

SACRED HEART - SAINT LUKE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

SACRED HEART, Spring Valley †
N108 Sabin Avenue

SACRED HEART, Elmwood †
106 West Wilson Avenue

SAINT LUKE, Boyceville

OUR PASTOR

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OUR STAFF

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Our Mass Schedule for This Week

Monday (7-13).....NO MASS

Tuesday (7-14).....6:30 PM Mass at Spring Valley

Private Intention

Wednesday (7-15).... 7:30 PM Mass at Elmwood

+Trevor Diesing

Thursday (7-16).....8:00 AM MASS at Spring Valley

+Milton Sowatzke (Jim and Sue Christenson)

Friday (7-17).....8:00 AM *Communion Service at Spring Valley*

1:30 PM Mass at Heritage of Elmwood NH

+Anna Seipel (Bill and Anna Crownhart)

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday (7-18).....8:00 PM VIGIL Mass at Elmwood

+Clarence and Mildred Pittman (John and Barb Schneider)

Sunday (7-19).....8:30 AM Mass at Boyceville

Missa pro Populo

10:30 AM Mass at Spring Valley

+Don Miller (Dave and Rita Johnson)

BRIEFLY NOTED

Spring Valley Fundraising Meeting: The Spring Valley PCCW is hosting an open meeting on July 27 to explore ideas for raising funds for the church roof and future projects. Everyone is encouraged to come and share their ideas, at 6:30PM in the Br. Michael Catholic Center

Grandparents and their families are invited to a Solemn Mass at 11:00 AM, Sunday, July 26th, at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe with Cardinal Raymond Burke presiding. This is the Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus; the Mass will also include the Consecration of Marian Catechists. For information, call Yvonne at 608 -792-4766 or Jeanne at 608 -788-5052.

Diocesan Lay Formation Class: Draw closer to Christ and deepen your knowledge of the Faith in a joyful community of learners! Registration is open for the next two-year cycle. For information, contact the Office for Ministries and Social Concerns at (608) 791-2667.

Witnesses for Christ Conference August 7-8: This is a two-day Conference you don't want to miss. Friday offers three opportunities to grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ. Saturday will be a retreat-like experience. For information see the brochure at www.dioc.org or call Susan at 608-791-2658.

919 Center Street

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 7:00-7:45 PM

Elmwood

Sunday 7:45-8:15 AM

Boyceville

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Boyceville

Thurs. 5 PM to Friday 8 PM

Spring Valley

St. Luke's: will host a Potluck on Sunday, July 26 after Mass. Please stay and welcome seminarian Daniel Sedlacek to our parish. Everyone is welcome!

St. Luke's: There will be a joint meeting of the St Luke's Parish and Finance Councils at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 14, 2015 in the parish dining hall.

Spring Valley Roof Fund Update:

Thanks to your generosity we are reaching our goal to pay off the Church Roof and have raised \$15,940! We need \$34, 530 to reach our goal. If you have not donated yet, please prayerfully consider. No gift is too small. You may send your contribution to the Central Office or put it in the offertory basket.

Elmwood Icon Donation:

Donations are still being accepted for the framing and preservation of the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Icon that was discovered in our Church choir loft. Please drop your donation in the offertory basket at Mass or mail it to the Central Office in a clearly marked envelope. Thank you.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Items must be received at the Central Office by **Tuesday at 3:00 PM.**

VISIT US ON THE WEB

www.svecatholic.org

Following the recent Supreme Court *Obergefell v. Hodges* case, many people say that the decision is about homosexuality, equal rights, and justice versus bigotry, intolerance, and hatred. In fact, at its core this decision of five lawyers is **about the very nature of marriage itself**. In recent years, Ryan T. Anderson – author of *Truth Overruled: The Future of Marriage and Religious Freedom* – has been a thoughtful and dispassionate spokesperson for an authentic understanding of marriage. Interestingly, he writes and argues *not* from the perspective of faith – although he is a 20-something Catholic – but from reason (unaided by faith) and public policy. The following is an extensive quote from Anderson’s initial analysis of the *Obergefell v. Hodges* decision that appeared in the online edition of *First Things* on June 27. His comments **regarding the Constitution of our nation and its interpretation** are matters for debate among citizens of good will. However, Anderson’s comments **pertaining to the truth of marriage and society** articulate well from the perspective of right reason what we, as Catholics, also know by the light of God’s revelation. Listen to Anderson’s voice, a perspective you will not find in the soundbites of the mainstream media: “The Court’s ruling is a significant setback for all Americans who believe in the Constitution, the rule of law, democratic self-government, and marriage as the union of one man and one woman. The Court got it wrong: it should not have **mandated all fifty states to redefine marriage.**”

Focusing on our Constitution, Anderson continues: “This is judicial activism: **nothing in the Constitution requires the redefinition of marriage**, and the Court imposed its judgement about a policy matter that should be decided by the American people and their elected representatives. The Court got marriage and the Constitution wrong today just like they got abortion and the Constitution wrong 42 years ago with *Roe v. Wade*. **Five unelected judges do not have the power to change the truth about marriage** or the truth about the Constitution. We must work to restore the constitutional authority of citizens and their elected officials to make **marriage policy that reflects the truth about marriage**. We the People must explain what marriage is, why marriage matters, and why redefining marriage is bad for society.”

Emphasizing the link between the truth of marriage and the good of society, Anderson writes: “For marriage policy to serve the common good it must reflect the truth that **marriage unites a man and a woman as husband and wife so that children will have both a mother and a father**. Marriage is based on the **anthropological truth** that men and women are distinct and complementary, the **biological fact** that reproduction depends on a man and a woman, and the **social reality** that children deserve a mother and a father.”

Regarding the stake government has in marriage, Anderson notes: “The government is not in the marriage business because it’s a sucker for adult romance. No, marriage isn’t just a private affair; **marriage is a matter of public policy because marriage is society’s best way to ensure the well-being of children**. State recognition of marriage acts as a powerful social norm that encourages men and women to commit to each other so they will take responsibility for any children that follow.”

Exposing the core error of the Court’s reasoning, Anderson affirms: “**Redefining marriage to make it a genderless institution fundamentally changes marriage: It makes the relationship more about the desires of adults than about the needs – or rights – of children. It teaches the lie that mothers and fathers are interchangeable.**”

Anderson concludes noting some of the consequences of the Court’s ruling: “Because the Court has **inappropriately redefined marriage everywhere**, there is urgent need for policy to **ensure that the government never penalizes anyone for standing up for marriage . . . We must work to protect freedom of speech, association, and religion** of those who continue to abide by the truth of marriage as union of man and woman.” Ryan T. Anderson articulates that truth written into our very being and which we know instinctively but which most of us find difficult to express in words.

Of course, much more can and must be said regarding the truth of marriage and family life. Now is the time for people of faith and all people of good will to deepen their understanding of who we are as human beings, the beauty and wonder of the gift of sexuality itself, the mystery and importance of the complementarity of being male or female, and the truth about marriage and family life. Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us! Holy Family of Nazareth, pray for us! Saint Luke, pray for us!

Father Kevin C. Louis, STL

Stewardship for July 4-5			
<i>“How shall I make a return to the Lord for all He has -done for me?” (Psalm 116:12)</i>			
	Adult Envelopes	Offertory	Mission Appeal
Spring Valley	\$1273	\$144.01	
Elmwood	(numbers to appear next week)		
Boyceville	\$1125	\$76.99	\$492

BRIEFLY NOTED

Men of the Cross Men’s Conference: Join Bishop Callahan and hundreds of other men for inspirational speakers, sacraments and fellowship on October 24, 2015 in the Fine Arts Center at Viterbo University in La Crosse. For details and registration please visit: www.menofthecross.org.

