

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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Elmwood, WI 54740-8603 **pastor@svecatholic.org**

DEACON – Kevin Ray

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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 (12-14).....NO MASS
Tuesday (12-15).....6:30PM Mass at Spring Valley
Private Intention
Wednesday (12-16)7:30PM Mass at Elmwood
+Charles Bates (Patty Bates Hawkins)
Thursday (12-17).....8:00AM Mass at Spring Valley
Private Intention
Friday (12-18).....8:00AM Communion Service at Spring Valley
1:30 PM Mass at Heritage of Elmwood
+Carol Olson (Rose Mary Huppert)

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday (12-19).....8:00 PM VIGIL Mass at Elmwood
Missa pro Populo
Sunday (12-20).....8:30 AM Mass at Boyceville
+Alice Smith (James Smith)
10:30 AM Mass at Spring Valley
+Brody Sotona, Billy and Jeff Anderson (Sotona Family)

Christmas Masses in Our Parishes

Thursday (12-24).....4:00PM Mass at Spring Valley
+Willard Traynor (Doris Traynor and Family)
8:00PM Mass at Elmwood
Daniel McClelland and Ruthann Masse (Jeff and Susan Pitman)
Sunday (12-25).....8:30AM Mass at Boyceville
Missa Pro Populo

BRIEFLY NOTED

Spring Valley Altar Server training: will be held 3:30-4:30pm on **Wednesday, January 13, 2016** in the church. Any student wishing to serve should bring the parental permission slip with them. The forms are available at CCD as well as in the back of church.

Boyceville Weekend Meal Program: St Luke's: Boyceville Weekend Meal Program: St Luke's will be packing bags for the weekend meal program at 1 p.m. on Monday, December 21st at the Westcap building on Main Street in Boyceville. Anyone interested may contact Joe Pieters for further information (715-643-4431)

Elmwood Christmas Choir Practice: There will be choir practice for Christmas Eve Mass on Thurs. Dec 17th from 6pm-7:30. We'd love to have anyone who's interested, to come sing with us for this joyful birth of Jesus.

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

Adoration Chapel: Please note that the Eucharistic Adoration will NOT be held on December 24-25 and on December 31-January 1.

Spring Valley Lector Books: have arrived and are in the sacristy for pickup.

St. Luke's: Pot luck Sunday is December 13, 2015. **St Jessica Circle will hold their annual Christmas Bake Sale during pot luck.** Please come and enjoy the good food and fellowship and maybe a Christmas goodie or two.

St. Luke's: St. Jessica's circle will meet on Dec. 16th to pack the Christmas bags.

Elmwood Altar & Rosary Society: 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

Year of Mercy

What is the Holy Door?

For centuries in the life of the Church, the “Holy Door,” solemnly opened by the Pope at the beginning of great Jubilee celebrations, has been a passageway to conversion, to a change of heart and a deeper opening to God. Pilgrims and those seeking to change their life by turning from sin pass through the Holy Door as a gesture of leaving the past behind, crossing a threshold from sin to grace, slavery to freedom, darkness to light, always accompanied by the outpouring of God’s grace through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The deepest truth about the Holy Door is that it is a sign of Jesus himself. As he told us, “I am the door; if any one enters by me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture” (John 10:9). In reality, Jesus is the door.

During the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, from December 8, 2015 (Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception) through November 20, 2016 (Solemnity of Christ the King), Cathedrals, Shrines, and Basilicas in Rome and throughout the world will have a Holy Door. These Holy Doors “will become Door[s] of Mercy through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons, and instills hope” (Pope Francis, *Misericordiae Vultus*, n.3).

The Jubilee Door of Mercy is to be an encounter with Christ. Yet in this Jubilee Year Christ’s face is especially merciful, for “Jesus Christ is the face of the Father’s mercy” (Pope Francis, *Misericordiae Vultus*, n.1). As Pope Francis explains, “by crossing the threshold of the Holy Door, we will find the strength to embrace God’s mercy and dedicate ourselves to being merciful with others as the Father has been with us” (n.14).

The Holy Door of our Cathedral and of the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be opened on Sunday, December 13, 2015, and closed again on Sunday, November 13, 2016. During this time our entrance into the church through the Holy Door ought to be a prayer and encounter with Jesus, who is Mercy Incarnate, and who bestows the Father’s mercy on all sinners, great and small. Upon leaving the church, our passage through the Holy Door is an impetus to show mercy to others and a grace to lead others through the Door of the Church into a life of joy in the Blessed Trinity.

Even the doors of our family home are to be domestic “holy doors,” especially during this year. In a recent Wednesday audience, Pope Francis explained the Holy Door and its personal impact this way:

The recent Synod of Bishops on the Family encouraged families in a particular way to enter this door of mercy and to open the doors of their hearts to others. Jesus tells us that he stands knocking at our door, asking that we open it to him (Rev 3:20). How important it is for us to be good doorkeepers, capable of opening our doors and making our homes places of encounter and welcome, especially to our brothers and sisters in need! Jesus also tells us that he himself is the door (Jn 10:9) which leads to salvation; if we pass through him, we will find lasting security and freedom.... May the doors of our Christian homes be signs and symbols of the door of God’s mercy, a door ever open to all who knock and desire to meet Jesus. —Diocese of LaCrosse

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us!

Stewardship for December 6-7

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

	Adult Envelopes	Offertory	DAA	Candles
Spring Valley	\$1812	\$32.25	\$225	
Elmwood	\$2430	\$95		\$49
Boyceville	\$1652	\$85	\$125	

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 DAA 2015-2016. Pledged total: \$14,595. Target Goal: \$13,915. To be returned to Elmwood: \$680 as of December 06, 2015. **Please remember to send in your pledges!** Thank you to those who have contributed to the Diocesan Appeal, your generosity is appreciated!

Retirement Fund for Religious: Aging religious need your help. In the United States today, there are more than 33,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. These religious worked tirelessly in Catholic schools, hospitals, and agencies, usually for little to no pay. As a result, many religious communities lack adequate savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care and more. Please be generous. **Envelopes for your contributions can be found at the entrances of Church.** Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

Elmwood Altar Flowers: Anyone wishing to donate money for Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one should send it to Altar & Rosary PO Box 54, Elmwood, WI 54740 or you can drop it in the box in the basement. Thank you.

