

The Church of

St. Margaret Mary

2323 Zenith Ave No, Golden Valley, MN 55422



April 3, 2022

5th Sunday of Lent

April 3, 2022 | Fifth Sunday of Lent



Jesus said,
LET THE ONE AMONG YOU
WITHOUT SIN,

be the first to throw a stone at her.

– John 8:11

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Pastoral Team

Pastor:

Fr. Thomas Rayar
frtom@smm-gv.org

Faith Formation:

Frances de Kooker
frances@smm-gv.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday Mass: 4:00pm
Sunday Mass: 10:00am
Tuesday: 5:00pm Adoration
6:00pm Mass

View the weekend Masses online at:
www.smm-gv.org.

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.

Reflection from Father Tom

Lent – A Time for Mercy

Last week we reflected on the story of the ‘Prodigal Son’ through which Jesus explained to the Pharisees and scribes that the Heavenly Father is kind and forgiving. And we are called to be ministers of reconciliation in the community in which we live. (St. Paul). This week we read the story of the woman caught in adultery. The Pharisees brought this woman to Jesus to test him. If Jesus were to say to the Pharisees that they should let her go, then they could accuse him of not following the Law of Moses. If he were to tell them to stone the woman to death, then they could blame him that he was cruel and not following his own teaching of forgiveness. However, Jesus ignored them by his writing on the ground. Since the Pharisees were persistent in their demand, Jesus placed a prerequisite to judge and condemn the woman.

“Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” Jesus knew that everyone who was eager to punish this woman, a sinner. Indeed, none has escaped from the snares of sin. So, everyone left without stoning the woman to death. Then he said to the woman, “Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin anymore.” By these words Jesus showed us his very purpose of his incarnation: that he came to save, not to condemn. If all of us were to have the similar approach to the sinners and to those who have hurt us, like Jesus who generously forgave the woman, then this world would be a better place for our spiritual growth. Mercy is what God wants from us. Let us show mercy to others so that God will be merciful to us.

Unjust Punishment: The Pharisees wanted to condemn this woman caught in adultery quoting the Law of Moses. In the book of Leviticus and Deuteronomy (Lev: 20:10 and Dt 22:22), it is mentioned that both the man and woman should be punished with death for their sins of adultery. But the Pharisees brought only the woman, not the man. Jesus sees the misogyny and discrimination against woman while leaving the man off the hook.

Neither do I Condemn: I do get this question in my mind. Jesus said, “Let the one who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her”, then ‘why didn’t he throw the first stone at her?’ as he was the only one there without sin. He did not do it, because He is full of love and forgiveness. If Jesus himself did and does not condemn us, then how can we condemn or judge others? Don’t we think we need to put our hands in our chest to reflect our unworthiness before pointing our fingers at others? Lent is the time during which we reflect on our own life and repent for our sins and look forward to God’s mercy. It is not the time to catch sinners and bring them before Jesus for judgment. But it is the time to pray for God’s mercy for our sins as we show mercy to others. The story in the Gospel today explains how Jesus dealt with the woman caught in adultery and the people who brought her for condemnation.

Jesus said to them, “Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you, ‘hypocrites’ (Mt:21:31).

God, give me the wisdom not to judge but the strength to forgive others. Amen

Family Faith Formation



Join us immediately after the 10am Mass this weekend for our Triduum and Easter mini-retreat in Visitation Hall. Holy week is quickly approaching and this retreat will help you be prepared to walk with Jesus through His Passion into the joy of His Resurrection!

Also Join us on Friday evening, April 8th for the Parish Lenten Reconciliation Service and Soup Supper. Dinner will be served in Visitation Hall starting about 5:30 and the Reconciliation Service will begin at 6:30 in the church.

Confirmation Students - Class will be on Wednesday April 6th, in Visitation Hall at 6:30pm.

Calling all Faith Formation Families: Father Tom is resuming Altar Servers to assist at Mass starting with the Holy Week services. Male/Female, Young/Old, this is a ministry families can serve in together! New and returning servers should please attend one of the two training times or contact Mike Bloberger (micmoose@msn.com). Trainings: 5pm Friday, April 8th (come and train before soup supper and Reconciliation) or Sunday, April 10th, immediately following the 10am Mass. *Note: 2nd graders can train, but will not be scheduled until after their First Communion on April 24th.*

Lenten Service Project: All Parishioners and Faith Formation Families are invited to help pack 2500 meals in Visitation Hall on April 13th at 6:30pm. Harvest Pack is a local organization (similar to FMSC) that will bring all the equipment and materials for us to pack Cinnamon Oatmeal packets that are distributed locally. Because the event is held at SMM, it is open for all ages and abilities - from coloring messages on the boxes to sitting and sealing. All are welcome to attend and help. For more information or to sign up, please see or email Frances.

Lenten Schedule

- April 8** - Stations of the Cross 12:00 PM (Noon)
- Communal Penance 6:30 PM with Soup supper at 5:30 PM
- April 10** - Passion (Palm) Sunday Mass at 10:00 AM
- April 14** - Holy Thursday Mass at 7:00 PM
- April 15** - Good Friday Service at 7:00 PM
- April 16** - Holy Saturday Easter Vigil at 8:00 PM
- April 17** - Easter Sunday Mass at 10:00 AM



April 2 - April 10

Saturday, April 2

3:30pm Reconciliation
4:00pm Mass.....★ People of SMM

Sunday, April 3 5th Sunday of Lent

10:00am Mass.....† George and Jon Lambrecht

Tuesday, April 5

5:00pm Adoration
6:00pm Mass

Wednesday, April 6

6:30pm Confirmation

Friday, April 8

12:00pm (Noon) Stations of the Cross
5:30pm Soup Supper
6:30pm Communal Penance

Saturday, April 9

3:30pm Reconciliation
4:00pm Mass

Sunday, April 10 Palm Sunday

10:00am Mass.....★ People of SMM
† deceased ★ living

Adult Faith Formation

2022 Lenten Small Group Meetings

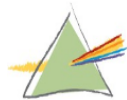
“Living a Life Changing Lent”

Please check for your group listed below for the correct date, time, location of the 5th meeting.

- Group 1, Sun., 11am-12:30pm with facilitator Steve Gleason in the Parish Center living room on April 3.
- Group 2, Sun., 2pm-3:30pm with co-facilitators Jean Plucinski and Georgeann Wobschall via Zoom on April 3.
- Group 3, Wed., 10am-11:30am with facilitator Pat Lord and Mike Bloberger in Visitation Hall on April 6.
- Group 4, Contact the facilitator Rich Kramer for the correct date and time of the 5th meeting at his home.

Participants, please read the material for Week 5 on pages 52 through 66 of the 2022 Lenten Small Group Study Guide, and learn how loving God changes the way you love others.

Social Ministry



PRISM: Needed are basic food items, ethnic foods, paper products, donations, etc. Please be generous.

PRISM Week 5 Action Plan for Lent:

Donate to the Peace House Community online at www.peacehousecommunity.org/donate or send a check to Peace House Community, 1816 Portland Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55404.

CCW Flower Sale - Memorial Dotions

Thank you to those who contributed to assist in keeping the parish grounds beautiful.

Donor:	In Memory of:
Lucille Cervantes	Jason Cervantes
Esther Cruz	Dr. Del Cruz
Dianne Drumm	Darrell Drumm
Diana Fodstad	Robert and Evelyn Fodstad
Nancy Huntley	Chet Huntley Margaret and Arnt Grendahl Denny Grendahl
Jeanette Larson	Earl and Fran Larson
Mary Luczak	People who have died by suicide
Jean and Tony Plucinski	Marilyn and Vern Launspach
Doris Thimmesh	Robert Thimmesh
Margaret Webinger	George Paul Webinger
Georgeann Wobschall	Deceased Nickerson and Wobschall Family Members

Easter Memorial Donations



Remember a loved one, living or deceased, with a donation to the Easter church environment. Use a “memorial gift” envelope at the back of church, or any envelope you mark for Easter décor, and print the name of the loved one being remembered on the envelope. Place your donation in the collection basket, drop off at the Parish Center or mail it in. We will publish the memorials during the Easter season.

Parish Pastoral Council

AT LARGE MEMBERS

Michael Bloberger, *Secretary*
Karen Brantner, *Second Chair*
Hannah Ficks
Ben Igherighe
Kayleen Taffe, *First Chair*

PPC COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Nancy Huntley, *Trustee*
Jean Plucinski, *Adult Faith Formation*
Georgeann Wobschall, *Social Ministry*

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Peter Aubart
Gene Blanski
Jeb Myers, *Trustee*
Rick Riley
Jim Sherburne

PRAYER CHAIN

Laurie Geving 763-546-6828