

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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| † SACRED HEART PARISH N108 Sabin Avenue Spring Valley, WI 54767 | † SACRED HEART PARISH 106 West Wilson Avenue Elmwood, WI 54740 |
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| OUR MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK: | | | | |
|--|------------|----------|------------------------------|--|
| Tuesday | January 9 | 6:30 PM | Mass in Spring Valley | + Missa Pro Populo |
| Wednesday | January 10 | 7:30 PM | Mass in Elmwood | + Missa Pro Populo |
| Thursday | January 11 | 8:00 AM | Mass in Spring Valley | + Mass of Thanksgiving in Honor of the Poor Souls (Br. Michael Mandernach) |
| Friday | January 12 | 1:30 PM | Mass at Elmwood Nursing Home | +Adeline Crownhart (Berneice Asher) |
| SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | | | | |
| Saturday | January 13 | 8:00 PM | Vigil Mass in Elmwood | +James & Ilene Bates (Bates Family) |
| Sunday | January 14 | 8:30 AM | Mass in Elmwood | +Deceased Kitchner Family Members (Jim & Linda Kitchner) |
| | | 10:30 AM | Mass in Spring Valley | + Henry Winzig (Family & Friends of Henry) |

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 December 30-31, 2017
“How shall I make a return to the Lord for all He has -done for me?” (Psalm 116:12)

| | Adult Envelopes | Offertory | Dec 23-25 th | Adult Envelopes | Offertory |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Elmwood | \$ 5425.00 | \$ 130.00 | Elmwood | \$ 3210.00 | \$ 470.00 |
| Spring Valley | \$ 3812.00 | \$ 53.01 | | | |

PASTORAL REFLECTION

Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord

Today is the Feast of Epiphany of the Lord. Epiphany, in Greek, is *epiphaneia* which means, ‘appearance.’ This feast originally celebrated on January 6 which was popularly known as the feast of the Three Kings. Epiphany commemorates and celebrates principally the self-revelation to the Gentiles (non-Jews, the magi) and thus to our ancestors in the faith, of Jesus Christ as the Savior as portrayed by the coming of the three wise men or magi in today’s gospel bringing with them gold, the gift bestowed on kings; frankincense, used to worship at the altar of God; It has been used as a symbol of adoration. The magi adored Jesus as God. Even today we use incense in the liturgy as a sign of worship. In particular, we incense the gospel in which Jesus is present, the altar representing Christ and the gifts of bread and wine on the altar which will become the Body and Blood of Christ. Myrrh, used to prepare the dead body for embalming after death. It is the feast of the universal church.

Today’s gospel according to Saint Matthew limits itself to the adoration of the three wise men which is frequently referred as the magi. The wise men were searching for Christ. They wanted to find the meaning of life and they found it in Christ and in living for others. God wants us to live an exciting life and not just be satisfied with the monotony and the boredom of life. The wise men did this once they found Jesus and offered to Him the best of everything. Let us submit to His will and authority because His will and authority are the best for us.



Rev. Prince Raja

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Elmwood News

As the Christmas season comes to an end, strong backs, strong hearts, and surefooted help are needed to move the church's Christmas trees back to the choir-loft closet after the 8:30 a.m. Mass on Epiphany Sunday, Jan. 7. Additional help, particularly from the St. Elizabeth group of the Altar and Rosary, is also needed to pack up the Nativity figures. Thank you- Susan Pitman

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.)

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

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.

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"

Mass Intentions - There are currently over 200 mass intention requests for Elmwood, going back to February of 2015. Please bear with us as we are trying our best to get these scheduled for you. Thank you – Beth and Anne

Spring Valley News

Eucharistic Adoration Help: There is a vacancy on Friday mornings from 6-7 am, if you can help fill this hour, please contact Peg Vorlicek at 778-5786. Thank you.

The Sesquicentennial Anniversary The Diocesan 150th Anniversary Books - Feed My Lambs - will be on sale in the Brother Michael Center today after Mass. The cost is \$30. Please make checks payable to the parish.

Happy Birthday : to parishioner Margaret Golden, who turned 102 years YOUNG on January 3rd. May God continue to bless us with her presence.

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!

Religious give thanks. A religious sister writes, "When we see the generous response of so many thousands of persons in order to help us, religious men and women, we are left speechless." Senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests across the country send heartfelt thanks and prayers for your donation to the Retirement Fund for Religious collection.

This Week in FORMED: As we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord this week-end, most of us realize that baptism is an important part of Christian life. But we may not fully understand why. Discover the deeply person and sacred relevance of Baptism in *Reborn*, a study found on formed.org. With a step-by-step explanation of the Rite itself, *Reborn* shows how Baptism reveals the heart of God's love for His children. Find all of this content and so much more on Formed.org. Log in to Formed by visiting www.formed.org/register –and entering in Parish Code: **CQH26N**

The Courage to Speak and to Act Against Abortion: The mother's womb should be the very safest place for a child. Tragically, it has become the most dangerous location- more dangerous than any battlefield or terrorist target. In some cities, about 40 percent of pregnancies end in abortion. To defend these innocent children and to speak and act on their behalf takes courage. Perhaps family and friends may not like our pro-life stance. Perhaps we may lose business. We all know people who have had an abortion so perhaps we do not want to offend a relative or loved one. It is all too easy to make excuses or make calculations in our minds and hearts, which often results in paralyzed inaction and apathy.

We are always told of reasons why we cannot speak up against abortion. If the priest speaks in Church, he will be rebuked by some who will try to argue it's too political; if we speak in the political arena, we are told it's too religious. If we speak in the media, we are told it's too disturbing; in our schools and colleges, it's too disruptive. On the public streets, it's too distressing for children; in the business world it's too 'controversial, in the family it's too divisive, and in social settings, it's too impolite or politically incorrect.

So, if abortion is plainly wrong and inhumane (which it most definitely is), how do we do what is right and where do we go to say so? The unambiguous answer is that we must stop looking for a risk-free place to fight abortion, and have the courage to speak up in all these arenas!

Let's stop counting the cost to ourselves if we speak up and start counting the cost to the innocent children, if we remain silent.

By Pro-Life Articles Author



Wise men still seek Him