is available for CCD teachers.

Spring Valley's DAA update: A huge THANK YOU to those who have already helped pay \$14359.99 of our \$19910 assessment. To the Parishioners who have not returned a pledge card, the parish would appreciate the return of your card. Consider using the monthly payment option with the final payment due June 30th. If you're unable to make a pledge, indicate to the Diocese by returning the card with a "0".

Elmwood DAA Update: Thanks to those who have turned in their pledge cards and made a payment to the annual appeal. Due to your generosity, we have exceeded our target amount of \$13, 915 and have a total of \$15,345 pledged to the appeal. This means that the excess of \$1,430 will be returned to our parish for our parish’s use. Thank you for supporting the Diocesan appeal and your parish!

