

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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Our Mass Schedule for This Week

Monday-Wednesday (4/13-15).....NO MASS
Thursday (4-16).....8:00 AM *Communion Service at Spring Valley*
Friday (4-17).....8:00 AM *Communion Service at Spring Valley*

Third Sunday of Easter

Saturday (4-18).....8:00 PM VIGIL Mass at Elmwood
Missa pro Populo
Sunday (4-19).....8:30 AM Mass at Boyceville
+Alice Smith (James Smith)
10:30 AM Mass at Spring Valley
+Gloria Ryan (Tom Ryan)

BRIEFLY NOTED

Congratulations to the children of Elmwood on receiving Jesus for the first time in the Sacrament of Holy Communion at the 10:30 AM Mass, today, April 12 and on receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation on March 14! First Communicants are: Norah Marie Auth, Ella Katherine Johnson, Hailey Ruth Webb. May these children hold Jesus in their hearts and their love for the Eucharistic Lord deepen daily!

Note of Thanks: A big heartfelt thank-you to all the Elmwood CCD teachers, substitutes, students, and parents who volunteered their time and talents this CCD year and made it a success. We couldn't have done it without you! Thank you, Marilyn Bowell, CRE

Baby Bottle Fundraiser: Please remember to return your full baby bottles filled with coins, currency or a generous check to Church and put in the designated tubs in the church entryway. All proceeds go to Pregnancy Help Center of River Falls to fund services for women during their pregnancies.

St Luke's: THANK YOU to all the people who participated during Holy Week; Readers, Altar servers, Choir members, Sacristans, Ushers and the men who volunteered for "Washing of Feet". (If I forget to mention you, please forgive me) Our celebration was made richer by your participation. Thanks also to everyone who donated toward the purchase of Easter flowers.

Elmwood Altar and Rosary Society: We are collecting PLASTIC BOTTLE CAPS to be used to purchase wheel chairs for children. Plastic caps (paper or foil liners removed) from beverages, tooth paste, detergent, shampoo, cream cheese, etc are accepted. **Water bottle caps need to be kept separate.** For details visit: www.capslove.com. **Please put caps in the pails in the entry of our church by April 28th.** The Deanery Meeting speaker will take them with her that night. Thank you for your support of this worthwhile project!

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: Pot luck will be on April 19th after mass, please join in the fellowship. All are welcome.

St. Luke's: The Spring deanery meeting will be at Sacred Heart in Elmwood, on Tuesday April 28th. Come and enjoy.

Special Recognition:

Sacred Heart of Elmwood would like to recognize all our volunteer teachers:
Vicki Auth - 1st
Marilyn & Tim Bowell - 2nd
Marilyn Bowell – 3rd
Becky Schmitt – 4th
Ben Blegen – Teacher's Aide 4th
Sara Asher - 6th
Amy Luther - 7th
John Crownhart - 8th
Craig Feuker - 9th
Barb Schneider - 10th

Our volunteer substitutes:

Laurie Brunner
Charlotte Nellessen
Katja Weix
Barb Bee
Rebecca Weix

BULLETIN DEADLINE

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

VISIT US ON THE WEB

www.svecatholic.org

Our joyful observance of our Lord Jesus Christ’s victory over sin, death, and hopelessness continues with today’s celebration of the Second Sunday of Easter. Today is also designated as the Divine Mercy Sunday. What are the historical roots and meaning of this day of Divine Mercy? **Helen Kowalska** was born in 1905 in Poland. Her family was materially poor and lived deeply their Catholic faith. Already as a youngster, Helen was known for her genuine piety, depth of prayer, and concern for the poor. At 20 she entered the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy and took the name **Sister Maria Faustina of the Most Blessed Sacrament**. In her community, she worked as a cook, gardener, and doorkeeper. Her inner life was very rich as the Lord blessed her with many extraordinary spiritual gifts. Jesus communicated to Sister Maria Faustina that she was to be the apostle of His Divine Mercy in our modern world. The mission entrusted to her was to (1) remind the world and the Church of the truth of God’s mercy for every human being, (2) entreat Divine Mercy for the whole world, especially sinners, through the new forms of devotion to the Divine Mercy, and (3) initiate the apostolic movement of Divine Mercy, the followers of which proclaim and beg Divine Mercy for the world and practice the works of mercy. Sister Faustina Kowalska died of tuberculosis at 33. On April 30, 2000, Saint John Paul II canonized her as the **first saint of the New Millennium**. During his homily on that occasion, the Holy Father also announced that the **Second Sunday of Easter** would now be celebrated throughout the entire Church as **Divine Mercy Sunday**. In her *Diary* – a modern spiritual classic – Saint Faustina reported this message of the Savior: “My daughter, tell the whole world about my inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and a shelter for all souls, and especially for the poor sinners. On that day the very depths of my tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of my mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day are opened all the divine floodgates through which graces flow. Let no soul fear to draw near to me, even though its sins be as scarlet” (699). For more information on Saint Faustina and this devotion you can visit the official website of our **National Shrine of the Divine Mercy** (Stockbridge, MA) at thedivinemercy.org. Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world! Jesus, I trust in you!

Every year I field questions from the faithful regarding the **conditions for obtaining the special indulgence of Divine Mercy Sunday**. To gain *any* indulgence one must be in the **state of grace** (that is, not having committed a mortal sin or having been sacramentally forgiven for any mortal sin committed). In addition, in order to obtain the *plenary* indulgence, one must (1) have the **interior disposition of complete detachment from sin, even venial sin**; (2) have **sacramentally confessed one’s sins**; (3) **receive Holy Communion**; and (4) **pray for the intentions of the Pope**. The question always arises regarding the timing of the completion of these actions. Must I do all this on Divine Mercy Sunday itself or is it possible to complete some of them before or after that Sunday? How many days before or after are acceptable? Well, the Vatican office that deals with such questions – the Apostolic Penitentiary – clarified matters with its document *The Gift of the Indulgence* of January 29, 2000. Paragraph 5 of that document says that “it is *appropriate, but not necessary*, that the sacramental Confession and especially Holy Communion and the prayer for the Pope’s intentions take place *on the same day* that the indulgenced work is performed; but **it is sufficient that these sacred rites and prayers be carried out within several days (about 20) before or after the indulgenced act**. Prayer for the Pope’s intentions is left to the choice of the faithful, but an ‘Our Father’ and a ‘Hail Mary’ are suggested.”

Prayerful congratulations to the children of Elmwood who receive the Eucharistic Lord for the first time this Sunday! The Eucharist is “the source and summit of all Christian life. In the Eucharist, the sanctifying action of God in our regard and our worship of Him reach their high point. It contains the whole spiritual good of the Church, Christ Himself, our Pasch. Communion with divine life and the unity of the People of God are both expressed and effected by the Eucharist. Through the Eucharistic celebration we are united already with the liturgy of Heaven and we have a foretaste of eternal life” (*Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 274). May God richly bless them and their families on the occasion of this their **First Holy Communion**. May our **appreciation** of this wondrous sacramental presence of Jesus Christ increase and may our **participation** in this Holy Banquet deepen!

In your charity, please pray for me and the priests of our Diocese who are gathering this week for our **annual retreat of spiritual exercises at the Saint Anthony Spirituality Center in Marathon**. For the spiritual good of priests and the communities entrusted to their care, universal Church law obliges each priest to go on retreat every year. Our Diocese provides this opportunity for us each year. So we can take advantage of this or make arrangements on our own to do spiritual exercises elsewhere at another time and place. Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us! Saint Luke, pray for us! Saint John Vianney, pray for priests!
 Father Kevin C. Louis, STL

Stewardship for April 4-5				
<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	Good Friday
Spring Valley	\$2496	\$313.59	\$125	
Elmwood	\$2964.10	\$285.25		
Boyceville	\$1280	\$232		\$592.03

BRIEFLY NOTED

Thank You from Crownhart Family: The family of Adeline Crownhart extends heartfelt gratitude to Father Louis and all parishioners who extended so many kind and generous expressions of sympathy. We greatly appreciated the cards, flowers/plants, memorials, food, calls/emails, online condolences, and prayers. We especially thank Father Varkey, Deacon Ray, and Bill & Ed Crownhart for the beautiful funeral services and those who attended. Sincere appreciation is also extended to the casket bearers, readers, mass servers, ushers, Elmwood Sacred Heart Choir members, Crownhart family musicians, and St. Joseph’s Group for providing and serving the delicious funeral luncheon.

Rosary Making Group: We are interested in starting a "Rosary Making Group" at our churches. We could make "mission style rosaries" or "rope rosaries". There is no experience necessary. We will teach you how to do this. Ages welcome for this would be between 11-111. We would like to have our group meet at the Sacred Heart, Spring Valley CCD Center the first Wednesday of the month from 7-8PM. We will start on April 1st. Please give us a call if you have any questions. Thanks, Pam Burke & Cindy Schlegel Pam-715-307-8312 Cindy-715-684-3324

St. Luke's: On behalf of the many men and women who serve Christ in the foreign missions, the Diocesan Mission Office extends to St Luke Parish a heartfelt thank you for your financial generosity on World Mission Sunday. We have received your contributions of \$243, which will be forwarded to the National Office of the Society of the Propagation of Faith. May God bless you for the financial and spiritual help you offer the missions.

Spring Valley Roof Fund Update: Thanks to your generosity we are reaching our goal to pay off the Church Roof and have raised \$13,120! We need \$37,245 to reach our goal. If you have not donated yet, please prayerfully consider how you can assist the roof fund. You may send your contribution to the Central Office or place it in the offertory basket.