

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

**TODAY: FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT**  
Saturday Dec 21 4:00 p.m. +Richard Laluya  
Requested by Judy Knops  
**CHRISTMAS DAY** – 8:30 a.m. – Parishioners of St Luke’s

**DAILY MASS**  
Thurs Dec 26 8:30 a.m. \*Children of Boyceville schools  
Requested by Mary Byrne

**NEXT WEEK: FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**  
Saturday Dec 28 4:00 p.m. +Jane Squillace  
Requested by Paul & Rita Zimmerman  
+ 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 14, 2019**

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

Adult Envelopes \$ 4,441.00      Loose Collection 186.00      Retirement Fund \$5.00

## Ministries:

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

**Lector:** Dec 21 – Joe Pieters    Dec 25 – Rita Zimmerman    Dec 28 – Karen Hansen

**Eucharistic Ministers:** December 21 – J. Smith, BJ Smith, S. Anderson

December 25 – Volunteers

December 28 – B. Laluya, J. Humpal, V. Kujawa

**Rosary Leader:** December: Rita Zimmerman

## St Luke News:

### **Upcoming Holy Day Mass Schedule:**

Christmas Eve – 4 p.m. in Spring Valley    7 p.m. in Elmwood

**Christmas Day – 8:30 a.m. in Boyceville**    10:30 a.m. in Spring Valley

New Year’s Day Vigil Mass – Dec 31 – 6:30 p.m. in Spring Valley

**New Year’s Day – 8:30 a.m. in Boyceville**    7:30 p.m. in Elmwood

## **Brother Michael’s Christmas Wishes:**

May the Spirit of Jesus forever be in your heart and may the light of Christ guide you in all your ways! May the love of the Lord fill you with His Peace!

**St Jessica Circle** wishes to thank all who contributed to the great success of their bake sale. Thanks for bringing and thanks for buying. We hope everyone enjoyed their goodies!

**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. If you have not received your DAA packet please contact the parish office.

## **Retirement Fund for Religious**

Please return your donations for the Retirement Fund for Religious as soon as possible  
Thank you for your generosity.

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT:** Christ is Christmas Enough!

## The Fourth Sunday in Advent

"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins. ~Mt 1:21

### PASTORAL REFLECTION

Dear sister and brothers in Christ Jesus,

Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent. In a couple of days from now our expectations shall be fulfilled and our efforts and patience justified by the birth of the Messiah. These few days calls for more caution and vigilance.

The sign that God revealed to us on this last Sunday of Advent is highly significant. God's choice of the messiah was from the house of David. However, Mary's child belongs to all nations. So, we all form part of the nations. This is through God's love, and his invitation to share in the Christ's heritage. Hence, Christ is coming for the sake of all of us.

In the first reading of this Sunday, God gave us the greatest and most definitive signs about the Messiah: "*A maiden is with child, and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Emmanuel, which means God is with us!*" It is important to note that this sign was given to king Ahaz only after he humbled himself by refusing to put God to test.

Hence the lessons here include that, we must allow God to be God without trying to preempt him. Second, we must learn to trust in God's judgment, and his good will for us. Third, we need not run after signs anymore because, God has given us the fullness of revelation in Jesus Christ. The fourth, is that, if we humble ourselves, God will reveal to us, "*the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ*" (Eph 1, 9).

In the second reading, Paul reminds us of the promises that came through the words of the prophets. Here, he highlighted three very important facts. First, he reminds us of Christ's divine origin and nature: "*This is the good news about Christ, the son of God.*" Second, he reminds us of Christ's human origin and nature: "*...Who according to the human nature he took was from the descendant of David...*" All these were to assure us that Christ is really the promised Messiah. The third fact is about our relationship to Christ. That is, how we fit into God's plan, and his economy of salvation: "*You are one such nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ.*" Through this, Paul reminds us of our heritage Christ.

In today's gospel, Matthew narrates "*how Jesus was born.*" Like Paul, Matthew in his infancy narrative traced Jesus' lineage back to the dynasty of King David. This is also meant to assure us (as Paul did), that Jesus is really the promised messiah. In this narrative, Mathew highlighted the very important and central role played by Mary and Joseph. They were God's instruments for fulfilling His mission of salvation for us. This teaches us that God is active in our history and lives, and that He comes to us through human instruments.

Finally, as we expect the coming of the Messiah, each one of us must make himself available as a worthy instrument. We must be ready to cooperate with God as Mary and Joseph did, in order that the promises of God might be fulfilled through us. Also, we have to allow ourselves to be instruments through which God could save humanity. So, in whatever capacity God calls us to participate in the economy of salvation, let us cooperate with him as Mary and Joseph did today.

### WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS

Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Rev. Arockia Stanislaus.

Please pray for: Jayme Closs, the repose of the souls of Herb Dow, Sue Jadin Hernandez, & Al Andrews, Jim Smith - effects of chemo for colon cancer, Mark Hellmann - recovery from kidney cancer, David Buck - Cancer. The work of: Options for Women, pregnancy care center

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.



December 21-22, 2019