

The Church of

St. Margaret Mary

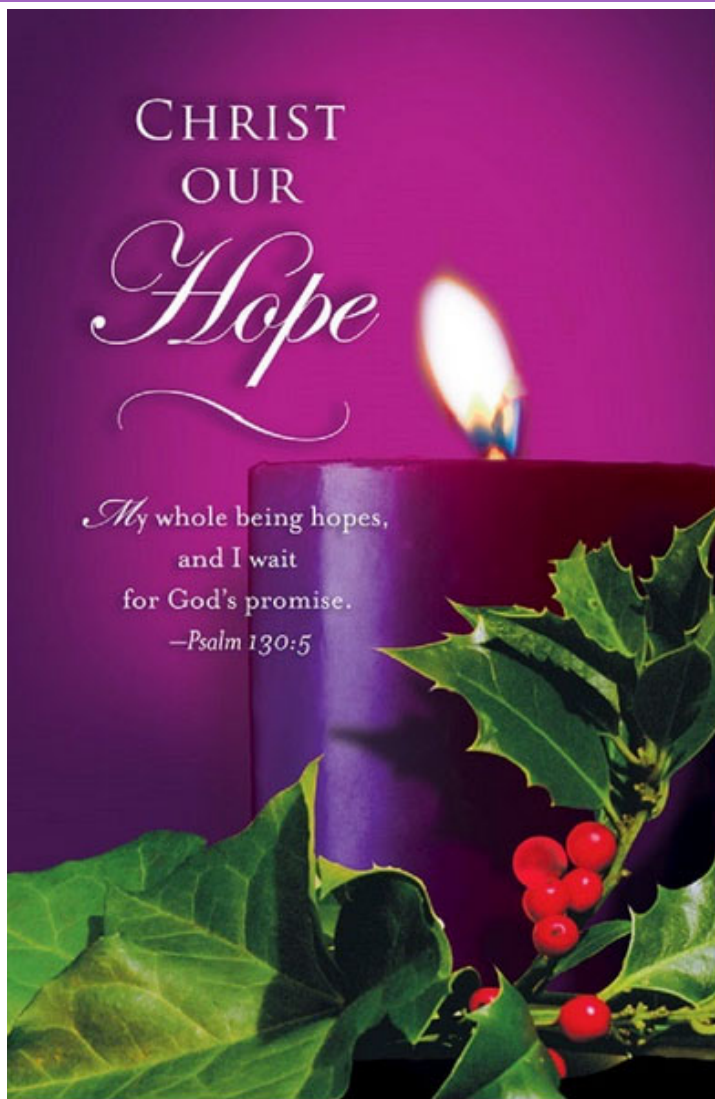
2323 Zenith Ave N., Golden Valley, MN 55422 # 763-588-9466



www.smm-gv.org

December 3, 2023

First Sunday of Advent



**You Are
Welcome Here!**

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

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

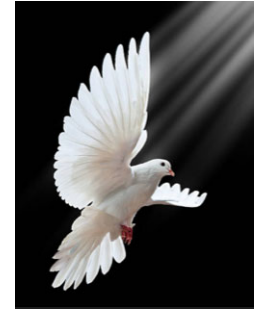
Advent- A Season of Hope

Advent brings us the message of hope. The readings of these days give the assurance of our Savior's coming into our hearts. Advent also reminds us of the second coming of Christ in glory. The gospel reading of today urges us to prepare ourselves for His Coming with the spirit of readiness and patience. "Be constantly on the watch! Stay awake!" Why? "You do not know when the appointed time will come." This should not be a time waiting with anxiety, **but a time of joyful expectation with hope.**

Though we have celebrated the birth of Jesus for two thousand years, we still prepare with hope for the birth of Jesus into every one of our lives. So, Advent is a time of preparation for Jesus to make our hearts his dwelling place. The celebration of Advent before every Christmas is also the foretaste of our waiting for the Parousia (the coming of Christ).

What is our real Christmas celebration today? And what could be the ideal preparation for it? As I said earlier, making our hearts the dwelling place for Jesus will be the real Christmas. Emmanuel means God is among us. The ideal preparation for this Christmas is that we bring the Word that became flesh to dwell in our lives and be brought to others by our words and deeds. When we become like Jesus and bring the Good News to humanity, then we can say that Jesus has been born in our life. That would be our real Christmas. Wishing you a joyful Advent filled with Hope!

Come, Lord Jesus! Make our hearts your home. Let our hearts share our joy of your birth to the poor, underprivileged, and downtrodden. Amen



Adult Faith Formation

Fall Bible Study

The Letter of St. Paul to the Romans

Thank you to the 21 people who attended our fifth meeting on Sunday, November 26th!

On Sunday, December 3rd, our sixth and last fall meeting will be from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm in Visitation Hall.

Father Tom would like you to review Romans chapter 12 and read chapters 13, 14, 15, and 16 in preparation.

Thank you to Fr. Tom for his enlightening presentations and to everyone for their enthusiastic participation!

Advent Reflection

Thank you to the 26 people who have signed up for the Advent Reflection, "Mary on the Road to Bethlehem", scheduled for this Saturday, December 2nd from 2:00 pm to 3:45 pm in Visitation Hall!

Joni Sandlin, our reflection leader, will inspire us to pause and reflect this Advent on the Virgin Mary and the coming of Christ!

The Immaculate Conception



The Mass for the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, will be Friday, December 8th at 6:00 pm.

December 2— December 10

Saturday, December 2

3:30 pm Reconciliation
4:00 pm Mass† Margaret & Russell Stimart

Sunday, Dec 3 First Sunday of Advent

10:00am Mass† Betty Weidendorf

Tuesday, December 5

5:00pm Adoration
6:00pm Mass† Leone Knickerbocker

Friday, Dec 8 The Immaculate Conception

Holy Day of Obligation

6:00pm Mass* People of SMM

Saturday, December 9

3:30 pm Reconciliation
4:00 pm Mass† Marguerite "Reet" Burke

Sunday, Dec 10 Second Sunday of Advent

10:00am Mass† Marguerite "Reet" Burke

† deceased * living

Social Ministry



PRISM

Prism's Gift Tree will be in the back of the Church starting November 17th. Boxes will be near the tree to collect gifts. Gift cards can be placed in the offertory baskets. Most gifts needed are: gift cards, ear buds, hair items, toiletries, and gifts for teens.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

November items needed:

Peanut Butter, Cereals, Baking Supplies, Diapers and wipes.

Advent Booklets

Advent is a time to pause and reflect on the coming of Christ! To help you prepare spiritually, "Waiting in Joyful Hope" booklets are available in the back of church. A donation of two dollars per booklet will help defray the cost.

Parishioner Volunteer Thank you !

Thank you Dennis Becker for clearing the snow last Sunday from our sidewalks! We enjoyed the unique peace sign in the snow!

The Church of St. Margaret Mary
2323 Zenith Ave. N., Golden Valley, MN 55422
763-588-9466

Pastoral Team

Pastor:

Fr. Thomas Rayar
frtom@smm-gv.org

For Pastoral Emergencies and Anointing of the Sick
Call 763-515-2005

Business Administration

Mary Muntifering
marym@smm-gv.org

Music Ministry

Mary Bur
mbur@smm-gv.org

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.

Parish Pastoral Council

AT LARGE MEMBERS

Michael Bloberger, First Chair.....
Collin Abram
Brenda Brincks,.....
Hannah Ficks, *Second Chair*.....
Steve Gleason, Secretary
Molly Anderson

PPC COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

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

FINANCE COUNCIL

Peter Aubart
Michael Ficks
Jeb Myers, *Trustee*.....
Rick Riley
Jim Sherburne

PRAYER CHAIN

Laurie Geving 763-546-6828

**The Church of St. Margaret
Mary**
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MN 763-588-9466
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Monday: Office Closed
Tuesdays through Thursdays : 9:00am
to 3:00pm
Fridays: 9:00 am to 12:00pm

History of St. Margaret Mary



Mass was celebrated in the basement of the school



Devotional Candles

"I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12). In today's culture, lighting devotional candles signifies our prayer offered in faith coming into the light of God. With the light of faith, we petition our Lord in prayer to pray with us and for us to the Lord. The vigil candle that is lit remains so for a period of time and symbolizes how the person desires "to remain present to the Lord in prayer even though we may depart and go about our daily business."

Your donation of \$3.00 is appreciated to defray the cost of the candles.

Mass Intentions



Mass Intentions are offered in thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (such as birthday or anniversary), or for the repose of the soul of someone who has died.

Please contact Mary (marym@smm-gv.org) in the parish office to schedule your Mass Intentions. Suggested minimum donation is \$7.00 or more per Mass.

Daily Bible Readings are available online at the United States Council of Catholic Bishop's website www.usccb.org/bible/readings.

Christmas Liturgy Schedule

Saturday, December 2nd
Advent Reflection 2:00-3:45 pm
Visitation Hall

Friday, December 8th
Immaculate Conception
Mass at 6:00 pm

Saturday, December 9th
Communal Reconciliation Service
3:30 pm

Sunday, December 10th
Communal Reconciliation Service
9:30 am

Sunday, December 24th
4th Sunday of Advent
Mass at 10:00 am

Sunday, December 24th Christmas Eve Mass
3:30 pm Christmas Carols
4:00 pm Mass

Monday, December 25th – Christmas Day
10:00 am Mass

Monday, January 1st
Feast of Mary Mother of God
9:00 am Mass