

# SACRED HEART

## CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



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



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## 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 FEBRUARY 16, 2025



# 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday

I N O R D I N A R Y T I M E

"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude and insult you, and denounce your name as evil on account of the Son of Man." - Lk 6:22

**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**  
919 Center Street  
Boyceville, WI 54725 Office  
Phone 715-643-3081  
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 Debra Hoage  
**BOYCEVILLE FINANCE COUNCIL**  
Joey Boesl Lesley Nelson Joe Pieters  
**Bookkeeper:** Judy Humpal

**My dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,  
Peace be with You!**

Pope Francis declared 2025 a Year of Jubilee, with the theme "pilgrims of hope". The Jubilee Year began on Christmas Eve, 2024 and ends on January 6, 2026. In view of this Jubilee year our holy father published a papal bull, on the theme "Spes Non Confundit" which means hope does not disappoint. Hence I would like to elucidate one reflection from the bull.

**Seeing through the lens of eternity**

In his encyclical letter, *Saved in Hope*, Pope Benedict XVI of blessed memory wrote: "The one who has hope lives differently." Christian hope implores us to see life through the lens of eternity, no matter what is happening in our world and in our lives. In a homily shortly before his death, Pope Benedict stated that Christian hope is like a family awaiting the birth of a child, filled with expectation of a hope that will be fulfilled and that gives each moment meaning filled with joyful anticipation.

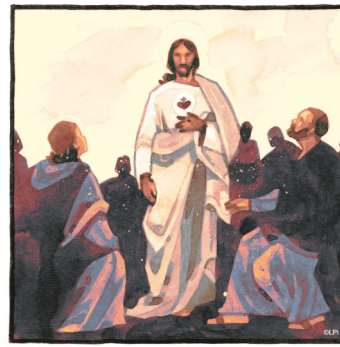
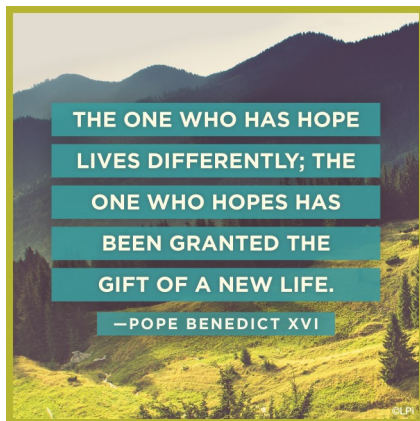
Pope Francis has chosen Pilgrims of Hope as the theme for this Jubilee Year. As pilgrims, we are on a journey to our heavenly home, and that hope of heaven can sustain us on our way. But there is so much more to hope than a far-off future. Jesus' promise, "I am with you always," can fill us with hope every day of our lives.

Jesus has promised not only to welcome us at the end of our journey, but also to walk with us every step of the way. No matter how difficult the road is, we can trust that he is with us, offering us his grace and strength. I was reminded of this in a very powerful way, when on Jan. 27, 2025; Pope Francis signed a decree recognizing that the five Franciscan missionaries, known as the Georgia Martyrs, were killed for their faith in defense of the sanctity of marriage. In signing the decree, the Holy Father has cleared the way for their beatification.

Hope does not disappoint! Let us all become signs of hope to everyone around us—even in the most difficult and challenging situations. May we take comfort from the Pope Francis' words: "The storms that buffet us will never prevail, for we are firmly anchored in the hope born of grace, which enables us to live in Christ and to overcome sin, fear, and death."

Thank You and God bless you!

~Fr. Anbu



**Missionary disciples are what we are called to be.**

The first step is opening your heart and letting Jesus in. So, how do we become open to God's will and announce the Gospel to others? Let's review some of the foundational elements of our faith to become the missionary

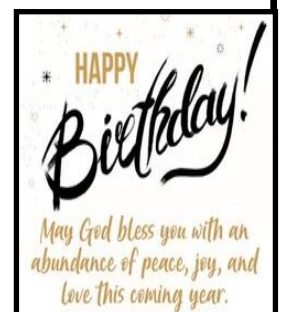
disciples we are called to be:

- God is Love. We are made in His image and likeness. Love made us, and we are made for love.
- God is the Creator, and we are the created. God made us to be in a loving relationship with Him. Sin broke that relationship. Jesus came to restore our relationship with God. Jesus' teachings give us the blueprint for living a loving relationship with God while on earth and, ultimately, eternally in Heaven.
- Once I realize I am a beloved daughter or son of God, it is easier to see others as beloved daughters and sons of God. We become vessels of God's love, mercy, and forgiveness.
- Recognizing my identity as a beloved daughter or son of God helps me understand my purpose in life - making disciples. It helps set my priorities. I recognize that every decision I make either moves me closer to God or farther away. Living a God-centered life helps me live for the greater glory of God and helps others do the same.

Our world impacts our thoughts, words, actions, and imagination. This is the "garbage in, garbage out" theory. If we fill ourselves with things contrary to God's will, vice or bad habits develop. We develop by opening ourselves to God's truth, beauty, goodness, virtue, or good habits. Are you interested in sharing the Good News of Jesus? Then stop filling your head and heart with the world's bad news and start filling it with the Good News.

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.

<b>Jim Christenson</b>	Feb 1
<b>Judy Bauer</b>	Feb 6
<b>Arlene Vadnais</b>	Feb 13
<b>Helen Hedlund</b>	Feb 13
<b>David Seyfert</b>	Feb 16
<b>Jeff Brooke</b>	Feb 18
<b>Earl Vraa</b>	Feb 23





# INFORMATION

## News for All



**"Still the Answer" Eucharistic Rally** "Be still and know that I am God" (Ps. 46). Saturday, August 9th, 2025 Pablo Center in Eau Claire Are you ready for a renewed encounter with Jesus, truly present in the holy Eucharist? Gather with people from around the diocese for "Still the Answer" including a eucharistic procession and Mass with Bishop Battersby, compelling speakers, music and more. Be inspired to keep Jesus' Eucharistic presence at the center of your life. More details to follow.

**Be Part of an Amazing Adventure in Faith—Join the Lay Formation Institute!** Registration is now open for the next two-year lay formation cycle that begins in the fall of 2025. Draw closer to Christ and deepen your knowledge of the Faith in a joyful community of learners! See the complete information and application form at [diolc.org/lay-formation](http://diolc.org/lay-formation) Discuss with your pastor and contact the Office for Ministries and Social Concerns at [ministries@diolc.org](mailto:ministries@diolc.org) or call 608.791.0161.

**Do you want to actually touch Jesus this Lent?** Do you want Jesus to really reach out and truly be right with you this Lent? You are personally invited to join the Adult/Teen Lent Study Group that will take the amazing journey "Life-Changing Presence - the Sacraments." Make a Lenten resolution to encounter the real Person of Jesus in relationship like never before! Mondays of Lent (Monday March 10th - Monday April 14th) from 6:30-8pm in the Br. Michael Center. Catholics are super blessed to have Jesus actually present and active in our lives through the Sacraments. If you have never thought of the Sacraments as touching Jesus and as Jesus reaching out to truly be right with you, then this study will indeed change your life! All parishioners from our three parishes are welcome to attend!

## Boyceville News



**Potluck Tonight** - Please join us for our monthly potluck immediately following Mass this evening. We always have more than enough so don't worry if you forgot to bring anything. Join us for good food and good fellowship!

**Pyx** - we have pyx available for use by parishioners to take Communion to a friend or family member that is not able to attend Mass.

**We still have** one pyx missing. It was given as a memorial of a deceased family member so it has great meaning. If you borrowed it, please return it as soon as possible. Thank you.



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

## Elmwood News



**Annual Family Spaghetti Dinner** Supporting the Sacred Heart Youth. The event will be held at the Elmwood Auditorium this Wednesday, February 19th from 4:30-7:00 PM.

**We are in need** of person(s) to ring bells at the funeral Masses in Elmwood. In a Catholic funeral Mass, bells are typically rung at the beginning and end of the service to signify the solemnity of the occasion. Please contact Stephanie Beyer 715-307-0180 , if you are able to help.



**The Elmwood Knights of Columbus** \$500 scholarship is available to any high school senior who is a parishioner of Elmwood. The application deadline is April 1st. Please see the flyer hanging on the bulletin boards at church for more information or contact Steve Bates.



**There will be coffee and donuts** after Mass on February 23. All are welcome.

## Spring Valley News



**Our Condolences:** Our deepest sympathy and assurance of prayers are extended to the Steve Germanson family, on the death of his mother, Laurie. "O God, who alone are able to give life after death, free your servant , Laurie , from all her sins, that they who believed in the Resurrection of Christ, may, when the day of resurrection comes, be united with you in glory" (Funeral Mass, Collect)



**Save the date** for the Annual St. Patrick Day's dinner on Sunday, March 16th. Bishop Battersby will also be here that day to celebrate Mass and rededicate the Brother Michael center.



**Congratulations** to the 10 Sacred Heart youth, Laura, Eli, Kenneth, Lukas, Addi, Harper, Valeria, Daphne, Jack and Maverick, who will be making their First Reconciliation today after Mass.



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

- Tuesday February 18 Mass in Elmwood**  
7:00 p.m. +Fr. Anbu's Mother and Father  
(Elmwood KC's)
- Wednesday February 19 Mass in Spring Valley**  
6:15 p.m. +Dave Johnson (Greg & Laura Buchal)
- Thursday February 20 Mass in Boyceville**  
10:00 a.m. +Tony Schmidt (Joe & Gloria Pieters)
- Friday February 21 at the SVHCC**  
10:00 a.m. +Br. Michael Mandernach  
(Gene & Judy Bauer)
- Saturday February 22 Mass in Boyceville**  
5:00 p.m. +Bunny Humpal (Tom & Judy Humpal)
- Sunday Mass February 23**  
8:30 a.m. in Elmwood +Steve Weber  
(Tom & Sharon Weber)  
10:30 a.m. in Spring Valley +Rhea White  
(Dave & Rita Johnson)



**Sunday, February 23, 2025**

<b>Elmwood 8:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Spring Valley 10:30 a.m.</b>
<b>LECTORS</b>	
Sara	Merrick/Liz
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS/SACRISTAN</b>	
Pat	(S) Greg/Mary/Denise/Rosalie
<b>SERVERS</b>	
Taylor/Zander	Oliver/Landon/Cameron
<b>USHERS/HOSPITALITY</b>	
Joe/Steve/Aaron/Paul	Tony/Bill
<b>ROSARY</b>	
<b>MUSIC</b>	
Barb	Sacred Heart Choir



**COLLECTION ADULT ENVELOPES AND  
OFFERTORY February 8-9, 2025**

	<u>Adult</u>	<u>Offertory</u>	<u>On-line</u>
<b>Boyceville</b>	No collection– Mass cancelled– bad weather		
<b>Elmwood</b>	\$ 2705.00	\$ 180.00	
<b>Spring Valley</b>	\$ 624.00	\$ 69.00	\$ 310.15



**February/March 2025**

- February 17-19– Beth out of the central office  
February 19– Elmwood Youth Spaghetti Supper  
February 23– Coffee and donuts after Mass in Elmwood  
March 2– River falls Options for Women baby bottle fundraiser in Elmwood and Spring Valley  
March 5 – Ash Wednesday Mass times:  
10:00 a.m. in Boyceville  
4:00 p.m. in Spring Valley  
7:00 p.m. in Elmwood

**Men of the Cross "Freedom in Forgiveness" | Mar. 8, 2025 | Blessed Sacrament Church, La Crosse** Our relationship with Christ is many things. He is your refuge, someone to celebrate your joys, mourn with you in your sorrows and is the one to break the chains that bind you and set you free. What are the chains that bind you? The world tries to convince you that the baggage you carry is not too heavy and that you probably deserve to carry that burden. But that is a lie. Christ wants you to be set free. There is Freedom in Forgiveness! Maybe you have been carrying around the same burden for a long time. Maybe you really don't understand forgiveness, how to forgive others, or how to forgive yourself. You may have forgotten what it feels like to be free. Join men from all over the Diocese of La Crosse and beyond, to experience Freedom in Forgiveness through Mass, inspiring talks, honest discussion and fellowship. The Church needs men to live free, allowing them to help other men break the chains that bind them so they may also live the joy-filled life that Christ wants for us.  
Cost: \$30 per person (includes lunch!)  
Registration: [menofthecross.org](http://menofthecross.org) Speakers: Bob Kroll and Dominic Carstens. Mass with Bishop Battersby