

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

† SACRED HEART PARISH
N108 Sabin Avenue
Spring Valley, WI 54767

† SACRED HEART PARISH
106 West Wilson Avenue
Elmwood, WI 54740

OUR PASTOR: Rev. Prince A. Raja
114 Wilson Avenue
Elmwood, WI 54740

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Central Office: 715-778-5519
S105 Sabin Avenue – PO Box 456
Spring Valley, WI 54767

Anne Helmer and Beth Ingli
Email: admin@svecatholic.org

NEW PARISHIONERS: We welcome new parishioners into our parish family. Please contact the Central Office for information on how to join.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Wednesday 6:30-7:30 PM Elmwood
Thursday to Friday 8:00 AM to 8:00 AM Spring Valley

CONFESSIONS:

Sunday 7:45-8:15 AM Elmwood
Tuesday 5:45-6:15 PM Spring Valley
Wednesday 6:30-7:15 PM Elmwood
Saturday 7:00-7:45 PM Elmwood



OUR MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Tuesday	April 10	6:30 PM	Mass in Spring Valley	+ Mickey Traynor (Jane Seifert)
Wednesday	April 11	7:30 PM	Mass in Elmwood	Missa Pro Populo
Thursday	April 12	8:00 AM	Mass in Spring Valley	Missa Pro Populo
Friday	April 13	1:30 PM	Mass at Elmwood Nursing Home	+Rene Sailer (Jayne and Jerry Holt)

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Saturday	April 14	8:00 PM	Vigil Mass in Elmwood	+Leroy Keenlyne (Doug & Donna Weber)
Sunday	April 15	8:30 AM	Mass in Elmwood	+Clarence, Alice & John Koch (Anna Crownhart)
		10:30 AM	Mass in Spring Valley	+Jeff Anderson (Anderson Family)

Stewardship for March 31-April 1st, 2018
"How shall I make a return to the Lord for all He has done for me?" (Psalm 116:12)

	Adult Envelopes	Offertory
Elmwood	\$ 2550.00	\$ 207.30
Spring Valley	\$ 3252.00	\$ 274.25

PASTORAL REFLECTION

The Divine Mercy

Happy feast of Easter! Easter is the prototype of all Christian feasts. It is such a great event that one day of celebration does not suffice. We needed eight days of liturgical celebrations. Yes, today we conclude the Octave of Easter.

Divine Mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Today is the feast of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In the gospel today, Jesus gives authority to his disciples to forgive sins. It is God who really forgives. This understanding is still maintained in the formula of absolution that the priest utters during the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation:

"God, the Father of mercies, through the death and the resurrection of his Son has reconciled the world to himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (C.C.C. # 1449).

It is God who gives pardon and peace. The priest – who takes the place of the 'disciples' of Jesus today – absolves in the name of the Church, that is, he frees the penitent from their guilt and blame.

Often, a lot of people ask, "Why should I go to a priest for confession?" "Why can't I confess directly to God? After all, God forgives every time we acknowledge our sins." To these questions, my simple answer is: True, God forgives me every time I acknowledge my sins before Him. But how will God let me know that He has forgiven me fully in a way that I can hear and see, except through the instrument of another human person. Of course, this human person has to be anointed and set apart (ordained) for this purpose, so that the sign becomes very real. This is the wonderful possibility available in the Sacrament of Reconciliation: the visible sign of God's invisible mercy.

The Latin word, which is the root of our English word "mercy," is misericordia. It, in turn, derives from two words: misereri, meaning "to have pity on" or "compassion for" and cor, meaning "heart". Mercy, therefore, carries the idea of having compassion on someone with all of one's heart.

Yes, let us also cry to God in Jesus, "Have mercy!" and He will re-create us. Today, we want to join the Psalmist and sing: "Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his faithful love (mercy) endures forever" (Ps 118:1).

Rev. Prince Raja

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News for All



Baptism: Congratulations to **Colton Randall Hartung**, son of **Anthony and Dawn Hartung**, who is reborn in the Sacrament of Baptism today. "Remember Lord, Colton, who through Baptism, has been joined to your family. May he follow Jesus your Son, with generous heart and willing spirit." (Roman Missal 974).

Attention High School Seniors – Scholarship Opportunity: The Knights of Columbus are offering a \$250 scholarship to any graduating high school senior who is a member of either Elmwood or Spring Valley Parishes. Please contact Mike Raleigh at [715-639-6582](tel:715-639-6582) for an application.

Divine Mercy Sunday: Today's observance of Divine Mercy Sunday is a good time to renew our devotion to the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. In 2003, Pope John Paul II issued an Apostolic Blessing to all who pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet "for mothers, that they not abort their offspring; for infants in danger of being put to death in the womb; for a change of heart of providers of abortions and of their collaborators; for human victims of stem cell research, genetic manipulation, cloning and euthanasia; and for all entrusted with the government of peoples, that they may promote the Culture of Life, so as to put an end to the culture of death."

Pro-Life quote: "I've noticed that everyone who is for abortion has already been born." Ronald Reagan

St. John the Baptist: parish in Plum City is excited to announce Father Joseph Okine-Quarthey's installation Mass, which is scheduled for Sunday, April 22nd at 10:15 a.m. at St. John the Baptist in Plum City with a reception to follow at the Legion Hall in Plum City. Please welcome Father Joseph into our Faith community.

This Week in FORMED: This weekend, as we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, dive deeper into the second greatest story ever told: the story of God's Divine Mercy in our times. Join Fr. Michael Gaitley on a breathtaking journey through history, Sacred Scripture, and the lives of the saints to discover the power of God's unfathomable mercy. This week, go to formed.org and watch the video series Divine Mercy. You will experience the love and mercy of God in a new way. 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**

Elmwood News

Altar & Rosary : will meet Thursday, April 12th at 7:00 p.m. Items for discussion will be Father's Ordination yearly celebration and any old or new business. St. Ann's will host. Thank you – Sharon Weber

Elmwood High School Seniors: Applications for the choir scholarship are hanging on the bulletin board in the church entrance.

Elmwood CCD Reminder: Grades 7-10 are required to attend the Youth Rally to be held on Sunday, May 6 in Eau Galle. This is part of our CCD program, 11th and 12 graders are invited. Thank you, Marilyn Bowell DRE/Youth Minister.

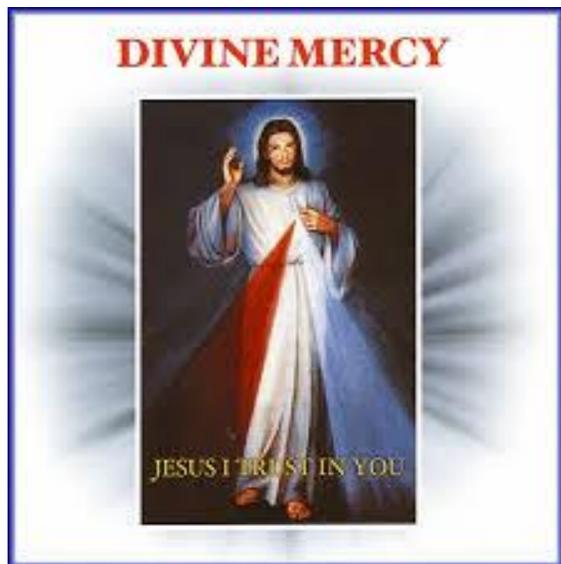
Spring Valley News

DAA Update: \$20033.87 (98%) of our target has been paid. Thank you for your pledge donations and continual payments.

Do you like to clean? We are looking for an individual or a couple, to keep our facilities looking clean and to set up for events in Spring Valley. Time would be 10-15 hours a month. A Big Thank You to Jenny Hagen, for doing such a wonderful job in the past. She is ready to step down and pass "the broom and vacuum" to someone else. Please contact the Central Office for more information.

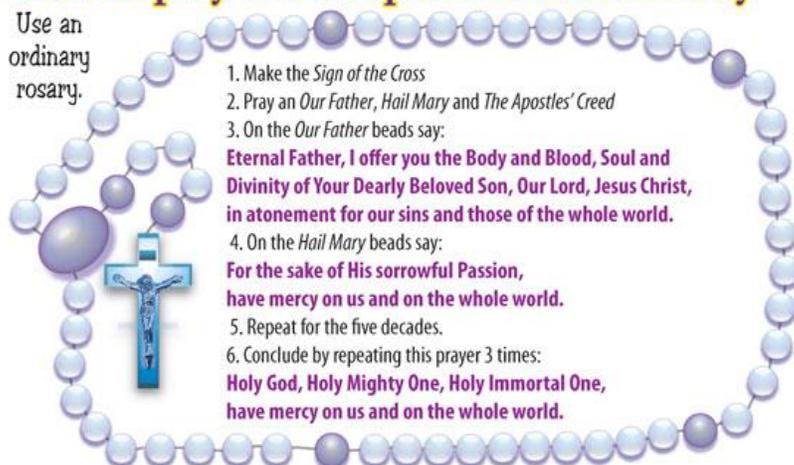
Eucharistic Adoration: We are looking for two or more people to permanently take over the 1:00 - 2:00 hour of Eucharistic adoration on Thursday afternoons. Please contact Laura Buchal at 715-772-4452 for more information.

Vacation Bible School will be held June 10th-June 14th and the theme is "Maker Fun Factory- Created by God, Built for a Purpose." On VBS Sunday, April 29th, church representatives from each church will share information and hand out registration forms.



How to pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Use an ordinary rosary.



1. Make the *Sign of the Cross*
2. Pray an *Our Father, Hail Mary and The Apostles' Creed*
3. On the *Our Father* beads say:
Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.
4. On the *Hail Mary* beads say:
For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.
5. Repeat for the five decades.
6. Conclude by repeating this prayer 3 times:
Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.