

SACRED HEART

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



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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 MARCH 23, 2025



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus said to them in reply, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were greater sinners than all other Galileans? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!" - Lk 13:2-3

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

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
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Jeff Pelzel Barb Schneider Roxanne Taplin
ELMWOOD FINANCE COUNCIL
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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, May God be with You!

Recently I read an inspiring article on Almsgiving in St. Paul center online Magazine and I would like to share with you. Since the space in the bulletin is very small, I would like to split into three parts, hence don't skip the reading. Finally I will give you the website address too.

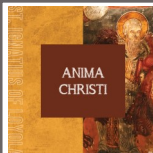
Of the three marks of Lent- prayer, fasting and almsgiving- almsgiving is surely the most neglected. And yet, in the only place where the Bible brings all three together, the inspired author puts the emphasis firmly on the last: "Prayer and fasting are good, but better than either is almsgiving accompanied by righteousness ... It is better to give alms than to store up gold; for almsgiving saves one from death and expiates every sin. Those who regularly give alms shall enjoy a full life" (Tob 12:8-9).

Why is almsgiving better than prayer and fasting? Because it is prayer, and it involves fasting. Almsgiving is a form of prayer because it is "giving to God" and not mere philanthropy. It is a form of fasting because it demands sacrificial giving not just giving something, but giving up something, giving till it hurts.

Jesus presented almsgiving as a necessary part of Christian life: "when you give alms, sound no trumpets before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing" (Mt 6:2-3). He does not say IF you give alms, but WHEN. Like fasting and prayer, almsgiving is non-negotiable. The first Christians knew this. "There was no needy person among them, for those who owned property or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale, and put them at the feet of the apostles, and they were distributed to each according to need" (Acts 4:34-35).

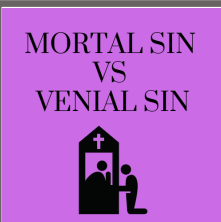
That was the living embodiment of a basic principle of Catholic social teaching, what tradition calls "the universal destination of goods." [The Catechism of the Catholic Church](#) puts it succinctly: "The goods of creation are destined for the entire human race" (n. 2452). But they can't get there unless we put them there -and that requires effort.

As with prayer and fasting, so with almsgiving. If we have a plan, we'll find it easier to do. Throughout history, many Christians have used the Old Testament practice of "tithing" as a guide- that is, they give a tenth of their income "to God." In practice, that means giving it to the poor, to the parish, or to charitable institutions. (Cont...Next week bulletin). ~Father Anbu



Devotions, Explained! Anima Christi

The Anima Christi prayer takes its name from its opening lines: Soul of Christ — "Anima Christi" in Latin. In this prayer, the faithful invoke the image of Christ crucified, calling upon the salvific elements of his wounds, his Body and his Blood to strengthen them, imploring him to save them from "the malicious enemy" and to bring them, in their final hour, to his presence. The author of this prayer is unknown, but it originated in the 14th century and was referenced in St. Ignatius' Spiritual Exercises. It is traditionally said after or before receiving the Eucharist.



Mortal versus Venial Sin

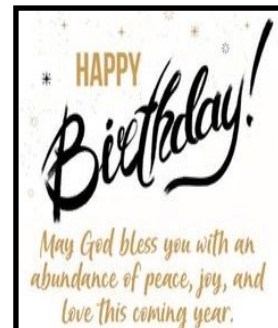
Question: What is the difference between mortal and venial sin?

Answer: Sin is a deliberate thought, word, action, or omission contrary to God's law. Since the beginnings of the

Church, sin has been distinguished by its gravity. "Grave matter" is traditionally defined by the Ten Commandments. If a person commits a grave sin with full knowledge of the action's evil and with the complete consent of their will, this is a mortal sin. The effects of mortal sin are grave – the loss of sanctifying grace, which can be restored by a fresh outpouring of God's mercy in the sacrament of Reconciliation. Venial sin does not fit one or more of these conditions (for example, a less serious matter still freely chosen or grave matter committed while under force or ignorance of God's law). The effects of venial sin – while still damaging to the human heart and human society – are less severe. Even so, smaller sins build habits, which can obstruct our growth in virtue. When we are serious about following Jesus, we should do our best to avoid all sin, whether large or small!

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.

Ray	Timm	March 3
Karen	Peterson	March 8
Herbert	Radtke	March 14
Richard	Weber	March 17
Patricia	Johnson	March 20
Rita	Johnson	March 23
Kathy	Geraets	March 24
Donald	Hetchler	March 25



INFORMATION

News for All



Eucharistic Adoration 40 Hours Devotion is a special period of continuous prayer during which the Eucharist is exposed in a monstrance for adoration. The devotion begins with Mass followed by continuous Eucharistic adoration for a 40-hour period. It ends with a Mass and Benediction. In the Bible the number 40 is associated with a sacred period of time: the rain at the time of the flood of Noah lasted 40 days and nights, and the Hebrews wandered in the desert for 40 years on the way to the Promised Land. Jesus fasted for 40 days before beginning his public ministry. This devotion was promoted by both Saint Philip Neri and Saint Ignatius of Loyola in the 1500s. In the United States, Saint John Neumann, bishop of Philadelphia, helped spread the devotion.

During Lent parishioners from the tri-parish parishes will be participating in 40 Hours Eucharistic Adoration Devotion held at Sacred Heart Church in Spring Valley. We will begin after Mass at 6:15 on Wednesday, April 2nd and will end with Mass on Friday, April 4th at 11:00 am. Everyone is encouraged to join in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during this time. Emails will be sent out starting Monday, March 18th with hours that are available for the 40 hours, or you can call Laura Buchal at 715-772-4452 or email her at ssf@wwt.net to sign up for an hour.



A Tri-Parish Sacred Worship committee meeting will be held on March 27th at 6:30 p.m. in Spring Valley in the Brother Michael center to organize Holy Week. Volunteers needed. Each parish should have a representative at this meeting from their Sacred Worship committee.

Please send Bulletin Announcements to: admin@shsv.diocparish.org
By NOON on Wednesdays

Boyceville News



Our Condolences: Our deepest sympathy and assurance of prayers are extended to the family of Helen Hedlund, who passed away this past week. "O God, who alone are able to give life after death, free your servant, Helen, 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)

The Food Pantry in Boyceville is seeing a shortage of shelf stable food donations. If you are able to donate, they are in special need of cereal, pasta, soups, tuna, canned fruits and side dishes. There is a bin in the back of the church where you can place your donations.

Elmwood News



SAVE THE DATE for The Elmwood Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, March 30th from 9-11 am in the Sacred Heart church basement. Free will donation. All are welcome to attend.

Spring Valley News



Our Condolences: Our deepest sympathy and assurance of prayers are extended to the Chris and Jenny Lickness family on the loss of their son and brother, David, who passed away last Sunday. "O God, who alone are able to give life after death, free your servant, David, from all his 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)



The PCCW will meet Tuesday evening, March 25th at 6:00 p.m. in the center.



If you would like to order an Easter lily for \$17 to use in your home or for it to remain in church in honor or memory of a loved one, you can use the Easter Flower offering envelope in your box of offertory envelopes or you may sign up on the order form on the table in the back of church. Proceeds will go to help cover the cost of the youth trip to the Steubenville Conference in July. Thank you.

Stations of the Cross: Time change for this Wednesday. Stations will begin **before** Mass at 5:30 p.m.

Eucharistic adoration opportunities We are looking for a prayer partner for the 2-3 pm hour, every other week, on Thursdays. Please contact Laura Buchal at 612-562-5872 for more information.



Save the Date for the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 6th! Toddlers through 12 year olds can join in on the fun after Mass.



Thank you! to all of our parish family members who helped make our St. Patrick's Day Dinner a success!

Maybe you made food, cut ham, decorated the dining room, washed dishes, cut pies, served coffee or bused tables....please know all of your time and talents were treasured.

This was an awesome day for fellowship with our parish family and larger community. Your willingness to serve and instill the virtue of service to your children is to be commended. God Bless you all!

We served over 215 people; Income totals will be published soon. Save the date, St. Pat's 2026 will be March 15th.



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

Monday March 24 Mass in Elmwood

10:00 a.m. *Missa Pro Populo*

Tuesday March 25 Mass in Elmwood

7:00 p.m. +Don Schmitz (Tom & Jean Schmitz)

Wednesday March 26 Mass in Spring Valley

6:15 p.m. +Verlene Spafford (Greg & Laura Buchal)

Thursday March 27 Mass in Boyceville

10:00 a.m. ~Paul Miano (Jerry & Betty Jean Smith)

Friday March 28 Mass at the Elmwood Assisted

Living 10:00 a.m. +Josephine Keenlyne
(Tony & Dawn Baier)

Saturday Mass March 29 in Boyceville

5:00 p.m. +Shirley Humpal (Tom & Judy Humpal)

Sunday Mass March 30

8:30 a.m. in Elmwood +Charles Bates (Patty Hawkins)

10:30 a.m. in Spring Valley ~ 90th Birthday Blessings
for Yvonne DeGross and Una Jenny (by family)



**COLLECTION ADULT ENVELOPES AND
OFFERTORY March 15-16, 2025**

	<u>Adult</u>	<u>Offertory</u>	<u>On-Line</u>
Boyceville	\$ 170.00	\$ 59.00	
Elmwood	\$ 625.00	\$203.00	
Spring Valley	\$ 1736.00	\$302.60	\$ 1082.10



**LITURGICAL
MINISTRIES**

Sunday, March 30, 2025

Elmwood 8:30 a.m. Spring Valley 10:30 a.m.

LECTORS

Sara Peggy/ Kelly

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS/SACRISTAN

Stephanie (S) Greg/Katie/Lynn/Renata

SERVERS

Taylor/ Eli Oliver/Landon/Cameron

USHERS/HOSPITALITY

Volunteers needed Jim/ Mike

ROSARY

MUSIC

Volunteer needed Sacred Heart Choir



March 2025

March 24– Adult Lenten Study in Spring Valley 6:30-8 pm

March 25– PCCW meeting in Spring Valley 6:00 p.m.

March 26– Stations of the Cross in Boyceville 6:00 pm

March 26– Stations of the Cross in Spring Valley 5:30 pm

March 26– Lenten activity for CCD students 3:30– 5 p.m.
followed with a family supper in Spring Valley

March 27– Tri-Parish Sacred Worship meeting to plan
Holy Week– 6:30 p.m. in the Brother Michael center—SV

March 28– Stations of the Cross in Elmwood 7 pm

March 29– Durand Deanery Stations of the Cross
Pilgrimage 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

March 30– Elmwood KC Pancake breakfast 9-11 am

April 1st– Elmwood KC scholarship applications due



A very sincere Thank You to Margaret & Willie Miller for the donation of the beautiful stained glass window that Margaret made entitled "Virgin of the Apocalypse". This adds such beauty and meaning to our worship area and we are very fortunate to have received this gift from the Miller's.