

SAINT LUKE – SACRED HEART CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

†SAINT LUKE PARISH
919 Center Street
Boyceville, WI 54725

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

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

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Arockia Amirtha Raj Stanislaus
Rectory Phone: 715-598-4877
Cell Phone: 715-574-4265
Email: pastor@svecatholic.org

PARISH SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER:

Karen Adams 715-643-3081
Email: stlukebv@yahoo.com
Office Hours: Thursdays 1 – 4:30 p.m.

CENTRAL OFFICE:

Anne Helmer & Beth Ingli 715-778-5519
Email: admin@svecatholic.org

TODAY:

Saturday Jan 12

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

4:00 p.m. Parishioners of St Luke's

Thurs Jan 17

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m. +Dean & Alice Adams

Requested by Joe & Karen Adams

NEXT WEEK:

Saturday Jan 19

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

4:00 p.m. Parishioners of St Luke's

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday 3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

ADORATION:

Monday 6:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK & EMERGENCIES:

Contact Father Amir at 715-598-4877

New Parishioners – Please contact the parish office to register.

RCIA: Please contact the Parish Office at St Luke's for more information.

Baptism Classes: First time parents must attend a baptism class. Please contact the Parish office to schedule.

Marriage Instructions: Couples anticipating marriage must contact the Pastor 6 – 12 months in advance of the wedding. One person, of the couple, asking to be married must be a registered member of the Parish. Please contact the St Luke Parish Office to schedule.

Web address: www.saintlukebv.org

STEWARDSHIP for January 12, 2019

"How shall I make a return to the Lord for all He has done for me?" (Psalm 116:12)

Adult Envelopes \$ 584.00

Loose Collection \$ 92.75

Ministries:

Ushers for January: Mike & Paul Boesl

Lector: January 12 – Joe Adams January 19 – Karen Hansen

Eucharistic Ministers: January 12 – S. Anderson, G. Williams, BJ Smith

January 19 – K. Adams, J. Humpal, V. Kujawa

Potluck is **TODAY** after the 4 p.m. Mass. Please plan to attend.

2018 Giving Statements, are ready to be picked up in the back of church.

St Jessica circle would like to *thank* everyone who donated to the mitten and hat tree. We collected 37 pairs of mittens for the students at Tiffany Creek Elementary School and 21 hats for the Coat Closet. Thanks so much!

Diocesan Annual Appeal: **To date we have collected \$5,220**, 75% of the target amount. We have \$1,770 yet to collect. If you have not yet contributed toward the Annual Appeal, your generous gift would be most appreciated.

Rosary leaders are needed for the month of March to lead the rosary before Saturday evening Mass.

GIVEN is a short powerful retreat for couples who are married, dating and engaged. It is an opportunity to share, learn, and celebrate marriage with other couples through engaging talks, lively music and adoration, prayer, and reconciliation. GIVEN retreats help couples foster a deeper relationship that is rooted in Jesus and His Church. The retreat is on January 26th at Notre Dame Parish in Chippewa Falls. Register at <http://diolc.org/marriage/marriage-enrichment/>.

You're invited on a Pilgrimage to France with Bishop Callahan and Bob Dolan, May 27 – June 4, 2019. Enjoy time in Lourdes, where Our Lady appeared to St. Bernadette, as well as visits to Lisieux, Omaha Beach, and Paris. Daily Mass will be celebrated along the way. For details call 800-653-0017. Flyers are in the back of church.

The Baptism of the Lord

"I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire"
~Lk 3:16bc

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

Dear loving Parishioners,

This week we celebrate the Baptism of our Lord. The readings today focus on the significance of the Baptism of the Lord. In the first reading from the Prophet Isaiah, we read "Here is my servant whom I uphold. My chosen one with whom I am pleased." In the Gospel reading from St Luke, we read "You are my beloved son; with you I am well pleased."

The second reading from St. Paul to Titus beautifully ties these two readings together by stating that it is by the grace and favor of God, our loving Father, that He gave us His beloved Son, "to deliver us from all lawlessness and to cleanse us for Himself a people as His own, eager to do what is good."

St. John clarified about his identity by comparing his Baptism with the Baptism of Christ. St. John baptized with water, but when the Christ comes, He will baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire. St. John's baptism only removed sin; it did not give any inner grace or strength to the recipient to overcome his sinfulness, passed on to us through original sin of Adam and Eve. But the baptism of Christ Jesus gives those gifts to one baptized, restoring the balance between Agape and Eros.

This restoring between Agape (God's unconditional love for us) and Eros (human love) is excellently described by Pope St. John Paul II in his work: *The Theology of the Body*. While our first parents were created in original innocence, solitude, unity and nakedness, pure and holy, they discarded God's gift of self. This is why we now need Baptism and the Sacraments to continuously heal or broken but dignified humanity. In the Sacrament of Baptism, He breathes His very life into us, the gift of the Holy Spirit and the fire of His Divine Love. So when each of us was baptized, it is as if God reached down from heaven and cradled us each in his arms and once again spoke those words, "You are my beloved son." "You are my beloved daughter." "With you I am well pleased." He brought us into the very triune love He shares as Father, Son and Holy Spirit and made us His bride, members of His holy Church.

Therefore, we have great dignity. He restored the balance between Agape and Eros, overturned by Original Sin, which accounts for our broken, disordered sexuality, but now we have the grace to live upright and holy lives. But, we must participate with that Diving Grace throughout our whole lives.

Yours sincerely in Christ,
Rev. Arockia Stanislaus

New Diocesan Lay Formation Institute class launches Fall of 2019. Draw closer to Christ and deepen your knowledge of the Faith in a joyful community of learners! Registration is now underway for the next two year cycle that begins Fall of 2019. Brochures and application forms can be downloaded at diolc.org/lay-formation. Discuss with you pastor and consider scheduling a free "guest visit" to a class this spring to see what it's like. Just contact the Office of Ministries and Social Concerns at ministries@diolc.org or call 608-791-0161

Please pray for: **In thanksgiving for Jayme Closs' safe return**, Repose of the soul of Tony Curvello, Debbie McNamara – Cancer, Repose of the soul of Mike Blechinger, Jeff Schmidt, brother of Gloria Pieters, **Joe Wheeldon – 2nd stem cell therapy**