

# 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
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## 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:

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

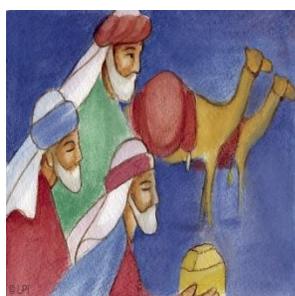
## Mass Intentions This Week: HAPPY NEW YEAR

Sunday Jan 3 11 a.m. Epiphany of the Lord  
Parishioners of St Luke's

Thurs. Jan 7 10 a.m. +John Lampman  
Requested by Joe & Karen Adams

Sunday Jan 10 11 a.m. Baptism of the Lord  
+Corrine Janicki  
Requested by Tom & Judy Humpal

Adoration: Mondays 6 a.m. – 5 p.m.



*Epiphany of the Lord  
We saw his star at its rising and  
have come to do him homage.*

Dear Parishioners of Spring Valley, Elmwood and Boyceville,

I hope you all had a beautiful Christmas, a bit different from the past years. Let us hope 2021 brings lots of happiness, unity, peace and health.

“Our life is a journey, illuminated by the lights which brighten our way, to find the fullness of truth and of love which we Christians recognize in Jesus, the Light of the World. The destiny of every person is symbolized in the journey of the Magi of the East,” Pope Francis.

Today, we celebrate the Feast of Epiphany of the Lord. Epiphany, in Greek, is *epiphaneia* which means, ‘appearance.’ This feast originally celebrated on January 6 which was popularly known as the feast of the Three Kings. Epiphany commemorates and celebrates principally the self-revelation to the Gentiles (non-Jews, the magi) and thus to our ancestors in the faith, of Jesus Christ as the Savior as portrayed by the coming of the three wise men or magi.

The magi were learned people. Yet their knowledge had not gone to their head but they rather tried to follow their better insight. When they found Jesus, they offered Him three gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Let us turn to the symbolism of these gifts.

The first gift was the gold. Among ancient people, gold was regarded as the king of metals. It was therefore the ideal gift for a king. The magi gave Jesus all their love as pure, solid, lasting and as purified from selfish motives. They wanted to love Jesus with all their heart and mind. God symbolizes fidelity and perseverance. Their love was sincere.

The second gift was the frankincense. Ancient people used incense in their religious worship. The aroma and smoke, spiraling upward to heaven, spoke to them of gods and divinity. The gift of incense, therefore, is a symbol of the divinity of Jesus. It tells us that Jesus always had the nature of God but became like man and appeared in human likeness (Phil 2:6-9).

It has been used as a symbol of adoration. The magi adored Jesus as God. Even today we use incense in the liturgy as a sign of worship. In particular, we incense the gospel in which Jesus is present, the altar representing Christ and the gifts of bread and wine on the altar which will become the Body and Blood of Christ.

The third gift was myrrh. Among ancient people, myrrh was used to prepare the dead for burial. For example, the women brought myrrh to the tomb of Jesus. Because of myrrh’s relationship with death, it made an ideal symbol of human vulnerability.

The gift of myrrh, therefore, is symbolic of the humanity of Jesus. It speaks to us of Jesus’ human vulnerability. Like us, He experienced the whole range of human emotions: sorrow, joy, fear, frustration, loneliness, anger and others. He was like us in all things but sin.

Like the magi, let us give our love, fidelity, perseverance and sincerity to Jesus.

Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Rev. Arockia Stanislaus.

**WISH YOU A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR 2021**

## STEWARDSHIP

*"We walk by faith, even when we cannot see" 2 Corinthians 5:7*

*Everything is a gift from God.*

You may drop your envelopes in the offertory box which is on the back table in church, or you may mail your contribution to St Luke at: PO Box 316, Boyceville, WI 54725

Loose Collections  
\$ 650.00

Envelope Collection  
\$ 7362.00

Special Collections  
\$ 80.00

*Web address: [www.saintlukebv.org](http://www.saintlukebv.org)*

### For the faithful departed we pray:

Bruce Kahl, Aaron Upton, Betty Kosharek Dole, Debbie McNamara, Joseph Zimmerman, Kathy Santanni, Virgil Hill, Corrine Janicki, Rita Bodine.

### For the sick we pray:

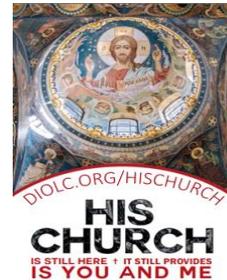
Jessica Garside & Lonna Borgert

David Buck – Cancer

Tom McAndrew & Betty Garside – Stroke recovery

Mark Nelson – Infection in knee replacement joint

Options for Women



St Luke's Target Amount: \$ 6,820.00

Amount pledged: \$ 3,050.00

Unpledged Amount: \$ 3,770.00

### BECOME INVOLVED: MEMBERSHIP AND SACRAMENTAL

**Joining Our Parish:** If you are new to the parish, please call the parish office to register. We are glad you are here.

**Celebrating Baptism:** Baptism is celebrated throughout much of the liturgical year. If you want to raise your child in the Catholic faith and celebrate your child's baptism, please call the parish office, 715-643-3081 for more information. Parents celebrating the baptism of their first child are asked to complete a baptism orientation class.

**Caring for the Sick:** If you or a loved one are seriously ill, homebound or anticipating surgery, please call 715-598-4877 or email Father Amir at [pastor@svecatholic.org](mailto:pastor@svecatholic.org) to schedule a visit and/or the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.

**Celebrating Marriage:** We eagerly welcome couples seeking to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage. Contact Father Amir to talk about scheduling your wedding and to learn more about marriage preparation.

**Becoming Catholic:** If you are baptized in another Christian tradition and seek to become Catholic, or are interested in becoming a Christian through baptism, contact Father Amir at [pastor@svecatholic.org](mailto:pastor@svecatholic.org).



St Luke Parish Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. The **Tri-Parish Council** will meet Thursday, January 21 in St Luke's dining hall at 6:30 p.m. Daily Mass, on both the 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, will be moved to 6pm to accommodate the meetings

**Please pick up your 2021 contribution envelopes** which are available on the back table.

**Thanks for giving** to the Retirement Fund for Religious! "We are conscious of the great generosity of the many benefactors who support the Retirement Fund for Religious each year," says a Catholic sister. "Support from the fund has been a tremendous blessing to our retired sisters." St Luke's parishioners have generously contributed \$680 to the Retirement Fund. Thanks for your generosity!

**Heartland Hospice** serving Dunn, St. Croix and Pierce counties, is currently looking for hospice volunteers to help them provide the love, respect and care their patients and families need. For more information, please contact Missie Peterson at 715-214-2485 or [Melissa.Peterson@hcr-manorcare.com](mailto:Melissa.Peterson@hcr-manorcare.com) [www.heartlandhospice.com/eaucnaire](http://www.heartlandhospice.com/eaucnaire)



January 2-3, 2021