

# 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:

Sunday Dec 20 11 a.m. Fourth Sunday of Advent  
+Dee & Jim Baudhuin  
Requested by Joe & Karen Adams

Friday Dec 25 8:30 a.m. CHRISTMAS DAY  
Parishioners of St Luke's

Sunday Dec 27 11 a.m. The Feast of the Holy Family  
+Dean & Alice Adams  
Requested by Joe & Karen Adams

**Adoration: NO Adoration on December 28th**



## *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

*Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him JESUS." Luke 1:30-31*

Dear Parishioners of Spring Valley, Elmwood and Boyceville,

We celebrate one of most important feasts in our Christian calendar on 12.25.2020. Unfortunately, it is also one of the most commercialized even to the point of losing its spiritual significance. We need to recapture the spirit of Christmas in the midst of this banal distraction as well as in the critical context of our lived faith experience.

Christmas is God coming to us in human form and showing us that we are loved inherently, abundantly and eternally. Jesus did not come simply to rescue fallen humanity. He came to reveal the fullness of God's love for us and for all of creation. This means that in the incarnation, the depth of God's love is made known and we are the recipients of that love. Therefore, no matter who we are: male or female, black or white, rich or poor, high or low, citizen or refugee, God's love embraces us all without exception.

Christmas shows God to be a boundary breaker. In Jesus, God surrendered his own status and entered the created world. Paul says Jesus humbled himself by taking the form of a servant, and being found in our human condition, He humbled himself even more by accepting death on the cross. In the incarnation, God abandoned His own security in order to show us the depth of his love. Christmas teaches us about the love that dares to risk it all for the sake of the beloved. This pattern continued in his life and ministry. Jesus constantly went beyond the borders of every kind and reached out to those at the margins of society as well as those considered outsiders. In doing so, he invited us to step beyond our fears, to expand our capacity for love and to break down the barriers of division and exclusion.

Pope Francis has challenged us not to cling to our security, not to remain behind locked doors of our comfort and fear of change. He encourages us to be on mission. The church at its best is the church in journey with others, sharing our treasures of the Gospel. It is the church willing to suffer with others, willing as he said to be bruised and hurt, because it has been out on the streets with them. The church is not an enclosure for the virtuous and the privileged. It is a field hospital for the sick and the wounded.

As God abandoned his own security in order to be with us, so we must have the courage to leave our comfort zones and discover the presence, the beauty, the love of God in unfamiliar or even disordered places, in the margins and the shadows of life. If Jesus was born in a manger and surrounded by lowly people, then we must discover him again in the unlikely situations and people.

Like Mary and Joseph who contemplated Christ born homeless and rejected, we can learn to recognize the same Christ who does not find a room in people's hearts. We cannot worship Christ in truth without embracing the most vulnerable.

Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,  
Rev. Arockia Stanislaus.

## 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  
\$355.00

Envelope Collection  
\$1,515.00

Special Collections  
\$600.00

*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, Kathey 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

### 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@sv catholic.org](mailto:pastor@sv catholic.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@sv catholic.org](mailto:pastor@sv catholic.org).



**St Luke's Target Amount: \$ 6,820.00**  
**Amount pledged: \$ 3,050.00**  
**Unpledged Amount: \$ 3,770.00**

**VIRTUAL PARISH MISSION:** The Diocese of La Crosse is offering an online Parish Mission for Advent called **Preparing for the Birth of the Christ Child through the Eyes of St Joseph.** Weeks 1, 2 & 3 are available watch to online. Dec. 20 – Bishop Callahan: Joseph, Son of David....  
*You are to Give Him the Name of Jesus.*

### Brother Michael's Christmas Message

To all, the peace and love of Jesus and the JOY OF THE SPIRIT be with you this Christmas and every day. My thanks and gratitude for the Spirit of Christmas you have shared with me every day these past many years.  
PAX ~ Br. Michael

**World Mission Sunday:** "We in the Mission Office, want to thank the parishioners of Boyceville who helped to support the work of the missionaries who foster hope and bring assistance. May God bless you for your financial contributions of \$200, and all your prayers. Your collective gifts will support projects that build God's kingdom in our midst." ~Very Rev. Woodrow H. Pace

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

**Retirement Fund For Religious:** "Thank you' hardly seems adequate to convey what it means to us," says a Catholic sister regarding the financial assistance her community received from the Retirement Fund for Religious. Prayer-filled thanks for your donation for this collection! Please return your envelope for the Retirement Fund soon. Thanks!



### Christmas Mass:

Dec 24th– 3:00 p.m. in Spring Valley  
5:00 p.m. in Spring Valley  
7:00 p.m. in Elmwood

Dec 25th— 8:30 a.m. in Boyceville  
10:30 a.m. in Elmwood

### New Year's Mass Schedule:

Dec 31st— 10:00 a.m. in Boyceville  
7:00 p.m. in Elmwood  
Jan 1st– 10:00 a.m. in Spring Valley

*December 19-20, 2020*