

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

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OUR STAFF

Central Office

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Administrative Assistant: Ms. Rebecca Schmitt 715.778.5519
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Boyceville Secretary: Mrs. Karen Adams 715.643.3081
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Our Mass Schedule for This Week

Monday (12-15).....8:00AM Mass at Elmwood
+Albert Lecheler (Don and Mary Schmitz)
Tuesday (12-16).....NO MASS
Wednesday (12-17).....7:30 PM Mass at Elmwood
+Walter Allen (Clement Samson)
Thursday (12-18).....8:00 AM Mass at Spring Valley
+Johnny and Lorraine Zignego (Ron Zignego)
Friday (12-19).....8:00 AM *Communion Service*
1:30 PM Mass at the Heritage of Elmwood NH
+Frank Crownhart (Dennis and Sharon Sinz)

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday (12-20).....8:00 PM VIGIL Mass at Elmwood
+Francis Kirby (Brian Kirby)
Sunday (12-21).....8:30 AM Mass at Boyceville
Missa pro populo
10:30 AM Mass at Spring Valley
+Brody Sotona and Billy Anderson (Sotona Family)

The Nativity of the Lord

Wednesday (12-24).....4:00 PM VIGIL Mass at Spring Valley
+Jack Traynor (Doris Traynor)
8:00 PM VIGIL Mass at Elmwood
+Tony and Arcella Binkowski (Binkowski Family)
Thursday (12-25).....8:30 AM Mass at Boyceville
Missa pro populo
10:30 AM Mass at Spring Valley
+Dorothy Hartung (Tom and Joelle Miller)

BRIEFLY NOTED

Congratulations to Braylen Joseph Geraets infant son of Patrick Geraets and April Stark who is reborn in the **Sacrament of Baptism** at Elmwood. "Remember, Lord, Braylen who through Baptism has been joined to your family, that he may follow Christ, your Son, with a generous heart and a willing spirit" (Roman Missal, 974).

Our **deepest sympathy and assurance of prayers** are extended to the family and friends of **Frank Binkowski** of Elmwood who was died this week. "O God, who alone are able to give life after death, free your servant Frank 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).

CONFESSIONS

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: The choir will sing for Christmas Mass, anyone who is interested is invited to join us!

St. Luke's: Dec. 14th will be our potluck Sunday. Both St. Joan of Arc and St. Jessica's will serve. Everyone welcome!

St. Luke's: St. Jessica's circle will be holding their annual bake sale on Dec 14th after mass. This is the only fund raiser during the year. Do your baking for the Holiday.

St. Luke's: Is looking for a Eucharistic Minister and reader for Christmas Mass on December 25. If anyone is willing to volunteer please contact Karen Adams.

Spring Valley Christmas Program: will be on **Sunday, Dec. 22 at 10:15 AM** before the 10:30 AM Mass.

Spring Valley: We will be decorating the church for Christmas Sunday, Dec. 21 after the 10:30 Mass. Any and all help would be appreciated. Thank you.

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.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

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

VISIT US ON THE WEB

www.svecatholic.org

By means of an iPad, this past week **Pope Francis** “flipped the switch” that lit the world’s largest Christmas tree made of lights located in Gubbio, Italy. Via satellite he addressed those gathered in that town in central Italy. His words speak to us as well: “I wish you a happy and holy Christmas! In switching on the light of the Nativity scene, we wish for the light of Christ to be in us. A Christmas without light is not Christmas. Let there be light in the soul, in the heart; let there be forgiveness to others; let there be no hostilities, which are dark. Let there be the beautiful light of Jesus. This is my wish for all of you, when you turn on the light of the crib . . . I give to you my warmest wishes, peace and happiness. **If you have something dark in your soul, ask the Lord for forgiveness. Christmas is a great opportunity to cleanse the soul, eh! Do not fear, the priest is merciful, forgiving all in the name of God, because God forgives everything.** Let light be in your hearts, in your families, in your cities.” There are several additional opportunities for you to take up **the Pope’s invitation and receive the gift of the Lord’s mercy through the Sacrament of Penance or Reconciliation. A joint communal Penance Service for our parishes and Saint Joseph Parish is Monday, December 15, in Menomonie with multiple priests hearing individual Confessions following a brief prayer service at 7:00 PM.** Besides the usual times, there are individual Confessions **6:00-7:30 PM on Wednesday, December 17, at Elmwood and 7:00-8:30 PM on Tuesday, December 23, at Spring Valley.**

In the United States this time of year is characterized by giving and generosity. The roots of this cultural phenomenon, of course, are Christian. We give to others in imitation of our Heavenly Father who has given to us His Eternal Son, Jesus Christ, born in time from the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We imitate the shepherds who came to the newborn child to give Him homage. We emulate the wise men from the East who offered to the infant their reverence as well as gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. **In the spirit of this season, I invite you to prayerfully consider offering your time and talents to the service of God and our communities of faith as an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion (at Masses and/or to the homebound), reader (at Masses of the Lord’s Day and during the week), altar server, sacristan, or usher.** In the new year we will offer sessions intended to renew those who already exercise these ministries and train those who are just beginning. Keep an eye on the bulletin and the parish website www.svecatholic.org for more details in the coming week.

Thank you to Keehr Funeral Home in Spring Valley and Rhiel Funeral Home in Elmwood and Menomonie for donating to our parishes beautiful 2015 calendars. These calendars are particularly helpful for observing in the home what we celebrate in church at Mass. The calendars list the five seasons of the Church year (Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, and Ordinary Time) and the various commemorations of specific aspects of the mystery of our salvation (feasts of the Lord, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the saints). Please feel free to take a calendar home with you. They are available at the main entrances of our churches.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us! Saint Luke, pray for us!

Father Kevin Louis, STL

Stewardship for December 6-7				
<i>“How shall I make a return to the Lord for all He has -done for me?” (Psalm 116:12)</i>				
	Adult Envelopes	Offertory	Candles	Christmas
Spring Valley	\$2074	\$93.25		
Elmwood	\$1020	\$87.05	\$57.58	\$20
Boyceville	\$1141	\$65		

BRIEFLY NOTED

Elmwood Centennial Ornament Sale: Altar & Rosary ladies will be selling Centennial ornaments in the back of church after mass. They are 18 karat gold plated and each have an insert explaining the history of Sacred Heart Church, Elmwood. They make memorable Christmas present. There are less than 35 of them left and they are \$15.

Diocese Audited Reports: The Diocese of La Crosse audited June 30, 2014 financial statements, along with Frequently Asked Questions and Answers about the statements, can be found at: www.dioc.org. The audited June 30, 2014 financial statements are also available for St. Ambrose Financial Services, Inc. at www.stambrosefinancial.com.

Lay Formation Institute: Registration is underway for the next 2 year cycle of the Lay Formation Institute. Classes begin Fall 2015. Brochures and application forms can be downloaded at www.dioc.org/layformation. For more information, contact Christopher Ruff, Office for Ministries and Social Concerns, at (608) 791-2664.

Elmwood Diocesan Appeal Update: Our goal is \$15,461. To date: Amount Pledged is \$13,070 or 84.5% of goal. Amount Paid is \$12,060 or 78% of goal. Participation: 82 out of 179 parishioners have pledged; this is 46% of the total parishioners. **We need everyone to help meet our assigned goal otherwise any shortfall will have to be paid out of our parish operating funds.** If you need a pledge card there are some in the back of the church, or contact Becky in the parish office. In the past we have always had 60 to 70% parish participation and have always met our goal. **If you want to have your paid pledge included in the 2014 tax year please have it into the Elmwood rectory by 12/20/14.** Thank you to everyone for helping us to make our goal.

Diocesan Annual Appeal Notice: The DAA payments need to be received at the Milwaukee address by Dec 31st to be included in the 2014 tax reports. **We suggest your payments be in the mail by the 20th to ensure it reaches the bank before Dec 31st.** Do not send check payments to the Diocesan office, only credit card payments.

