

# SAINT LUKE - SACRED HEART CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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| † SAINT LUKE PARISH<br>919 Center Street<br>Boyceville, WI 54725 | † SACRED HEART PARISH<br>N108 Sabin Avenue<br>Spring Valley, WI 54767 | † SACRED HEART PARISH<br>106 West Wilson Avenue<br>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 Ingli 715-778-5519  
Email: admin@svecatholic.org

**TODAY:** **THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT**  
Saturday Dec 14 4:00 p.m. \*Jerry & Betty Jean Smith  
Requested by Mary Byrne

DAILY MASS  
Thurs Dec 19 8:30 a.m. +Wayne McMannis  
Requested by Paul & Rita Zimmerman

**NEXT WEEK:** **FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT**  
Saturday Dec 21 4:00 p.m. +Richard Laluya  
Requested by Judy Knops  
+ Rest in Peace \* Holy Mass of the Living

## 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](http://www.saintlukebv.org)*

## **STEWARDSHIP for December 7, 2019**

*"For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be" (Luke 12:34)*

Adult Envelopes \$ 1,180.00      Loose Collection 139.00      Retirement Fund \$520.00

## Ministries:

**Ushers for December:** Tom Humpal & Paul Zimmerman

**Lector:** December 14 – Joe Adams    December 21 – Joe Pieters

**Eucharistic Ministers:** December 14 – B. Lulaya, K. Adams, K. Hansen  
December 21 – J. Smith, BJ Smith, S. Anderson

**Rosary Leader:** December: Rita Zimmerman

## St Luke News:

**St Jessica Circle** holds their annual *Bake Sale* after Mass this evening. There is also a *Soup Supper* hosted by the **Knights of Columbus**. Free will offering is asked. Please stay to enjoy good food, lots of treats and good fellowship.

The hat and mitten tree is now up in the back of church. If you find it your heart to decorate it with hats and mittens, please do so. Anyone is welcome to contribute. The hats are usually delivered to the Coat Closet while the mittens go to Tiffany Creek Elementary. There are many people who seem to be in need, so the donations will surely be appreciated.



The **Knight of Columbus** have "Keep Christ in Christmas" magnets on the back table. Free will donation. Have a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE:** The 2019-2020 target amount for St Luke's is \$7580. To date we have collected 44% with 14 families donating toward the Appeal.

**There are envelopes available on the back table if you wish to donate toward Poinsettias for the altar.**

Retrouvaille is designed to give you the tools you need to restore joy and hope to your marriage. The next retreat in our area will be February 14-16, 2020 at the St Anthony Retreat Center. For more information call 877-922-4673.

## The Third Sunday in Advent

"This is the one about whom it is written: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you."  
~Matthew 11:10

### PASTORAL REFLECTION

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ Jesus,

We celebrate third Sunday of Advent today. This Sunday is called Gaudate Sunday, meaning Sunday of joy. Gaudate is a Latin word that means "rejoice." The word rejoice is taken from Philippians 4:4-5, "Rejoice in the Lord always, again I said rejoice;" the entrance antiphon of today's Mass.

In the first week of Advent we prayed for the restoration of hope. In the second week we prayed for the restoration of peace. In this third week we are praying for the restoration of joy, especially for those, according to Pope Francis, whose life seem like "Lent without Easter." This type of joy, according to the pope, enables "wheat to grow in the midst of weeds" and the light of the Holy Spirit to radiate in the midst of darkness. Today we light the pink candle which symbolizes joy. There are people who have little or no joy in their life. We pray for such people today as we light the candle of joy. May God restore their joy again.

The first reading brings out clearly the theme of today's celebration. The desert and the parched land will exult; the steppe will rejoice. When there is no joy, life is like desert; life is like parched land; life is like steppe (barren land). Life without joy is like eyes that are blind, ears that are deaf and legs that are lame.

The joy we are talking about is not "feeling good" because of possession of worldly things. One can lack material things and still filled with joy. One may be encountering certain deprivations of life yet filled with joy. One can be physically sick but filled with joy. One can be physically challenged but filled with joy and even more joyful than those physically whole. One can have all worldly possessions but has no joy.

What therefore is this joy? It is what Nehemiah the prophet calls the joy of the Lord which is our strength (Nehemiah 8:10). It is joy from above. This joy is the gladness of heart that comes from knowing God and surrendering to him, knowing Jesus and trusting and abiding in him, and being guided by the inspiration and promptings of the Holy Spirit. This implies that the individual is spiritually alive and sound. Despite all afflictions of life and against all odds, the individual remains steadfast, endures and unshakable in his or her faith. So, let us be joyful in the Lord.

Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,

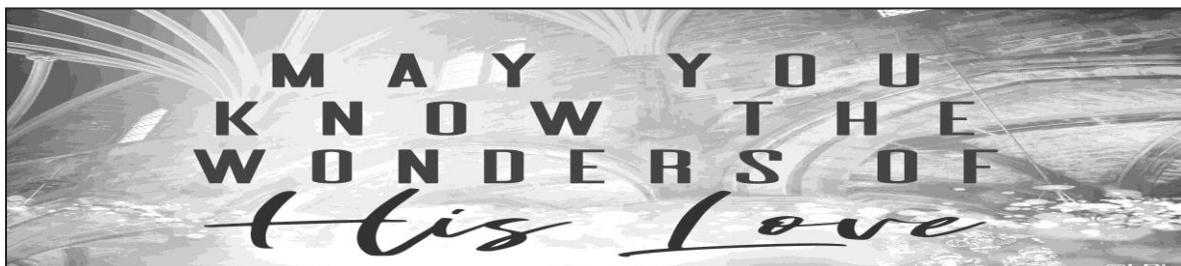
Rev. Arockia Stanislaus.

*Please pray for: Jayme Closs, Virgil Hill (failing health)-father of Dennis, Jim Smith - effects of chemo for colon cancer, Mark Hellmann - recovery from kidney cancer, Joe Hellmann - recovery from pneumonia, Amber McDonald Carlsrud-colon cancer, David Buck - Cancer. The work of: Options for Women, pregnancy care center*

### Retirement Fund for Religious

Please return your donations for the Retirement Fund for Religious as soon as possible and thank you for your generosity toward those brother, sisters and religious order priests who offered their lives in service of others.

**NEEDED:** 2 or 3 Eucharistic ministers who would be willing to share the responsibility of taking communion to the shut-ins in Boyceville



December 14-15, 2019