

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

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Our Mass Schedule for This Week

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Sunday (12-7).....8:00 PM VIGIL Mass at Elmwood
+Leo Binkowski (Binkowski Family)

Monday (12-8).....8:00AM Mass at Spring Valley
Missa pro populo
6:00PM Mass at Boyceville
+Dean Hedlund (Dewayne and Helen Hedlund)

Tuesday (12-9).....6:30 PM Mass at Spring Valley
+Michael Thome (Joseph and Beverly Thome)

Wednesday (12-10).....7:30 PM Mass at Elmwood
+Deb Wiinamaki (Don and Mary Schmitz)

Thursday (12-11).....8:00 AM Mass at Spring Valley
+Mr and Mrs Ed Nelson (Yvonne DeGross)

Friday (12-12).....8:00 AM *Communion Service*
NO MASS

Third Sunday of Advent

Saturday (12-13).....8:00 PM VIGIL Mass at Elmwood
+Walter Bechel (Don and Mary Schmitz)

Sunday (12-14).....8:30 AM Mass at Boyceville
+David Hill (Marge Sykora)
10:30 AM Mass at Spring Valley
Missa pro populo

BRIEFLY NOTED

Congratulations to Brinley Rose Klinski infant daughter of Timothy and Kelsey Klinski who is reborn in the **Sacrament of Baptism** at Elmwood. "Remember, Lord, Brinley who through Baptism has been joined to your family, that she may follow Christ, your Son, with a generous heart and a willing spirit" (Roman Missal, 974).

Spring Valley Diocesan Annual Appeal: We're closer to our DAA target. We still need \$4704 to meet the target. Please return your pledge card. Any amount to the Appeal would be greatly appreciated. If for any reason you are unable to pledge, indicate this to the Diocese by returning your card with a zero on it.

Elmwood Altar and Rosary Christmas Meeting: Thursday December 11 at 7:00PM in church basement and hosted by St. Ann's group. We will have installations of new officers. There are still openings for treasurer and St Rita's co-chair. No gift exchange, but remember to bring food shelf donations. Thank You, Kathy Geraets, president.

CONFESSIONS

Tuesday 6:00-6:30 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. 5 PM to Friday 8 PM
Spring Valley

St. Luke's: The choir will sing for Christmas Mass, anyone who is interested is invited to join us!

St. Luke's: Dec. 14th will be our potluck Sunday. Both St. Joan of Arc and St. Jessica's will serve. Everyone welcome!

St. Luke's: St. Jessica's circle will be holding their annual bake sale on Dec 14th after mass. This is the only fund raiser during the year. Do your baking for the Holiday.

Elmwood: Altar & Rosary will again decorate the Church Altar for Christmas with flowers in memory of your loved ones. You may send donations to PO Box 54, Elmwood or put in the A & R drop box in the church basement. Be sure to mention your loved ones name. Thank you.

Pro-Life Minute - Fact: More than 56 million abortions have taken place in America since 1973.

That makes abortion the greatest genocide in the history of the world. So much for the abortion industry's claim that abortion should be "safe, legal and rare."

Pro-Life Minute is sponsored by Pro-Life Wisconsin. For more information visit ProLifeWisconsin.org

VISIT US ON THE WEB

www.svecatholic.org

“STRENGTHEN YOUR BRETHERN” (Luke 22:32)

December 8 is the **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, a Holy Day of Obligation for us to assist at Mass. In our parishes we observe this Solemnity with a **Vigil Mass on Sunday at 8:00 PM at Elmwood and on Monday at 8:00 AM at Spring Valley and 6:00 PM in Boyceville**. Under her title as the Immaculate Conception Mary is invoked as patroness of our country. Come and beg Mary -- given to us by her Divine Son from the Cross to be our Mother too -- to intercede specially for our families, our parishes, the Church, and our nation.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* summarizes the rich meaning of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary: “To become the **mother of the Savior**, Mary ‘was enriched by God with gifts appropriate to such a role.’ The **angel Gabriel at the moment of the Annunciation salutes her as ‘full of grace’** (Luke 1:28). In fact, in order for Mary to be able to give the free assent of her faith to the announcement of her vocation, it was necessary that she be wholly borne by God’s grace” (490).

From this fundamental scriptural truth, the *Catechism* notes that: “through the centuries the Church has become ever more aware that **Mary, ‘full of grace,’ through God, was redeemed from the moment of her conception**. That is what the dogma of the Immaculate Conception confesses, as Pope Pius IX proclaimed in 1854: ‘The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin’” (491). The *Catechism* expands on what this means: “The ‘splendor of an entirely unique holiness’ by which Mary is ‘enriched from the first instant of her conception’ comes **wholly from Christ**: she is ‘redeemed, in a more exalted fashion, by reason of the merits of her Son.’ The **Father blessed Mary** more than any other created person ‘in Christ with every spiritual blessings in the heavenly places’ and chose her ‘in Christ before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless before Him in love’” (492).

Finally, the *Catechism* summarizes noting that “the Fathers of the Eastern tradition call the Mother of God ‘the All-Holy’ (*Panagia*) and celebrate her as ‘free from any stain of sin, as though **fashioned by the Holy Spirit and formed as a new creature**.’ **By the grace of God Mary remained free of every personal sin her whole life long**” (493).

On this great feast day we pray: “O God, who by the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin prepared a worthy dwelling for your Son, grant, we pray, that, as you preserved her from every stain by virtue of the Death of your Son, which you foresaw, so, through her intercession, we, too, may be cleansed and admitted to your presence” (Collect).

The additional responsibilities given to me by Bishop Callahan have me travelling every week of December! This weekend (Friday and Saturday) is the usual Deacon Formation Program at Marathon City. This coming week is the meeting of all the Deans with the Bishop at the Diocesan Center in La Crosse. The week after that is the meeting of the Presbyteral Council (Priest Senate) with the Bishop in La Crosse. The week of Christmas is the Seminary Admissions Board interviewing prospective seminarians at the Diocesan Center. And the week after Christmas is the Bishop’s Annual Seminarian Family gathering in La Crosse. At this time last year I purchased a new car as my other one had begun to fail. That was a good investment! Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us! Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, pray for us!

Very Rev. Kevin C. Louis, STL

Stewardship for November 29-30		
<i>“How shall I make a return to the Lord for all He has -done for me?” (Psalm 116:12)</i>		
	Adult Envelopes	Offertory
Spring Valley	\$1192	\$82.75
Elmwood	\$2210	\$204.22
Boyceville	\$540	\$79

BRIEFLY NOTED

Parish Audited Reports: The Diocese of La Crosse audited June 30, 2014 financial statements, along with Frequently Asked Questions and Answers about the financial statements, can be found at www.dioc.org. The audited June 30, 2014 financial statements and Frequently Asked Questions and Answers are also available for St. Ambrose Financial Services, Inc. at www.stambrosefinancial.com.

Ladies of Sacred Heart Parish Elmwood: Jan. 1st my term is up as Altar & Rosary treasure. I have held this office for 10 years and feel it is time for me to step down. Please feel free to call me so we can discuss the responsibilities. God Bless you and may He help you make the choice to volunteer and help this truly wonderful organization. Thank you, Sharon Weber (639-3322).

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 10 in Elmwood. Students will be required to sign in for confessions. Father Louis will be available from 6:30 to 7:45 pm to hear confessions that evening. Students may come and go for confession at their leisure or may choose to stay for 8PM Mass.

Elmwood Centennial Ornament Sale: Altar & Rosary ladies will be selling Centennial ornaments in the back of church after mass. They are 18 karat gold plated each of them have an insert that explains the history of Sacred Heart Church, Elmwood. They make wonderful memorable Xmas present. They are only \$15. There are less than 35 of them left.

