

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
---	--	---

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 6 11 a.m. Second Sunday of Advent
* Tom McAndrews - Recovery
Requested by Jerry & Betty Jean Smith

Thurs. Dec 10 10 a.m. +Robert & Rick La Crosse
Requested by Joe & Karen Adams

Sunday Dec 13 11 a.m. Third Sunday in Advent
+Corrine Janicki
Requested by Joe & Gloria Pieters

Adoration: Monday 6 a.m. – 5 p.m.



Second Sunday of Advent
John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming
A baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sin.
Mark 1:4

Dear Parishioners of Spring Valley, Elmwood and Boyceville,

Today we celebrate second Sunday of Advent. In our first reading today, there is a paradigm shift in the prophetic, and prayer pattern of Isaiah from lamentation and wish, to optimism. He has moved, from, *“how I wish that you tear heaven...”* to *“prepare a way for the Lord... Here is the Lord coming with power...”* His prayer of hope last week seems to be materializing and bearing fruits soon. So, he confidently says this week, *“console my people, console them...”* Last week he lamented and wished that the Lord tears down heaven and come down, but today his tone has changed. He sounds more optimistic and certain like someone who is beginning to see the result of or a response to his previous plea. This is a sign that we are going to make it. Like Isaiah, we too must progress in our journey this Advent.

Isaiah’s prophecy today is for all of us a great hope raiser that our salvation is close at hand as we continue to wait and prepare for the Lord’s coming. However, it is not yet over as the fulfillment of this hope still lies in the future, though not too far away from us. So, rather than relaxing, we must heed his call, *“prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord...”*

In the second reading, the most important message of Peter to us revolves round the *“The Day of the Lord,”* which he warns us comes like a thief. Therefore he reminds us of what we ought to be doing this time around: *“You should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day...do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.”* The need to better our lives is the core of Peter’s message to us today.

This is the season, we must make every effort to live holy lives, a season we must ask for pardon from God for those times we have not got things right, and a season we must make every effort to reconcile ourselves with God and our neighbor. Living a holy and saintly life means being actively involved in God’s work and with others around us.

In the Gospel, John the Baptist like Isaiah brings us the good news about the Lord’s imminent coming. He makes an explicit call to us to repent for the forgiveness of our sins. What is there to repent from? They include, those moments we have denied God through our words and actions, those moments we have failed ourselves and our neighbors, those times we have neglected the good we ought to do, those times we have gossiped and castigated others, those times we have not been true to ourselves, God, our neighbors and our country, and those times we have failed to live saintly and holy lives.

This Advent is the time to say, God we are sorry, forgive us for we have sinned! This is a very important condition for us to welcome Christ worthily, and this is what the prophets Isaiah, John the Baptist, and the Prince of the Apostles Peter mean respectively by, *“preparing a way for the Lord”* and *“living holy and saintly lives.”* If we sincerely repent this season, then the salvation that Jesus brings will be ours, and we will be part of the new generation that he comes to transform and redeem by his love.

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

Envelope Collection

Special Collections

Web address: 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:

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@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.



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

Amount pledged: \$ 2,075.00

Unpledged Amount: \$ 4,745.00

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*. Dec 13 – Fr Pace, *That Holy Night, Through Joseph's Eyes*. Dec 20 – Bishop Callahan, *Joseph, Son of David... You are to Give Him the Name Jesus*.



The Knights of Columbus will again have "Keep Christ in Christmas" magnets available.



Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to those who have given a lifetime. Envelopes are available on the back table.

Advent Prayer by Henri Nouwen

Lord Jesus,
Master of both the light and the darkness,
Send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas
We who have so much to do
seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.
We who are anxious over many things
look forward to your coming among us.
We who are blessed in so many ways
long for the complete joy of your kingdom.
We whose hearts are heavy
seek the joy of your presence.
We are your people,
walking in darkness, yet seeking the light
To you we say,
"Come Lord Jesus!" Amen

Father will bless religious articles after Mass today!

Heartland Hospice, serving Dunn, St Croix & Pierce counties, is currently looking for hospice volunteers to help them provide care & respect for families in need. For more information, please contact Missie Peterson at 715-214-2485 or

Melissa.peterson@hcr-manorcare.com

Feast of the Immaculate Conception:

Holy Day of Obligation – December 8th

10:00 a.m. in Boyceville

6:00 p.m. in Spring Valley

8:00 p.m. in Elmwood

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 5-6, 2020