

The Church of

St. Margaret Mary



December 17, 2017

Third Sunday of Advent



“I am the voice of one crying out in the desert,
‘make straight the way of the Lord.’”
John 1:6-8

You Are Welcome Here!

We're glad you're here.
Wherever you are
on your journey of faith,
you have a home
with us.

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday Mass 4:30 pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation 4:00 pm
Sunday Mass 10:00 am
with Children's Liturgy of the Word

Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday: no Mass
Tuesday: 5:30 pm Adoration
6:30 pm Mass
Wednesday: 8:00 am
Thursday: 8:00 am
Friday: no Mass

Experiencing the Heart of Christ, we

Know Jesus

in Word and Worship.

Live Jesus

in a vibrant, welcoming
Catholic community.

Serve Jesus

in outreach and justice.

Reflections from Father Tom

Who Are You?

The famous Greek philosopher, Socrates, once said, "Know thyself". Knowing oneself is the beginning of one's wisdom and knowledge. Every one of us should constantly ask ourselves the question, "who am I?" The interesting fact is that many of us do not know who we are, other than knowing our names and origin or some likes and dislikes. But do we really know ourselves? I would guess we do not.

In the Gospel, we hear the Levites and Jewish priests ask John the Baptist, "Who are you?" John answered them who he is not. He finally tells them that he was 'a voice in the desert' to make straight the way of the Lord. After listening to John the Baptist, we need to ask ourselves, who are we? Are we the voice of the Lord or 'void' of the Lord? What are our strengths and weaknesses? How well do we know ourselves? Who are we really? Where are we going? Am I a servant or a master? Am I a proud intelligent person or humble intern in the vineyard of the Lord?

*Lord, make me what I am,
Teach me who I am,
Mold me where I am, and
Lead me there, where I am with you. Amen.*



Grateful Appreciation

Grateful Appreciation:

As many of you know by this time, Christina Maas, our music and liturgical director has submitted her resignation. She mentioned that after 11 years of service to our community of faith, she would like to have a different ministerial opportunity.

We respect her decision and we thank her for her dedicated service to our parish for the last 11 years inspiring us with her musical talents and liturgical organization. Her hard work finding celebrants for our Masses during the time we did not have full-time pastor is well appreciated.

We will have a farewell reception after the Mass on the last weekend of this month. In the name of this community, I thank her and wish her the best in the years to come. Thank you, Christina.

Liturgy

4th Sunday of Advent (Mass Schedule)

December 23 - Saturday 4:30 pm

December 24 - Sunday 10:00 am



Vigil of Christmas

December 24 - 4:30 pm

Carols at 4:00 pm

Christmas Day Mass

December 25 - 10:00 am

Mary, Mother of God

January 1 - 10:00 am Mass

"Deck the Halls"

We will be preparing the environment for Christmas in church this year in two phases. Come help out either Sunday, December 17th after the 10:00am mass AND/OR Sunday December 24 after the 10:00am. The Fourth Sunday of Advent is the same day as Christmas Eve. As these are not the same liturgy, all the elves will be very busy that day. Call or email Christina if you are able to help!



Christmas Choir

Carols, music and singing is a favorite tradition for many during the Christmas Season. If you would like to join the choir for caroling at 4:00 pm and sing for the 4:30 pm mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day 10:00 am, please contact Christina. All ages and abilities welcome!

Christmas Memorials



We invite you to remember a loved one, living or deceased, with a donation to the Christmas church environment.

Please enclose your contribution in a "memorial gift" envelope, print the name of your loved one being remembered on the envelope and return the envelope in the collection at mass. Memorial names will be in the January bulletin.

Pastoral Care

Homebound Eucharistic Ministers

We are looking for additional people to take Communion to homebound parishioners once a month on a rotating bases. If you can help with this rewarding ministry, please call the parish office. Training is required.

December 16 ~ December 25

Saturday, Dec 16

4:00 pm Confessions

4:30 pm Mass..... *People of St Margaret Mary

Sunday, Dec 17 3rd Sunday of Advent

10:00 am Mass

Monday, Dec 18

10:15 am Dinner at Your Door

Tuesday, Dec 19

5:30 pm Adoration

6:30 pm Mass

Wednesday, Dec 20

8:00 am Mass..... † Margaret & Russell Stimart

6:30 pm Faith Formation Classes

7:00 pm Adult Choir

Thursday, Dec 21

8:00 am Mass

Loaves and Fishes

Friday, Dec 22

Saturday, Dec 23

4:00 pm Confessions

4:30 pm Mass..... *People of St. Margaret Mary

Sunday, Dec 24 4th Sunday of Advent

10:00 am Mass..... † Ruth Rademacher

Vigil Of Christmas

4:00 pm *Carols*

4:30 pm Mass..... *SMM Homebound

Monday, Dec 25 The Nativity of the Lord

10:00 am Mass *People of St. Margaret Mary

† deceased * living

Stewardship

There are several ways to financially support your parish. Many people use their stewardship envelopes weekly, some prefer monthly electronic withdrawals from their bank and others prefer charitable donations made through their employer.

Remembering SMM in your will is still another way to financially support your parish family after you have passed. SMM wishes to acknowledge Ruth Rademacher as the parish was named beneficiary in her Last Will & Testament. May she Rest in Peace.

Religious Retirement

Retired Religious Fund

Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others—educating the young, comforting the sick, seeking justice for the oppressed. Today, many are frail, elderly and in need of assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for the Religious helps to furnish medications, nursing care and other necessities. Envelopes have been provided in your envelope packet or in the vestibule of the church. Your generous support is appreciated!

Faith Formation

Wed, December 20 Classes at 6:30 pm

Social Ministry



Thank you for your support and generosity of gifts and gift cards for the PRISM Giving Tree.

Please remember the hungry this holiday season. When purchasing food items for your holiday preparations, buy two and give one to PRISM. Hunger does not take a holiday.

We are pleased to announce that St. Margaret Mary Parish, on behalf of the efforts of Georgeann Wobschall and the Social Ministry Committee, was awarded a grant from CRS (Catholic Relief Services) of \$300.00 to be given to PRISM to assist those who struggle with food insecurity. Catholic Relief Services sponsors the Rice Bowl program that our FF families participate in during the season of Lent. CRS assists those in need worldwide, so we are most honored to receive these funds to pass along to one of our charities. As we give thanks this season of Advent, let us remember our call to "feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, cloth the naked and welcome the stranger."

Loaves & Fishes

SMM is cooking and serving a meal on Thur, Dec 21 Meet at St Stephens at **4:30 pm** to set up, serve at **5:30 pm** and clean up around **6:30 pm**.

Our Parish Website has a new look. The website www.smm-gv.org includes many resources including the Liturgical Schedule and current and past bulletins. We will continue to add and tweak it in the months ahead. Many thanks to Dennis Becker and Tim Hoke for their talent in rebuilding our website.

Readings for the Week

Monday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

Upcoming Parish Events

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Mass Schedule)
December 23 - Saturday 4:30 pm Mass
December 24 - Sunday 10:00 am Mass
Christmas Eve Mass
December 24 - 4:30 pm Mass
Christmas Day Mass
December 25 - 10:00 am Mass
Mary, Mother of God
January 1 - 10:00 am Mass

Cana Dinner February 10 Mark your calendar!

Neighboring Parish Events

Following the Spirit Discernment Series 2018: How is God leading you? Considering making changes in your life? Following The Spirit (FTS) is designed to give clarity in decision making, as well as provide encouragement and support to men and women for the journey.

Sponsored by the Visitation Sisters of Minneapolis, will be offered the last Monday of the month, January–April 2018, 7:00-9:00pm. It is a four part series anchored in Salesian Spirituality and the rich Christian tradition of Call Stories. For more information contact: Sr. Katherine Mullin, katherinefmullin@gmail.com or Joan Miltenberger, joan.miltenberger@gmail.com. To register: click on the link: <https://goo.gl/Cdvp9W>.

Catholic Schools

Catholic Schools Affiliated with St. Margaret Mary

Good Shepherd (K-6) 763-545-4285 145 Jersey Ave S. Golden Valley www.gsgvschool.org	Sacred Heart (PreK-8) 763-537-1329 4050 Hubbard Ave N. Robbinsdale www.sacredheartrobbinsdale.org
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Spiritual Life

Anointing of the Sick

If you, or someone you know of, is ill, elderly or facing surgery, please call the Parish Office.

Baptism

Please call the Parish Center **early** in your pregnancy or adoption process to register for a Baptism Preparation Session.

Marriage

Please call the parish office six months in advance.

RCIA, First Eucharist, Confirmation

Please call the Parish Center.

The Church of St. Margaret Mary
2323 Zenith Ave. N., Golden Valley, MN 55422

Parish Center Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 8 - 3:30 pm, Friday 8 - noon

763-588-9466

Fax: 763-588-0040

Web: www.smm-gv.org

Email: myparish@smm-gv.org

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday Mass 4:30 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation 4:00 pm

Sunday Mass..... 10:00 am

with Children's Liturgy of the Word

Weekday Mass Schedule

Tuesday, Mass at 6:30 pm (Adoration at 5:30 pm)

Wednesday and Thursday, Mass at 8:00 am

Pastoral Team

Pastor Father Thomas Rayar
frtom@smm-gv.org

**Faith Formation for
Children & Adults** faith@smm-gv.org

**Liturgy, Music &
Liturgical Environment** cmaas@smm-gv.org

**Parish Business
Administrator** Diane Mareck
dmareck@smm-gv.org

Pastoral Emergencies and Anointing of the Sick
call Father Tom at 763-515-2005

Parish Leadership

COUNCIL FOR MISSION & MINISTRY

Marian Beumer, *First Chair*..... 612-529-4945

Mark Hastie, *Second Chair* 763-710-4149

Susan Hoke, *Secretary*..... 763-546-6744

Richard Karels..... 763-588-3271

Richard Kramer..... 763-521-0851

Anne Marsnik..... 763-535-4125

COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES for CMM

Nancy Huntley, *Trustee* 763-522-9437

Mike McMonagle, *Liturgy*..... 952-545-6705

Jean Plucinski, *Adult Faith Formation*..... 763-593-0664

Georgeann Wobschall, *Social Ministry*..... 763-545-7026

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Sybi Czenezew, *Chair*..... 612-377-3992

Rick Riley 763-529-8741

Gene Blanski..... 763-732-1655

Jim Sherburne 763-588-5364

Jeb Myers, *Trustee*..... 952-693-8135

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN (CCW)

Laurie Geving 763-546-6828

PRAYER CHAIN

Jennie Schlumpberger..... 763-546-5088