

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

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Our Mass Schedule for This Week

Monday (11/24).....8:00 AM Mass at Elmwood
+Frank Binkowski (Binkowski Family)
Tuesday (11-25).....6:30 PM Mass at Spring Valley
+Johnny and Lorraine Zignego (Ron Zignego)
Wednesday (11-26).....8:00 AM Mass at Elmwood
+Walter Allen (Dorothy Allen)
Thursday-Friday (11/27-28).....NO COMMUNION SERVICE

First Sunday of Advent

Saturday (11-29).....8:00 PM VIGIL Mass at Elmwood
+Walter Allen (Joan Binkowski)
Sunday (11-30).....8:30 AM Mass at Boyceville
+Dean Adams (Joe and Karen Adams)
10:30 AM Mass at Spring Valley
Missa pro populo

BRIEFLY NOTED

Our **deepest sympathy and assurance of prayers** are extended to the family and friends of **Gertrude Geraets** of Elmwood who was buried this week. "O God, who alone are able to give life after death, free your servant Gertrude from all sins, that she 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 Beaux Macin Thomas Branch infant son of Thomas and Amanda Branch who is reborn in the **Sacrament of Baptism** at Spring Valley. "Remember, Lord, Beaux 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).

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.

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.

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.-Friday No Adoration

Holy Day of Obligation Mass
Reminder: December 8 is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and is a holy day of obligation. Please note these mass times: 8PM mass on Sunday, December 7 at Elmwood, 8AM in Spring Valley and 6PM mass at Boyceville on Monday, December 8.

Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service: will be held on Wednesday, November 26 at 7PM at the St. John's Lutheran Church in Spring Valley. All are invited!

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.

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.dioc.org.

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www.svecatholic.org

“STRENGTHEN YOUR BRETHERN” (Luke 22:32)

We celebrate today the **Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe**, the Last Sunday in Ordinary Time. Just what does it mean for us to worship Christ as King of the Universe? The Preface of the Eucharistic Prayer for the Mass of Christ the King speaks of **Jesus being anointed**, an ancient gesture mentioned in II Samuel – there referring to David as king of Israel (5:13) – a gesture whereby someone is consecrated before God and the community as priest, prophet or king. The Preface tells us Jesus is **anointed as “eternal Priest”** by offering “Himself on the altar of the cross.” The Book of Revelation speaks of this priestly sacrifice of Christ – He who “loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood, who has made us into a kingdom, priests for His God and Father” (1:5-6).

The Preface also tells us Jesus is **anointed as “King of all creation.”** Indeed, the prophet Daniel speaks of the “Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven . . . (the one who) received dominion, glory and kingship . . . (the one whom) nations and peoples of every language serve” (7:13-14). The Collect (Opening Prayer) of today’s Mass speaks of Christ’s Kingship being manifested by His setting “the whole creation . . . free from slavery” and restoring “all things.” Jesus exercises this kingly power in *our* lives by the forgiveness of sins and re-creation that is ours through the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Preface of the Eucharistic Prayer further specifies that Jesus has dominion over all creation so that upon His return He may present to the Father “an eternal and universal kingdom: a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love and peace.” Therefore, **we acknowledge Christ as King and cooperate with Him in bringing about the Kingdom** when we live by the Gospel (cf. Prayer after Communion) – when we practice the truth (cf. John 18:37) and respect life, when we cultivate a life of prayer and good works, when we work for justice and peace informed by the virtue of charity. In this way, then, we on earth are united with those in heaven in acclaiming God’s glory (cf. Collect). With our celebration of Christ the King we pray that our praise and worship of God may never cease until His Kingdom is fully made manifest upon the glorious return of the Son, Christ our King.

This week our country pauses to give thanks to Him who is the source of all goodness. Because of the timing of Christmas this year, I am not sure I will be able to make the trek to Marshfield to be with my family at that time. So I am taking a little extra time at Thanksgiving to spend with them. My stepmother is recovering nicely from the complete replacement of her knee (the other knee was replaced earlier this year). And my brother will be home from Chicago for the Thanksgiving holiday. He is feeling well although the experimental treatment he received for leukemia has failed. In the Collect (Opening Prayer) for the Mass of Thanksgiving Day we pray: “Father all-powerful, your gifts of love are countless and your goodness infinite; as we come before you on Thanksgiving Day **with gratitude for your kindness, open our hearts to have concern for every man, woman, and child, so that we may share your gifts in loving service.**” Let us approach the Lord with hearts filled with gratitude for the blessings of the past year. **Happy Thanksgiving!**

As we celebrate a national day of expressing gratitude to Almighty God for His many blessings, it seems especially appropriate to thank the foreign-born priests who have come to our Diocese of La Crosse as missionaries. We need only to look in our own Durand Deanery to see what an indispensable role they are playing in meeting our spiritual needs. **There are 14 parishes in our Deanery served by 8 Pastors. Of these 8 Pastors only five are natives of the United States! Thank you to the foreign-born priests who sacrifice so much to minister in our midst!**

The Diocesan Annual Appeal in our parishes is well underway. I myself have made my financial pledge and just sent in my third payment. Bishop Callahan expects us priests to give ‘till it hurts! **Thank you to the many families of our parishes who have already responded with pledges of prayers as well as financial gifts. I ask you to give prayerful consideration to your own monetary donation to the Appeal. No gift is too small!** With your continued generosity we can once again meet and even surpass our target. As always, **100 percent of any funds beyond our goal are returned to us in our parishes for our use right here.**

Stewardship for November 15-16

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

	Adult Envelopes	Offertory	Roof Fund
Spring Valley	\$1225	\$373.01	
Elmwood	\$1156	\$190.75	
Boyceville	\$700	\$116	\$100

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.

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.

