

# SACRED HEART CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

† SACRED HEART PARISH  
N108 Sabin Avenue  
Spring Valley, WI 54767

† SACRED HEART PARISH  
106 West Wilson Avenue  
Elmwood, WI 54740

**OUR PASTOR:** Rev. Prince A. Raja  
114 Wilson Avenue  
Elmwood, WI 54740

Phone: **715-598-4877**  
Mobile: 715-505-8506  
Email: [pastor@svecatholic.org](mailto:pastor@svecatholic.org)

**Central Office:** 715-778-5519  
S105 Sabin Avenue – PO Box 456  
Spring Valley, WI 54767

Anne Helmer and Beth Ingli

Email: [admin@svecatholic.org](mailto:admin@svecatholic.org)

## OUR MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Tuesday	January 16	6:30 PM	Mass in Spring Valley	+ Louise Sowatzke (Sue Christensen)
Wednesday	January 17	7:30 PM	Mass in Elmwood	+ Olivia Pelzel (Robert Weix)
Thursday	January 18	8:00 AM	Mass in Spring Valley	+ Mickey Traynor (Ed & Diana Hanson)
Friday	January 19	1:30 PM	Mass at Elmwood Assisted Living	+ Bernard Hofacker (Melvin Bechel Family)

## THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday	January 20	8:00 PM	Vigil Mass in Elmwood	+Susan Geraets (Roger and Shirley Jilk)
Sunday	January 21	8:30 AM	Mass in Elmwood	+Marion Radle (Altar & Rosary Society)
		10:30 AM	Mass in Spring Valley	+ Elwood Burke (Paul Burke Family)

### CONFESSIONS:

Sunday 7:45-8:15 AM Elmwood  
Tuesday 5:45-6:15 PM Spring Valley  
Wednesday 6:30-7:15 PM Elmwood  
Saturday 7:00-7:45 PM Elmwood

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Wednesday 6:30-7:30 PM Elmwood  
Thursday to Friday 8:00 AM to 8:00 AM Spring Valley

### Stewardship for January 6-7<sup>th</sup> , 2018

*“How shall I make a return to the Lord for all He has -done for me?” (Psalm 116:12)*

	Adult Envelopes	Offertory
Elmwood	\$ 1505.00	\$ 118.00
Spring Valley	\$ 2327.00	\$ 68.00

## PASTORAL REFLECTION

### SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

God's call is personal and he invites every individual to build a close relationship with him. His call is unique as he calls individuals as well as nations to be united with him. The Bible constantly narrates the instances of God calling people and demanding a response from him. We have the examples of Abraham, Moses, Isaiah, Jeremiah and several other persons who were called by God and they responded to him by sacrificing everything to obey his invitation. In the New Testament we have the call of Mary at the Annunciation, the call of Peter and his companions at the lake, call of Matthew the Tax Collector, call of Paul and several others. In the Gospel of John we hear Jesus telling his disciples: "You did not choose me but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit."

God calls us today to participate in his mission and he expects us to respond to his call. In the first reading we have God calling young Samuel as he was sleeping in the Temple. Once Samuel recognizes God's call he responds to him saying: "Speak Lord, your servant is listening." Once he is ready to listen, God gives him the message and the mission. In the second reading Paul reminds us that our bodies are holy as we are the members of Christ's Body and the Temple of the Holy Spirit. Our bodies are meant to glorify God and not meant for immorality. In the Gospel we have John identifying the Messiah in Jesus and telling his disciples that he is the Lamb of God. He also encourages them to be the followers of Jesus. These disciples in their turn invite others to come to be with Jesus on his mission.

The call from God to holiness is constant in our lives and it requires a response from us. He presents every individual with the gift of life at the creation and calls each person by name. Calling by name signifies that God personally cares for him. He then gives new life with the Sacrament of Baptism where a person is dead to the world and reborn in Christ. God calls each individual on a specific mission to continue his work on earth, as a missionary, religious, priest, a teacher or any other work he/she has chosen.

Rev. Prince Raja

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## Elmwood News

**Fazoli's Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser:** Hosted by the Elmwood CCD Program and Co-Sponsored by Catholic Financial Life, Chapter 191. The event will be at the Elmwood Auditorium on Wed. Feb. 7th from 5-8 PM. The meal is your choice of spaghetti/fettuccine, breadsticks, garden salad, beverages, and enjoys homemade desserts and Culver's custard. Take-out is available. Tickets are being sold at this time. \$10 for adults and \$6 for children 12 and under. Cash donations are welcome. Please purchase tickets by Feb. 1st; there will be a limited number of tickets available at the door. All proceeds to benefit the Elmwood CCD Programs. For information please contact Marilyn Bowell, DRE at 715-664-8975. (Please contact Marilyn if you or your business would like to donate a door prize for the event.)

**Altar & Rosary:** Soup and Sandwich Supper will be held on Saturday, January 20, 2018 at the Sacred Heart, Elmwood Church Basement. The supper will be held from 4-7 pm and is a freewill offering with proceeds going towards the repair of the church sidewalls and the Stations of the Cross. Bingo from 5-7 pm along with paddles for cookies will also be sold.

**Our Prayer Circle** is in need of more people. When prayers are requested, we call the next person on the Circle. If we get a recording, we call the next name and leave a message until we actually talk to a person. If anyone is interested in joining the Circle, or is presently on the Prayer Circle and would like to be removed, call Anna 715-639-4311

**The Sesquicentennial Anniversary** of our LaCrosse Diocese (1868-2018) 'Feed My Lambs' book is available. A sample of the book is in the back of each church to look at. Cost for the book is \$30. Please see Father to receive your copy of the book. Make checks payable to "Elmwood Sacred Heart Church"

**Our church's old snow blower** ( two stage electric start) is for sale---any offer will be considered. Call Tom Weber at 715-941-1811.

## Spring Valley News

**10th Annual Right To Life Breakfast** will be Sunday, January 28th 9am-12:30pm in the Brother Michael Center. Free-will donations will be accepted with proceeds going to the financial, emotional, and spiritual support of area women in need of pregnancy assistance. Please join us for a great cause and share in a delicious breakfast with wonderful community fellowship! Public welcome!

**The Sesquicentennial Anniversary** The Diocesan 150th Anniversary Books - Feed My Lambs - The cost is \$30. Please make checks payable to the parish. Contact the parish office if you would like to purchase a copy.

**DAA Update:** We have paid \$17884.58 (87%) toward our \$20375 Diocesan Annual Appeal goal leaving a balance of \$2490.42. Please help us reach our goal. Regardless of the reason, if you are not pledging to the DAA, please communicate it to the Diocese by returning your card with "0" on it. Pledge cards are available in the church entrance.

**2017 Contributions-** This past week, the 2017 Contribution Summary Statements were mailed. The statement total includes ALL tax-deductible contributions received by our parish during 1/1/17 – 12/31/17. If there are any questions or errors, please call the central office immediately.

**The Diocese of LaCrosse** has been able to track mail pieces to the bin that was transported to the Post Office. For some reason, the mail is delayed for several days or is not being delivered at all. If you believe you are not receiving their mail, please contact the central office so we can document your case with the Diocese.

**Our Sympathy and Prayers to:** the families of Liz Erickson and Anita Gokey, who both lost their mothers this past week.

**Revelation 14:13** *And I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Blessed indeed," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!"*

## News for All

**Please Help:** Katie Brunner, the daughter of Elmwood parishioners Gary & Laurie Brunner, had a fire in her apartment in LaCrosse on 1/2/2018. The fire started in Katie's room, and she lost everything - bed, bedding, pillow, clothes, books, school supplies, food - literally everything. Katie is a Junior at Viterbo University in the Nursing Program. Thankfully, Katie and her four roommates are all OK, but they could use our help. If you are able, please consider donating to help get Katie back on her feet. Donations of money or gift cards to Target, Walmart, or Aldi would be greatly appreciated. Checks can be made payable to Katie Brunner. We will make sure to get the funds to Gary and Laurie. Your prayers for Katie are also greatly appreciated!

**This Week in FORMED:** With compassion, love, and hope, 40 explores inspiring stories and deeply personal interviews from some of the most prominent figures in the pro-life movement, including Abby Johnson, Lila Rose, and Fr. Frank Pavone. Their stories will change hearts and make the pro-life movement more determined in the fight to end abortion. This week, as we approach the anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade decision on January 22nd, check out this inspiring film on Formed.org and pray for a culture of life. Find all of this content and so much more on [Formed.org](http://Formed.org). Log in to Formed by visiting [www.formed.org/register](http://www.formed.org/register) –and entering in Parish Code: **CQH26N**

**We Must Unite Our "House" Divided:** Our Popes and Bishops have made it abundantly clear that abortion is "intrinsically evil" and the "preeminent issue" for Catholics. This means that Catholics must assign absolute top priority to oppose this evil: "...the obligation to oppose intrinsically evil acts has special claim on our consciences and our action." Cardinal Justin Regali This brings to mind James 2:20: "... O vain man, that faith without works is dead?" The Catholic faith is not a social club; therefore we must accept all of her teachings or be complicit in breaking God's rules. Aren't we supposed to be "one holy, Catholic, and apostolic Church"? This is America 2018 when we have many Catholic politicians who see and promote child-killing as "health care." This is simply inexcusable! We, as faithful Catholics have a duty to replace these so-called leaders who are complicit in maintaining our "culture of death."

**Mass Intentions for 2018:** Please note that the central office works on the Mass intentions for both parishes on a continual basis. If you have a specific date you would like to request, please let the central office as soon as you can. Thank you- Anne and Beth