

# SACRED HEART

## CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



### MISSION STATEMENT

We, the community of Sacred Heart parishes, in Spring Valley and Elmwood, and St. Luke's in Boyceville, love the Lord Jesus Christ and are dedicated to His Sacred Heart. Guided by the Word of the Lord, we commit ourselves to give praise and honor to God through liturgical worship, family and private prayer, and service to one another. We strive to develop a living faith and a growing spiritual community by providing opportunities for spiritual, educational, and social enrichment. Our faith will be strengthened through active involvement of all members.

WEBSITE: WWW.SVECATHOLIC.ORG

## SUNDAY JANUARY 19, 2025



**PASTOR** Rev.  
**Dr. Fr. Anbalagan**  
**Shanmugam**  
**(Father Anbu)**



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#### SACRED HEART OF JESUS PARISH SPRING VALLEY

N108 Sabin Avenue  
Spring Valley, WI 54767

#### SACRED HEART PARISH ELMWOOD

106 West Wilson Avenue  
Elmwood, WI 54740

#### ST. LUKE'S PARISH BOYCEVILLE

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St. Luke's Email:  
stlukeboyceville@gmail.com  
www.saintlukebv.org

#### SPRING VALLEY PASTORAL COUNCIL

Tyler Bosshart Jim Huebel Peggy Larson  
Isaac Nilssen Teresa Nilssen Renata Wood

#### SPRING VALLEY FINANCE COUNCIL

Greg Buchal Jason Nilssen Anna Toutant

**Bookkeeper:** Amy Shafer

#### ELMWOOD PASTORAL COUNCIL

Derek Auth Anna Crownhart Greg Fesenmaier  
Jeff Pelzel Barb Schneider Roxanne Taplin

#### ELMWOOD FINANCE COUNCIL

Craig Feuker Holly Galbreath Jim Schwebach

**Bookkeeper:** Shelley Sand

#### BOYCEVILLE PASTORAL COUNCIL

Betty Garside Karen Hansen Bonnie Cronk  
Tom Humpal Terry Mohn Joe Pieters

#### BOYCEVILLE FINANCE COUNCIL

Joey Boesl Lesley Nelson Frank Kowalczyk

**Bookkeeper:** Judy Humpal

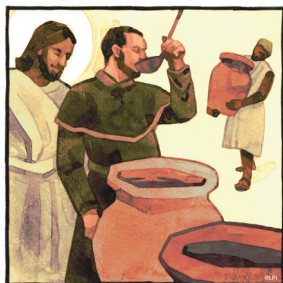
**GOSPEL MEDITATION ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

January 19, 2025 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

A friend invited me to an invitation-only wine-tasting event. There were over two hundred varieties of wine. Having no idea how to approach such a massive selection, I wandered aimlessly among the tables, sipping this and that. At the end of the evening my friend asked if I had tried some of the exceptionally expensive wines. I hadn't. "The really good stuff disappears first," he said. "My man, you missed out on some amazing vino." I was so disappointed. I wasted my chance for amazing once-in-a-lifetime wine. The wine I tasted was, well, blah.

Don't we often feel a similar disappointment in life? I missed this or that opportunity. If only I had known. Optimism sputters and fades. The glory days are gone. The chances, it seems, for the really great things in life come and go so quickly. Then they are gone forever. The good stuff goes first. Then life is just blah.

Not so with the Lord Jesus. In Jesus' miracle at the wedding at Cana, the steward of the feast says, "Everyone serves good wine first, and then...an inferior one" (John 2:10). That's the natural downward progression of life. The good stuff disappears quickly. But he says of the groom (who symbolizes Jesus), "But you have kept the good wine until now." This is the ever-improving trajectory of the realm of God's grace. With Jesus, the "good wine" of divine love, hope and peace gets better as our journey of faith progresses. Where are your greatest disappointments?



Don't give in to the lie that the really good stuff is gone. Tell Jesus you've run out. Then learn how to taste that amazingly good wine, because he saves the best until now.

— Father John Muir

**Everyday Stewardship**

There are close to 7.6 billion people currently on earth. That is a lot of people! If you try to estimate how many people have collectively been born since the beginning of time, a good guess is 108 billion! It is hard to contemplate that many distinctly different human beings created by our God. In the midst of all those people, where do you and I fit? Can we really be created to make a difference in the world? One can feel very small and insignificant when reflecting on the numbers.

We render ourselves insignificant when we make the mistake of seeing ourselves as being just like everybody else. However, when looking at the numbers, how can one honestly think we are all the same? Another way we become insignificant is believing the lie that one person in the midst of so many does not have the power to make an impact. However, we all spend time reading books, watching movies, or listening to news about singular people who made all the difference in some part of the world. Imagine your own world without a few key people who have touched you and made a difference.

We are all created with unique gifts. We have those gifts that have been part of us from birth and those that have been imparted to us by the Holy Spirit. St. Paul tried to get the Corinthians to understand that reality when he explained to them the many gifts of the Spirit. Perhaps some of his audience back then thought they were insignificant. The message then remains the message today: God is counting on you to use what He has given you. If you don't, who will?

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



In 2025 we will be celebrating and praying for our parishioners, in their birthday month, who are our "Golden" members and have over 70 years of wisdom.

- January 7th Kathy Shafer
- January 11th Barbara Laluya
- January 18th Bob Richardson
- January 27th Sharon Sinz



**COLLECTION ADULT ENVELOPES AND OFFERTORY**  
January 11-12, 2025

	<u>Adult</u>	<u>Offertory</u>	<u>On-line</u>
<b>Boyceville</b>	\$ 635.00	\$ 30.00	
<b>Elmwood</b>	\$ 3790.00	\$ 158.00	
<b>Spring Valley</b>	\$ 1189.12	\$ 98.20	\$ 1666.65



# INFORMATION

## News for All

We welcome Fr. Kurt Apfelbeck to our parishes this weekend! We appreciate his help these past weekends, while Father Anbu was gone.



**Father Anbu** would like to continue to recognize those couples who have been married for 50 years or longer. So this year, the

week before their anniversary, the couple's name will be in the bulletin, so you may pray for them or even send them a card. On **January 26th, Tom and Sharon Weber**, will be celebrating their 62nd wedding anniversary. Congratulations!



**Please join us in Spring Valley** for a Pro-Life Night on Wednesday, January 22nd from 7-8:15pm in the

Brother Michael Center. We will have four special guest speakers join us for a conversation on what it means to be pro-life (treasuring the gift of life from the loving hands of God), why that is so important for us as Catholics, and how to concretely live out that value in our everyday lives. The conversation will be family-friendly, very positive in tone, and basic on the topic of being pro-life.

**All Women are invited!** Please save January 25 for the Durand Deanery Women's Retreat at St. Mary's in Durand. Please email or text Jodi Weisenbeck at 715-495-1268 or [jodiw6250@gmail.com](mailto:jodiw6250@gmail.com) to sign-up by Monday, January 20th.

**Help those suffering** from the wildfires in California As fast-moving wildfires continue to engulf neighborhoods in the Los Angeles area, Catholic Charities USA (CCUSA) has launched a dedicated disaster relief donation campaign. All funds raised will assist those displaced or suffering because of the fires. To donate, visit [ccusa.online/fires](http://ccusa.online/fires)

**January Pro-Life Initiatives, Prayers and Intentions:** Though the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision declaring a right to abortion was overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2022, many states' laws are hostile to preborn children. And so our pro-life prayers and efforts are just as important as ever. Learn more and find parish and personal resources from our U.S. Bishops at [respectlife.org](http://respectlife.org)

## Boyceville News

**We are in need** of more ushers and readers. Please consider volunteering for this need. If interested or for more information, please contact Joe Pieters or Judy Humpal.

**2025 Offering Envelopes** - Please pick up your 2025 offering envelopes from the back table. If you would like a box & did not get them, please let Judy Humpal know.



**Mass Intentions** - we are in need of Mass intentions beginning with February. If you have a specific date/s you would like in 2025, please see Judy Humpal or email her at [stlukeboyceville@gmail.com](mailto:stlukeboyceville@gmail.com).

## Elmwood News



**The Elmwood Knights of Columbus** are sponsoring a food drive for the Elmwood food pantry. Over 180 people rely on this food pantry on a regular basis to supplement their daily dietary needs. Boxes will be placed at the back of the church starting January 26th and continuing until February 9th. Especially welcome are canned meats, soups, baked beans, pasta and rice. Also needed are tooth paste/brushes, and bar soap Each Monday following the three Sunday drop-off dates, representatives from the Food Pantry will come to our

church to pick up our food donations. Please be generous to those who temporarily need food assistance!

**The Elmwood Knights of Columbus** are looking for new members . Anyone interested in joining or would like more information, please contact Derek Auth at 715-495-1210.



**If there is ever a Parish Olympics, Sacred Heart/Elmwood** would win, hands down, in the category of the set up and take down of Christmas decorations. The lifting and climbing and positioning call for very fit volunteers, and ours are speedy and never grumble out loud. The Altar & Rosary Society can't thank you enough!

## Spring Valley News



**The 18th Annual Sacred Heart of Jesus "Right To Life" Breakfast** - Sunday, January 19th from 9:00am-12:30pm in the Brother Michael Center. Free-will donations will be gratefully accepted! Proceeds will go to area pregnancy support agencies to help support the financial, medical, emotional, & spiritual needs of women in need of pregnancy assistance. Please join us for a great cause and share in a delicious breakfast of French Toast, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Muffins, Fresh Fruit and Beverages with wonderful community fellowship! Everyone is welcome!



**SAVE THE DATE:** In about a month, we will be celebrating St. Valentine. To celebrate, the Family Life committee will be hosting a "couples date night" on Saturday, February 15th - look for a postcard in the mail in a couple weeks with details.



FOR ALL THE FAITHFUL WHO  
HAVE DIED AND FOR THE SICK,  
WE PRAY IN 2025

**Saturday January 25 Mass in Boyceville**

5:00 p.m. +Tony Schmidt (Joe & Gloria Pieters)

**Sunday Mass January 26**

8:30 a.m. in Elmwood +Robert, Betty & Bobby Hartung  
(Bob & Mary Milliren)

10:30 a.m. in Spring Valley +Brian Kirby  
(Lynn & Karrie Johnson)

There will be **NO** weekday Masses January 1-24,  
while Father Anbu is on vacation.



<b>Sunday, January 26, 2025</b>	
<b>Elmwood 8:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Spring Valley 10:30 a.m.</b>
<b>LECTORS</b>	
Joel	Peter/ Merrick
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS/SACRISTAN</b>	
Pat	(S) Jason/Katie/Eric/Denise/Darlene
<b>SERVERS</b>	
Zander/Taylor	Toby/Milo/Cora
<b>USHERS/HOSPITALITY</b>	
Joe/Steve/Aaron/Paul	Chuck/Josh
<b>ROSARY</b>	<b>MUSIC</b>
Barb	Sacred Heart Choir

**Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children** Pope Francis has said that respect for life is not just about the unborn child in the womb, but also about the least of our brothers and sisters. Yes, it is even upon the undocumented resident alien who has no voice but ours. As followers of Jesus Christ, we are all called to protect the voiceless.



January 2025

- January 20-24- Central Office Closed-Beth vacation
- January 22- "Sanctity of Human Life" night in SV 7pm
- January 24- Father Anbu back from India
- January 25 - Spring Valley KC Euchre tournament  
Lunch at 11:30 a.m. tournament start 1:00 p.m.

**Spring Valley Knights of Columbus  
Euchre Tournament**

**Saturday January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Where:** Brother Michael Center

**Registration Fee:** \$40.00 per team

**Time:** Registration 11:30 am-12:45 pm

**Tournament begins at 1:00 pm**

**Lunch:** Starts at 11:30 am (Free Will Donation)

**Additional costs:**

- \$1.00 per team per set. Set Pot Winner name will be drawn.
- Optional: \$5.00 per person for entry into the Lone Hand Pot. Individual with most Lone Hands wins the Lone Hand Pot.

**Let us pray...**

**Good and gracious God, you blew into our nostrils the breath of life. You are the One to whom we owe our very existence. Give us the courage to take that unpopular position of protecting those who have no voice, the unborn child in the womb to the person taking his or her last breath. The life you have given us is a gift beyond measure. Embolden us to speak the truth about protecting the child, the elderly, and the one without a voice in the public square. With thankful hearts, we ask all this of the One God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**