

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:

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

TODAY:	EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
Saturday Jan 4	4:00 p.m. Parishioners of St Luke's Requested by Paul & Rita Zimmerman
	DAILY MASS
Thurs Jan 9	8:30 a.m. +Richard Laluya Requested by Tom & Judy Humpal
NEXT WEEK:	BAPTISM OF THE LORD
Saturday Jan 11	4:00 p.m. +David Hill Requested by Barb Laluya

CONFESSIONS:

Sunday: Before Mass

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 December 28, 2019			
<i>"For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be" (Luke 12:34)</i>			
December 21	Adult Envelopes	\$ 1,180.00	Loose Collection \$ 56.00

Ministries:

Ushers for January: Mike & Paul Boesl

Lector: January 4 – Joe Adams January 11 – Joe Pieters

Eucharistic Ministers: January 4 – K. Hansen, J. Smith, BJ Smith

January 11 – K. Adams, G. Williams, J. Humpal

Rosary Leader: January: Marge Sykora

St Luke News:

If you have the time to help, senior food boxes will be packed on Tuesday, January 14th beginning at 10:30 a.m., at the West Cap building on Main Street. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

POTLUCK: St Joan of Arc Circle will be serving the January pot luck on Saturday, January 11th following the 4 p.m. Mass. Please come prepared to stay and share a meal with our Parish family.

2020 Contribution Envelopes are available on the back table. Please make sure to pick yours up.

ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE: The 2019-2020 target amount for St Luke's is \$7580. We have collected 55% with 18 families donating toward the Appeal. Please consider contributing to this worthy cause and helping our parish reach its goal. Thanks for your generosity.



Epiphany

"They were overjoyed at seeing the star and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage."

~Mt 2: 10-11a

PASTORAL REFLECTION

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ Jesus,

This week we celebrate the Feast of Epiphany of the Lord. This marks the end of the Christmas season. Yet the Epiphany is at the heart of the Christmas message. The word 'epiphany' means 'manifestation' or 'showing'. The Epiphany acknowledges that Jesus Christ, the newborn baby, is the Savior of all people.

The first reading echoes, in the words of the prophet Isaiah, the call of God to Jerusalem: "Arise, shine!" (Is 60:1). Jerusalem is called to be the city of light which reflects God's light to the world and helps humanity to walk in his ways. This is the vocation and the mission of the People of God in the world. But Jerusalem can fail to respond to this call of the Lord. The Gospel tells us that the Magi, when they arrived in Jerusalem, lost sight of the star for a time. They no longer saw it. Its light was particularly absent from the palace of King Herod: his dwelling was gloomy, filled with darkness, suspicion, fear, envy. Herod, in fact, proved himself distrustful and preoccupied with the birth of a frail Child whom he thought of as a rival.

The Magi were able to overcome that dangerous moment of darkness before Herod, because they believed the Scriptures, the words of the prophets which indicated that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. And so they fled the darkness and dreariness of the night of the world. They resumed their journey towards Bethlehem and there they once more saw the star, and the gospel tells us that they experienced "a great joy" (Mt 2:10).

One aspect of the light which guides us on the journey of faith is holy "cunning". This holy "cunning" is also a virtue. It consists of a spiritual shrewdness which enables us to recognize danger and avoid it. The Magi used this light of "cunning" when, on the way back, they decided not to pass by the gloomy palace of Herod, but to take another route. These wise men from the East teach us how not to fall into the snares of darkness and how to defend ourselves from the shadows which seek to envelop our life. By this holy "cunning", the Magi guarded the faith. We too need to guard the faith, guard it from darkness. Many times, however, it is darkness under the guise of light.

On the feast of the Epiphany, as we recall Jesus' manifestation to humanity in the face of a Child, may we sense the Magi at our side, as wise companions on the way. Their example helps us to lift our gaze towards the star and to follow the great desires of our heart. They teach us not to be content with a life of mediocrity, of "playing it safe", but to let ourselves be attracted always by what is good, true and beautiful... by God, who is all of this, and so much more! And they teach us not to be deceived by appearances, by what the world considers great, wise and powerful. We must not stop at that. It is necessary to guard the faith. By the example of the Magi, with our little lights, may we seek the Light and keep the faith.

Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Rev. Arockia Stanislaus.

Please pray for: Jayme Closs, the repose of the souls of Sue Jadin Hernandez, Jim Smith - effects of chemo for colon cancer, Mark Hellmann - recovery from kidney cancer, David Buck - Cancer, Vince Kujawa - hospitalized, Connie Sykora - surgery, The Boesl family during this time of grief. The work of: Options for Women, pregnancy care center



January 4-5, 2020