

# 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. Prince A. Raja

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**DEACON** – Kevin Ray

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Spring Valley, WI 54767-0456

## OUR STAFF

*Central Office*

S105 Sabin Avenue P.O. Box 456 Spring Valley, WI 54767-0456  
Administrative Assistant: Ms. Rebecca Schmitt 715.778.5519  
**admin@svecatholic.org**

Boyceville Secretary: Mrs. Karen Adams 715.643.3081  
**boyceville@svecatholic.org**

### Our Mass Schedule for This Week

Monday (11-30).....NO MASS  
Tuesday (12-1).....6:30PM Mass at Spring Valley  
+Frank Crownhart (Mike & Colleen Tappe)  
Wednesday (12-2) .....7:30PM Mass at Elmwood  
+Adeline Crownhart (Rene Sailer)  
Thursday (12-3).....8:00AM Mass at Spring Valley  
+William Kasten (Kasten Family)  
10:00AM Mass at Spring Valley Health Care Center  
+Wilma Weber (Robert Weber)  
Friday (12-4).....8:00AM Communion Service at Spring Valley  
1:30 PM Mass at Heritage of Elmwood  
+Eleanor Britton (Altar & Rosary Society)  
  
**Second Sunday of Advent**  
Saturday (12-5).....8:00 PM VIGIL Mass at Elmwood  
+Living & deceased of Clarence Pittman family (John & Barb Schneider)  
Sunday (12-6).....8:30 AM Mass at Boyceville  
*Missa pro Populo*  
10:30 AM Mass at Spring Valley  
+Billy Anderson & Brody Sotona (Harriet Anderson)

## BRIEFLY NOTED

**Download Our New Parish App!** Our new Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Spring Valley app, Sacred Heart Parish Elmwood app and St. Luke's Boyceville app is now available to download for iPhone and Android smart phones! Stay connected with our parish throughout the week with instant notifications, an easy-to-access event calendar, prayers, daily scripture readings, and the ability to quickly reply to or share messages via Facebook or Twitter. Help foster a stronger parish life and better engage the New Evangelization. Download our app today in your iPad or smartphone by going to the iTunes App Store (Apple) or Play Store (Android) or search your phone's app store and search for: "myParish app – Catholic Life."

**Parish Committees:** At the last Pastoral Council meeting it was determined that a contact list of parish committee members should be compiled for the sake of knowing who is active on which committee and to encourage further parishioner participation. Any parishioner who currently serves or wishes to serve on a parish committee, please contact Becky in the Central Office. Parish Committees to serve on are: Sacred Worship, Social Concerns, Marriage and Family Life, Catecheis and Evangelization.

**Cookies for Homebound:** The Elmwood Altar and Rosary will be collecting cookies for the Homebound on Sat Dec 12th. One dozen will be appreciated. Please bring to the kitchen. Thank you.

## CONFESSIONS

Tuesday 5:45-6:15 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. 8 AM to Friday 8AM  
Spring Valley

**Spring Valley Confirmation Class:**  
*Photos are ready for pickup* on the table in the main entrance of Church.

**St. Luke's DAA Update:** St Luke's is at 88% of the target amount. We have collected \$5607 of the \$6384 assessed by the Diocese.

**St. Luke's:** The mitten tree is up again for mittens and hats. Tiffany Creek Elementary needs larger size gloves for the older children as well as, medium and small size mittens. Thank you.

**Elmwood Altar and Rosary Society:** The Elmwood Altar & Rosary Group is looking for a Secretary for the upcoming year. If anyone would like to volunteer to fill the position, please call 715-639-3954

## DOWNLOAD OUR APP

Go to your app store and search for "myParish-Catholic Life". Follow the installation prompts, select your parish and stay connected with current parish events and mass times.

## BULLETIN DEADLINE

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

## VISIT US ON THE WEB

**www.svecatholic.org**

**First Sunday of Advent**

In a way, we people of faith are amphibians, made to live our lives in two worlds. But where frogs and salamanders live their dual live consecutively; we live ours simultaneously. Meant for life in Heaven, yet we still find ourselves here on earth. And there is probably no time we feel our dual existence more intensely than Advent.

You see, **part of us is** being pulled into “the Holidays” and **is glad** for it. It’s getting cold, the nights are long, the drudgery of Winter is beginning to get to us--and it’s barely started. From our ancestors we’ve learned the therapy of shaking our fist at Winter. The harvest is in, the larder is full, life has been good so we face the burning hearth and turn our backs to the wind. Christmas is lighten-up time. One month out of twelve we give ourselves permission to go to parties on weeknights and decorate our homes like parade floats. It’s the season of eggnog, evergreens and peppermint, when the instinct to purchase is hallowed and overeating is required. Whatever else may be going on in the world, it’s time for nostalgia, over-indulgence and, warmth. Admit it, you feel the pull already and it’s good, it means you’re alive.

But from deep inside a little voice clears its throat and waits to be heard. “But,” it says, “Remember last year?” From this side, Christmas looks like a beautiful balloon to carry us away but come January 2<sup>nd</sup> we discover it was only a lovely parachute, keeping our feet off the ground for a while, but finally letting us down and covering the same old landscape, the same old problems, with a thin skin of colorful silk. God knows, if you’ve been through that yourself, then you know, too, that you cannot get well until you admit you are sick. That you cannot put your life back together again until you stop pretending it’s not broken. That you can’t find your new beginning until you say, **out loud**, that you’ve come to the end of your rope. The old world must end, in some fashion or other, before a new world can begin.

So, as the darkness gets longer, the Church, once again out of step, rummages for words of hope and responsibility. Faith is neither a cocoon to insulate us from the sufferings of this present age nor a pair of earplugs to shut out the groaning around us. We dig out the still unfulfilled promises of the prophets and say, “Come, Oh Lord, act now, act in us.” For, you see the Gospel is Good News not because we know what the future holds but because we know who holds the future. We have confidence, not because we know exactly what tomorrow will be... but because we know that, in Christ, God does not give up on the world. The proper posture, then, is not to turn our backs to the world but to raise our heads. Remember, God needs our “yes” as much as Mary’s was needed.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us! Saint Luke, pray for us! *Deacon Kevin Ray*

**Stewardship for November 21-22**

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

	Adult Envelopes	Offertory	DAA
Spring Valley	\$1555	\$71	\$1100
Elmwood	\$925	\$171	\$100
Boyceville	\$463	\$63	\$300

**BRIEFLY NOTED**

**Spring Valley's DAA Update:** Thank you to those who have already helped pay \$12,929.99 of our \$19,910 assessment. The remaining 122 pledge cards need to be turned into the Central Office. Consider using the monthly payment option with the final payment due June 30<sup>th</sup>. If you're unable to make a pledge, indicate to the Diocese by returning the card with a "0."

**Elmwood Altar and Rosary Christmas Party:** Altar & Rosary will have their Christmas Party on Sunday, December 20th at 12:00pm. We would like to invite all the ladies of the parish to come and help us celebrate the Christmas season with food & fun. Installation of the new officers will take place. There will be no gift exchange instead we will enjoy each other’s company. Hope to see all of you there! Berneice Asher, President.

**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 9 in Elmwood. This is a requirement for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade through high school; students will be required to sign in for confessions. Father Prince will be available from 6:00 to 7:20 pm to hear confessions that evening. Students may come and go for confession at their leisure or may choose to stay for 7:30PM Mass.

**Year of Mercy Resources:** The Diocese has provided the following list of resources to assist us in entering more deeply into this Year of Mercy. These resources can be found at the listed websites:

- *The Divine Mercy Message and Devotion Booklet* (Marian Helper Center [www.marian.org](http://www.marian.org))
- *Divine Mercy Novena and Chaplet* (Marian Helper Center [www.marian.org](http://www.marian.org))
- *Faustina, Apostle of Divine Mercy* by Catherine M. Odell (Our Sunday Visitor [www.osv.com](http://www.osv.com))
- *The Life of Faustina Kowalska* by Sister Sophia Michalenko. (Servant Books [www.ServantBooks.org](http://www.ServantBooks.org))

