

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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OUR PASTOR:
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OUR MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Tuesday	November 14	6:30 PM	NO Mass in Spring Valley
Wednesday	November 15	7:30 PM	NO Mass in Elmwood
Thursday	November 16	8:00 AM	Prayer Service in Spring Valley
Friday	November 17	1:30 PM	NO Mass in Elmwood Nursing Home

THE 33RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Saturday	November 18	8:00 PM	Vigil Mass in Elmwood	+Joyce Weber (Jerry Weber)
Sunday	November 19	8:30 AM	Mass in Elmwood	+Andrew Fesenmaier (Greg and Elaine Fesenmaier)
		10:30 AM	Mass in Spring Valley	+Billy Anderson (Anderson Family)

CONFESSIONS:

Sunday 7:45-8:15 AM Elmwood
 Tuesday NONE Spring Valley
 Wednesday NONE Elmwood
 Saturday 7:00-7:45 PM Elmwood

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Wednesday NONE Elmwood
 Thursday to Friday 8:00 AM to 8:00 AM Spring Valley

Stewardship for November 4-5 , 2017
“How shall I make a return to the Lord for all He has -done for me?” (Psalm 116:12)

	Adult Envelopes	Offertory
Elmwood	\$1560.00	\$290.00
Spring Valley	\$2277.00	\$97.00

Elmwood News

Diocesan Annual Appeal: If you have not received the 2017-2018 DAA mailing, please contact Jeff Pittman at 612-875-7095. Periodically view our progress on the DAA thermometer posted in the church entrance.

Spring Valley News

Ministry Schedule for Spring Valley: The schedule for Dec - Feb will come out Sunday, November 19th. If you don't want to be scheduled for certain Sunday Masses in Dec, Jan or Feb, please notify the central office by email or leave a voice message no later than 10:00 PM on Tuesday November 14.

Advent Night: Please join us Wednesday November 15 from 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM for Family Advent Activities. Family meal will be served at 5:00 PM followed by Advent Activities until 7:30 PM. There will be NO afternoon CCD Classes on this date.

The adoration chapel will be closed the week of Thanksgiving, November 23-24. It will be open on December 21-22 and December 28-29.

Eucharistic Adoration Help - Thank you to Peg Vorlicek for agreeing to be temporary coordinator for Eucharistic adoration.

Annual Appeal Update: The Diocese has recorded \$10,610 contributed toward our \$20,375 target. Thank you so for your generosity. You can view our progress on the DAA thermometer posted on the bulletin board.

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News for All

Father Prince Traveling to India: Father Prince is gone to India and will be out of the country through November 24, 2017. Substitute priests have been arranged for the weekend Masses. While he is gone, there will be no weekday masses - they will resume on Tuesday November 28. If you have a pastoral emergency while Father Prince is gone, please contact Father James Kurzynski at St. Joseph Parish in Menomonie at 715-232-4922.

Baptism: Congratulations to **Laura Lynn Marie Bee**, daughter of **Mercedes Johnson and Travis Bee** reborn in the Sacrament of Baptism in Spring Valley today. "Remember, Lord, Laura, who, through Baptism, has been joined to your family, that she may follow Jesus your Son, with generous heart and willing spirit." (Roman Missal 974).

This Week in FORMED: November 12th- This year marks the 500th anniversary of the start of the Protestant Reformation. Conversion and reform is always the work of the entire Church as we endeavor always to live lives of true holiness. However, there are a lot of misconceptions and mis-information about what actually happened 500 years ago. Formed.org has taken on that challenge. There are dozens of audio presentations, books, and study guides to help you understand this important time in the history of the Church. In particular check out the study series "True Reformers: Saints of the Catholic Reformation" for an introduction to the lives of six great saints, beginning with St. Thomas More, who courageously worked for true reform with the Church. Find all of this content and so much more on Formed.org. Log in to Formed by visiting www.formed.org/register –and entering in Parish Code: **CQH26N**

CATHOLIC AND LUTHERAN CONTINUING EDUCATION: The planning group for the October 29 "From Conflict to Communion: Lutheran-Catholic Commemoration of the Reformation in 2017" Prayer Service has scheduled four sessions of Catholic/Lutheran continuing education. The second session is Tuesday, November 14, at 7 pm, at Grace Lutheran Church, 202 W. Grand Ave., Eau Claire. Enter from Second Ave side. Presenters are Rev. Dean Simpson, Pastor of Grace Lutheran and Fr. John Schultz, Chaplain at HSHS Sacred Heart and St. Joseph Hospitals. Content includes commemorating the Reformation today, future challenges, the Second Vatican Council, and Lutheran developments. The public is invited. Future sessions will be November 28 and December 5.

The St. John's Men's 17th Annual Chili & Oyster Stew Supper: Wednesday, December 13th 4:30pm – 8pm @ St. John's Lutheran Church Spring Valley STH 29/Church St. Meal includes Oyster Stew, Chili, rolls, bars and beverages "Free will offering" Also a Bake and Craft Sale and Quilt Raffle. Sponsored by the WELCA

US Bishops for the building of the Culture of Life: "Not all values, however, are of equal weight. Some are more fundamental than others. I wish to emphasize that no earthly value is more fundamental than human life itself. Human life is the condition for enjoying freedom and all other values. Consequently, if one must choose between protecting or serving lesser human values that depend upon life for their existence and life itself, human life must take precedence. Today the recognition of human life as a fundamental value is threatened. Nowhere is this clearer than in the case of elective abortion." (Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, "Deciding for Life," October 1, 1989)

PASTORAL REFLECTION

The Thirty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

In this week's Gospel, Jesus talks about what it means to be prepared to receive the Kingdom of Heaven. This week's reading follows a series of warnings and predictions by Jesus about the coming of the Son of Man. Jesus wants his disciples to understand that the exact day and time cannot be predicted. He teaches the disciples that they must remain vigilant so that they will not be caught unprepared.

When thinking about the parable of the wise and foolish virgins, it is important to consider the first-century wedding traditions of Palestine. Scholars tell us that it was the custom of the day for young maidens—friends and family members of the bride—to meet the bridegroom when he came to bring his bride to her new home.

As with many of Jesus' parables, several levels of interpretation are possible. In last week's Gospel, we heard Jesus warn against following the example of the Pharisees and scribes. If read in the context of early Christianity's struggle to define itself against Pharisaic Judaism, this parable is a continuing critique of Judaism. It suggests that the Jewish leaders were like the foolish virgins, unprepared to meet Jesus, the bridegroom of Israel.

In the chapter preceding this parable, however, Jesus warns about the destruction of Jerusalem, the tribulation of the end times, and the coming of the Son of Man. When read in this context, today's parable is a warning to the Christian community to remain vigilant and prepared to receive Jesus, the Son of Man who will return at the end of time. This interpretation is supported by the reference to the delay of the bridegroom. The Christian community for whom Matthew wrote this Gospel was coming to terms with the realization that the promise of Jesus' return would not be fulfilled within their lifetimes. The question remains for us to ask ourselves, Are we ready to receive Jesus? Will we be prepared to receive him?

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