

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

† SACRED HEART PARISH
N108 Sabin Avenue
Spring Valley, WI 54767

† SACRED HEART PARISH
106 West Wilson Avenue
Elmwood, WI 54740

OUR PASTOR: Rev. Prince A. Raja
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Elmwood, WI 54740

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Anne Helmer and Beth Ingli
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NEW PARISHIONERS: We welcome new parishioners into our parish family. Please contact the Central Office for information on how to join.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Wednesday 6:30-7:30 PM Elmwood
Thursday to Friday 8:00 AM to 8:00 AM Spring Valley

CONFESSIONS:

Sunday 7:45-8:15 AM Elmwood
Tuesday 5:45-6:15 PM Spring Valley
Wednesday 6:30-7:15 PM Elmwood
Saturday 7:00-7:45 PM Elmwood



OUR MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Tuesday	March 13	6:30 PM 7:00 PM	Mass in Spring Valley Stations of the Church- Spring Valley	+ Henry Winzig (Family of Friends of Henry)
Wednesday	March 14	7:30 PM	Mass in Elmwood	+Bernard Hofacker (Bernie & Lois Freiermuth)
Thursday	March 15	8:00 AM	Mass in Spring Valley	Kathy Sabelko (Jerry Sabelko)
Friday	March 16	1:30 PM 7:30 PM	Mass at Elmwood Assisted Living Stations of the Church- Elmwood	+James & Ilene Bates (Bates Family)

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Saturday	March 17	8:00 PM	Vigil Mass in Elmwood	+ Kathy Feuker (Marvin & Dell Jane Kannel)
Sunday	March 18	8:30 AM	Mass in Elmwood	+ Henry Hince (Guy & June Hartung)
		10:30 AM	Mass in Spring Valley	+ Mickey Traynor (Jane Seifert)

Stewardship for March 3-4th, 2018
"How shall I make a return to the Lord for all He has done for me?" (Psalm 116:12)

	Adult Envelopes	Offertory
Elmwood	\$620.00	\$120.00
Spring Valley	\$1366.00	\$118.00

PASTORAL REFLECTION

In the Gospel text of today (from John 3), there are at least three expressions that can have more than one meaning: night, spirit or wind, born from above or born again. This conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus turns out to be a theological discourse, which is very typical of the Gospel of John.

1. Nicodemus "came to Jesus by night..." (Jn 3:2). We are told that Nicodemus was a Pharisee, and a leader of the Jews. This could mean that he was a member of the Sanhedrin – the council of Jewish elders. So Nicodemus was a public person, with knowledge, influence and authority. But why did he come to Jesus by night? Is 'night' to be understood in a figurative sense that in spite of his knowledge, Nicodemus was in the dark about the true revelation of God? Or if we understand 'night' literally, did he come to Jesus by night because he was afraid of the public eye. In the context of increasing secularism, we are tempted to come to Jesus "by night". We prefer to reduce our faith-life to the private domain. Much like, Nicodemus we may feel shy to be associated with Jesus.

2. "...no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." (Jn 3:3). This is the second point of our reflection. John uses the Greek word, 'anothen', and this has two meanings: 'again' or 'above'. Jesus continues to clarify this further by saying, "in all truth I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born through water and the Spirit..." (Jn 3:5).

3. "God so loved the world..." (Jn 3:16).

The core of Christianity is the experience of the love of God in the person of Jesus. This is the experience of our salvation. This is the meaning of being born from above – being born of water and the Spirit. Water is the symbol of the experience (as from Jn 4) and Spirit is God himself who offers that experience!

Rev. Prince Raja

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News for All



Congratulations to **Tru Ann Marie and Myah Rose Hofacker**, daughters of **Larry and Shelly Hofacker**, reborn in the Sacrament of Baptism in Elmwood today. "Remember, Lord, Tru and Myah, who, through Baptism, have been joined to your family, that they may follow Jesus your Son, with generous heart and willing spirit." (Roman Missal 974).

The Triduum will be held in **Spring Valley** this year at the following times:

+Holy Thursday: 7:30 pm +Good Friday - 3:00 pm +Easter Vigil (Holy Saturday) - 8:00 pm
Easter Sunday – April 1st regular Sunday Mass times – 8:30 am – Elmwood 10:30 am - Spring Valley

Knights of Columbus: The Knights of Columbus will be holding a membership drive the weekend of March 17 & 18. If you are interested in helping those in need, serving our parishes, and growing in faith, please consider joining the Knights of Columbus. To learn more about this organization and our local council, please talk with one of the Knights after Mass, contact Greg Buchal at 772-4452, or plan to attend the informational meeting on Wednesday March 21 at 8:00pm in the Elmwood Church basement.

This Week in FORMED This week as we approach the Feast day of St. Patrick Formed.org offers us a fresh glimpse into the life of this great saint. We've all heard the story of St. Patrick, but there's more to his life than shamrocks and snakes. Did you know that young Patrick was a Roman citizen, kidnapped from his home and taught to pray during his time of slavery? With cinematic sound effects and a captivating story, *The Trials of St. Patrick* will introduce you to this well-known but oft-misunderstood saint. Long in this week to formed.org to listen to this audio drama. Find all of this content and so much more on Formed.org. Log in to Formed by visiting www.formed.org/register –and entering in Parish Code: **CQH26N**

ST. LUKE'S LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION: Please mark your calendar to join us for a Lenten retreat day on Saturday, March 17th from 8:00 to 3:00. If you have come to our Lenten retreat in the past, it will be structured similarly beginning with Mass, and there will be Confession, Adoration, talks, the Way of the Cross and the Rosary woven throughout the day. Also, there will be a light breakfast after morning Mass and a lunch provided. Please reserve the day with Rita Zimmerman at [715-643-2211](tel:715-643-2211) and plan to immerse yourself in this holy day.

The Most Basic Right: "The common outcry, which is justly made on behalf of human rights -- for example, the right to health, to home, to work, to family, to culture -- is false and illusory if the right to life, the most basic and fundamental right and the condition for all other personal rights, is not defended with maximum determination." -- Pope John Paul II, *Christifideles Laici* (1988), n. 38.

Elmwood News

Altar and Rosary : Altar & Rosary will be decorating our church Altar with live plants this year for Easter. If you would like to donate in memory of a loved one, please send check to Box 54, Elmwood or drop in the A & R box in the church basement. Thank you.

Annual Appeal: The parishioners of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Elmwood have pledged **\$14,035** of our parish's Diocesan Annual Appeal goal of **\$15,215**, which is **92.25%** of where we need to be. Last year **92** families pledged; this year we have received only **88** pledges. The end of the Annual Appeal is just three months away, in June. If you haven't sent in your pledge, please do so now! If you need a pledge card and envelope, we have placed some on the table in the back of the Church, or you may contact Jeff Pitman at [715-235-2827](tel:715-235-2827) and he will send a pledge card to you immediately!

Fourth Sunday of Lent Prayer:

Loving God,
you created the human race
and you know each one of us by name.
Through Christ you have chosen us
to be your sons and daughters
and to build up your Kingdom on earth.
Keep our family in your care
and provide for all our needs.
Never let stress diminish our love
for each other
nor the desire for material things
lessen our love for you.
With confidence and trust, loving God,
we make this prayer through
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Spring Valley News

St. Patrick's Day Dinner – 3/18/18: Sacred Heart of Spring Valley will host its annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner on Sunday, March 18th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Brother Michael Center. Please sign up to bring pies or Jell-O, and to help work Saturday or Sunday. The sign-up sheets are in the church entry. Any and all help is greatly appreciated. Please come and join us in a good meal and fellowship. Spread the word! We look forward to seeing you, your family and friends at the dinner on March 18!

Did you know? Clarice Langer had a special recipe for the St. Pat's Day Dinner, and for years she would prepare it, jar it and bring it in for some yummy coleslaw. Although she didn't leave her recipe...we will try to re-create that yummy coleslaw again!

Eucharistic Adoration: We are looking for two or more people to permanently take over the 1:00 - 2:00 hour of Eucharistic adoration on Thursday afternoons. Please contact Laura Buchal at 715-772-4452 for more information.

In Need of Mass Servers: With a couple of our youth graduating this Spring, we are in need of a few more altar servers. If any youth in grades 3rd or older are interested in helping with mass, please contact the Central Office for more information. Thank You!

DAA update: \$19347.44 of our target has been paid leaving a balance of \$1027.56.

Some Food, Some Art, All Heart: On Tuesday March 13, from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Spring Valley High School will be hosting FILLING EMPTY BOWLS. 100% of the proceeds are used to fight hunger in the Spring Valley Community. There will be bowls for sale, pottery demonstrations, student performances, and activities for kids. Prices: \$3 for a meal, or \$10 for a meal and bowl combo.