

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-Wednesday (1/26-28).....NO MASS

Thursday (1-29).....8:00 AM Communion Service at Spring Valley

Friday (1-30).....8:00 AM Communion Service at Spring Valley

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday (1-31).....8:00 PM VIGIL Mass at Elmwood

Missa pro populo

Sunday (2-1).....8:30 AM Mass at Boyceville

+Dave W. Smith (James Smith)

10:30 AM Mass at Spring Valley

+Josh Gokey (Anita Gokey)

BRIEFLY NOTED

Elmwood Parishioner Help: Members of our Elmwood church are being asked to help the Gary and Laurie Brunner family over the next 6-8 weeks. Laurie recently had major back surgery and the family is requesting prepared meals to warm up or bake in the oven. Please add baking directions. Meals can be left in the church kitchen either on the counter or in the fridge labeled "Brunner Family." Dishes will be returned. For additional information please contact Marilyn Bowell 715-664-8975.

St. Luke's: St Luke's Altar Society will meet on Wednesday, January 28th at 1 p.m. in the dining hall. St. Jessica's circle will meet immediately following the Altar Society meeting.

St. Luke's: Thank to everyone who donated items and money to the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox project. We were able to pack and send 24 boxes to children in this country and overseas.

Souper Bowl for Caring- Sacred Heart of Jesus-Spring Valley will be collecting money or non-perishable items for the food pantry on Super Bowl Sunday Feb. 1, 2015. All money and food items will go to the Spring Valley Food Pantry. Thank you in advance.

Vianney Visit—On **Thursday, Feb. 12** through **Saturday, Feb. 14** St. John Vianney Seminary in the Twin Cities will be offering the opportunity for all young men, high school sophomores through college, to experience seminary life. For more information and registration please visit vianney.net/visitvianney.aspx and contact the vocations office at svonruden@dioceseoflacrosse.com.

St. Luke's: USHERS NEEDED. There is a sign up sheet on the back table for those persons who are interested in ushering. There will be a short meeting after Mass on January 25th to complete the sign up process.

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

Elmwood Parishioners: Please note that individual parishioner tax statements have been mailed this week and a separate statement for your annual appeal donation will be coming from the Diocese.

Spring Valley Parishioners:

Your comprehensive 2014 Contribution Statement for tax purposes has been mailed on Jan 21st.

St. Luke's: Sacristan

Needed. Please see Georgia or Karen. Thank you.

Elmwood CCD Families: Please have your child bring their Fazoli Dinner packet to Sunday school on February 1. Thank you.

Spring Valley Parishioners:

Your comprehensive 2014 Contribution Statement for tax purposes has been mailed on Jan 21st.

Found at Sacred Heart,

Elmwood: Small CD player with speakers. Owner should contact Marvin Kannel at 715-639-6613 to identify it.

Centennial Ornaments Sale: If you didn't get a chance to buy a commemorative Centennial ornament please call Sharon Weber 715-639-3322 or Lois Freiermuth 715-639-3307. Please help Altar & Rosary meet their goal of selling the remaining ornaments. The cost per ornament is \$15.

VISIT US ON THE WEB

www.svecatholic.org

On Thursday of this past week our thoughts returned to 1973 when our Supreme Court legalized abortion for all nine months of pregnancy in its *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* decisions. In the intervening years, more than 50 million unborn children have been surgically killed in the womb in our nation. While visiting our country in 1995, **Saint John Paul II** spoke to us as citizens of the United States of America: **“Democracy cannot be sustained without a shared commitment to certain moral truths about the human person and human community.** The basic question before a democratic society is; ‘How ought we to live together?’ In seeking an answer to this question, can society exclude moral truth and moral reasoning? Can the biblical wisdom, which played such a formative part in the very founding of your country, be excluded from that debate? Would not doing so mean that America’s founding documents no longer have any defining content, but are only the formal dressing of changing opinion? Would not doing so mean that tens of millions of Americans could no longer offer the contribution of their deepest convictions to the formation of public policy? Surely, it is important for America that the moral truths which make freedom possible should be passed on to each new generation. **Every generation of Americans needs to know that freedom consists not in doing what we like but in having the right to do what we ought**” (October 8, 1995).

Also, during that same pilgrimage to our country, Saint John Paul II reminded us that **“to a great extent, the story of America has been the story of long and difficult struggles to overcome the prejudices which excluded certain categories of people from a full share in the country’s life:** first, the struggle against religious intolerance, then the struggle against racial discrimination and in favor of civil rights for everyone. Sadly, today a new class of people is being excluded. When the unborn child – the ‘stranger in the womb’ – is declared to be beyond the protection of society, not only are America’s deepest traditions radically undermined and endangered, but a moral blight is brought upon society. I am also thinking of threats to the elderly, the severely handicapped and those who do not seem to have any social usefulness. When innocent human beings are declared inconvenient or burdensome, and thus unworthy of legal and social protection, grievous damage is done to the moral foundations of the democratic community. **The right to life is the first of all rights. It is the foundation of democratic liberties and the keystone of the edifice of civil society. Both as Americans and as followers of Christ, American Catholics must be committed to the defense of life in all its stages and in every condition**” (October 5, 1995).

Pope Francis speaks clearly of this Gospel of Life as well. Addressing members of the Italian Pro-life Movement our current Holy Father said: “Thank you for the testimony you give by promoting and defending human life from the moment of conception! We know that human life is sacred and inviolable. **Every civil right rests on the recognition of the first and fundamental right, that of life, which is not subordinate to any condition, be it quantitative, economic or, least of all, ideological.** ‘Just as the commandment “Thou shalt not kill” sets a clear limit in order to safeguard the value of human life, today we also have to say “thou shalt not” to an economy of exclusion and inequality. Such an economy kills . . . Human beings are themselves considered consumer goods to be used and then discarded. **We have created a “throw away” culture which is now spreading’** (*Apostolic Exhortation On the Joy of the Gospel*, 53). **And in this way life, too, ends up being thrown away.**” Pope Francis continued: “One of the gravest risks our age faces, amid the opportunities offered by a market equipped with every technological innovation, is the divorce between economics and morality, the basic ethical norms of human nature are increasingly neglected. **It is therefore necessary to express the strongest possible opposition to every direct attack on life, especially against the innocent and defenseless, and the unborn in a mother’s womb is the example of innocence par excellence**” (April 11, 2014). For excellent and reliable resources regarding these grave issues facing our nation please consult Wisconsin Right to Life (www.wrtl.org), Pro-Life Wisconsin (www.prolifewisconsin.org) or Life Site News (www.lifesitenews.com).

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

Father Kevin C. Louis, STL

Stewardship for January 17-18				
<i>“How shall I make a return to the Lord for all He has -done for me?” (Psalm 116:12)</i>				
	Adult Envelopes	Offertory	Roof Fund	Bates Memorial
Spring Valley	\$1917	\$147.50	\$200	
Elmwood	\$1230	\$113		\$100
Boyceville	\$800	\$89.90		

BRIEFLY NOTED

Fazoli Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser: The Elmwood CCD Program is hosting a **Fazoli’s Spaghetti Dinner at the Elmwood Auditorium on Wed. Feb 11 from 5-8 PM.** The meal is your choice of spaghetti, garden salad, breadsticks, dessert and beverage. CCD Youth are selling tickets for the meal: \$10 for adults and \$6 for children 12 and under. If at all possible please purchase tickets by February 1. Tickets will be issued at the door the night of dinner. Take-out is available. All proceeds to benefit the Elmwood CCD Youth. For information please contact Marilyn Bowell at 715-664-8975.

Elmwood CCD Fundraiser Donations: If anyone is interested in donating door prizes for the Fazolli Spaghetti Dinner on February 11, please contact Marilyn Bowell at 715-664-8975.

